

September 30, 2010

# *The Disciple Harbinger*



## Pastor Sharon's Note

The vast majority of people in the United States claim to believe in God and, of those who believe, the majority of those claim to be Christian. And, this may well be true. Further, one would think that if one is claiming membership in an organized religion, one would know the holy scriptures of that religion well. After all, nine out of ten people who do not regularly attend church claim to own more than one Bible. Of these who are unchurched, about 15% claim to read from the scriptures at least once a week. In fact, about 50% of those who attend church regularly, claim to read from the Bible weekly.

Yet a survey that came out just a few days ago should lead us to question the above claims. The survey, entitled "*U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey*," asked some relatively simple questions of more than 3,400 people. The average score on the survey, comprised of 32 questions, was 16--one half of the questions were correctly answered by respondents. Only 8 individuals out of the more than 3,400, answered all 32 correctly. Most interestingly, Jews, Mormons, Atheists, and Agnostics scored the highest on the survey; they answered 20 out of 32 questions correctly. White, mainline Protestants--that's most of us DOC's--scored an average of 15 correct answers of the 32 questions

Some of the questions asked included:

"Which of the following is NOT one of the Ten Commandments: a. Do not commit adultery; b. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you; c. Do not steal; d. Keep the Sabbath holy."

"Name the first book of the Bible."

"Where does the Bible say Jesus was born?"

"What are the names of the first four books of the New Testament?"

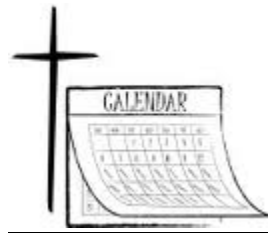
"Which Bible figure is most closely associated with leading the exodus from Egypt?  
a. Job; b. Elijah; c. Moses; d. Abraham"

Some of the 32 questions asked were about the major world religions. And some were about current political issues, science, or history. Generally, most people do better in answering correctly questions about these secular issues than we do the religious issues.

Still, the atheists, agnostics, and Jews answered more questions correctly than did any other group of participants.

So what does this really say about us as Christians and members of the denomination, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)? It would appear that the bottom line is twofold: we do not know as much about other world religions as we should; and we need to spend more time reading and studying our own holy scriptures. How about giving our Monday night Bible Study a try? It's at 6:30 p.m. A quote from a regular attender: "I've never been to a Bible Study like this before."

In Christ,  
*Pastor Sharon*



### **BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study with Pastor Sharon has begun to study of the Book of Matthew.

### **OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS**

Our sympathy and prayers go to the family of Lloyd Koontz, who went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 20, 2010. May the Lord's loving arms surround his family and friends.

### **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!**

## 2010 RECONCILIATION OFFERING

Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Reconciliation Special Offering. If you desire to give, please pick up an offering envelop on the back table. The theme this year is "Hearts of Fire, the Holy Spirit transforms our hearts and makes us whole." There are also flyers on the back table concerning the offering.

## CHURCH MUTUAL - KEN BRACH

Ken Brach will be here on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the lightning strikes upon the church. Anyone who wishes may attend.

## ANNUAL AUCTION

The Annual Auction will be held on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. **Paul Briggerman's father, Herman Briggerman**, 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 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 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.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

Its time to be thinking about Trunk or Treat which will be held on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, what will you do this year?

## 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, October 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.. **All Elders are asked to please attend.**

## AS HEARD AROUND THE OLD STATE ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

“Learning faithfulness in life’s little things prepares us to be faithful when life’s big things come our way.” 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 September & October will be for **Charleston Food Pantry**.

### FOOD PANTRY AND SOUP STOP OUTREACH

Will be collected Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>. For **Soup Stop** will be **bread** and/or **napkins**; and/or for **Charleston Food Pantry** will be **money most needed** and/or **sugar** and/or **flour**.

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

The next Board of Elders Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 13, 2010** at **6:30 p.m.** Please have **all reports** into the office **no later than Tuesday, October 12, 2010**. Thank you.

### NEXT HARBINGER

The next Harbinger will be **emailed/mailed** by **Thursday, November 4 2010**. Please have all **items** into the office **no later than Tuesday, November 2, 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, October 3, 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 SEPTEMBER 2010

Louanna & Sharon Richards

### 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 OCTOBER 2010

### WORSHIP LEADERS

October 3	Vicki Trueblood
October 10	Jackie James
October 17	Tricia Briggerman
October 24	Tarry James
October 31	Eva Bacon

### ELDERS

Gayle Strader, Mike Strader  
Cindy Maples, Jan Ernst  
Jan Ernst, Patty Maples  
Tricia Briggerman, Patty Maples  
Kelly Bacon, Doug Bacon

## DIACONATE FOR OCTOBER 2010

### SERVE

Jackie James  
Eva Bacon

### PREPARE

Jackie James  
Eva Bacon

### GREETERS & ACOLYTES

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 October**, the Elder of the Month is **Mike Strader**, 345-6987.

## COFFEE/JUICE FELLOWSHIP SERVERS FOR OCTOBER 3, 2010

October's Coffee Fellowship servers are, **Vicki Trueblood, Julie & Amanda McGowan**.  
**Coffee/Juice Fellowship will only be served on the first Sunday of each month.**

## ELDER SHUT-IN OCTOBER 3, 2010

Gayle Strader, Mike Strader

## BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY UPDATES

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

## OCTOBER 2010 BIRTHDAYS

Iris Myers	October 17
Kaye Woodward	October 19

Jackie Moler	October 24
"Rob" Robertston	October 26
Mike Chron	October 29

### OCTOBER 2010 ANNIVERSARYS

Les & Vicki Trueblood	October 5
Paul & Donna Slifer	October 23



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - OCTOBER

#### OCTOBER IS MINISTERIAL APPRECIATION MONTH

- Saturday, October 2, 2010 - CROP Walk at 8:00 a.m.
- Sunday, October 3, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 p.m. (**Holy Hands**)  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 p.m.  
**Birthday Celebration Sunday**
- Monday, October 4, 2010 - Church Mutual - Ken Brach at 3:00 p.m.  
Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 5, 2010 - **Linda gone**
- Wednesday, October 6, 2010 - CCAR Cleans
- Thursday, October 7, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 4:30 p.m.  
Evangelism Committee Meeting at 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 10, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 p.m.  
**Annual Auction at 3:00 p.m. - Herman Briggerman auctioneer**
- Monday, October 11, 2010 - Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.  
**Pastor Sharon SBLHC Chaplain for Week**
- Wednesday, October 13, 2010 - Elders at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 14, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 17, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
**Stewardship Seminar at M.A.C.C. in Mattoon from  
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Monday, October 18, 2010 - Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 19, 2010 - **Linda gone**

Wednesday, October 20, 2010 - CCAR Cleans  
Elders at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 21, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 4:30 p.m.  
CWF at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 24, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 a.m. **(Holy Hands)**  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Monday, October 25, 2010 - Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 26, 2010 - Pastor Parish Relations Committee Meeting at Noon  
Stewardship Committee Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 28, 2010 - Soup Stop at 10:30 a.m.  
Choir at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 31, 2010 - Children's church school at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
**Trunk or Treat  
Ends Ministerial Appreciation Month**



**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*