THE HERALD.

LISTENING TO GOD'S HEART FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY



From The Pastor's Desk:

Labels are helpful...for groceries

"Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight." (Matthew 12:18)

Many of you will remember years ago when generic food was introduced into grocery stores throughout the United States. The label lacked pizazz and was not eye catching at all. The labels were simple stark white with black ink writing on them. Should it be a can of corn, the label read CORN; should the can contain baked beans, the label read, BAKED BEANS. The marketing campaigns did not have a Jolly Green Giant, a dog who holds the family secret to the baked bean empire, or some mystical elf in a tree baking your cookies.

The marketing was simply what you see, is what you get. Then if you had a mother such as mine, who was very thrifty, you searched for cans missing labels and someone had written, with one of those smelly markers, what might be in the package. Of course, these were often deeply discounted and may or may not contain what was written upon the package.

Labels provide us with a source of knowledge of something that we cannot see otherwise. And I feel we all can agree that labeled foods are necessary, especially at a potluck, but that is a whole other issue.

Sometimes we venture out from labeling groceries to placing labels upon people. Labels that read - gossip, fat, skinny, short, tall, ugly, gorgeous, heterosexual, homosexual, Christian, atheist, Republican, Democrat, liberal, wealthy, or poor; the list and comparisons are endless. We all have been subject to labeling at some point in our lives and often still are being labeled.

Often when we place a label on someone, we are also placing judgement. I find it ironic in this day and age that we form opinions of someone from the label that someone else mistakenly read. Sadly, we will never ever be able to stop the false labeling of people. We can, however, make a conscious effort to look past the label, and welcome the surprise when we truly open up the outer-packaging to witness the person from a different vantage point.

I encourage you to join me and many others, to look past the labels and embrace those who are labeled. Jesus was often misjudged and mistreated because of the label that someone had placed upon him. I think when we recognize that the same creator who created you and me, also created others as well. Let's allow love and grace to be the label that identifies each and every person.

-Pastor Terry

New Church Photo Directory!

We think it's time to put together a new Church Photo Directory, don't you?! We are getting the ball rolling on this project! Amy Shelton will be taking our photos on July 22, 23, 25 & 26. Signups are no available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. The sitting fee is only \$10 and you will receive all of your photos digitally by email. The directory will be available this fall. If you have any questions, call Jennifer Boatman at 618-843-0908.

Second Wednesday Dinner

Join us for the Second Wednesday Dinner on July 10 at 5:30 pm! It will be a carry-in, so bring a dish to share. Invite your friends for a night of good food and fellowship!





NOW - Back to School Shopping Day

The Back to School Shopping Day is Saturday, August 3rd, beginning at 8:00 am until 2:00 pm. There are several different jobs available. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided throughout the day. Please use the link on the NOW Facebook page or the eNews, and select which job you'd like to do and what time slot. If you have any questions please contact Kirbie, 618-553-7824. This is such a wonderful and rewarding experience, and you will have the best day ever!



Christian Book Exchange

Greetings from the Book Exchange! Located next to the elevator in the narthex, our July highlight is 31 Days to Happiness. In this book, history's most successful man, Solomon, takes us on his questioning journey into the deeper questions of life in the Book of Ecclesiastes. Through the study and application of the treasures in this book, we can learn much about the school of life as we listen to the voice and wisdom of Solomon. Prepare for age-old secrets to renew and recreate in your heart, mind, body, and spirit the joy you have lost. God longs to bless your life with wisdom and bring you to the crest of a hill where you can catch a glimpse of what seems impossible: heaven on earth.



What's Growing On? Your Guide to the Community Garden

We just wanted to give you an update on what we've got growing. If you see a variety that you're interested in trying, please help yourself. We're excited to try growing some old favorites as well as some new varieties.

Northeast Bed: Beit Alpha Cucumber (trellis), San Marzano Tomatoes (coming soon), Cherokee Purple Tomatoes, Amish Paste Tomatoes Mideast Bed: Blauhilde Pole Beans (trellis), Sunsugar Tomatoes
Southeast Bed: Lemon Summer Squash (trellis), Super Sweet 100 Tomatoes

Northwest Bed: Beit Alpha Cucumber (trellis), Red Swan Bush Beans, Cantare Bush Beans, Dragon Tonque Bush Beans

Midwest Bed: Blauhilde Pole Beans

(trellis), Potatoes

Southwest Bed: Odessa Summer Squash (trellis, coming soon), Zucchini (coming soon)

By the time this article comes out, the bush beans, pole beans, some tomatoes, and probably cucumber could be picked. If you're interested in volunteering with the community garden, please contact Kirbie.

Dare to Dream Like Jesus: Workshop and Teaching Event

This is a workshop presented by author Rebekah Simon-Peter. She challenges churches to "dream again, to recapture the vision of making the Kingdom of God a reality," and to, "once again tap into the transforming power of Jesus."

When: Saturday, August 10, 2024

Where: Calvary UMC, 1700 N Towanda Road, Normal, IL

Event Time: 8:30am-3:30pm

Cost: \$25.00 before July 15- \$30.00 after July 15. This includes continental breakfast and lunch. **Electronic Registration**: Go to <u>igrc.org/dream</u>

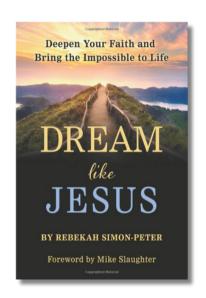
Paper Registration: There are forms at the Welcome Center.

Fill out the form, and turn it in to the church office if you are not able to

register electronically.

There is a group going from FUMC! Come on along! We will carpool up on Friday, August 9, stay at a hotel, then return home after the workshop on Saturday.

Questions: Lori Treadway- 618 554 8425



JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/1 Jeanette Berty

7/3 Jeremy Markello, Sheri McGahey

7/4 Whitney Robinson

7/5 Roy Schlosser

7/7 Hunter Murrell

7/10 Ruth Boatman

7/11 Tricia Anderson

7/14 Izabella Hays

7/16 Brandon Harmon

7/17 Madison Tracy

7/19 Monroe Nethery,

Roxanne Boatman

7/20 Barbara Ross, Kollin Ramos

7/21 Sandy Anderson

7/24 Annika List, Mikayla Hardiman

7/26 Jack Wright

7/27 William Damron, Linda Null

7/29 Chris Freeland, Audra Bell

7/31 Jay Anderson, Ben Ackman



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

7/4 Jack & Nina Davis

7/6 Valerie & Brian Weck

7/7 Gary & Janelle Oxford

7/15 Jeff & Sherri Murrell

7/17 David & Sheri McGahey

7/21 Rich & Leavone Johnson

PRAYER REQUESTS

Amy (Kindt) Denaman; Wayne Blessing; Richards Youngs; Nancy Holley

To add someone to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm • Dynamic Prayer Class	3 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	4 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am NOW Summer Lunches	5	6
7 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	8	9 10:30 am NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm Dynamic Prayer Class	10 10:30 am NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm Second Wednesday Dinner 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry	II 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	12	13
14 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	15 6:00 pm • SPRC Meeting	16 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 4:00 pm • Nurture Meeting 6:30 pm • Dynamic Prayer Class	17 10:30 am NOW Summer Lunches 11:30 am Circle of Love 6:00 pm Team Meetings 7:00 pm Church Council	18 9:00 am • IGRC Consultations • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:00 pm • SPY	19	20
21 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	22 9:00 am • Directory Photos	23 9:00 am • Directory Photos 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	24 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:30 pm • Stephen Ministry	25 9:00 am	26 2:00 pm • Directory Photos	27
28 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	29	30 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	31 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches			

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ROBINSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Leader: Daniel Boatman Accompanist: Kayla Holscher

Custodians: Amy DeDoming, Mark DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Marnie Inboden

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