

INTO THE FOLD

November 2023

visit our website at www.umcrp.org

Ponderings by Pastor JoEllyn...



There are times in life when another's circumstances are not fully

understood. Unfortunately, during these times, we make judgement calls, we try to find answers that are not ours to find. It would be easier to ask our friend/family member, "let's talk about what you're going through?"

That old expression comes to mind, "Walk a Mile in My Shoes." Others need us to walk along side them, they do not need our opinions or judgment, they merely need our support.

It's safe to say, we are quick to judge without knowing someone else's story. Today let's focus on stuffing our size 8's into another's size 6 footwear. Let's walk with them, not in front of them showing them what we believe, but by their side in solidarity.

Philippians 3: 12-16 shares the following:

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of

God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us then who are mature be of the same

mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶ Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

There are times when we have to step back and allow our people to *Shake it Off and Press On*:

There was a farmer who discovered that his donkey had fallen into a dry well. The animal cried pitifully for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do for his poor donkey. Finally, he concluded that the well was too deep, and it really needed to be covered up anyway. Besides, the donkey was old, and it would be a lot of trouble to get him out of the pit. The farmer decided that it was not worth trying to retrieve the animal, so he asked his neighbors to help him fill in the well and bury the donkey.

They all grabbed shovels and began to toss dirt into the well. The donkey immediately realized what was happening, and he began to bray horribly. Crying would be our normal response if somebody was mistreating us this badly, so this donkey was responding the same way we would at first, but then he got really quiet. A few shovel loads of dirt later, the farmer looked down the well and was astonished at what he saw. With every shovel of dirt that hit the donkey's back, the donkey would shake it off and step on top of it.

As the neighbors and farmer continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he continued to shake it off and take a

step up. Pretty soon the donkey shook off the last shovel full of dirt, took a step up, and walked right out of the well.

We can learn from this story. When trouble comes, if we will get still and listen, God will tell us what to do. By the grace and the mercy of God, we are able to shake off a lot of things in our lives: hurt feelings, mistreatment, abuse, unfair...unjust...unkind things. Just like the donkey, in order to keep pressing on and have victory in our lives, we are going to have to learn to shake off the troubles that come our way.

Our purpose is to support those around us, it's their story to tell, not ours. They need a listening ear; we need to sit back and offer support. I think I can do this..... can you?

Blessings and Love,
Always Praying You Through,
Pastor JoEllyn

Bette's Bits & Bytes:

Greetings Friends,

It will be one year, Nov 18th, when I unexpectedly found myself on a New Adventure. It has been a wonderful ride, side by side with Brad this past year...

He has taken me on so many adventures I had never done.. I now have flown in a small plane... A day trip & flying to Pilot Pete's Airport

restaurant in Schaumburg, IL, returning home to LaPorte at night, with fireworks happening below. A very different view looking down on fireworks than up.. I have not only experienced a boat ride, & a moonlight ride, but have driven the boat, without hitting anything... I have went fishing. Been to a Bass Fishing Tournament, an Air Show in Elkhart, Air Zoo in Kalamazoo. Been to the Monon Train Museum. And been to many restaurants I had never been. I have inherited 4 dogs & have helped build a fence.. To name just a few adventures....

"Keeper of the Stars" was my Dad & Vivian's song, and now find it fits beautifully with my new beginning.. Below is a few lyrics at the beginning of the song.

"It was no accident, Me finding you. Someone had a hand in it, Long before we ever knew. I tip my hat to the Keeper of the Stars. He sure knew what he was doin,' When he joined these two hearts.."

I give thanks to God for this New Beginning.. My unexpected new adventure, just goes to show what can happen when you least expect it... Wonder what the next year will bring????

Christ's Love to you all, Shalom,

Bette

With all that is going on in Israel & the Gaza I found this to be an interesting article..

Why does Israel matter?

Did you know that the time clock of the return of Jesus Christ isn't based on America's timeline? It's based on what is happening in Israel.

Did you know Jesus wasn't a "Christian" ? He was a Jew. He

celebrated and kept the Jewish holy days and customs, as well as the feasts of the LORD. He didn't come to eradicate the Torah and writing off the Prophets / Old Testament. He came to fulfill the prophecies that were written in them.

When Jesus returns, He isn't returning to the United States. The Bible says He is going to plant His foot down on the Mount of Olives and go through the Eastern Gate, which is currently sealed off with 16 feet of concrete. A cemetery was also placed in front of that gate because touching the dead makes a Jew considered unclean and unable to enter the Temple, which is considered Holy. The Word of GOD says He will return there and from there He will rule and reign for 1,000 years.

The final battle isn't going to be on U.S. soil. It's going to be in the Valley of Megiddo, in Israel. The Bible says as the nations wage war against Israel Jesus will come and destroy His enemies with the breath of His mouth. 2 Thess 2:8

GOD did not replace the Jews with Christians as some believe. We are actually grafted in with them as you would graft a wild branch into an existing tree.

The Word of GOD says, "When you touch Israel, you touch the Apple of GOD's eye." Zechariah 2:8

"He that keeps Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. The LORD is thy keeper." Psalm 121:4

"I will bless those that bless you and I will curse those that curse you."

Genesis 12:3

We are also commanded to pray for the peace of Jerusalem in Psalm 122.

ISRAEL matters. 🇮🇱

PRAY FOR ISRAEL. 🙏

****copied from Harry Rust****



at Jenny Rae's....Iva said grace.

The Sept meeting of Best Years hosted by Jean Snyder met

Birthdays Sept 20 to Oct. 18th are: Cathy Reese 9/27, Dave Bradford 10/4, Mary Kessler, 10/10.. Prayers were said for Jack Cook, heart surgery 9/19, Joe Pask, knee surgery, 9/25..

Attendance prizes were won by: Mike Harris, Linda Everingham, Dave & Virginia Bradford, Cathy Reese, Lester Chadwick, Roxy Hawkins, Johna Horvath, & Karen Rison.

Others present were: Deb Harris, Mary Kessler, Annette Clark, Susan Knowlton, Ben Rison, Bobette Elkins, Bob Russell, Connie Galloway, Penny Derucki, Pam Pask, Bette Schaefer, JoEllyn Chadwick.. The Oct meeting will be hosted by Deb & Mike Harris Oct 18...

The Oct 18th meeting of BEST YEARS,

met at Jenny Rae's hosted by Mike & Deb Harris... Iva said grace.

Birthday's from today to Nov 15 are: Myrna Everill, 10/25, Mary Smith, 10/29, Bobette Elkins, 11/3, John Smith, 11/14, & Rose Lenig, 11/11. One anniversary, Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick 50 years, 10/27...

Attendance prizes of cute Halloween ornaments were won by Jack Cook, Pam Dixon, JoEllyn Chadwick, Iva Wasielewski, Gail Dailey, Bobette Elkins, Cathy Reese & Dave Bradford..

Others present were: Jean Snyder, Bette Schaefer, Ben & Karen Rison, Susan Knowlton, Lester Chadwick, Virginia Bradford, Pam Pask, Linda Everingham, & Bob Russell.

Due to a conflict of dates, our next meeting, will be Monday Nov 13, @ the church for our Thanksgiving Dinner...

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We finished the Study by Max Lucado God Never Gives Up On You!! It was a good study...

God used Jacob because God chose to use Jacob. Period. The word for that kind of devotion? Grace. Grace came after Jacob. Grace found him in the desert. Grace protected him in exile. Grace wrestled him to the ground and blessed him. Grace led him home to Canaan.

Max shows us how. Through Jacob's story to believe in a God who sticks beside the unworthy and underachievers and leads us safely home. If God can use Jacob to further his kingdom, he can use us too.

Our next study "Sermon on the Mount" by Jan Wilkins begins Sunday Nov 5..

Jesus is telling us who God Is... We will learn what it means to be a citizen of the kingdom of Heaven according to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount through this 9-week study Matthew's gospel opens with three chapters containing Jesus' longest recorded message – a sermon given to His disciples early in His ministry to articulate what the life of a Christ-follower would look like.

Come join us for the discussion.

CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL

We still are in need of teachers... We ask that you prayerfully consider being a teacher.. Our goal is to have you teach only one Sunday every other month.. But in order to do that, we need your help in prayerfully considering to take on a week...

EVENTS & MEETINGS 2023 **November / December** **Every Tuesday 7:30 a.m.**



Gideon Sunday Nov 12 Sharing God's Word..... Changes lives for Christ, Bring hope, Reach the Lost, Transform a Life to a forever changed life to follow God....

Best Years Thanksgiving Lunch
Monday Nov 13, Noon
here at Church
Note day change to Monday

UWF Meeting Tuesday Nov 14,
9 am cst Bring Thank Banks

4th Euchre Night & Potato Bar
Sat. November 18 4:30 – 8 p.m. (cst)



Missions & Outreach.. **By Jean Snyder**

I will start out with Missions. I would like to encourage people to use the "Kings Club" for giving to missions. You can give for celebrating life's blessings such as birthdays anniversaries and other joys. In the coming year our mission giving will go towards the Food Pantry, Stepping Stones, Women's Care Center and Worthy Women. If you want to know more about these missions, please ask me.

Giving through October, 2023
Previous giving \$ 303.19
Mission Banks 288.11
Easter Breakfast 153.00
(Jean Snyder, Bette Schaefer gave)
Kings Club & Mission 100.00

Total up to date \$ 844.30

Outreach hosted a Trunk or Treat for the local community. I would like to thank everyone who helped to make it a success and look forward to hosting it again. We had 10(?) trunks and a fire truck handing out goodies plus games and refreshments inside the church.

Next year we would like to have a church picnic. We would like to have input from the congregation on what you would like it to be.

Thank you everyone,
Jean Snyder

November Anniversary

10 Tim & Paula
Wheatbrook
21 Kent & Angie
Porter

November Birthdays

02 Penny Derucki
03 Bobette Elkins

04 Rita Chadwick
04 Brian Williamson
06 Ginger Lenig
07 Joshua Goodspeed
08 Grace Krivak
08 Adrienne McCarty
09 Molly Lenig
09 Lisa Thresh
11 Rose Lenig
12 Jessica Chadwick
13 Brian Phillips
13 Judy Wordinger
14 Seth McClelland
15 Joe Watnick
18 Skylar Phillips
20 Macy Wheatbrook
22 Kristin Black
23 Ashley Tuholski
25 Ben Rison
26 Kodey Coffinger
27 Barry Pumroy
28 Janice Stroud
30 Brian Wasielewski

December Anniversary

29 Steve & Linda Everingham

December Birthdays

01 MacKenzie Boswell
01 Eric Sardeson
03 Pam Pask
03 Leslie Witkowski
04 Daniel Lenig
04 Neal Tuholski
05 Alexander Lenig
05 Camden Rinkle
06 Holly Williamson
06 Chris Adams
07 Pam Dixon
07 Shirley Kirkham
09 Cheri Ringer
11 Jackie Wheatbrook
11 Susy Lenig
12 Suzanne Flagg
12 Denice Tuholski
13 Madelyn Syverson
16 Mackinzie Arford
18 Alana Witkowski
18 Jackson Hakes
24 Charles Ed Lenig
27 Nicole Sutter
30 Brianna Boswell
29 Joseph S. Pask

January Annivesary

- 12 Rob & Amy Manuszak
(Bill & Jean Dare daughter)
13 John & Linnaea Arford
(Myrna Everill Daughter)
24 Troy & Jaime Nickerson
(Terry & Joann Nickerson son)

January Birthdays

- 03 Madison Lenig
06 Linnaea Arford
06 Kris Moody
06 Fae Sutter
07 Morgan Porter
09 Wendy Hakes
10 Suzanne Syverson
10 Sean Everingham
11 Marilyn Livinghouse
12 Debra Harris
16 Kameron Coffinger
17 Bobby Siford
20 Jay Dare
20 Brandon Elkins
20 Nicole Adams
22 Aiden Chadwick
22 Brian Sardeson
23 Stefanie Obenchain
26 Sydney Moody
27 Virginia Bradford
28 Tim Wheatbrook
29 JoEllyn Chadwick
30 Karen Swanson
31 Jacob Goodspeed
31 Courtney Masek



**November
Food Pantry Needs...**
Need plastic bags
Peanut Butter –
Any Canned Fruit –
Any Canned Soup

The last Double Match Day Sept 9th,
at Meijer garnered the Food Pantry
\$5780..

Next Meijer DOUBLE MATCH DAYS is –
Saturday Dec 16 For each \$10 'Simply
Give' card purchased, Meijer will double
match it - turning your \$10 gift to \$30.

The Food Pantry received a grant from
Unity Foundation for \$5000.



We've had a busy fall season
already and are
planning for more fun!
Our "Trunks of

Treasures" market in August was
extremely successful and also fun!
We had a beautiful day for the
market and we heard good
responses from the vendors. We
plan to continue with these as an
annual event. See end of newsletter
for a few pics of Trunks of
Treasures..

We had an inside picnic meeting in
September and had a terrific time.
We always have good food to share
but we also had a good friend's
gathering of having fun.
We are planning another euchre
night, November 18 from 4:30 -8.
We will have a potato bar with
toppings and snacks for the evening.
We invite anyone interested in
having fun to attend, even if you
haven't played euchre in a while.
There are prizes!

The October meeting is always a
business meeting. We went over and
revised our budget, officers, and
meeting schedule for the upcoming
2024 year. This group of women
welcomes new ideas and members.
It's such a good way to support each
other. The friendships made in this
group are so important to us all!
The women in this group are
interested in giving back to not only
our community but to the world. We
support organizations that help
women throughout the whole
nation. We also help our local
community by raising money
and giving to our local schools
and local agencies that help women
and children. It's a great opportunity
to show love towards others!
Our upcoming meeting in November
is us giving "thanks" by turning in
our "thank " banks. This money is
then given to help women all over

the world. We put coins into our
banks daily and as we remember
those things we are thankful for. This
is the time of year we have so much
to be thankful for!

Cheryl Lenig - secretary
We will save you a seat!

Worship Meeting: 9-10-2023

Our meeting began with a prayer
and then a light dinner.
We then went over any comments
or concerns with our committees.
We discussed the fifth Sunday in
October (29) being a kids Sunday.
We will have the kids do different
things in the service: Acolytes,
offering (Skylar?), and anything else
we can figure out. (Maybe music
special?)
We will also present our kids with
bibles. We had done 3rd graders
years ago but none of our current
kids have received bibles. Pastor and
Bette will make sure we have the
Bible's to present to the kids. We
should need 10 bibles..
Jackie said that it has been really
nice for Patty to be bringing the altar
flowers from her garden. They have
been beautiful! When she no longer
has flowers in the garden, Jackie will
again make sure the vases are filled
each week.

The upcoming fall schedule will
include: All Saints Day, November 5,
(Bette will get the note in the
bulletin), possible recognizing
veterans on Veterans Day Sunday,
and Christmas. Hanging of the
greens will be November 19 with
lunch afterwards, and Christmas Eve
service (8pm) will also be on a
regular Sunday with service in the
morning. Bette will get the note in
the bulletin November/ Dec. for the
poinsettias and have them ready for
December 17 and 24th.
We will have 3 meetings a year;
Spring (January), Summer (May), and
Fall (September). The next meeting
is scheduled for January 14. @5 pm

with a dinner provided again by Cheryl.

Submitted by Cheryl Lenig



Dear Members of RPUMC, Congregation,
Thank you for your donation to the Community Food Pantry of Galena, Hudson, Kankakee, and Wills Townships. Your generosity enables the Pantry to fill the needs of the Clients. New Clients sign up every month and the Pantry is blessed to have your support
Sincerely
Phyllis Austin, Pantry Board Member

Thank you very much for the wonderful luncheon you provided for our



Mom's Celebration of Life... Your fellowship & love would have made her very happy,

Family of Iona Gring.

TRUSTEES REPORT

Trustees has been hard at work checking things off their to do list and other things that crop up..

The memorial benches have been placed on the pads in the memorial circle.

The trees down the parsonage driveway have been trimmed.

The bushes around the church have been trimmed..

The church roof started leaking... Estimates were given and Kolar roofing was selected to replace the roof.

The cost of the replacement was turned into Church Mutual Insurance

and all we have to pay out of pocket, is the deductible of \$1000..

Upon replacement of roof, damage under the steeple was detected.. This will have to be done later as the steeple will need to be removed and that can't be done during winter... Kolor will resubmit an estimate to the insurance for this, and will find a company with a crane who can remove the steeple..

Damage to inside church, over the organ, and the music room next to sanctuary, that was caused by leaking roof still needs to be done, but will begin in a couple weeks.

Fence Corral around outside furnace & trash cans should begin in the next week or two....

Jeff Rose will be doing both the Inside Leak damage & Fence...

Thank you to All who came and helped with the various things on to do list..



Cheryl Williams (hospice, health issues, Wayne/ Shirley's niece), Greg Geyer (mending knee surgery, Gretchen's dad), Evelyn Pilar (health, Sherry/Paul Mom), Tyler Kelley (recovering eye damage, grandson Bobette), Mike Harris (Port removed, & Eye Health), Chris Adams, (surgery for Afib end Oct. friend Bobette), Kyle Jones (recovering foot ankle surgery, Bobette grandson-in-law), Larry (stomach cancer, friend Bobette), Ben Rison (sinus surgery Thurs), Brian Essary (recovering from motorcycle accident friend Susan Knowlton) Bruce Melton (doing well after Carpal Tunnel, Penny's Hubby), Autumn Reese, (brain surgery Nov 1, Penny D niece) Lonnie Krulik (cancer, cousin Sherry/Paul), Susan Knowlton (health), Pam Dixon, (healing Gall Bladder Surgery, New Chemo treatment), John Bealor (fell fractured wrist, wife Sharon, Health, friends Joyce), Joyce Blint (blood pressure), Dan Kirkham (healing, broke leg, son Wayne/ Shirley

Kirkham), Curt Jann, (healing from back surgery, Jean Snyder son), Karen Fitzgerald (meds helping, heart issues, high potassium), Ron Nordin, (nursing home after stroke, Scott's Dad), Julia Seifert, (doing well after Thoracic Surgery, Scott Nordin's Mom), Lorea Harris, (home after heart rehab, Mike/ Deb's sister-in-law), Denice Boyce (Rehab for knee, sister Sherry Iwaszewski), Rayna Bare (non Hodgkin's lymphoma, Renee's grandson, Brendan's, girlfriend), Elissa Wagoner (struggling with healing after car accident in Jan. great-niece Bobette), Allison Howard, (struggling with Chemo, Bobette Cousin), Bobette Elkins (Health Issues)...

If you want someone on the prayer list, please fill out new request card or call Pastor JoEllyn or Bette 219-778-2910

If someone needs immediate prayer because of emergency, or a surgery taking place, or anything you believe just can't wait till Sunday, call Pastor JoEllyn or Bette to get the Prayer Chain activated...

There is power in prayer. In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, "Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Kaily Collins, US Army



granddaughter
Marjorie Olah
Garrett Obenchain
Air Force Reserves -
Son Jeremy & Stefanie
Obenchain. Grandson
Rose Lenig

Dylan Elkins Air Force –
brother of Brandon Elkins
Jacob Adams Army-
grandson Chris Adams

Craig Carlson (pilot) Air Force –
son Harold & Carrie Carlson
Michael Showalter Marines -
grandson, Wayne & Shirley Kirkham

Matthew Rompca Air Force - nephew,
Shirley & Wayne Kirkham

Katelyn Williamson Marines -
Granddaughter of Jim Williamson

Service has ended....

Thank you for your Service

David Armstrong US Army-
grandson-in-law Jean Snyder



**On Nov 5, 2023,
we lovingly
remembered our
loved ones who
have died and
gone before us..
We miss them &
love them.. Until
we meet again, we keep you alive in
our hearts & memories...**

12-02-2022 Rodney L. Pumroy,
nephew of Penny Durecki
07-01-2023 Cheryl Pumroy, sister-in-
law Penny Durecki
12-10-2022 Carl Magers, dad of
Kimber Magers, fiancé Daniel Lenig
04-14-2023 Sherry Waters, aunt of
Nancy McVay, Mason's Aunt
12-16-2022 Adam Childress, son of
Brad, friend of Bette
12-28-2022 Steven Ryan, cousin
Karen (Ben) Rison
01-23-2023 Shirley Rusthoven, cousin
Karen (Ben) Rison
08-12-2023 Beverly Ryan, cousin
Karen (Ben) Rison
01-14-2023 Shirley Sater, friend of
RPUMC
12-24-2022 Jeannette Washluske,
wife of Wayne, Mother Karyn (Art)
Schuck
12-24-2022 Margaret Rimmer, friend
of RPUMC
01-03-2023 Guy Hart, Nephew
Wayne & Shirley Kirkham
02/07/2023 Larry Price, friend & co-
worker Wayne & Shirley Kirkham
04-30-2023 Frank Buss, friend of
Wayne & Shirley Kirkham
01-31-2023 Jeff Elkins, husband
Bobette Elkins
08/16/2023 Evelyn Kelley, Bobette's
grandson Tyler, grandmother
08-30-2023 Walt Singleton, friend of
Bobette

10-21-2023 John Bennett, Bobette's
granddaughter, Alisha Father-in-law
01-04-2023 Jeanette Wideman,
Mother Cheryl (Steve) Lenig
01-29-2023 Steven Lawrence, friend
Carlena Metts
03-19-2023 Mic Bearss, friend
Carlena Metts
02-01-2023 Billy Buchanan, brother
Lynsey Daley
03-08-2023 Denice Garouette, friend
Gretchen & Karen F..
10-26-2023 Diane Sudman friend
of Karen F..
03-15-2023 Anita Hubbard,
dear friend, Jean Snyder
04-14-2023 Joseph Knowlton,
husband of Susan Knowlton
09-25-2022 Dale Newland,
ex-husband Susan Knowlton
05-07-2023 Bill Dare, husband
Jean Dare
05-25-2023 Braydon Flagg, grandson
Sue Flagg
08-08-2023 Ronnie Strauch, friend
Sue Hughes
08-13-2023 Diana Kabacinski,
Mother-in-law Mary Kabacinski
08-18-2023 Iona Gring friend
Alice Lenig & Rose Lenig
08-23-2023 Dorothy Bagwell O'Brien,
Aunt Jeannee (Scott) Nordin
09-06-2023 Dorothy Hobart, sister of
Iva Wasielewski

Pastor Appreciation Sunday was Oct 8

It was a carry in dinner
immediately following church...
Chicken & the cake were
furnished by the Staff Parish
Team. We had a variety of
dishes... Which were all very
good.. We have the best cooks...
Pastor JoEllyn begins her 7th year
as our Pastor..

We are very happy to have her
leading our flock...



TRUNK OR TREAT 2023

Our 2nd Trunk or Treat had a good
turnout. We had over 100 attend...
We had 10 cars, 1 truck, 1 van, that
decorated.. & The Kankakee Fire
Dept. Steve Vogel, came with a
Firetruck to hand out candies...

Inside we had refreshments of
Donuts, Cookies, Hot Chocolate,
Cider, Hot or Cold, Coffee,
Chocolate Milk..

There were Games to play & coloring pages...

Kids were able to play Witch Ring Toss, Bowling, knock over the cups, and pumpkin bucket toss (like Bozo's grand prize game)

Those who had decorated: were Monica & Denice, Pastor JoEllyn, Mike H., Bruce & Deborah, Lori McCarty, Deb H, Jean S, Bette, Roseann, Pam, Penny D & Gabe, Grace, Grant, & friends..

Joyce directed treaters to come inside for refreshments.

Penny M., Iva, Karen R were in the kitchen making sure donuts, drinks, & such were all filled...

Gretchen organized & kept the games running smoothly..

A neighbor of the church brought 36 Popcorn Balls to hand out.

Pastor JoEllyn's granddaughter Jessica, her hubby, Austin, & great grandchildren, Addison, & Chadwick came for Trunk Row...



A big thank you to all who supported & helped at this great & fun event...

2023 CHICKEN NOODLE DINNER

The Chicken Noodle Dinner was a huge success...

Scott thanked everyone. The Chicken Noodle Dinner was a huge success.. From the Bottom of his heart he thanked each and everyone of us that helped. The Church came together.. No matter how big or small you played we couldn't have done it without all of you....

The numbers are preliminary, but Alice said that we served close to 400 people.. Alice, too thanked everyone and appreciates June for selling all the ads on the place mats, that pay for the expenses of the dinner

One thing that touched Alice while selling tickets at the dinner, these 2 ladies, who were widowed, late 70's or early 80's, came to the dinner for the first time.. they went in to eat and When they came out Alice asked how the dinner was.. They liked it so much They asked if they could buy 2 carry out dinners, so can have again tomorrow..

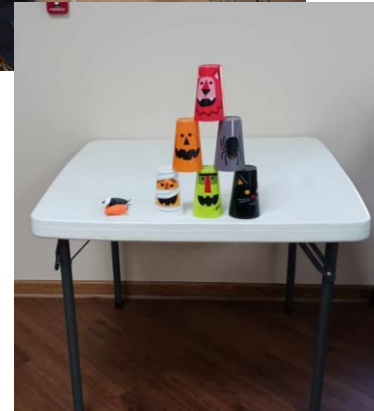
Thank you Scott & kitchen team, for all your hard work in pulling and organizing the preparation, cooking, keeping the serving buffets all filled to serve our hungry guests...







2023 TRUNK OR TREAT...







Rusty Strings Orchestra offers area musicians a place to dust off their skills.. By DONAVAN BARRIER

Staff Writer LaPorte Herald Dispatch
Oct 6, 2023



Carrie Ann Carlson, the orchestra's new conductor, said the group was for people who wanted to play in an orchestra, but time and other priorities got in the way. There is no audition process and all of the material is meant to help musicians remember how to play

VALPARAISO — Activities people enjoy sometimes take a back seat in order for them to focus on life. For many, that hobby is music, and a regional group is dedicated to giving those wanting to pick up the instruments they left gathering dust a place and chance to do so. The Northwest Indiana Rusty Strings Orchestra, based in Valparaiso, includes residents from all over the region who played in high school or college or after, and would like to play again. Carrie Ann Carlson, the orchestra's new conductor, said the group was for people who wanted to play in an orchestra, but time and other priorities got in the way. There is no audition process and all of the

material is meant to help musicians remember how to play sheet music, while providing concertgoers quality music from established composers. "We take people wherever they are ...," Carlson said. "People are going to be coming in here at all different levels and it's as much for camaraderie and just the experience of socializing with other musicians, and being together and making music."

However, she said, they do not accept just anyone. Those who wish to join must have a background in whatever instrument they desire to play.

"If you can't play your instrument, we don't give lessons," Carlson said. "We're just there to facilitate people 18 and older who were probably in their high school orchestra or college orchestra or are teachers."

Currently, 27 people are signed up to play, but she expects more to join. Carlson took over as conductor from Tom Schnabel, the founder of Rusty Strings. She said many of her former students and colleagues asked her to do it.

"I got some arm-twisting and that type of thing, and finally my husband said, 'Carrie, you should do this,'" she said.

Schnabel, Carlson's colleague at Duneland Schools, started the orchestra in 2017. The idea came, he said, when many former orchestra students he met later would apologize for not continuing their musical interests outside of school. "I'd always obviously say 'no big deal,'" Schnabel said, "but it led me to wonder why there wasn't a place for full-on amateurs to play, especially considering how many strong string programs there are around."

After he retired in June 2017, Schnabel started a Facebook page to see if anybody was interested in joining. Once word got out, he

started reaching out to different retirement areas to find a space for rehearsals.

The group's first concert was in December 2017, and the group has played regularly at any places that would have them, including Pines Village, Anderson Winery and Valparaiso Nazarene Church.

However, he said, the group had to go on hiatus in March 2020 due to the pandemic.

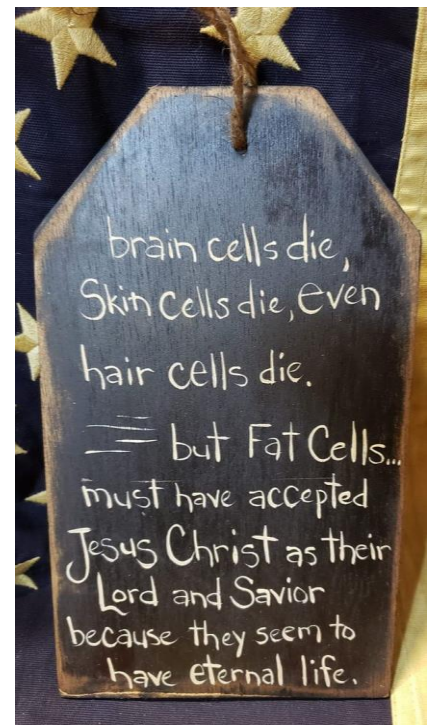
Some of the members say the group is a great addition to their life.

Patrick Barriball of Valparaiso, who plays violin, said he never thought he'd play again.

"It [my violin] was in a closet for 20 years," he said. "It has been great to play again, and the fact that there is no pressure or judgment on ability makes it something to look forward to. I know many of my fellow 'Rustys' feel the same way."

Anyone interested in joining can email Carlson at

NWI.RustyStrings@gmail.com or visit the Rusty Strings Facebook page. Rehearsals start Oct. 19 at Pines Village from 7-8:30 p.m. Currently, there is a \$40 fee to join.





Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church
3444 E US Highway 20
P.O. Box 187
Rolling Prairie, In 46371

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

November 2023

Dated Material

Nov 5, 2023
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Nov 12, 2023
24th Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 2023
SCRIPTURE READINGS
From UMC Lectionary Calendar

Visit the Website at:

www.umcrp.org

Church Office Hours
Mon – Thurs 10.- 3

Pastor JoEllyn Hours:
Tues & Thurs
12 pm – 4 p.m.
Other times by appointment

Nov 19, 2023
25th Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Nov 26, 2023
26th Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-34
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46