

September 2, 2010

# *The Disciple Harbinger*



## Pastor Sharon's Note

Very often we hear something to the effect of, "I don't know how those who do not go to church make it when the events of life get rough." I've said it. And probably so have you. Recently I have been reviewing a book by George Barna entitled, "*Grow Your Church From the Outside.*" Barna talks about the unchurched and who they are in this book. Barna has some very interesting insights in his book and I'd like to share a few.

In his research to collect the information he shares, he found that at least half of the unchurched pray to God at least once per week. Barna also found that one out of every seven of those who are unchurched read their Bible sometime during the week. Nearly all the unchurched believe themselves to be a Christian. In addition, many purchase Christian music, watch religious television, listen to Christian radio, or read a Christian magazine during the month. In other words, Barna found there is a lot of interest in religion even in the unchurched.

So why don't they go to church? Barna has some answers to this question as well. For one thing, he said that many have looked the church over and do not like what they see. Unfortunately, whomever they have looked over has spoken for all those who attend church. There is little recognition that those who attend church differ in behavior.

Barna made a point of saying that the church has lost its place of importance in the lives of the people of this nation. Some say they are "too busy" to attend church. Many don't like the strict beliefs they see in those who attend church. And many say they simply do not need the church.

So what is the church to do today to encourage the church attendance of those who are unchurched? Barna also found that the "unchurched are more likely to respond to a personal invitation than they are to surrender to pressure to belong to a church." They will not come if we do not invite them to come. Barna adds that they will nearly always reject our invitation; however, if we are persistent eventually they will come. He suggests that the initial invitation should not be to attend worship. Rather he wrote that inviting them to

some event, such as our upcoming puppet show on September 11 at 7 pm, is more likely to result in attendance by the unchurched than is a worship service.

How about inviting someone to come with you to see the Holy Hands Puppets on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>?

In Christ,  
*Pastor Sharon*

### **WE WELCOME INTO OUR FOLD**

On August 16, 2010, Sharon Holdfield made her wish to unite in church membership with Old State Road Christian Church become reality. Please welcome Sharon into our church family.

### **THANK YOU**

Don and Velma Spence wish to thank all that have sent cards, prayers, and wishes for good health during these past months. Thank you to everyone.

Special thank you's go to Cindy Maples, Jackie James, Kathy Zuniga, and Laurie Olson for their assistance with the Youth Music Camp. Our youth say they had a great time.

### **OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS**

Our sympathy and prayers go to the family of Ann Ingram, who went to be with the Lord on Saturday, August 28, 2010. May the Lord's loving arms surround her family and friends.

### **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEETINGS CHANGE**

The Evangelism Committee Meetings have been changed to the first Thursdays, instead of the, first Wednesdays of each month, at 5:00 p.m.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Sharon has finished the Book of Mark, but there will not be Bible Study on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> due the fact that it is Labor Day. Bible Study will resume on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the regular time, Pastor Sharon will begin the study of the Book of Matthew.

### **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

On Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. there will be a Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee. More information will be found in the upcoming bulletins.

## HOLY HANDS PUPPET TEAM PRESENTATION

Also on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Holy Hands Puppet Team will be here to present their new presentation entitled, "The Word on the Street."

## SINGING THROUGH THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

On Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special singing through the Christian year for the Chancel Choir and the congregation. This will be during the regular worship times.

## MDA LOCK-UP

Pastor Sharon Patton and Dr. Kaye Woodward will participate this year in the MDA Lock-up on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> to raise money for MDA. They will be locked up at 11:00 a.m. The money raised goes to help fund programs and research that bring help and hope to the families served in Coles County, as sending kids to Summer Camp, pays for patient clinic visits, and provides family support. **This year Charleston and Mattoon are competing for the bragging rights in raising the most money for MDA.**

## DESIGNATED BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SUNDAY

As a part of the 2010 capital campaign the Stewardship Committee of Old State Road Christian Church is hosting a "Birthday Celebration Sunday." You are invited to bring your special one-time birthday offering (i.e., pennies, dimes, dollars, etc.) for each year of your age. This special offering will be used toward the payment of the current mortgage owed by the church. For example, if you are aged 50 years, you might bring 50 pennies, 50 dimes, or \$50 in bills, or a check.

If you are not able to join us on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, you can drop your offering at OSRCC or send it by mail to the church at:

Old State Road Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
13982 Old State Road  
Charleston, IL 61920

**Happy Birthday!**

## ANNUAL AUCTION

The Annual Auction will be held on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Paul's father, Dale Slifer, has agreed to be the auctioneer. So now is the time to be planning and preparing your items for the auction.

## LAKE LAND CLUSTER STEWARDSHIP TRAINING

The Lake Land Cluster of the Disciples of Christ is sponsoring a Stewardship afternoon with Rev. Ed Taylor of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Gibson City on

Sunday afternoon, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Marshall Avenue Christian Church in Mattoon, IL. Rev. Taylor was here at Old State road Christian Church last year to spend time with the elders of our congregation. He will present a similar program at the Marshall Avenue Church. Rev. Taylor is also the director of the Ecumenical Stewardship Ministry in Indianapolis, IN. Everyone is invited to attend. The registration is already paid for this program. Please let the office know if you are able to attend. Hope you are able to attend.

### REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

CCIW Regional Assembly is being held Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> in Decatur, with a few follow-up meetings and post-assembly conversations on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Meeting together to remember the *Disciples Basics: Acting, Being, and Caring in Community*. **All disciples are encouraged to attend!**

### ELDER'S

On Wednesday, August September 15<sup>th</sup>, at **6:30 p.m.** the Elders will again be meeting. **All Elders are asked to please attend.**

### AS HEARD AROUND THE OLD STATE ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"Walking in faithfulness is an adventure in learning about God's goodness." Christine A. Dallman. 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 July & August was for **HOPE/Coalition Against Domestic Violence** collected a total of: \$15.66

For September & October will be for **Charleston Food Pantry**.

### FOOD PANTRY AND SOUP STOP OUTREACH

Will be collected Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. For **Soup Stop** will be **instant tea** and/or **plastic gloves**; and/or for **Charleston Food Pantry** will be **money most needed** and/or **dry laundry detergent** and/or **dry milk**.

### BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING (OPEN TO ALL)

The next Board of Elders Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 8, 2010** at **6:30 p.m.** Please have **all reports** into the office **no later than Tuesday, September 7, 2010**. Thank you.

**NEXT HARBINGER**

The next Harbinger will be **emailed/mailed** by **Thursday, September 30, 2010**. Please have all **items** into the office **no later than Tuesday, September 28, 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, September 5, 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.

**CHURCH'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT**

*Serving and Growing through Christ*

**FIRST TIME VISITORS AUGUST 2010**

Grant & Trent Koontz  
Kellie & Sarah Connell  
Levi Brading  
Barbarba, Madison & Jason Smith  
Barbarba Farris

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Choir - Thursday - 6:00 p.m.  
Children's Church School Class-Sun.-9:30 a.m.  
Worship - Sunday - 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study - Monday - 6:30 p.m.  
Vesper's Prayer Service - Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. in September

**CONTINUING CHURCH OUTREACH**

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

**SERVING THE LORD FOR SEPTEMBER 2010**

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

September 5      Cindy Maples  
September 12     Jan Ernst  
September 19     Mike Chron  
September 26     Tarry James

**ELDERS**

Jan Ernst, Tarry James  
Tricia Briggerman, Patty Maples  
Cindy Maples, Kaye Woodward  
Vicki Trueblood, Tarry James

**DIACONATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2010**

**SERVE**

Velma Spence  
Kevin James  
Nancy Oakley  
Norma Mineo

**PREPARE**

Kevin James  
Nancy Oakley

**GREETERS & ACOLYTES**

Velma Spence  
Norma Mineo  
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 September**, the Elder of the Month is **Stan Huffman M.D.**, 345-6889.

**COFFEE/JUICE FELLOWSHIP SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2010**

September's Coffee Fellowship servers are, **Maggie & Stan Huffman, Iris Myers.**  
**Coffee/Juice Fellowship will only be served on the first Sunday of each month.**

**ELDER SHUT-IN SEPTEMBER 5, 2010**

Jan Ernst, Tarry James

**BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY UPDATES**

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

**SEPTEMBER 2010 BIRTHDAYS**

Lloyd Koontz	September 8
Megan Endsley	September 12
Tricia Briggerman	September 15
Sherry Patton	September 15
Cindy Maples	September 22
Susan Watson	September 24
Amanda McGowan	September 25
Jim Wells	September 26

**SEPTEMBER 2010 ANNIVERSARYS**

Mike & Gayle Strader	September 1
Tarry & Jackie James	September 15
Marty & Susan Watson	September 29

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SEPTEMBER

- Thursday, September 2, 2010 - Evangelism Committee Meeting at 5:00 p.m.  
Soup Stop at 10:30 p.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 5, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 p.m.
- Monday, September 6, 2010 - Committee reports due for board booklet  
**No Bible Study due to being Labor Day**
- Tuesday, September 7, 2010 - **Linda gone**
- Wednesday, September 8, 2010 - Board of Elders at 6:30 p.m.  
CCAR Cleans
- Thursday, September 9, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 11, 2010 - Spaghetti Dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
Holy Hands Puppet Team at 7:00 "The Word on the Street"
- Sunday, September 12, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 p.m. **(Sing through the Christian Year - Part 1)**  
Cougill Manor at 4:00 for Pastor Sharon and Choir
- Monday, September 13, 2010 - Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 15, 2010 - Elders at 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, September 16, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.  
CWF at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 19, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 a.m. **(Sing through the Christian Year - Part 2)**  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.
- Monday, September 20, 2010 - Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 21, 2010 - **Linda gone**
- Wednesday, September 22, 2010 - CCAR Cleans

Thursday, September 23, 2010 – Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 6:00 p.m.  
**MDA Lock-up – Pastor Sharon Patton & Dr. Kaye  
Woodward at 11:00 a.m.**

Sunday, September 26, 2010 – Children’s church school at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Monday, September 27, 2010 – Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 28, 2010 – Stewardship Committee Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
**Harbinger items due**

Thursday, September 30, 2010 – Harbinger mailed/emailed by today



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

13982 Old State Road  
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*