



NEWS

UP FRONT

My mother is in her mid 90's and has difficulty seeing and other limitations related to living well into the 90's. But one of the joys I have experienced with her this summer is using a new worship resource that includes prayers and Scriptures and saying The Lord's Prayer together. As we say it together, I am often struck especially by the phrase "your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." In just the short length of time we say the phrase, my mind tries to imagine all the ways God imagines using us to bring his love and grace, his creative powers and healing into the midst of our community and our world.

In August and September we begin dreaming about that as a church as we begin thinking about the next calendar year ahead of us. How will God use us to impact the community around us, and the larger world beyond it, with his creative powers and his healing? We should each ask, how are we willing to be used by God for this purpose? It involves a commitment of everything we have received from Jesus Christ: grace, love, energy, skills, interests, personality, spiritual gifts, financial resources.

As we prepare for the year ahead, I invite you to spend some time in conversation with Jesus Christ. Thank him specifically for each of the gifts you are aware he has given you. Take some time, write them down, discuss them with others. This could take a while if your list is reasonably complete. Then reflect on how he is calling you to invest these gifts into the life of the church. I believe, God has a purpose for our life together and has already given us the gifts we need to continue the work of making earth more like heaven. We simply need to release them to his marvelous life giving power.

Together in Christ,
Mary Ellen

COMING UP

- 9/1 & 15 Men's Breakfast
- 9/5 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 9/10 Hegarty Circle
- 9/10 Leadership Coordinating
- 9/2 & 16 SP Youth Group
- 9/9 & 23 NB Youth Group
- 9/15 Family Fun Fest
- 9/16 Commitment Sunday
- 9/18 American Baptist Women
- 9/19 Wednesday Night Dinner

WHAT'S HAPPENING

KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

It's easy to pick up an extra can or two of a non perishable food when you are at the store. That "little" gesture can mean a lot to someone who is hungry and in need. For the month of September we are asking especially for cans of soup, stew, and chili but all non perishable food is welcome and needed.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

We are getting set to start the Wednesday night dinners, which go like this: a short prayer, serving, eating, visiting, and going to a study, choir practice, meeting, or leaving for home.

As a volunteer cook, I try my best to fix a very good meal. Some of these meals are meatloaf, fried chicken, baked ham, turkey, roast beef, roast pork and occasionally soup and sandwich. I hope one offering this year is going to be a "chili happening": you can have chili, or chili mac with add-on like shredded cheese, Parmesan cheese and fresh onions. Kind of create your own. When I fix a full dinner I include fresh baked yeast rolls. Another volunteer fixes a dessert and there is coffee, tea and milk available. All of this is yours for \$5 but the first time is FREE!!! I don't think you can find a better bargain any place in town.

Watch your Sunday bulletins for menus and for the connection card to make your reservation. The meals are also provided to Contact Ministries and to James Project foster families free of charge. When you eat with us you are supporting these free meals. Please come and enjoy the evening without cooking dinner.

These dinners will start September 5 and continue every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Hope to see you! -Jim Newbanks

9/1 & 15 - Men's Breakfast meet at 8:00 a.m. for food and fellowship in Merriam Hall.

9/5 & 19 - Wednesday Night Dinner takes place in Merriam Hall. First time visitors are free. (see above)

9/10 - Hegarty Circle, AB Women's group, meets for fellowship in Weber Lounge.

9/10 - Our Leadership Coordinating Team meets in Weber Lounge at 6:30 p.m.

9/15 - Family Fun Fest will take place at the Springfield campus from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot and Merriam Hall.

9/16 - Commitment Sunday

9/9 & 23 - NB Youth Group meet in New Berlin at 5 p.m.

9/2 & 9/16 - SP Youth Group meet after worship in Springfield.

9/18 - American Baptist Women will meet at the New Berlin campus from 9 am - 2 pm.

Message Series for Youth — The Greatest

For the beginning of this school year, we're kicking off a new series called The Greatest to both Downtown and New Berlin Youth groups. Sometimes following God feels a little complicated. With so many rules to remember, prayers to pray, and guidelines for how we're supposed to live, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. In this series, as we look at how Jesus kept faith simple, we'll see that it's really all about doing one thing—the greatest thing.

September 2018

BIRTHDAYS

9/1 Dave Glomski

9/2 Dustin Beal

9/6 Tom Langford

9/7 Mark Ballenger

9/10 Gene Sherrow

9/10 Judith Anderson

9/14 Robert Reynolds

9/15 Robert Lewis

9/15 Prentice Southwell

9/15 Jackie Billings

9/18 Stephanie Miller

9/20 Nancy Crain

9/21 Becky Page

9/24 Ellie Sabo

9/25 Julie Spradlin

9/27 Donna Stolleis

Anniversaries

9/3 Bill & Sharon Smith

9/8 Darrin & Dulci Harms

9/19 Jim & Donna Stolleis

9/20 Craig & Betsy Martin

9/20 Jamie & Melissa

Brandenburg

9/25 Bill & Colette

VanDusen

9/27 Robert & Laura

Reynolds

9/28 Mike and Kay

Summers-Orr

One Great Hour of Sharing

During the month of July we had set a goal of \$5000 to aid Puerto Rico. However, we are continuing to get donations. The Pennies for Puerto Rico project collected during the “noisy offering” a couple of Sundays ago totaled \$276.45! With that, and other monies received, the total is now \$4,646.45. Thank you all for your generosity!

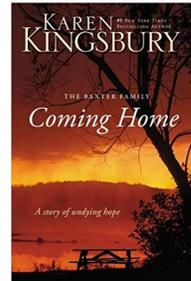
Commitment Sunday

On Commitment Sunday, September 16th, we will all have an opportunity in worship to commit to partnering together as a church family in the year ahead. If you haven’t received one already, you will get a mailing with a letter and a Commitment card. Filling out the Commitment Card and bringing it to worship with you on the 16th (or mailing it) will help leaders from our church construct our budget and intentionally consider the ways God might be calling us to move. Cards are also available in the church office and near the bulletins on Sunday. May the Spirit of God move powerfully in our midst and use us to be a source of love and hope.

OFF THE SHELF

Coming Home by Karen Kingsbury .

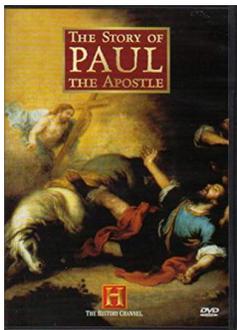
Coming Home is a novel about tremendous victory and unprecedented loss, a story of faith and a forever kind of love, love that will stay with you long after the last page. This stand-alone novel will serve as either a grand introduction or a beautiful conclusion in the saga of the Baxter Family. The Baxters make plans to come together for a summer lakeside reunion, a celebration like they haven’t had in years.



This book may be found on the New Book Rack in the Library. (304 pages, 2012, 4.8 out of 5 Amazon Rating)

DVD: The Story of Paul the Apostle

The impassioned life work of the devout Jew who persecuted Christians until he heard the voice of God is thoroughly examined in this 66-minute History Channel documentary. Drawing on the biblical writings of his friend Luke, his own Epistles, and additional writings of the time, this film begins with Paul's conversion and follows his three decades of traveling missionary work, imprisonment, trials, and eventual martyrdom in Rome. Biblical scholars and historians provide this secular look at his life. Lavish illustrations include artwork , old black-and-white movies, contemporary reenactments, and footage of today's ruins of many of the temples and landmarks where Paul preached from Israel to Turkey to Athens. Paul is credited as the single most influential person in taking Christianity from a fledgling sect to a worldwide church.



This DVD can be found in the Video Section. (66 minutes, Not Rated, 4.0 out of 5 Amazon rating)

Jim Filler

On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

A NOTE FROM CHILDREN'S HOUSE

September 2018

Attention volunteers! Children's House is still seeking individuals who would like to volunteer for Pre-K chapel. Please feel free to contact me at judy@cbcchurchfamily.org for more information.

Children's House is in full swing this month with our new school year. Everyone is getting settled into their new classrooms. There are many fun events planned to welcome in the new school year, including; Open House on September 18th at 5:30, class picture day on the 11th and spirit week on the 17th.

As the new school year begins we are accepting donations of items to help promote the school year curriculum. Here are a few things that are always loved and appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Recyclables: gift tissue wrap, paper towel wraps, containers (no peanut butter jars please), Milk lids, bubble wrap, nature magazines, cooking magazines, crystal light containers.

Always need items: glue sticks, paper plates, cotton balls, craft feathers, pom poms, craft pipe cleaners

Judy Wach, Director

A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

ConnectEdPAIRS is growing! We are pleased to welcome Donna Givens, RN, LCPC to our staff.

Donna works with children, adolescents, and adults. She works with individuals, couples, and groups. Her specialties are behavior problems, mood disorders, grief, and changing behaviors. She also provides non-DUI-related substance abuse treatment.

Donna Givens is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor who has worked in the mental health field for over 35 years. She started as a Registered Nurse on an inpatient psychiatric unit and did that for almost 15 years. She worked in the substance abuse field for five years. She also worked in community mental health for close to 15 years. She was a group facilitator in a partial hospitalization program as well.

Donna is accepting new clients at both the Springfield and Jacksonville locations. She currently accepts Cigna insurance and self-pay clients.

All the best,

Stephani Cave, LCPC

ConnectEdPAIRS

217-972-4851

stephani@cbcchurchfamily.org

For monthly couples, individual, and family tips, please sign up for our [e-newsletter](#). For daily relationship tips, follow us on [facebook](#). For more information about any ConnectEdPAIRS service, please visit our website at www.connectedpairs.com, stop by, call, or email me in the counseling office. I look forward to talking with you soon.