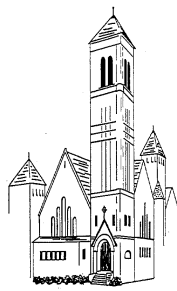


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Tower Notes

VOLUME 47

March 4, 2015

NUMBER 10

March 4, 2015	6:15 p.m.	Taizé Worship – Chapel
March 8, 2015	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service – Chapel
3 rd SUNDAY OF LENT	9:00 a.m.	Christian Education Hour
	9:15 a.m.	NewSong Worship Service – Chapel
	10:15 a.m.	Chapel Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service – Sanctuary; Children’s Church School – LL

First Presbyterian Vision and Mission Statements

VISION: *As faithful followers of Jesus Christ, we seek to be an open, caring, compassionate congregation, and to bring about positive changes in our community and world.*

MISSION: *We celebrate, explore, and demonstrate our Christian faith in loving service.*

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: *1) Continue to be an active community-oriented congregation; 2) Develop a passion for discipleship and advocacy; 3) Celebrate unity of purpose with diversity in action.*



**LENTEN
 CLASSES
 & SOUP
 SUPPERS**

**Lenten Season Suppers & Classes=
 great fellowship and learning**

THANKS to our Peacemaking and Health Ministry groups (Phyllis McPherron, Connie Requarth, Ralph Czerwinski, Yvonne Lewis, Fred Spannaus, Sandy Peterson, Norm Jensen, Donna Washburn, Margi Nicholson, Carolyn Allin, Kelly Tohill, and Jim Lycan) for all their help with last week’s Lenten Soup Supper. This week, March 4, you may wish to eat before the Taizé service 6:15- 6:45 p.m. or before the 7 p.m. World Religion class led by Bill Keagle. **There is no choir this week.** Remember, you may join the class any week, but please make reservations for the meal so enough food is ordered.

The Tuesdays with Miley class continues from 7-8 p.m. using the book “What Christians Can Learn from Other Religions”. Class discussions and questions during the week, including the 9 a.m. Sunday morning class, have been informative and thought provoking. Lent is a great time to learn more about the world around us.

Weekly Wednesday night Soup Suppers are from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the dining room, prior to the class or choir. Several committees provide a variety of soups to go with sandwiches and desserts. **Please sign up for the March 11 supper in the Gathering Room** or call the church office (429-4195) by this Friday, March 6 so food can be ordered. (\$5 person/\$15 family). Classes and meals are open to the public with meal reservations made a week in advance. Lent is for everyone.



Daylight Savings Time Begins
Sunday, March 8
 Set your clocks forward 1 hour



JUST FLICKS

**Sunday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.
 First Presbyterian Church**

Julia Roberts stars in this legal drama based on the true story of a woman who helped win the largest settlement ever paid in a direct-action lawsuit. Erin Brockovich (Roberts) is a single mother of three who, after losing a personal injury lawsuit, asks her lawyer, Ed Masry (Albert Finney), if he can help her find a job. Ed gives her work as a file clerk in his office, and she runs across some information on a little-known case filed against Pacific Gas and Electric. Erin begins digging into the particulars of the case, convinced that the facts simply don't add up, and persuades Ed to allow her to do further research; in time, she discovers a systematic cover-up of the industrial poisoning of a city's water supply, which threatens the health of the entire community.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS:

E-mail concerns to:
amcelder@comcast.net

Carol Wood is home from the hospital.

Our sympathy is extended to Betty Ann Davidson and family on the death of her husband Charles.

In Memoriam

*Charles (Charlie) Kennedy Davidson
September 21, 1925 - February 27, 2015*

Uphold us now, O Lord, as we entrust him to your boundless love and eternal care.

Celebration of Life Service for Charles Davidson is Friday, March 6 at 11:00 a.m. at Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home in Mt. Zion.

Visitation begins at 10:00 on Friday, March 6.

CONGRATULATIONS

Susan (Nicholas) Phipps and Nicholas Phipps had a baby boy on February 28, 2015.

THANK YOU

Dear Friends –

Just a note to say thank you for the beautiful flowers you brought to our home. It always makes our home feel so cheery, and the residents love them!

*In Christian Love,
Sharon Reynolds, Activity Director
Fair Havens Christian Home*

*To our brothers and sisters in Christ at
First Presbyterian Church of Decatur*

The Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Decatur would like to thank you for your generosity of providing a meeting place for our Annual Council Retreat.

Your dining room was an excellent space for us to reflect on God's goodness and our ministry here in Decatur.

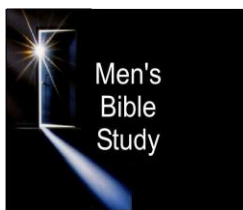
*Robert Tyler
Congregational President*

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - March 5 cancelled

All men are invited to gather on Thursday,

March 12 from 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. in the Gathering Room to begin their study of the Book of Revelation. The hot coffee is always ready at 7:00 and we take

turns bringing some tasty donuts or coffeecake. Come join George, Dick, Paul, Ray & René.



CHURCH SCHOOL HOUR

March 8, 2014

9:00 Everyday Issues during Advent –Dr. Bill Keagle will lead the third Lenten class with a discussion on "Understanding World Religions". Bill taught this topic in his religion classes at Millikin.

9:00 Present Word Bible Study: Main floor Pastor's study – Ray Landon leads the weekly Bible study. Unit I: THE PLEDGE OF GOD'S PRESENCE will focus on "Jesus Promises an Advocate" – John 14:15-26.

9:00 Youth Class: LL Youth Room – Junior- and Senior-high class is led by Chris Lawton.

10:15 a.m. Chapel Conversation Class – This is a discussion group about the day's scriptures and sermon in the chapel. Cindy Wene is discussion leader.

10:30 a.m. Children's Church School: Lower Level



VERY GOOD

March 8 SUNDAY GREETERS

Before Service

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| #1 Volunteer | #4 Volunteer |
| #2 Volunteer | #5 Chuck Boes |
| #3 Volunteer | |

Computer Tech

Norm Jensen

Coffee & Fellowship

Jody Hantel

Web Team

Theresa Boes

Media Tech

Jackie Evans

Andy Rauff

March Church School Teacher

Cindy Wene

AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Friday, March 6, 7:00 p.m.

Heartland Community Church

3253 Brush College Road



Eighteen choir members, ages 8 to 11, will perform popular children's songs, traditional spirituals and gospel favorites; it's high energy with lots of smiles. The children and former members of the choir will share their experiences about living in Africa. Donations will be accepted.

Easter Lilies



Lilies are available for purchase in honor or in memory of your loved ones during the Lenten season. Lilies are \$12.75 each. Call 429-4195, sign up on the church office clipboard or e-mail fpdec@comcast.net

with your remembrance information.



WORSHIP SERVICES

March 8, 2015

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

Rev. John Kay, preaching

Sandy Peterson, 8:00 a.m. lay leader

Terry Hogg and Pam Neeley, 9:15 a.m.
service leaders

Ray Landon, 10:30 a.m. lay leader

Sermon

"Acts of Worship"

Scripture

John 2:13-22

Flowers

The flowers this Sunday are given by
Sally Krigbaum in memory of beloved
family members.

March Ushers

Jon Scharfenberg and Bob Dunn,

Co-captains

Pierce Bruckner

Joli Cirks-sub

Diane and Bob Dunn

Eric Nevitt-sub

Bruce Mason

Carol and Jon Scharfenberg

Peter and Pattie Smith-Phillips

Worship Aids

Children's bulletins, large-print Bibles, and
hearing amplifiers are available for use
during worship. Ask any usher.



**AVAILABLE
FLOWER
DATE:**

March 22

Purchase Sunday flowers in
memory of your loved ones-
429-4195 or
fpdec@comcast.net.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



"Labor
of Love"
Prayer
Shawl
ministry
will meet

on the 2nd and 4th
Wednesdays from 10:00-
11:30 A.M. (or whenever
you need to leave). We
begin with a devotion,
updates on
members/concerns and chit-
chat as we knit or crochet.
Drop in anytime. The next
meeting is March 11

NOW TAKING APPOINTMENTS – CALL TODAY

It is easy, it is quick. Call the church office (Christl) today to schedule your appointment to donate blood on April 6 between 12:30 – 4:30. The Red Cross will be here. They are in great need of blood donations. When appointments are made in advance, it takes about 1 hour to save lives.

If you are 17 years old or older, weigh more than 110 lbs., and are in generally good health, you may be eligible. You are never too old to donate blood. Check the American Red Cross website if you have further questions about donating.

The Health Ministry Committee will be there to greet you with a smile and offer you cookies and treats when you are done.

The Red Cross is asking for a minimum of 21 donors. We want exceed that goal. We all probably have experienced the need for blood, either for ourselves or friends and family. We know how important this is. Please sign up to donate, invite friends and family to join us on April 6, and spread the word. Posters and flyers are available at the church office.

Thank you,
Phyllis

GOOD SAMARITAN INN MARCH 5, 2015

Mark your calendar. The first Thursday of each month is when First Presbyterian Church prepares and serves at Good Sam.

Hours are:

9-11 a.m. – food preparation

11-1 p.m. – serve

The Inn operates solely on the good hearts of volunteers. It is located at 920 N. Union Street.

HEARTLAND HEROES

David and Harriet Sadowski, longtime volunteers with over 20 years of volunteer service, and 4 others were named as part of the American Red Cross' 2015 class of Heartland Heroes. The event, which has been held in Decatur for the last five years, was created to honor everyday people who go out of their way to do something extraordinary.

Harriet is a nurse and David has served for 60 years as a volunteer with his local fire department. Together they have responded to numerous disasters, including the World Trade Center following the September 11th attack.

The Heartland Heroes dinner and awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the Decatur Conference Center and Hotel. Tickets can be purchased at the Red Cross. Congratulations to Harriet and David.



LUNCH BUNCH

**Until further notice, there are no more
Lunch Bunch meetings scheduled.**

**LOOKING AHEAD: ONE GREAT HOUR
OFFERING TAKEN ON EASTER SUNDAY,
APRIL 5, 2015**



STRING BAND PERFORMANCES

Wednesday, March 11, 10:00-11:00 A.M.
McKinley Ct. Care Centre,
500 West McKinley Avenue, Decatur

Thursday, March 12, 6:00-7:00 P.M.
Oxford House Apartments
2700 North Monroe Street, Decatur

Monday, March 16, 2:30-3:30 P.M.
Victorian Woods, 3910 W Main St, Decatur

Wednesday, March 18, 12:00-1:00 P.M.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 3850 Lourdes Drive

Wednesday, March 25, 5:00-6:00 P.M.
First Presbyterian Lenten Soup Supper
Church Dining Room

Wednesday, April 22, 4:30- 5:30 P.M.
Reserve at Lakeview, 1035 S. Main Street, Decatur

Wednesday, May 13, 10:00-11:00 A.M.
McKinley Ct. Care Centre
500 West McKinley Avenue, Decatur, IL

Ecumenical Women's Service

In Honor of World Day of Prayer
Friday, March 6. 12:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church



WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT

DOHERTY'S PUB & PINS

RSVP – Thursday, March 26, 2015, 5:30pm

DMH Volunteer Opportunities

There is a great need for volunteers at Decatur Memorial Hospital, especially at the Cancer Care Center. The shifts are mornings or afternoons, either 8 till noon or noon to 4. Anyone interested may go to the DMH website, dmhcares.org, and complete an application online to become a volunteer. If you prefer to complete a paper application, you can contact Paula Hall at 876-2800 or Evy Ellis, Director of Volunteers, at 876-2801. You can sign up for one shift a week or every day, whatever fits your schedule. If you have questions, please ask Richard Sublett.



1000 Volunteers needed!

Friday, March 13 or Saturday, March 14
Two shifts available
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Please consider helping with this community event recently advertised as JOINING FORCES in the Decatur Herald & Review. Local volunteers are still needed to pack meals for orphanages, schools, clinics and feeding programs in 70 countries. Last year more than 191.6 million were provided. There are a few openings during the 3:30-5:30 p.m. Friday shift and also a Saturday afternoon shift. Contact Cathy (cathyforce@comcast.net) ASAP if you would like to work as a church group on Saturday, March 14 from 2:30-4:30 p.m., and she will send in your names to reserve a volunteer spot, if still available.

Central Christian's Concert Series Hymn Festival

Sunday, March 8, 4:00 p.m.
650 W. William Street



The event will include hymn arrangements prepared by organist Jeremy Bankson and will involve the participation of the organ, brass quintet, percussion, oboe, flute, choir and congregation. You are invited to come and sing your favorite hymns in ways that will raise your spirits on high.

Christian Classics Lecture Series

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3rd Floor,
1360 W. Main St.

On March 22, Pastor and Millikin University Professor Dr. Timothy Kovalcik presents a historical, theological, and contemporary lecture and discussion at 6:30-8:00pm – free, but reservations required, 428-6603. Lecture will be *Pursuit of God* by A. W. Tozer.