

THANK YOU!



Gabe, Hudson, and I cannot thank you enough, for the outpouring of love and blessing this Christmas. For all the cards, gifts, well-wishes, and prayers, we are abundantly thankful. You have shown us such love since our arrival, and continue to overwhelm us with the way you've welcomed our family and received us as your own. Thank you especially, for reminding us of the reasons we celebrate Christmas, that God came to be with us. One of the ways he continually makes his love known to us, is you.

With deepest gratitude,
Gabe, Sarah, and Hudson Wanck

Thank you, church family, for all the cards, meals and prayers while I was off recovering from my knee replacement. The cards were a brightness to my day, I felt the prayers, and the meals were fantastic. Dave especially liked the meal delivery. He did not have to cook! Bottom line—we felt loved and taken care of well! Thank you to all the members of the CARE Team that helped with caring for many! A special thank you to Pastors Sarah, Gabe and Marty, as well as Diana Lovett and Janet Griffin. I was able to concentrate on my healing, knowing our Church family was being taken care of.

Recovery has gone well and I am now back at work. Please let me know how I can help with any health issues or questions.

With Love for each of you,
Steph & Dave Rabe

Our Mom, JoAnn Spawn, a long-time member of Christ Church passed away on Tuesday, January 4th. We are comforted knowing she is now in the arms of Jesus and reunited with our Dad, Don. We wanted to share this with the Christ Church family because you all have been our extended family for so many years. Mom and Dad raised us in this church and taught us how to live out our faith everyday. Even after Mom and Dad moved to Minnesota to be closer to children, so many members and friends continued to reach out to them. Mom was not able to see, but we read all the beautiful cards and letters that were sent. This meant the world to her and us to have this connection as well. We wanted their memorials to come to Christ Church also because it is important to share their legacy with this family. Knowing that they helped with the new Family Life Center that will carry on the teaching of Christ to many generations to come is such a comfort to us. Thank you Christ Church for showing our parents and their children the love of Christ.

Cindi Chollett

As part of the Christmas Scarf Project, winter accessories were donated to UT Cares at United Township High School. The following was a note we received regarding those donations:

Care Ministry,

Thank you for your donations to the UT Cares room. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Thanks for caring,
Jill Sanders-Colgan

Christ United Methodist Church

East Moline Campus: 3801 7th Street
East Moline, IL 61244

Silvis Campus: 1301 2nd Avenue
Silvis, IL 61282

Carbon Cliff Campus:
106 2nd Street
Carbon Cliff, IL 61239

Phone: 309-755-2508 Fax: 309-755-8081
email: office@christchurcheastmoline.org
Website: www.christchurcheastmoline.org

Ministry Leadership Team

Ministers of the Church — Congregation
Stephanie Rabe—Parish Nurse
Lindrew Johnson—Music Ministry
Melissa Chapman—Finance Administration Manager
Jana Kindred—Administrative Assistant
Pastor Marty Ellison—Campus Minister,
Carbon Cliff Campus
Rev. Gabe Wanck—Associate Pastor
Rev. Sarah Wanck—Lead Pastor



East Moline



Silvis



Carbon Cliff

CHRIST CHURCH

INDOOR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS

EAST MOLINE CAMPUS

8:00 AM, 9:00 AM
& 10:35 AM

SILVIS CAMPUS

10:45am

CARBON CLIFF CAMPUS

11:00am

Facebook Page

Christ Church
Quad Cities

Website

www.christchurcheastmoline.org

YouTube Channel

Christ Church
Quad Cities

Sweeter Than Honey

FEBRUARY 2022



Pastor Sarah Wanck

I realize that I may already be known for my love of coffee. It's true. Some may say I'm a bit of a coffee snob. I'm not mean about it, I just appreciate the depth of a great cup of coffee. (More about that another time.) But something happens when the weather cools, and the snow begins to fall. Something shifts in me and I'll happily pass on my cup of coffee, for a decadent cup of hot tea. There's something about curling up under a blanket, holding a hot cup of tea, smelling the variety of leaves, fruit, or herbs that make up a cup, and drinking it all in. It's literally soothing to the soul. Especially, when I put a big swirl of honey at the bottom of my cup. The honey sweetens the experience, brings out the depth of flavor, and soothes my winter-weary throat.

Honey has a way of doing that. Soothing. Sweetening.

A beautiful Proverb hangs next to our front door. It reads, "Pleasant words are a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." Proverbs 16:24

Proverbs are an endless source of wisdom. There are hundreds of one sentence reminders of the promises of God, what's available from a life of faith, the discipline that's necessary to find it, and the landmine's to avoid that will make that living easier. It's wisdom (when applied) keeps us from looking foolish, hurting each other, or regretting the way we live. And, when taken to heart, help us live into the fullness of life God has for us. Though it takes discipline to live into the advice of the Proverbs, it's instruction will never lead us in the wrong direction. The Word of God has a way of doing that. When we learn it, know it, study it, and apply it, we find the healing of that sweet honeycomb. Psalm 119:103 says, "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

The Word of God, this long, beautiful story is healing to us, like honey, as we discover more of God himself, and learn to live in the way he guides us. As a new year begins, and we focus our attention on God's Word together. I'd like for you to join me in a practice of learning those Proverbs. There are 31 chapters of Proverbs. Each day, you can discover more of God's hope for you as you read the chapter of Proverbs that correlates with the day of the month. On the 1st of the month, read the first chapter. On the 13th of the month, read the 13th chapter, and so on. By the end of the year, you will have read those chapters 12 times. And hopefully, been guided by their advice.

As we become people of "one book" together. I hope you'll join me in adding this easy habit to your time in God's Word each day. It just may be the sweet, healing honey to soothe your heart in these weary days.

Pastor Sarah



what's happening?

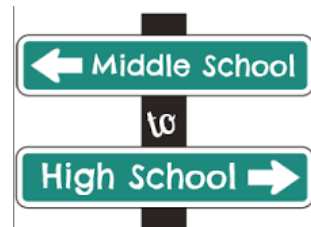


Discover Christ Church!
 Sunday,
 February 27th
 12:00 pm

If you'd like to learn more about the ministries of Christ Church, our mission and hopes for the community, and how you might find a place with us, join us following Sunday morning worship, **February 27th at noon** - in the Café/Gathering Room. We'll have a light lunch, get to know each other a little better, learn about the ministry of the church, and what it means to be a member.

Those who are ready to commit to membership will be invited to join at the end of the meeting.

This is a no-commitment meeting, just come hang out for a bit, and help us connect you to Christ Church!



Middle School & High School Students (5th - 12th grade)

We have a Sunday school class for you! Join us downstairs, each Sunday, during the 10:35 worship service for some time to learn and talk together about the Bible, life, and your faith in it. LaVerne & Krisiti Anderson will be so happy to get to know you, and spend some time together. Meet them downstairs in the youth room #27 (right next to the playground) at 10:35 am each Sunday.

See you then!

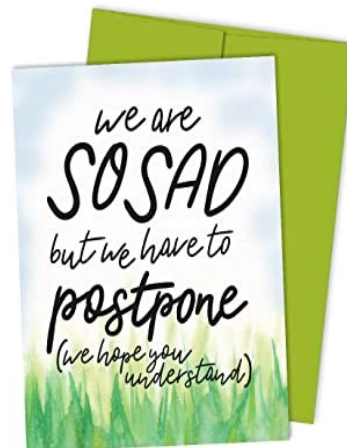
ADVENT OFFERING CELEBRATION

Thank you so much for your generous donations to our Advent offering this past season. The Mission/Outreach Team of Christ Church had previously chosen the following to be the recipients of our collections:

Our Conference, Our Kids	\$5,000
Missionary – Connie Wieck	\$1,250
Christ Church Relief Fund	\$750

With a fundraising goal set at \$7,000, our Christ Church family came through with open hearts and we exceeded our goal by \$1,408!!! Praise God!!! Because of your generosity, the monies collected above our goal were sent to UMCOR for the Kentucky Tornado Relief.

With your support this special offering has given us the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people in our community and around the world. Thank you for being a blessing!

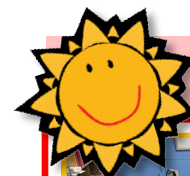


Due to the peak of COVID-19 infections, both the **Tuesday Morning Coffee House** (held at the Carbon Cliff Community Center) and the **Silvis Retirees Luncheon** (originally scheduled for Friday, February 11) have been CANCELLED for the month of February.

Please contact Mary Land if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



Merry Sunshine News



Merry Sunshine Updates

What a great start to the year for Merry Sunshine. The kids were happy to be back this month. We changed the room a bit, putting a veterinary office in the room. The kids did a fun activity with Ms. Peggy as each brought their favorite stuffed animal in to share about in class. We have enjoyed talking about all the animals God created for us, even the cold weather ones.

We are preparing for our winter program this month which will be held on February 3rd & 4th. The kids are excited to sing songs about snowmen and snowflakes. I added my two favorite songs to the program, "This Little Light of Mine" and "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy". God is reminding our teachers how important it is, especially now for our kids to discover the great joy that comes from Jesus and how they can be a light to this world. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement!

Opening!

We have an opening in the 4 and 5 year old class on MWF. If you know of a child that would love to be part of our group, please pass the word.



Hallelujah Candle

Light the Hallelujah Candle in honor of a loved one or event! Examples may be birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, births, graduations, special events. As a fundraiser for building improvements or mortgage payoff, you may light the candle for Sunday worship. Your honoree will be mentioned in the Sunday announcements and the mid-week news.

Name _____ Phone _____ Date you'd like candle lit _____

Hallelujah Candle Honoree _____

Please select which campus you would like the candle lit:
 East Moline Silvis Carbon Cliff
 (1 candle \$15, 2 candles \$30, 3 candles \$50)

Please select where you would like your contribution \$ to go:
 FLC Mortgage FLC Furnishings Silvis Flooring
 East Moline Landscaping Carbon Cliff Building

Please attach payment to this form. Checks payable to CUMC, memo Hallelujah Candle. Place in the offering plate or drop off/mail to the church office.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN-EAST MOLINE



HEALING AND JOY IN OUR JOURNEY

This 'thing' called life is a journey....we go through it with family, friends, and God (church). So WHERE IS GOD IN YOUR LIFE? We invite all women to join us for our programs, reflections and desserts on the 4th Tuesday of each month. A short business meeting follows to touch on our purpose of being a supportive community with our offering and gifts that support women, children and youth in our community, nation and world wide.

Unfortunately, our UMW meeting on January 25 was cancelled due to extreme cold. Please join us for our February gathering on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall at the East Moline Campus. Our topic will be 'The Sacred Space of Prayer.' Michele Diefenbach will lead this and share some of her thoughts. Come and see what exciting things we are doing. A 'mission box' is passed for a small gratitude gift which goes to local community projects.

On the first Wednesday (February 2nd) two small groups meet in fellowship hall at the church. The Glory Circle meets at 9:30 am and the Patience Circle is at 12:30 pm. If you're interested or you have questions: call Alice (309-517-1286) or Karen (309-524-4600). All ladies/visitors welcome.

Our most current gifts to missions include November's \$119 to Open Hearts Café to help with expenses and December's gift of \$130 went to the Dispatch Argus Santa Fund. Our collection for Church World Services included 26 Hygiene Kits and 31 School Kits. Pat Reuter has worked with our knitting and crocheting squares which will find a home with children.

Again.... We welcome all.... "Whatever ye do, do all to the Glory of God."

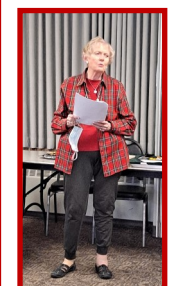
Alice Haben, President



- Feb 2—9:30am Glory Circle, 12:30pm Patience Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Feb 3—Rotary
- Feb 10—Rotary
- Feb 12—TBA UMW District Leadership Training
- Feb 14—9:30am Church Women United Board Mtg
- Feb 16—9:15am Morning Connection
- Feb 17—Rotary
- Feb 22—11:00am UMW Leadership Mtg, 1:00pm Unit Mtg (all women welcomed)
- Feb 24—Rotary



Marvel Lewis was honored on December 3, 2021 to celebrate her 100th birthday. She has been a member of Christ UMC since May 13, 1983 and a faithful member of the UMW and Glory Circle.



The UMW Christmas gathering on December 21, 2021 included singing with Donna Hamrick piano accompaniment and Jane Parker's voice leading AND Christmas Memories by all. Appalachian Annie (Karen Moore) shared her cleaning tips with the help of Pat Reuter.



Sue Nurse gave the November unit meeting Pledge to Mission Program "Knitting Together And Reaching Out". Mariann Reese was presented the 2021 Special Recognition Award and pin from the Unit.

Patience Circle enjoyed a lovely Christmas party at TPC Deere Run in December. Special guests were Pastors Sarah and Gabe Wanck and bus driver, Jim Power.



News to Know



Are You Missing the Prayer Requests?

In order to make sure we are sending out "wanted" e-mails, we have eliminated sending prayer requests to our entire distribution list. If you would like to continue to receive and pray over the prayer requests, you must "opt in" to be on our prayer team. This does not commit you to anything, other than to pray! If you would like to be included, please call or e-mail the church office. We'd be happy to add you to the list. Our phone is 309-755-2508 and our e-mail address is office@christchurcheastmoline.org. Thank you!



CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY NEWS

The Nursery at the East Moline Campus is open on Sunday Mornings for ages infant through 5 years during the 9am and 10:35am service times. Please spread the news!



COVID-19 UPDATE

As the omicron variant of COVID-19 continues its fast spread, health officials have now recommended new guidelines for which face masks give better protection. Unfortunately, our old cloth face masks provide the least amount of protection, especially if the face mask has been with you since day one of COVID. No matter how clean you keep your cloth masks, fabric wears out, and the protection is gone. Double masking will increase your protection if you do not have one of the newer recommended masks. Surgical masks (the 3-ply ones) offer some protection, but the new recommendation is to use an N95 or KN95 mask. These masks give a 95% filtration efficiency.

- ♥ N95 masks are certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). These initials should be noted on the face mask or on the box when bought. This will distinguish that it is not a counterfeit face mask. KN95 masks are made in China and approved by the USA for use. These face masks do cost more and are not as readily available. In addition, they cannot be washed, but they can be used more than once with safety steps in place. Each time an N95 mask is removed, the straps stretch and weaken so that a tight fit will disappear after many wearings. Therefore, the CDC recommends using one mask no more than five times.
- ♥ If the N95/KN95 mask gets wet, dirty, damaged, or has been in close contact with an infectious disease, or you touch the inside, throw them away.
- ♥ Have multiple masks so that the masks can be rotated. For example, wear a mask one day and then store it in a paper bag for 24-48 hours to keep the mask from contaminating a surface or another person.
- ♥ Each time you put on or remove a mask, the CDC suggests you wash your hands, only handle masks by the ear loops or ties, and do not touch the mask when it is on your face.

Thank you for wearing your face masks. As I have said before, having had one of the COVID variants, I do not wish this virus on anyone. Therefore, please join me in prayer that this virus ends soon! Meanwhile, keep the faith and protect yourself and others!

In Faith, Hope, and Love,
Steph Rabe, Parish Nurse



BE A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL

Christ Church Loves You

During this pandemic, there has been so much suffering, pain and loss. COVID-19 has affected everyone in one way or another. Let's be a part of something special to brighten the lives of those around us by performing random acts of kindness for our neighborhood schools and teachers.

In the first two weeks of February, we are inviting the Christ Church family to 'love bomb' local schools, teachers, administrators, and staff with support in encouraging ways. Think hand written notes/letters, gift cards dropped off to administration to distribute to weary staff, stopping by the school to pay off a debt for a student, your small group sending lunch to the school to feed staff, donations of money to help strained teachers, standing outside the school with encouraging posters telling teachers/staff that you're cheering them on, having a box of Starbucks coffee dropped

off with an encouraging note, etc.

We have ordered special small invitation cards that say "Christ Church Loves You" to hand out with the acts of kindness. Pick some up and attach it to your gift. There's even a spot on the back to include a special note. And, if you can, snap a picture of your delivery and post it to our Facebook page "Christ Church Quad Cities."

Just one more way to show Christ's love and make Christ famous in the Quad Cities!!



Pastors Sarah & Gabe would like for you to check out Seedbed.com.

"WHAT IS SEEDBED? Seedbed is a twenty-first century movement and media platform whose mission is to gather, connect, and resource the people of God to sow for a great awakening."

Once on the site, go to the Daily Text and subscribe to sign up for daily devotionals and more. They offer a podcast as well!

Check it out!



\$\$ Million Dollar Miracle \$\$

During the first part of January, we received \$11,857 in contributions for the FLC Building Fund. Total received toward the Endowment Match is now \$450,763.46 getting ever so close to the full grant of \$500,000. Over \$800,000 in added principal payments have been made over the past nine months as a result of your generosity and faithfulness combined with the support of the Endowment Team. Those extra payments have allowed interest savings of over \$121,000 compared to initial five-year loan projections. We look forward to reaching that \$500,000 goal very soon through the help and grace of Almighty God!

Want to become more involved?

If you're looking for ways you can volunteer at Christ Church we are always looking for volunteers to help in the following areas:

Bell choir, Chancel Choir, Prayer Chapel, Food Pantry, Open Hearts Café, Safety & Security Team, Sunday School Teachers, United Methodist Men, and United Methodist Women. If you are interested in any of these areas, contact the church office, 755-2508.



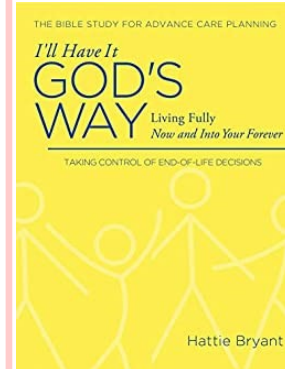
Memorial Patio Brick Paver Fundraiser



As a fundraiser for the Family Life Center, the Capitol Campaign Team is once again selling personalized engraved brick pavers to be placed in our memorial patio outside of Fellowship Hall. Honor your family, an individual, or memorialize a loved one with their name engraved in stone!

Order forms can be found in the Welcome Center or printed from the church website. Orders will be taken through February, and pavers will be installed in the spring. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be matched by the Endowment Fund.

From Our Parish Nurse



A life truth is we will all die. We each have a choice on how we will face this. Diana Lovett and I will be holding a class in March on Monday mornings called **I'll Have It God's Way, Living Fully Now and Into Your Forever.** In other words, taking control of *End-of-Life Decisions*. This six-week class is a Bible study for advance care planning. It is more than having a will and a durable power of attorney through a lawyer. It is about preparing to die, as a worship experience to God. The class will start on Monday, March 7, and due to COVID, we will limit the class to 12 people. There is a cost of \$20 to cover the book you will be given. (If \$20 is difficult for you, please let me know.) I am excited about this class and the connection it makes with the Bible and how dying becomes living! Please join us!

Speaking of going home to live fully, we now have a **Christ Church Personal Pre-planning Funeral Form** that you can ponder your wishes and fill out. This form will give the Pastors an idea of what you want and do not want for a funeral or memorial service. Too often, your favorite Bible verses and hymns are not shared with family and when one passes on, the family/friends are at a loss of how to honor you. Pastor Sarah and I worked on this form so that planning your funeral would be easier for all involved. Fill the form out, give a copy to a family member and your funeral home. Then give the form to one of the Pastors or Steph. It will be kept in a locked file for confidentiality. The forms are located in the box, outside of Steph's office at the East Moline Campus, and on the Welcome table at the Silvis and Carbon Cliff churches. If you need a copy sent to you, please let me know.



In Faith, Hope and Love,

Steph

Christ Church Blood Drive



Christ Church will host a blood drive on **Saturday, February 19, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.** The drive will take place at the East Moline Campus, Fellowship Hall. Please save the date and give! Tell a friend, neighbor or family member and ask them to donate along side you. The need is great right now for the Quad Cities. It's simple and takes less than an hour to donate. Impact Life, formerly Mississippi Valley Blood Bank, would like anyone donating to wear a face mask, just as their staff will be doing.

Please call the office or Steph to schedule your appointment. What a great way to give back to our community for the many blessings we each have been given!



The deadline for the March issue of the church newsletter is **Tuesday, February 15th.** Please submit all articles to the church office (preferably by email) by then.

The office email address is office@christchurcheastmoline.org
Thank you!

Christ Church Worship Service videos can be found on our website: www.christchurcheastmoline.org under the **News and Media** tab and on **YouTube** under **Christ Church Quad Cities**