A Word from the Pastor

“When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.” – Luke 24:30-31.

Have you ever thought about how important the act of eating is to us? It is not just because we need food to nourish our bodies and give us energy to work. Eating is a very social act. When we are planning meals, we think about those who will be partaking of that food. If we are planning meals with others, often times we want to bring our best offering to that meal.

In the verses above we meet Jesus after the resurrection on the Emmaus Road. It is the evening of the day of Jesus victory over death. Here Jesus meets two disciples on their way back to the village of Emmaus. Jesus walks and talks with these two disciples but these disciples do recognize Jesus until he breaks bread with them.

Can you imagine what it would be like if you did not know where your next meal was coming from? It would make life pretty difficult to say the least. This is the unfortunate situation many children find themselves in even in Muscatine. Right now, the summer lunch program is in danger of not being provided for youth this year.

The Muscatine Ministerial Association is trying to help. The pastors representing many of the faith communities of Muscatine are doing what we can to ensure this program that provides free lunches for children age birth to 18 and reduced cost lunches for adults is not dropped.

What can we do? As a community of faith in the Muscatine area, we can pledge funds for this year and help seek a long term solution to ensure this program will continue into the future. If the youth are our future as we say, they deserve to be fed. As a community, I am asking that we pledge ourselves to our youth.

Let’s live in the blessings of Easter all year round.

In Christ,

Pastor Shelley
Upcoming Events

Care & Concern
The Care & Concern Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 8, at 9:00 am at McDonalds.

Coupon Group
The Coupon Group will meet at church at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, April 7, to go to The Filling Station, 305 E 35th St., Davenport. (We are going to try this again!)

Circa 21 – April 29
The church is planning a trip to Circa 21 on Wednesday, April 29, for the evening performance of The Church Basement Ladies in “The Last Potluck Supper”. Things are a little different from last year. Ellen is holding tables L1, L2, R3, and R4 for us until April 15th. People with coupons will pay $57.36 for two. This includes coffee, tea and gratuity. No dessert is included in the price. If you do not have a coupon your price will be $42.75 per person. Everyone is invited even if you don’t have a coupon.

Doors open at 5:45 p.m. We will car pool if anyone is interested. Ellen has tables on hold for us but you need to give Shirley McDaniel a check/payment and coupon by April 12 if you want to sit with the group. If you have a coupon, be sure you put your name on the coupon.

Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse is located at 1828 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL.

If you need a hearing device tell Shirley and she will request one when making the payment.

Any questions? Call Shirley McDaniel at 563-263-8648.

Church Play – South Pacific
The church play for 2015 will be South Pacific. Dates for the play are June 5, 6, 12, 13, and 14. Planning meetings will be held on Sunday mornings after church to go over whatever needs we need. Everyone is welcome! See Carolyn Cole if you would like to be a part of the planning committee.

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays
1. Linda Schneider
2. Jerry Lichtenwald
3. Ryan Gladwell
4. Lynne Bendt
5. Sarah Batteau
6. Dan Sauer
7. Eric Leacox
8. Dan Petersen
9. Mike Hermann

Anniversaries
NO Anniversaries listed

Happy Easter!

Church Council Minutes - February
NOTE: These minutes have not been approved.

Council Meeting March 10, 2015
Devotions were led by Shirley P. Next month devotions will be led by Eric L. All council members present except Pastor who was with Gaylor at Mayo Clinic.

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurers report reviewed and filed

Committee Reports:
Care and Concern: Meeting the next day.
Education: Still having Sunday school
Outreach: Continue updating web site and working on new pamphlet
Property: Fixed leak in community building basement for now. Looking at a more permanent fix. Light bulbs in sanctuary need to be changed.
Worship and Music: No report
Stewardship and Fellowship: Raised $300.00 for Relay for Life with the Sweetheart Dinner. Youth Easter Breakfast was discussed.

Old Business: Looking at repair of water problem in gym basement and painting floor.

New Business: MCSA Battered Women’s Shelter - Shirley P. attended a meeting in Wilton. Will discuss further at next meeting.

The play dates have been set. South Pacific will be performed on June 5, 6, 12, 13, and 14.

Will contact Randy Meader about mowing the property.

Next meeting is April 8, 2015

Adjourned with the Lord’s prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Bendt Secretary
Lenten/Easter Schedule

- April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm with Holy Communion
- April 3 - Good Friday with Ecumenical Worship at Noon at 1st Presbyterian Church, 4th and Iowa Ave, Muscatine
- April 5 - Easter service at 8:30 am with pancake/potluck breakfast following worship.

### April 2015

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<td>7 pm - Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion</td>
<td>12 Noon - Good Friday Ecumenical Service at 1st Presbyterian Church</td>
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<td>HAPPY EASTER! Easter service – 8:30 am Christian Ed – NO Sunday School</td>
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<td>September Group to go to Filling Station. Meet at church at 5:00 pm.</td>
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**MCSA Domestic Violence Shelter Wish List**

We are continuously collecting the following items for the Muscatine Center for Social Action Domestic Violence Shelter, Muscatine. Items can be brought to church and put in the bin at the front of the church.

- Cereals – all varieties
- Breakfast and granola bars
- Coffee, tea, and filters
- Drink mixes (lemonade, iced tea, Kool-Aid)
- Rice – all varieties
- Tortillas – flour & corn
- Taco shells
- Pasta – macaroni, spaghetti, Raman noodles
- Pasta sauces
- Macaroni and cheese mixes
- Rice and noodle mixes
- Cans of soup (chicken noodle, tomato, vegetable beef, stew, chili)
- Tuna and Tuna Helpers
- Hamburger Helpers
- Cake, muffin, and brownie mixes
- Vegetable oil
- Crackers
- Canned fruit
- Flour, sugar, baking soda
- Aluminum foil
- Ziplock baggies
- Dish soap
- Alarm clocks
- Hair Products for all ethnicities
- Diapers, all sizes, Wet Wipes
- Socks and underwear - all sizes
- Gift cards (gas, groceries, prescriptions)
- Hair brushes, picks, and combs
- Hair color mixes
- Make-up and perfume
- Bookcases