

The Disciple Harbinger

April 26, 2002



To reach the church:

Please call the church at 345-3003. If there is no answer please leave a message and we will return your call.

Attendance

59 April 14
56 April 21

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GOD'S DIRECTION

When it is my birthday, JoAnne plans a mystery trip. I have no idea where I am going, for my birthday. When it is JoAnne's birthday, I plan a mystery trip, for her surprise. This is fun, exciting, and filled with anticipation. We have been quite a few places in the Midwest, since we have been married for almost ten years.

We pull out of the driveway and off we go. One of us does not know the final destination. In a way, I have to fully trust in JoAnne in what she is doing, where we are going, lodging, and meals. Also, I trust that she will do her best to make my birthday trip a success.

Well, this weekend is JoAnne's birthday. So I have been in my office studying the United States Atlas trying to decide what would be a great destination. I have been on the Internet, trying to look at some new ideas for this mystery trip. Back to the atlas. Back to the Internet. What a good idea. No, I don't think that would be the best destination. Back to the Internet. Back to the atlas. Then, finally, I choose the final destination.

Now a days, once I have made up my mind, all I need to do is to go to the Internet one more time. I go to a site that will give me complete directions to this destination. I type in my current location on Meadowlake in Charleston, then type in a certain location like a street or building at the destination of the birthday trip. Wow! In just a few seconds, I have complete directions.

These directions tell me to depart 2006 Meadowlake on Halsy St., west for 0.1 miles. Turn right onto Reynolds, go 0.5 of a mile north. Turn left on to SR 16, going west for 6.9 miles and the directions keep going to our final destination.

Wow! Perhaps the same can happen for us as a congregation as we try to decide the directions God wants us to go in the service of Jesus Christ. Sometimes, we have a good idea, then we ask God for those directions through all means possible. And sometimes, we don't know what will be the point of our destination. Then, wow, we really have to trust in the good Lord for directions. When we know, may we have a meaningful journey into the mission of this congregation in the future.

*Love,
Denny*

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2002

This is a day for communities & the country to come together to pray for our nation, communities, & families. Following are the activities for the Charleston area:

6:30 am First Baptist Church Prayer For Our Community

(Praying for businesses, children, schools, EIU, peace officers, & other community servants.) Refreshments to be served following.

12:25 pm Steps Of The Courthouse - Prayer for Government

(Praying for national, state, county & city governments, & for God to move in a mighty way with His transforming love, & reconciliation.)

6:30 pm Charleston Community Church—Prayer For Our Families

(Praying for families & challenges those present to make an impact on those in our community through making use of the 5 Blessings Challenge:
5 Blessings for 5 Neighbors,

for 5 Minutes a day, for 5 Days a Week, for 5 Weeks beginning May 5.) Brochure enclosed.

Take the family with you, nursery will be provided. Try to participate personally in one of the services & encourage other to also participate in the National Day of Prayer. Imagine joining in prayer with millions of people all over the United States & experience the power that prayer brings. If not in the Charleston area, there are similar activities in Mattoon & in cities all across the nation. Be sure & check them out.

On Sunday, June 9, 2002, beginning at 2:30 pm at the Kiwanis Park Pavilion there will be a prayer walk to take place.

HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING NEW ABOUT THE PASTOR ON SUNDAY MORNINGS?

He has been wearing his new stoles with his robe each Sunday. Be sure to take a close look at them each Sunday morning.

UPCOMING WORSHIP & CHOIR EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN IN!

May 12 MOTHER'S DAY

Men's Spiritual "RIDE THE CHARIOT" Rehearsals will be 6:00 pm Tuesdays, April 30 and May 7.

May 26 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Irving Berlin's "GOD BLESS AMERICA" Rehearsals will be 6:00 pm Tuesdays, May 14 and May 21.

June 23 CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

"NOAH AND THE ARKETTIES" a large cast rap play (with instruments) for children of all ages. Rehearsals times and article coming soon.

Please note that the Wednesday night light suppers & studies will continue through Spring.



Board Members, please be sure to check your mailboxes!

NEW ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS

The Adult Church School is at 8:30 am each Sunday morning & is located to right of the Sanctuary in the Southeast classroom.

F.A.S.T.

Our Summer mission trip has been planned. We will be going to Cosby, Tenn. on August 11-17. We have agreed to send 23. An advance payment of \$ 40 per person has already been sent. Sign-up sheet may be found in the back of the church. Reimbursement should be made as soon as possible to the church for the \$ 40 registration. REMEMBER THIS IS FOR ALL AGES. Please sign up as soon as possible. There are many

spots left. Please don't miss this opportunity to share God's love. A needs list is enclosed.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy & prayers go out to Annie Nickles & Family at the lose of husband, father, grandfather & loved one, Ralph.

Prayer Concerns

Sophie Huffman, Dale Spence, Hayden Cole, Kip Kubisz, Robert M. Wilson, Virginia Evans, Dorothy Teaters, Ada Elder, Jon Adams, Fred Moler, Tom McDevitt, Pat Cole, Sharon Mathews, Wanda Fouts, Danny Pritchard, Florus & Bobbi Nadler, Jim Holloway, Leland Hall, Elbert Chron, Gene Miller, Annie Nickles & Family.

Please notify Ferne McHenry to add or remove a name from the list.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Just a reminder that the General Board Meeting is coming soon. It is time to get your reports into the office, to be prepared for the New Board Meeting Booklet. Please get your reports into the office on or around May 1, in order that the booklet may be ready to be distributed by Sunday, May 5, prior to the General Board Meeting on May 8. Thank you for you cooperation.

CHURCH USE

For the use of the church for weddings, receptions, etc., there are request forms which need to be filled out, located in the church library on the table. This request must be made at least 15 days before the use is required.

You will then receive a letter of approval or denial, which will include the policies of the church.

CHURCH EQUIPMENT

For the use of any of the church equipment, there is a form located in the church office for checking out that equipment. This way the church will know who is using it & when it has been returned.

CHURCH LIBRARY

We hope that you take advantage of the Church Library. The books are there for your use & help. All we ask is that you be sure to check out those books by filling out the form in the library, located on the counter.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

HOPE

HOPE is a combined agency of the Homeless Shelter & the Coalition Against Domestic Violence. They are always in need of supplies. Please bring any of the items on the list below & place them in the green container, which will be located at the back of the church. If you have large items to donate we can make arrangements to have those picked up from your home.

NEED LIST

Cash Donations
Furniture
Household Goods
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Diapers
Baby Wipes
Children's Toys
Children's Books
Women's Books

Goody Bags For the Mother's
(Toiletries, perfumes, soaps, etc.)

Thank you!

Cindy Maples, Outreach Chair

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES

On May 7th & 8th, pictures will be taken for our new Pictorial Directory. The times to schedule your pictures are from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm each day. If you do not receive a call to be scheduled for an appointment, but wish to have your picture included, please call the church office. If unable to have your picture taken when they are scheduled, but wish to have your or your families picture in the pictorial, it can be submitted with a \$ 10.00 charge by sending to the church by Sunday, May 5. Any questions, please call the church office at 345-3003.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Friday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The CWF will meet at the church on May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

OUR WORSHIP GUESTS

There is a way to fill this space with names. Invite someone to church! Also, when you look around on Sunday and you haven't seen certain people in church for awhile, then pray that you will look up next week and they will be there. Invite someone new to come to church, and pray for those who you would like to see in church. Seriously, do this!

Scheduled to Serve In May

Communion: Doug Bacon, Fraun Lewis, Joe McGee, Jeanette Wilson

Preparation & Cleanup: Cindy Maples, Laurie Olson

Greeters & Candlelighters: Norma Mineo, Jeanette Shannon

Elders:

April 28 Jan Hall, Mike Chron
May 5 Paul Slifer, Patty Maples
May 12 Richard Hayden, Pat Marsh

HARBINGER DEADLINE:
Please submit articles for the next Harbinger on or before May 8, 2002 to the church office.

Shut-in Schedule

May 5 Wayne Hunt, Bill Mineo

Board Meeting

The next regular church board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the church. All are invited to attend.

Birthdays

April 27 Mark Thomas
April 28 JoAnne Pritchard
April 30 Bill Temple
May 6 Marta Shirley
May 11 Julie McGowan

Anniversaries

May 11 Mike & Judy Hunt Milam

Worship Leaders

April 28 Jan Hall
May 5 Marla Belden
May 12 Verlon Myers

**A NEWSLETTER OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

13982 Old State Road
Charleston, IL 61920
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pastor@disciplesofchrist.org



Denny Pritchard, Interim Minister, 11-4-01
Dick Hayden, Moderator
Linda Thornton, Office Manager
Join us every Sunday for Worship at 9:30 a.m.
And Sunday School for all ages at 10:45 a.m.
Office hours are—Tuesday - Friday, 9-3

*Growing in God's Love in a Spirit of
Tolerance, Diversity, and Inclusion*

We're on the Web!
www.disciplesofchrist.org

MUSICAL CHAIRS

What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. Shakespeare

When is a chair not a chair? The American Heritage dictionary says the number one definition of a chair is a piece of furniture consisting of a seat, legs, back and often arms, designed to accommodate one person. But it can also be a seat carried on poles: a sedan chair, or even a slang term for the electric chair as well as four other definitions. The word pew has only one definition: a bench for the congregation in a church.

Probably most of us grew up in churches that had pews and only in the latter years have these churches begun to use chairs. What is the advantage of chairs over pews? Chairs offer both comfort and flexibility of motion and placement.

By moving chairs around for special occasions a worship service can be greatly enhanced. There is more freedom to decorate appropriately with flowers and symbols. More closeness is created between the pastor or worship leader and the congregation and the members of the congregation can enjoy eye contact and easier familiarity with each other. And as in our Disciple heritage the communion table can become the significant focal point.

Of course, whenever the chairs are changed into a new pattern there is initial difficulty with lighting, with the Elders and Deacons learning new styles of service and other difficulties of adaptation. But our chairs are both comfortable and flexible and we, too, as a congregation can be both comfortable and flexible.

We are a new congregation and we need to try new ways of worship as we reach out to new people. In the coming months we might move the chairs into a more linear fashion for a time or perhaps into a half-circle pattern depending on the needs of the service.

We are blessed with a creative and energetic pastor and in working with the Worship Committee, we hope to have meaningful and reverent services that bind us together in common purpose to seek the oneness of the body of Christ and in all ways to seek to make known the love of God.

A chair accommodates but one person but "where two or three (persons) are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them", no matter how the chairs are arranged.

"Will the circle be unbroken by and by Lord, by and by?" We hold hands in a circle at the end of each worship service - Blest be the tie that binds. Would a rose by any other name BE as sweet?!

Carolyn Hayden
Worship Committee Chair