

Reynolds United Methodist Church

Reynolds News Wrap

November 2012

Wednesday: 9:30 am - Prayer & Bible Study
10:00 am - Worship Service
Sunday: 9:00 am - Sunday School for all ages

WEEKLY SCHEDULE



Reynolds United Methodist Church
2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006

PASTOR: Alan Meyer

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NOVEMBER 11TH



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS!



VETERANS DAY

Reynolds United Methodist Church
2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006
(815) 453-2513
ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED





Gratitude is not only the memory, but the homage of the heart-rendered to God for His goodness.

Dear Reynolds UMC Members and Friends,
As I begin to think about Thanksgiving I realize that many are lacking in gratitude because of negative people around them. We see and hear people around us always complaining about what they don't have, who has done them wrong, and about how unfair life is. So many today are focusing on their problems rather than the solution. But I know that God, who is the source of solutions, has not changed. He loves us with an everlasting love and who stands ready to bless and help us more than we can imagine. So many times while we wait for God to do something we complain. Why? Because we failed to realize that God is the One who has helped us and gotten us through our past problems. We fail to remember that he is a helper not our hindrance. He has seen us through these problems before and will again if we rather than just sit and wait, WE GET UP AND DO SOMETHING! (Read Hebrews 13: 5-8) So many believers have no confidence in God because they don't understand that God is for us not against. It is easy to sit on the sidelines and complain and do nothing. But true believers know that faith is an action word. We need to get involved, keep moving forward through the wilderness, as we wait. The truth is that as believers, none of us would be successful without God's help. Church, no matter where we are in life, we should be faithful to giving thanks to the Lord. We should all hold in our hearts an attitude of deep appreciation and praise to God for His blessings. So many today are hindered in their faith and spiritual growth because of a lack of gratitude. Are several things that hinder our being thankful: First, people have become too busy for God. We live in a busy world of our making, and with today's sports and technology we have been given even more to choose from in ways of entertainment, which adds to our many distractions. We should never become so busy that we shut out God in our lives. Second, many Believers have lost their vision of God's majesty and greatness. We let worldly things and circumstances distort our view of how great and the endless possibilities of God. This leads us to limiting our vision and dreams for the church and our families in ministry. Third, we allow our pride to keep us from expressing thanks. So many times we want to think and say what we have done to be a success, but we could have never done it without God's help and love for us. Let us as David says in Psalm 30:12 that my heart sing to you and not be silent. Church, in closing let me say yes we are living in hard times. But God said that he would be there for us to see us through. Let us resist the world's tendencies of complaining, blaming others and making excuses. Let us think about the good things and the blessings of God. Let us ponder the things God has said in His Word that He wants for us. No matter where we are in life, remember this is not our final home. God has more in store for us. Stay faithful and praise God. Take the time to worship and thank God for all of His blessings.

Pastor Al



RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS:

6 yr old Emma; Adam Devine; Aaron Yocum; Baby Molly; Uphoff's daughter, Jody; Brian, 82 yrs old with a brain tumor; Cody Cheeseman; Cody's high school friend with stage 4 cancer; Debbie Van-Dyke; Donald Adams; Duane Truckenbrod; Eric Murphy; Gary Ackland; Jill Cox; Jill Meadows; Louis Frye; Margo Ackland; Mike, Kristy Murphy's brother; Neil Miller; Neva Becker; Pastor Al & Linda & family; Paul Goodman; Steve Pfeiffer; & Vi Lawrence:

OTHERS: All cancer patients; Members of the Armed Forces and their families; struggling families who are facing life challenges; Families who have lost loved ones recently; and all Unspoken requests.

VOLUNTEERS IN NOVEMBER:

Ushers: Joe Phipps; Steve Headon; Ed Uphoff; and Jeff Pfeiffer
Greeters: November 4th & 11th - Gerri Underhile
November 18th & 25th - Chad Murphy Family
Flowers: Linda Meyer or Lynnette Lawrence
Church Hostess: Audrey Roop
Communion Steward: Joanna (Lawrence) Wells
Sidewalk Snow Shoveling: Jack Townsend



<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHILDREN'S MOMENT</u>	<u>LITURGIST</u>	<u>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</u>
Nov. 4th	Kathy Clark	Jeanne Warner	Pastor Appreciation Potluck
Nov. 11th	Pastor Meyer	Dolores Scott	Rueffs and Murphys
Nov. 18th	Kathy Becker	Bill Kirchofer	Help Needed
Nov. 25th	Lois Heimbaugh	Bob Cheeseman	Ellen Clark and Dolores Scott

There are many who volunteer their time and talents during the year that are not named above. Reynolds UMC is very appreciative of your service to maintain our church and make our worship more meaningful.

THE MISSION CAUSE FOR NOVEMBER IS SAMARITAN'S PURSE. PLEASE BRING YOUR MISSION OFFERINGS ON NOVEMBER 25TH. THANK YOU.

Food for Thought -

Children as Kites -- Erma Bombeck

"I see children as kites. You spend a lifetime trying to get them off the ground. You run with them until you're both breathless...they crash...you add a longer tail...they hit the rooftop...you pluck them out of the spout. You patch and comfort, adjust and teach. You watch them lifted by the wind and assure them that someday they'll fly.

Finally they are airborne, but they need more string and you keep letting it out. With each twist of the ball of twine, there is a sadness that goes with the joy because the kite becomes more distant, and somehow you know that it won't be long before the beautiful creature will snap the lifeline that bound you together and will soar as it was meant to soar...free and alone.

Only then do you know that you did your job"

Birthdays and Anniversaries in November:

Birthdays:

- 1 - Paula Kunkel
Rick Danekas
- 3 - Keith Roop
- 4 - Gene Brake
- 8 - Wayne Kurz
- 12 - Jamie Gadson
- 15 - Marie Kurz
- 16 - Kathy Becker
- 17 - Sawyer Murphy
- 26 - Duane Ackland
- 28 - Pat Kemmerer
- 29 - Rebecca Tippy
Robert Heimbaugh
- 30 - Allana Gittleson

Anniversaries:

- 2 - Jeff & Jenni Winterland
- 8 - Justin & Jane Rueff
- 21 - Wayne & Marie Kurz
- 27 - Randy & Vonnie Gittleson



Daylight Savings Time Ends 11/04/12

-FROM THE ASHTON GAZETTE -

100 YEARS AGO - October 2, 1912

The rally day service held by the Reynolds Evangelical Sunday School was a success in every way. The enrollment of the school is 132 pupils, and the attendance last Sunday was 140.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

Chair: Rhonda Brown

Sunday School Contest: The classes are competing against each other to see which class can collect the biggest offering each month. Each Sunday, students can bring either money for the Sunday School fund or a non-perishable food item for the local food pantry. Baskets are in each classroom for the food. Whichever class donates the most each month will receive a prize the next Sunday. We hope to teach the importance of 'giving back' by this contest. Be sure to participate with your Sunday School Class.

Finance Committee

Chair: Vernon Gittleson

No Report.

Mission/Outreach Committee

Chair: Nancy Eggers

No Report.

Nominations Committee

Chair: Pastor Al

The work of the Nominations Committee was completed and the roster of Church Council Officers and Committees were presented to the Church Council meeting on October 8th. Thanks to each committee member who participated and to all church members who accepted positions for 2013.

Trustee's Committee

Meeting: October 1st, 2012

- A walk-through of the parsonage has been completed and several things that need attention were noted.
- The goal for the 2012 Harvest Festival was set for \$12,000. This would include painting the sanctuary in preparation for the upcoming 150th anniversary in 2014 as well as parsonage and other church maintenance.

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Frances Cappel

- Pastor Appreciation Sunday is set for November 4th. A Potluck dinner will follow the worship service.
- Pastor will be on vacation November 18th and 25th. The pulpit has been filled for those two Sundays.

Worship Committee

Chair: Kathy Becker

No meeting—No Report

Youth

Rhonda Brown, Leader

The Youth are selling special Avon products as a fundraiser for camp scholarships. The items will be in before Christmas and will make nice gifts. If you are interested in ordering, contact one of the youth/campers. Also, Cindy Knight and Rhonda Brown have a copy of the flyer/form.

Fund Raising

By Cindy Knight

An All-You-Can-Eat Chili supper will be held on Saturday, November 3rd - 5pm to 8pm. There will be Homemade Chili or Cream of Potato soup and our Toppings Bar, Cornbread, Hot or Cold Apple Cider & Dessert. Come and check out our silent auction that evening also!

OTHER ITEMS:

Please remember to come to our Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 21st at 7:00 pm. The message will be brought to us by Kathy Brown who is now training to be a Lay speaker. Come and worship and support Kathy as she speaks to us from her heart.

Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 6th.

SAFE SANCTUARY REPORT

By Rhonda Brown

In the last article I provided information on the types of stalkers. This article will give information on what to do if you are being stalked. Many of the suggestions listed can be time consuming, costly, and/or not even work. Some stalkers will not be deterred no matter what you do. I obtained this information off of the Safe Passage (DeKalb county Domestic Violence website; www.safepassagedv.org). It is a similar list as what I would give my clients when they were being stalked. Most stalking victims do not want to be called victims. They feel that they are not going to change their life because of being stalked. What they fail to realize is that their life has already been changed forever by the stalker. Until they accept that, they are actually helping the stalker. The label "stalking victim" says more about the perpetrator than it does about the person being stalked.

Safe Passage obtained the list below from *I Know You Really Love Me*. You can find other safety precautions there as well. I notice some is a little outdated, but it still applies.

1. The first thing you must do is educate yourself. There are several national organizations as well as local Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault agencies that provide information on Stalking.
2. Tell the stalker "no" once and only once, and then never give him the satisfaction of a reaction again. The more you respond, the more you teach him that his actions will elicit a response. This only serves to reinforce the stalking.
3. Get a dog. The Los Angeles Police Department's Threat Management Unit says this is "one of the least expensive but most effective alarm systems."
4. Block your address at DMV and Voter Registration. If you don't, anyone can get it for the asking. This is how Robert Bardo found actress Rebecca Schaeffer and was able to murder her at her front door. I don't think they give this information out any more.
5. Never give out your home address or telephone number. Get a post office box and use it on all correspondence. For those places that will not accept a post office box, change "PO Box" to "Apt." and leave the number. Put this address on your checks.
6. When the stalker gets your home telephone number, don't change it. Instead, always let it go to your voicemail. Get a new, unlisted number, and give it to everyone who calls but the stalker. Gradually, only your stalker will be using your old number - it will become a private line. If it upsets you when he calls, put the phone in a room you don't use. You can even have someone else monitor the messages. This way, the stalker will think he is getting through to you, although you will never make the mistake of picking up when he calls. Whenever you close off one avenue for a stalker, he will find another, and it could easily be worse.
7. Document everything. Even if you have decided not to go the legal route, you may change your mind. Keep all voice messages, text messages, email, letters, gifts, etc. Keep a log of drive-bys or any suspicious occurrences. Most cell phone companies will provide copies for you and/or the police have a way to get the messages off your phone. All is admissible in court and is not considered hearsay.
8. Take a self-defense class. A lot of security experts don't advise this, fearing that it gives victims a false sense of security, but we do. The best self-defense classes teach you how to become more aware of your surroundings and avoid confrontations - things that stalking victims would do well to learn.
9. Have co-workers screen all calls and visitors.
10. Don't accept packages unless they were personally ordered.
11. Remove any name or identification from reserved parking at work.
12. Destroy discarded mail. This also is good to avoid identity theft.
13. Equip your gas tank with a locking gas cap that can be unlocked only from inside the car.

14. Get a cell phone and keep it with you at all times, even inside your home, in case the stalker cuts your phone lines.
15. If you think you are being followed while in your car, make four left-or right-hand turns in succession. If the car continues to follow you, drive to the nearest police station, never home or to a friend's house, because then you are giving him information about where you live or where your family or friends live. Once at the police station, lay on your horn or call 911 to have the officers come out. Do not exit your car unless you are absolutely sure you can make it inside the station before he can catch you. You can make a report to the officers about the person following you. Even if you or the officers choose not to arrest him, the officers can detain him until you have the chance to leave so he can't continue to follow you.
16. Never be afraid to sound your car horn to attract attention.
17. Acquaint yourself with all-night stores and other public, highly populated places in your area.
18. Consider moving if your case warrants it. No, it's not fair, but nothing is fair about stalking. If you stay and fight through the legal system, you might get some justice (although not necessarily your definition of it), but you almost certainly won't get safety-- there is no possibility of life imprisonment for stalkers. Research how to keep your destination secret. Stalking and victims' organizations can help.
19. Don't be embarrassed and think you caused this somehow. Stalkers need no encouragement. Your shame is your stalker's best weapon. It makes you more likely to engage him or agree to plea bargains, which are bound to be taken as sympathy, and we know where that leads. Instead, tell everyone you know that you're being stalked, from neighbors to co-workers, so that when the stalker approaches them for information about you, they will be alerted not to divulge anything and will let you know he's been around. One young widow moved to escape her stalker, a stranger she had never really met. Yet, after finding out where she moved, he was also able to pinpoint her exact location by showing her helpful neighbors pictures he had surreptitiously taken of her and her children, telling them that he was her estranged husband and she had kidnapped the kids.
20. Join one of the stalking victims' support groups that are springing up all over the country. They can be invaluable resources for information in your community (such as how local law enforcement handles these cases) as well as provide essential support. See the resources section for organizations that can help. If there is no group in your area, start one. It only takes two. Tragically, we can guarantee you are not the only person being stalked in your area.

Many of these suggestions are also useful in other situations such as bullying. As I said above, a lot of them are time consuming and costly. I use to tell my clients this about documenting everything. I encouraged them to keep it simple. Just write it on a calendar, and that it didn't have to have a lot of details. Then I decided to follow my own advice when Kathy was being bullied. I started documenting everything. I quickly learned that I had no clue about how challenging it really was until I was the one doing it. I also learned that it is better if it isn't kept simple. The more details the better. It was one of the many things which humbled me. I told the clients that I understood, but I really didn't have a clue before I had to do it. I am now a better advocate because of it. I know this is one of the reasons that God had us go through it, so I do honestly understand now. It was just one of the many lessons I learned during that time.

AGENCIES YOU CAN CALL: National DV Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233); Hope of Ogle County Hotline: (815) 562-8890; YMCA of Sauk Valley Hotline: (815) 626-7277; Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling: Winnebago county (815) 636-9811; Boone County (815) 544-6821, Ogle County (815) 732-3219; National SA Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. James 1-12, NLT

RHONDA