

Dear Partners in Ministry,.

We are reading through the Gospel of Mark, one chapter at a time. We started January 4th with chapter one and we will read Mark's Easter account on April 12th in chapter 16. I hope you are seeing how this one witness to the life and work of Jesus is evolving and how the picture of Jesus is different and the same in the other three Gospels.

Along with our Sunday reading of Mark, the Monday morning Bible study group is also reading and discussing a chapter a week. And, some of us are reading The Last Week, which uses the Gospel of Mark to trace Jesus' activities day by day from Palm Sunday to Easter. It's been Mark all the time and all the way.

What have we learned? What if Mark was the only Gospel? We have learned that in Mark, Jesus' family and mother are not his supporters. His disciples follow without question and then seem to constantly misunderstand him. He seems to teach and then send out, then gather again for more retreat and teaching and then move out again. He is constantly on the move teaching and preaching and healing. We know that the people love him and those in authority hate him and want to silence him. He fights against injustice and privilege and he welcomes and cares for those of least importance, like children and the sick. The last will be first and the first will be last. He predicts his own death and resurrection. In the end he will send us out to carry the good news into the world.

I hope you have enjoyed this faith journey. You are invited to journey all the way, to the garden and the cross and the empty tomb.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sue



Dear Sunday School Students:

Thank you for underwriting the cost of Alexis's allowance with your recent gift of \$25.00. Your gift and encouragement is a great support for Alexis in her efforts to overcome her trouble.....

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We certainly could not do it without support from friends like you! We truly appreciate your spirit of giving to those in need. Thank you for your continued support.

(signed) Michael P. Brenna, Executive Director
Evangelical Children's Home

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Thanks to all who helped make our first book sale a huge success. Just think after only two months of collecting books and 8 hours of sales we were able to make \$564.55. The Ladies Fellowship will be able to help a lot of organizations with that money. The unsold books also went to great causes. Bob and JoAnn Leber took many boxes to Macy's West County Mall for their annual sale for different charities.

Sandy Stevenson took two boxes for children to neighborhood houses. Delba and Gene Engelhardt took a box of books to a small town in southeast Missouri where they do not have a library.

Let's do it again next February! So start keeping your books for the sale. If you do not have storage space call Janet Remmers and she will see that they are picked up.

Thanks again to everyone who helped set up and take down. Our St. Philip's family pulled together again.

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Dear Friends,

Joint Neighborhood Ministry wants to express our appreciation for your generosity in support of our ministry. Your assistance means

so much to us. With your support, we would not be able to lend a helping hand to as many families as we do each month.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your kind donation of personal care items, food, clothing during January and February, 2009. Your donation made an immediate difference in the lives of the families we serve.

Thank you from all of us here at Joint Neighborhood Ministry. You are making a difference!

Sincerely,

(signed) Alisha Robinson, Food Pantry Coordinator

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MEET OUR NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR, ANDREA MORAN

At the February Church Council meeting St. Philip's United Church of Christ hired Andrea Moran to serve as our 10 hour a week Youth Director. Andrea is a daughter of the church, has grown up at St. Philip's and has been on every mission trip since she was a freshman in high school. Her job with us entails guiding both youth fellowship and Sunday School.

Andrea graduated from the University of Missouri – Columbia in elementary education a year ago. She is currently working in the Lindbergh School District and will combine her teaching with her work with us. She brings many skills including years of counseling at Camp Mo-Val and nine years of mission trips.

Our challenge will be to remember that though Andrea grew up here, she had been away at college and working and she doesn't know everything. Let's pretend that she is a totally new person here and extend to her all the help and background that a new person would need. Our other challenge is to remember that while we can picture the little girl, Andrea is now a grown (mostly) woman with skills and professional background.

Andrea has hit the ground running with a lock-in and full push toward the summer mission trip to Chicago. If you don't know her, introduce yourself. Don't assume that she knows where everything is and how everything works. No one does ministry

alone and she will need all our help and prayerful support. We welcome her with joy.

A WORD FROM ANDREA

Greetings St. Philip's! I am so excited to start out as your new Youth Director and continue working with the amazing youth we have here. Right now, I am currently a teaching assistant for the English Language Learners (ELL) program at Crestwood Elementary in Lindbergh School District. I have a degree in Elementary Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia (GO MIZZOU!) and have worked with St. Philip's youth for many years. I plan to be in the church office on Mondays, Tuesday, and Thursdays from 3:30-6:00 PM if you need to contact me at church. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any ideas, questions, or suggestions. Here is my information:

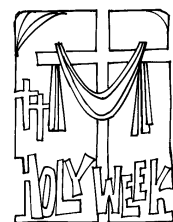
(314) 566-8633 [cell]

armoran85@yahoo.com

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

John Schuette and Walt Miller (our shut-ins); Sharon Jackman's husband, Jack, who had surgery last week; Linda Haman and Linda Kotthoff on the death of their mothers on March 7th and Judy Parkinson on the death of her father on March 18th.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



The services that will be held during Holy Week are as follows:

Maundy Thursday – April 9th – 7 pm

Good Friday – April 10th – 12 noon

Easter Sunday – April 12th – 8 am and 9:30 am

The 8 am service will be outside at the new outdoor space. The service will be informal and last about 30 minutes. Leaves plenty of time for breakfast at 8:30 and even traditional worship at 9:30.

IT WAS A VERY MERRY UN-BIRTHDAY PARTY !!!!

The third annual St. Philip's Women's Retreat was a huge success and there are so many people that made it happen.

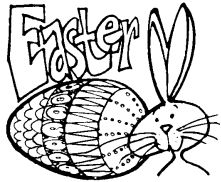
Thanks to Pastor Sue for her worship leadership and organizing the group discussions, to Fanny Seville and Virginia Hladnick for the early morning breakfast treats, to JoAnn Leber for the keepsake craft and festive balloons, to Mary Dykstra for the fun party games, and to Nancy Krenning for the beautiful and delicious un-birthday cake. A special note of appreciation goes to each of the twenty-one women who came, participated fully and made it a very special day. We ranged in age from 20+ to 90+ and found that, not only did we have a lot in common, but that we could learn from one another and have a good time in the process. We'll do it again next year!

NEW MEMBERS

Two new members will be received into the St. Philip's UCC Church Family on Sunday, March 29th. Please add them to your church directory and introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome.

Jim and Lisa Diedrich
10108 Meadowfield 63128
314-843-9061

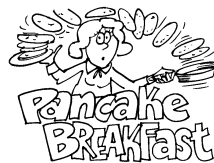
EASTER EGG HUNT



There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11th. It will start at 10 am. We will need plastic eggs and wrapped candy to fill the eggs. Please place any donations in the youth director's office.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On May 3rd, after church, we will have a pancake and sausage breakfast. This will be a free will offering. The proceeds will go towards Vacation Bible School and supplies for the sandwiches.



Christian Education Committee
Learning Ministry

SANDWICH MAKING



The youth will be making sandwiches on Sunday, March 29th, for Joint Neighborhood Ministry. We welcome adults to stay and help. More hands make work light.

Christian Education

APRIL FOOD COLLECTION

For the month of April, we will be collecting peanut butter and jelly for Joint Neighborhood Ministry.

Thanks to all of you for the macaroni and cheese and tuna. We have made 2 trips to deliver these supplies so they would have it during Lent. It is greatly appreciated.

So many lives have been touched by feeding the hungry.

Women's Fellowship

SUPPORT "THE SANDWICH MINISTRY"

An easy way to support "The Sandwich Ministry" for Joint Neighborhood Ministry is to stop by Bob Kammerer's table on Sunday morning and buy a grocery gift card to donate towards the purchase of supplies for the sandwiches (bread, lunchmeat, condiments, etc.) Thanks for your help.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Keep on your calendars – St. Philip's Habitat for Humanity Workday is Saturday, June 20th. Be sure to mark the date and think about helping out at this project. More details later.

CHURCH BARBECUE

April 26th will be the date of our annual barbecue Dinner. We will be serving from 11 am – 7 pm. Help is needed for food supplies and set up/clean up. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for this. It takes many hands to make the dinner a success so we hope you can help in one way or another. Tickets are on sale now so we hope you plan to help in that way as well.



ST. PHILIP'S TO HOST TEA

Mark Sunday, June 14th on your calendar and plan to attend a tea at St. Philip's which will benefit Joint Neighborhood Ministry at Epiphany UCC. You'll be hearing more about it later. We'll need lots of help to make it a special occasion!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

This is a reminder to all committee chairpersons. The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on April 19th. Annual reports will need to be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, April 12th so that Shirley can put it together for the meeting. You might want to start thinking about your report now.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please make the following changes in your church directory:

Brandon and Christine (Eason) Steele
28 Pepper Tree Drive Fenton, Mo 63026

Kim Tangeman
2844 Innsbruck Apt M 63129

Carlie Fischer
209 Cedar Grove Dr. St. Charles, Mo 63304

50+ GROUP

The 50+ Group will be meeting on Saturday, April 18th and going to Hodak's for lunch. They will meet at church at 11 am and carpool from there. They will return to church after lunch for dessert. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. All are welcome to join them.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship will be going to the St. Louis Tea Room on Tuesday, April 21st. They will meet at church at 11 am. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

ST. PHILIP'S SUNDAY ENVELOPE

Enclosed with the Crier is a St. Philip's Sunday envelope. This was done several years ago to get us through some rough financial times and we are resurrecting it again to do the same. If you feel you can donate extra for the month of April it would be greatly appreciated. It will help greatly in getting our deficit down for the year. Thank you in advance for giving this consideration.

YOUTH NOTES

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 11th. The children will begin arriving at 10 am. If there is anyone who would like to help with this event please contact me or Christian Ed. We have plenty of plastic eggs this year but are in need of **individually wrapped** candy to stuff the eggs. If you would like to donate these items you may place them in the youth director's office. **Thank you** for your help!

Next Sunday, March 29th the youth and anyone who would like to help will be making sandwiches for Joint Neighborhood Ministries right after church. The sandwiches last month were a HIT! Come join!

Next Sunday, March 29th the Jr. and Sr. youth will be going on a scavenger hunt at the Saint Louis Art Museum. We will be leaving church after we make our sandwiches and plan to return at about 3:30-4:00 p.m. Please bring a sack lunch so we can have a picnic and play some games outside the museum before we begin!

If anyone is interested in going to the Lenten Work Day at Camp Mo-Val on April 4th, please let me know. They could really use the extra hands out there this year!

On Easter Sunday there will be a (possible) youth-led service @ 8:00 am in the outdoor worship area Bradley Knoll built. Breakfast to follow @ 8:30 am.

See the youth bulletin board for sign-up sheets.

COMING EVENTS

April 1	Choir 7 pm
April 5	Worship and Music Committee after church
April 6	Bible Study 9 am
	Church Council 7 pm

April 7 Bell Choir 7 pm
 April 8 Free Lunch (Virginia's House)
 Choir 7 pm
 April 9 Maundy Thursday church service 7 pm
 April 10 Good Friday church service 12 noon
 April 11 Easter Egg Hunt 10 am
 April 12 Easter services 8 am and 9:30 am
 Easter breakfast 8:30 am
 April 13 Bible Study 9 am
 April 14 Bell Choir 7 pm
 April 15 Choir 7 pm
 April 16 Yoga Class 6:30 pm
 April 18 50+ Group – Hodak's 11am
 April 19 Congregational Meeting
 Book Club after worship
 April 20 Bible Study 9 am
 Crier articles due
 April 21 Women's Fellowship – St. Louis Tea Room 11 am
 April 22 Choir 7 pm
 April 23 Yoga Class 6:30 pm
 April 25 Set up for barbecue
 April 26 Barbecue Sunday/Car Wash
 April 27 Bible Study 9 am
 April 28 Bell Choir 7 pm
 April 29 Choir 7 pm
 April 30 Yoga Class 6:30 pm

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 April Schillinger
 3 Ben Kotthoff
 4 Carley Nickel
 Tara Siewing
 7 Steve Werner
 8 Grace Williamson
 9 Elvira Rebienne
 10 Judy Parkinson
 Stan Parkinson
 Bradley Knoll
 12 Ron Saulka



18 Alyse Gordon
 Kayla Gordon
 23 Al Bowles
 24 Steve Hladnick
 26 Linda Haman
 27 Lucy Vogt
 28 Kate Kimker

13 Bryant Rohlfing
 15 Alice Noland

Helen Wright
 Mary Darr

LITURGISTS, USHERS, ACOLYTES AND CHILDREN'S TIME FOR APRIL

Liturgists



April 5
 April 12
 April 19
 April 26

Rachel Ricks
 Michelle Torigian
 April Schillingere

Welcoming Teams

Acolytes



April 5
 April 12
 April 19
 April 26

Sarah Witte
 Haylee Thibodeaux
 Carley Nickel
 Scott Karcher

Children's Time

April 5 Michelle Torigian
 April 12 Andrea Moran
 April 19 Karen Moran
 April 26



'I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't.'

AIN'T.....

Thanks to Merle Schuette for this one

He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.
Wandering home from Bible School,
And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the grass;
He even found a caterpillar.
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,
And blew out all the 'filler.'

A bird's nest in a tree overhead,
So wisely placed up so high,
Was just another wonder,
That caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zigzag course,
And hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.

'I've been to Bible School,'
He said and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,
'I've learned a lot about God.'

'M'm very fine way,' the neighbor said,
'for a boy to spend his time.'
'If you'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime.'

Quick as a flash the answer came!
Nor were his accents faint.