



April 2014

# Crossroads Connections



A church in the crossroads of life

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## A Moment with Pastor Mike

Our Lenten journey continues, with our Wednesday evening Lenten Bible studies from John's gospel, the Prayer Journey at Our Lady of the Snows shrine on April 5, our Palm Sunday service April 13, Maundy Thursday service on April 17, and 24-hour prayer vigil on April 18-19, all leading up to Easter, and the joyful proclamation of Christ's victory over death.



# LENT

Yes, Easter's coming—and with it, thoughts of death and new life, new beginnings, new hope. Easter also brings to me memories of baptism. I remember my own baptism on Easter Sunday 1956 in Ottumwa, Iowa, that sudden plunge into the water and splashing my way back on my feet, feeling pleased at my new commitment, my new faith. I remember the many baptisms I have participated in as a pastor, at Easter and other times of year. I remember the baptisms of my own children.

At different times, I have been in groups where people have shared their baptismal memories. Not very many had great spiritual experiences at the time, but for each of us it was a significant memory, a significant milestone of our Christian lives. That step into the water was the first step in our lives as confessed, committed Christians. We had loved Jesus before, but were now officially welcomed into the family. We had heard about Jesus dying and coming back to life before, but now we had experienced a little death in going under the water, and a beginning of new life as we came back up.

We don't have any baptisms scheduled at Crossroads Christian Church this coming Easter, but we can still celebrate and remember our own baptisms. Sometime when you are with other family members or here at the church, you may want to share your own stories of baptism. If you weren't immersed but were sprinkled as a child, you may not have any direct memories, but you can still remember family stories, or be thankful for your parents. In any case, remember your baptism. Rejoice in being one of the people of God, the family of Christ. Thank God for your identity as a Christian. Have a blessed Easter.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Mike

## Worship times:

Sunday School at 9:30 am.

Worship at 10:45 am.

## 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Each year the members of Crossroads participate in an unbroken chain of prayer during the Easter weekend beginning at noon on Good Friday, April 18, 2014, and concluding at noon on Saturday, April 19, 2014.

During this time a section of our sanctuary is transformed into a place of quiet thought and reflection. Various written and audio materials for prayer and meditation will be provided to help clear your mind and be attentive to God's still small voice.

A sign up sheet will be provided for you to schedule 1/2 hour increments, or more if you

wish. You have the option of praying at church or in your home. For those who want to pray at church, rest assured that during your time here, someone will be in attendance to let you in and to provide security.



## Dare to Lead Event at Crossroads

Six congregations in SEGA have embarked on a two-year journey called, "Dare to Lead." Meeting at Crossroads Christian Church on Saturday, March 1, team members from Liberation, Centennial, Crossroads, Celebration, Bonne Terre, and Affton Christian shared both the progress and process of the Journey sponsored by Hope Partnership. The main topic for discussion is how our excitement, energy, and faith can be infectious. Thank you to those who offered our best Crossroads hospitality to our fellow churches.



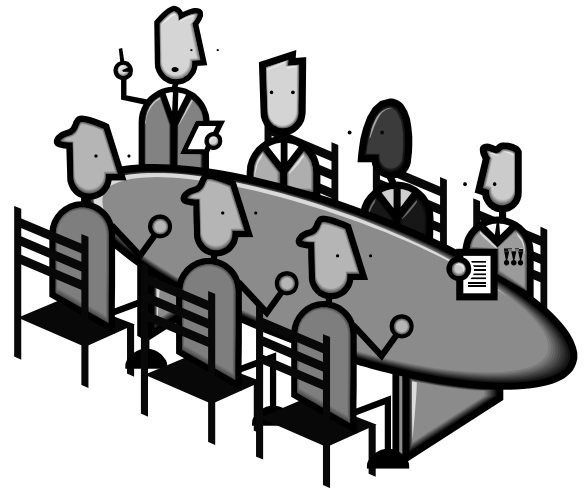
## Blanket Sunday

Thank you for generous contributions to our Blankets+ outreach through Church World Service. At the time of this publishing, the congregation has provided enough funds for the purchase of 80 blankets. Each \$5 donation provides a blanket for someone in need, but the Blankets+ program provides so much more. If you would like to learn more, visit [www.churchworldservice.org/blankethotline](http://www.churchworldservice.org/blankethotline).



## Chips From the Board

- Church building was re-inspected and approved by the Fire Marshall.
- A special thanks to the Hospitality Committee and others who helped prepare and serve breakfast and lunch for two recent Saturday events.
- The 2014 Church Directory is available in the back of the sanctuary.
- There is no Board Meeting scheduled in April due to Easter.



## Lenten Season Sunday Sermons

Lent is the Christian season of preparation for Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days prior to Easter. (Sundays are not counted) It is a time of spiritual reflection and discipline as we contemplate the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

April 6, 2014      Fifth Sunday in Lent  
 The Message: Preview of Easter  
 Scriptures: Psalm 130 and John 11:1-45

April 13, 2014      Sixth Sunday in Lent  
 The Message: Making and Entrance  
 Scriptures: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 and Matthew 21:1-11

April 17, 2014      Maundy Thursday  
 Scripture: John 13:1-35

April 20, 2014      Easter Sunday  
 The Message: There Comes a Time  
 Scripture: John 20:1-8



### Change of Address!

Rollie & Jodie Hoehn  
 Rosewood Nursing Home  
 Room 413  
 100 Rosewood Village Dr.  
 Swansea, IL 62226

### Thank You!

I want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, best wishes, and messages that I have received over the past couple of weeks. I feel extraordinarily blessed to have such a wonderful church family. This has to be followed by a heartfelt  
**Amen!**

—Jan Evans

## Prayers

- Growers in California affected by drought
- Those struggling with illness, health issues, and grief
- Jan Evans with pneumonia and lung problems
- Victims and families of Malaysia Airlines flight 370
- Death of Jim's brother-in-law, Larry Peterson
- Liz (friend of Patty P) loss of sister
- Pat (aunt of Patty P) nearing life's end
- Lenny (son of Faye P) hospital visit to replace his pacemaker
- Jennifer's brother having difficulty with new medication
- John (friend of Maggie D) recovering from surgery; family needing prayers for strength and assistance in his recovery
- Prayer for more children in Sunday school and church
- Rose (friend of Dale H) is very ill
- Lorraine (cousin of Susan & Virginia) fighting a month long virus
- Wayne Reichling to undergo knee replacement surgery on Apr 1
- Jordan (newborn grand nephew of Tom & Mary) still in hospital with complications
- Molly (newborn grand niece of Tom & Mary) healthy and home from the hospital
- Maggie & Kevin celebrating the birth of their first grandson, Jackson
- Samantha (niece of Tom & Mary) recovering after successful surgery
- Joe Tucker is in St. Paul's Home after hospital stay

## Week of Compassion Update

"Aren't we supposed to be turning water into wine? Isn't it the other way around?" This was a common question asked by several of those introduced to the concept of turning wine into water. As the twenty/thirty-something pastors shared about the idea of a fun evening out with friends tasting wine while making a difference in our world, people were skeptical--at first. The more people learned about the event, the more people were fascinated and excited to be a part.

Four Disciples churches in the Springfield, MO area (Brentwood Christian Church, Central Christian Church, National Avenue Christian Church, and South Street Christian Church) came together to sponsor a wine tasting event and silent auction. The hope of the churches was to promote community and support global water projects through the work of Week of Compassion. The vision of the pastors was to pull together resources, the strengths and talents of congregations, and stand together to support this important cause.

While preparing for the event, the clergy shared information concerning water issues with their congregations and the wider community. People had the opportunity to learn about wells, cisterns, sand dams, clean water delivery and hygiene systems in East Africa. Clean water projects make a difference in communities and the lives of individuals. They celebrated and gave thanks for the work Week of Compassion and their partnerships, especially with CWS.

Many remarked how much fun it was to get out for a date night, meet other Disciples from other congregations, learn about the needs for clean water and ways we can contribute, and support the work of Week of Compassion. As the night ended, people raised their glasses and asked, "Are we going to turn wine into water again next year?"

Our  
Homebound

Pat Beyer

Ray Doctorman

Rollie & Jodie Hoehn

Vera Hudson

Nelson Rodriguez-Arté



## Lay Worship Leaders—April 2014

	April 6	April 13	April 20	April 27
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Mike Thompson	Lori Burgess	Bob Green	Jan Evans
<b>Elder</b>	Bob Green	Ken Holmes	Pat McAllister	Mona McAllister
<b>Deacons Prepare</b>	Patty Buckhannon Mary Weygandt	Patty Buckhannon Shirley Holmes	Pat Hayes Shirley Holmes	Pat Hayes Mary Weygandt
<b>Deacons Serve</b>	Jim Buckhannon Patty Buckhannon Meredith Moder Mary Weygandt	Jim Buckhannon Pat Hayes Shirley Holmes Curt Sutton	Jim Buckhannon Pat Hayes Meredith Moder Mary Weygandt	Patty Buckhannon Pat Hayes Shirley Holmes Mary Weygandt
<b>Deacons Candles</b>	Pat Hayes	N/A	Pat Hayes	N/A
<b>Deacons Sanctuary</b>	Mary Weygandt	Patty Buckhannon	Shirley Holmes	Mary Weygandt
<b>Greeter</b>	Curt Sutton	Marie Reichling	Jim Buckhannon	Pat Killian
<b>Audio-Visual</b>	Pat McAllister	David Kennedy Jr.	David Kennedy Jr.	David Kennedy Jr.



# April 2014

## SEGA Prayers for the Month

4/6-4/12 Hawk Point Community Church, Hawk Point, MO  
 4/13-4/19 Memorial Boulevard Christian Church, St. Louis, MO  
 4/20-4/26 Affton Christian Church, Affton, MO  
 4/27-5/3 New Life Christian Church United, Poplar Bluff, Mo

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			2 2:30 Interfaith Study 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir Practice	3	4	5 9:15 am to 12:30pm Prayer Journey at the Shrine. Lunch follows
6 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	7	8	9 2:30 Interfaith Study 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir Practice	10	11	12
13 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	14	15 12:00 Lunch Bunch @ Bella Milano	16 2:30 Interfaith Study 7:00 Choir Practice	17 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:00 Worship	18 <b>Good Friday</b> Noon Prayer Vigil begins	19 Noon Prayer Vigil Ends
20 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:45 Worship	21	22	23 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir Practice	24 4:15 Elders Meeting	25	26
27 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	28	29	30 5:30 BEACON dinner 7:00 Choir Practice			

**Happy Birthday!**

4 Rollie Hoehn	16 Emily Reichling	23 Amy Yeager
5 Megan Weygandt	Karniesha Robertson	Jill Green
7 Kathy Upton	21 Amy Dixon	25 Grace Barbee
11 Jedediah Goble	Gay Lang	27 Teri Reichling
Vera Hudson		30 Margaret Sutton

**Happy Anniversary!**

3 Cathy and Gary Mielke  
 20 Patty and Bill Peterman  
 25 Wayne and Marie Reichling



## 2014 Easter Offering—Living Waters

Jesus gave his life as an offering to the world. He offered living water that would transform the world. The Easter Offering supports the General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the countless ways that Disciples can continue to be the hands, feet and voice of Jesus.

**The Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries** serves alongside our partners around the world meeting God's people at their point of deepest need.

**Disciples Home Missions** resources congregations and leaders to transform their lives, churches and communities.

The **Center of Faith and Giving** encourages a culture of generosity by providing study resources, seminars and workshops.

The **National Benevolent Association** creates communities of compassion and care by partnering with Disciples to inspire and connect food and hunger related ministries, spiritual care and wellness to communities in need.

The **National Convocation, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD)** and the **Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries** bridge and support the distinct and diverse communities within our Church.

The **Council on Christian Unity** gives leadership to Christian unity efforts nationally and internationally and resources congregations around Disciples identity.

**Communications Ministries** keeps our Disciples community informed and promotes our General Assemblies, where we all gather together.

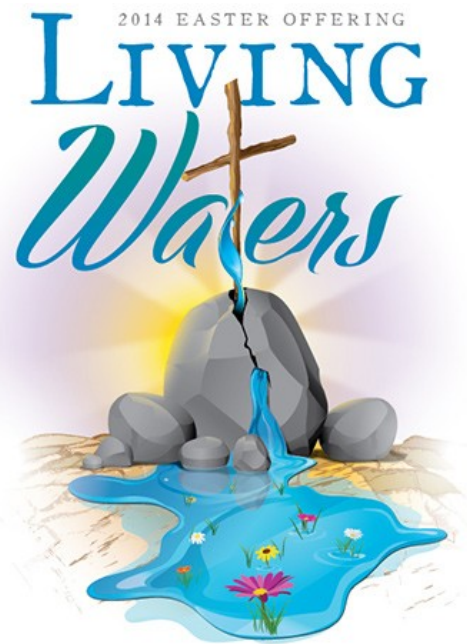
**Disciples Historical Society** preserves and shares the special story of our unique history and interconnects all Stone Campbell churches all around the world.

**Higher Education and Leadership Ministries** helps young leaders acquire tools for understanding the mission and witness of Christian communities.

**Disciples Church Extension Fund** helps congregations plan and finance "sacred space" to be used for ministry, for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ from our doorsteps to the end of the Earth.

**Hope Partnership** empowers courageous leaders as they guide their new and transforming congregations in the era of God's mission.

**Your generous donation to the Easter Offering** will support these General Ministries' commitments to being the hands, feet, voice and heart of Jesus through countless servants all around the world. With our giving we model the life of the One who gave the gift of Living Water that transforms the world.





Christian Church

2415 North 89th Street  
Caseyville, IL 62232  
(618)398-1587

Interim Pastor - Rev. Michael Dixon  
medixon2@earthlink.net

Office Manager - Patrick McAllister  
crossroadsdisciple@sbcglobal.net

Hours: M,T,W,Th 8-12

Music Director - Carol Brookshier  
clbrookshier@charter.net

Nursery - Connie McAllister

Custodian - Richard Reichling

**We're Disciples: a movement for  
wholeness in a fragmented world**

## Upcoming Events

### Lunch Bunch

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, the Lunch Bunch will meet at noon at Bella Milano, 455 Regency Park in O'Fallon. A sign-up sheet is in fellowship hall. Come join us before or after you file your taxes.



## Mark Your Calendar

### Prayer Journey at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows

Saturday, April 5, 2014  
9:15am to 12:30pm

### Maunder Thursday Worship Service

Thursday, April 17, 2014 7:00pm

### Crossroads 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Friday, April 18, 2014 begins at noon  
Saturday, April 19, 2014 ends at noon

### Easter Breakfast at Crossroads

Sunday, April 20, 2014 9:00am

### Metro East Community Chorale Spring Concert

Sunday, April 27, 2014 3:00pm  
St. Paul United Church of Christ  
115 W. B St. Belleville

