

March 4, 2010

# The Disciple Harbinger



## Pastor Sharon's Note

After a long, long winter we may well be seeing signs that spring is just around the corner. As I write this, I can say that, at the end of February, I saw three robins in the yard late one afternoon. How beautiful they were. And how good it was to see them. Surely they are signs that spring is soon to come.

Spring also finds us in the midst of the season of Lent and Easter. Someone said not long ago that we typically think of Easter as a day. However, Easter is a season. Lent covers six weeks and takes us through Holy Week--the week that Jesus would have known as Passover week. Then comes the day we celebrate the resurrection. However, the season does not end with resurrection. There are many resurrection appearances that follow. This time is known in our Christian life as Eastertide. It is the time when, Easter/resurrection has already come, but now what does it mean? What does it mean to live as children of God in this world?

Lent, rather than being simply a time of stricter discipline, is like a concentrated reflection of the life we are called to live throughout the year. Lent allows us to reflect upon ourselves and our call as servants of Christ. What changes do we need to make to become the useful and faithful servants that God would have us be?

And it is part of the tradition of the Christian church to spend this time following Easter Sunday in reflection of the significance of the resurrection. From Easter Sunday to the day of Pentecost the many post-resurrection appearances of Jesus are remembered. The risen, living Christ is now within our midst. It is also the season when we remember God's new creation--God's new creation in the post-resurrection Jesus and the new creation of life.

While Lent has been a time of self-examination, Eastertide is a time for regrouping--for putting it all together. What does it mean to be a people of faith? Who are we in relation to the community of the faithful? Who are we in relation to our own community of faith?

May this time of Lent and Eastertide be all that it can be for you.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Sharon*

### **Holy Week Events**

#### **Wednesday**

There will **not** be a Vesper Service on this evening so that OSRCC can observe Maundy Thursday and Good Friday events.

#### **Maundy Thursday**

This year, 2010, as part of the Maundy Thursday observation at OSRCC, there will be a Christian Seder meal. The Seder meal was originally part of the Jewish Passover festivities. Christians have for many years also celebrated this high point of Passover by having their own version of the Seder. The décor of the evening celebration will be in keeping with the Jewish Seder.

The meal will begin promptly at **6 p.m.** with worship to follow at 7 p.m. The meal itself will be a **carry-in** meal but the **elders** of OSRCC will provide the meat for the meal. Maundy Thursday is **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please plan to attend.

#### **Good Friday Worship**

On Good Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, OSRCC will host a 7 p.m. worship service.

#### **Easter**

There will be a Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. This will be followed by breakfast of rolls, coffee cake, juice, and coffee at 8 a.m. The Chancel Choir will perform an Easter Cantata at 9:30 a.m.

#### **Angelfood Ministries**

The Angelfood Ministries program that has been previously sponsored by the Heartland Church will resume in March, 2010, under the auspices of the Charleston Ministerial Association. The March menus are currently available for those who would like to place an order. Copies of the menus are currently on-line or can be obtained from Pastor Sharon. This is a valuable program and is not simply for those who are poor. Anyone can order food through this program.

The program will be housed at First Baptist Church at 2800 University Dr in Charleston, IL. Please see Pastor Sharon or Gayle Strader if you have any questions about the program.

## OUR PRAYERS & LOVE

To Ed Buxton & Jerri Davis over son-in-law, Chris Merrill, going home to be with the Lord on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, may the loving arms of the Lord and your church family surround, bringing comfort.

## ELDER'S

Will be Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. the Elders will again be meeting. **All Elders are asked to please attend.**

## EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING

Will be collected on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> & April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Jesus asks, “. . .do you believe in me?” In *John 11: 25-26*, Jesus says to Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” Each day, the General and Racial/Ethic Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Chris) answer Jesus’ question, “Do you believe me?” through their witness to God’s good news.

Your support of the 2010 Easter Offering witnesses to our belief that we can do all things through Christ Jesus who believes in us. Your support of these ministries extends our church’s witness from your doorsteps to the ends of the earth. Your gift to the Easter Offering shares the message of resurrection.

## VESPER'S PRAYER SERVICES

There were a total of **29** in attendance on Wednesday nights of February. Prayer is the strength of a church. Please come each Wednesday night and share in a time of prayer with your Christian brother and sisters. Pastor Sharon

## AS HEARD AROUND THE OLD STATE ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**“Forgiveness is a catalyst creating the atmosphere necessary for a fresh start and a new beginning” Martin Luther King Jr.** If you would like to submit a quote, please let Pastor Sharon or Linda in the office know and it will be printed. **We would love to hear your quotes!**

## POCKET CHANGE MISSION

For March & April will be for **Crisis Pregnancy Center of Eastern Illinois.**

## NOTES OF APPRECIATION – A WONDERFUL BLESSING TO THE RECEIVER

There were **15** notes written and mailed in **February’s ministry of love.**

## FOOD PANTRY AND SOUP STOP OUTREACH

Will be collected Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. For **Soup Stop** will be **paper towels** and/or **brown lunch bags**; and/or for **Charleston Food Pantry** will be **money most needed** and/or **flour** and/or **tomato paste**.

## BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING (OPEN TO ALL)

The next Board of Elders Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 10, 2010** at 6:30 p.m. Please have **all reports** into the office **no later than Monday, March 8, 2010**. Thank you.

## NEXT HARBINGER

The next Harbinger will be **emailed/mailed** by **Thursday, April 1, 2010**. Please have all **items** into the office **no later than Tuesday, March 30, 2010**. Thank you.

## SHUT-IN COMMUNION MINISTRY

If you or someone you know will not be able to be in church and would like to receive communion on **Sunday, March 7, 2010**, please call the church office at **345-3003**. If no answer, please leave a message on the voice mail that you would like to receive communion on this Sunday. It is always done the first Sunday of each month.

## VISITATION REMINDER

Please, please call the church office when you or a loved one is admitted to the hospital. Because of confidentiality laws we are no longer automatically notified. Also, call when you or a loved one would like a visit from the pastor or an elder. We want to be helpful to you and your family in your times of need, but we need to know there is a need.

## CHURCH'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

*Serving and Growing through Christ*

### FIRST TIME VISITORS FEBRUARY 2010

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

Justin Erickson

Choir – Thursday – 6:00 p.m.

Children's Church School Class–Sun.–9:30 a.m.

Worship – Sunday – 9:30 a.m.

Vesper's Prayer Service – Wednesdays – 5:30 p.m.

## CONTINUING CHURCH OUTREACH

**Soup Stop** to help every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. – 2 or 3 are needed – if like to help, please call the church office.

**SERVING THE LORD FOR MARCH 2010**

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

March 7	Eva Bacon
March 14	Jim Wells
March 21	Amanda McGowan
March 28	Lloyd Koontz

**ELDERS**

Stan Huffman, Lloyd Koontz  
Tricia Briggerman, Patty Maples  
Kelly Bacon, Doug Bacon  
Cindy Maples, Kaye Woodward

**DIACONATE FOR MARCH 2010**

**SERVE**

Velma Spence  
Kevin James  
Nancy Oakley  
Jim Wells

**PREPARE**

Kevin James  
Nancy Oakley

**GREETERS & ACOLYTES**

Velma Spence  
Jim Wells  
Kristyn Haworth, Emily Zuniga  
Malcolm McCarthy, Lilly Dilley

**ELDER OF THE MONTH**

The church has begun an Elder of Month program. If at anytime, you are in need and are unable to get in touch with Linda in the office, or Pastor Sharon is unavailable, the Elder of the Month may be called. For the **month of March**, the Elder of the Month is **Doug Bacon** 348-1119 home.

**COFFEE/JUICE FELLOWSHIP SERVERS FOR MARCH 7, 2010**

Cindy Maples, Susie May

**Coffee/Juice Fellowship will only be served on the first Sunday of each month.**

**ELDER SHUT-IN MARCH 7, 2010**

Stan Huffman, Lloyd Koontz

**BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY UPDATES**

**If your birthday or anniversary dates are not mentioned, please let the office know.**

**MARCH 2010 BIRTHDAYS**

March 5	Eva Bacon
March 8	Ray Allen
March 10	Diane Allen
March 13	Jon Collins
March 22	Maggie Huffman
March 25	Tarry James

March 25                    Agnes Hunt  
March 30                    Velma Spence

**MARCH 2010 ANNIVERSARYS**

March 16                    Wayne & Agnes Hunt

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – MARCH**

**Wednesday, March 3, 2010** – Vesper’s Prayer Service at 5:30 p.m.  
CCAR will clean church

**Thursday, March 4, 2010** – Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.  
Harbinger sent

**Sunday, March 7, 2010** - Children’s church school at 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 p.m.  
Pastor’s Class at 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 10, 2010** – Vesper’s Prayer Service at 5:30 p.m.  
Board of Elders Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 11, 2010** – Charleston Ministerial Mtg. at noon – OSRCC  
Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.  
CWF at 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 14, 2010** – Children’s church school at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
Chili Cookoff at 4:00 p.m. – sign-up sheet in sanctuary

**Monday, March 15, 2010** – CORE Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 16, 2010** – Stewardship Meeting at 3:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 17, 2010** – Lake Land Cluster in Arthur at noon  
Vesper’s Prayer Service at 5:30 p.m.  
Elder’s at 6:30 p.m. – **There will be a guest speaker.**  
CCAR cleans

**Thursday, March 18, 2010** – Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.  
CWF at 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 21, 2010** – Children’s church school at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. – Baptism

**Wednesday, March 24, 2010** – Vesper’s Prayer Service at 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 25, 2010** – Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 28, 2010** – Children’s church school at 9:30 a.m. – Holy Hands  
**PALM SUNDAY**  
Puppets here  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
Cougill Manor – Pastor Sharon & Choir at 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 30, 2010** – Pastor Parish Relations Meeting – noon

**Wednesday, March 31, 2010** – No Vespers due to Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services



**OLD STATE ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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Charleston, IL 61920  
217/345-3003

[pastor@disciplesofchrist.org](mailto:pastor@disciplesofchrist.org)

[www.disciplesofchrist.org](http://www.disciplesofchrist.org)

Rev. Sharon Patton, Pastor

Lloyd Koontz, Facilitator

Linda Thornton, Office Manager

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Church School during Worship 9:30 a.m.

Office hours are – Tuesday – Friday, 9-3

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