



Faith Connections

United in Faith Helping
People In Need

Volume 3, Issue 2

February 2020

Our Mission: Serve this community † Revitalize the Church † Celebrate Christian Unity

Church and Society

In his book entitled **Kingdom Agenda**, Dr. Toney Evans informs us that the role of the church is to “disciple individuals and families in such a way that they learn how to progressively bring every area of life under the lordship of Jesus Christ.” The church itself is to be looked to as an expanded household or collection of families under God’s kingdom authority and truth (note: 1 Timothy 3:15).

In order to achieve this goal, the church is to be the primary context for its members to share in the four biblical experiences as outlined in Acts 2:42-47. These are worship (celebrating God for who He is, what He has done, and what He promised to do), fellowship (sharing the life and love of Christ among the members), education (teaching and training toward a biblical worldview), and outreach (witnessing to the unchurched and unsaved in word and deed). The church is the place where the kingdom of God is corporately made manifest. The proper functioning of the church is crucial since it is the church family that marches into eternity.

Additionally, the church is to be the primary collective expression of the Kingdom of God in history. It is where the principles, precepts, and values of the kingdom are put on public display for the world to observe, so that if any problem or need in society exists, all they need to do is watch the church in action. (Matthew 5:13-16)

Only the church possesses the keys to the kingdom, to access heaven’s authority in history. Your involvement in the local church is critical to exercising your own personal spiritual authority as well as the corporate spiritual authority of the church.

In the wake of numerous challenges that face our churches, it is imperative that we take a critical look at what we as the church are doing in our communities and how they are impacting us individually and collectively.

Over the next couple of months, I want to ask and answer five tough questions that challenge us and our churches as we move forward into the 2nd decade of the 21st century.

Tough Question One: How do We Move from Churchianity to Christianity?

The current church culture in North America is on life support. It is living off the work, money and energy of previous generations from a previous world order.

The death of the church culture as we know it will not be the death of the church. The church that Jesus founded is good; it is right. The church established by Jesus will survive until He returns.

A Theology of Mission: We need to recapture the mission of the church. In both the Old and New Testaments, we encounter a god who is on a redemptive mission in the world. The central act of God in the Old Testament is the Exodus -- a divine intervention into human history to liberate His people from oppression and slavery. God did not give up on His mission in the Old Testament when Israel refused to partner with Him.

When Jesus came on the scene, He entered a world very similar to our own in terms of its spiritual landscape. Jesus tapped into the widespread sentiment of disillusionment not with religion but hunger for God with His teaching about the Kingdom of God and how people could become a part of it.

The movement Jesus initiated had power because it had at its core a personal life life-transforming experience.

The appropriate response to the emerging world is a rebooting of the mission, radical obedience to an ancient command, a loss of self rather than self-preoccupation, concern about service and sacrifice rather than concern about style.

Next Tough Question in the March Newsletter.

**Blessings,
Mel**



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Churches United Staff

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- **Associate Director
& Shop Manager**
Betsy Vanausdeln
- **Administrative
Assistant**
Kimberly Reese



Inside the Shelter: Insight from Winnie's Place Staff and Volunteers

We're going to be doing a series of interviews with staff and volunteers from Winnie's Place. This month, we interviewed Corretta Nunn.



Corretta Nunn

Corretta works full-time at Project Now as a caseworker and she's been with Project Now for eight years. Corretta has worked as a shelter coordinator for Winnie's Place full-time for almost two years. After losing her husband five years ago, she realized that she wasn't doing anything after work and she realized she could be doing more. She was led to Churches United through Churches United's Board President, Jay McGowan. She has two adult children.

Shelter Coordinators

- Juanita Bea
- Denise Grimes
- Debbie Jackson
- MariAnn McWhitley
- Corretta Nunn
- Kimberly Reese

Shelter Phone # - 309-757-0757

Why do you work at Winnie's Place?

"I'm helping somebody. I'm always looking for somebody to help. I've been through what these ladies are going through. I haven't been homeless. I know what it's like to be broken. I know what it's like not to have my family around because my family lives in Tennessee. Sometimes, I feel like they just need that extra push and they need some nurturing and they need some guidance in order for them to be successful and moving out of here."

Is there a program that clients go through?

"We have a program where they have to have a plan when they come in here to look for housing...to look for a job if they don't have a job." Corretta explained further, "It's kinda like these ladies...they're not children. They're not our children but sometimes, they need hugs. They need to be nurtured but sometimes, they need direction."

Client plans are based on the needs of the individual clients and vary based on those needs. Winnie's Place helps clients learn skills, like housekeeping skills, parenting, job skills and job search skills. There is a group Bible study once a week that is led by Minister Angie and Minister Candice of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in East Moline. Once a month, clients come together for a community meal at the shelter. Clients and their children are expected to help with the meal. Clients are expected to go to church on Sunday.

Clients are also expected to make a schedule weekly that shows what they are doing on a daily basis. Clients work with staff to create their schedules. Corretta explained, "We help them and show them...we direct them on how to make things a little simpler." After discussing the schedule, Corretta said, "We expect for them to follow through."

Positive changes are happening for clients. One client is close to getting her GED. Three of the children living in the shelter are going to be baptized soon.

Tell me about donations...

The shelter is consistently blessed by donations from the community. "Everyday we get something," Corretta enthused. Currently, there is a need for toilet paper, paper towels, soap, laundry soap, garbage bags, dishwashing liquid, tall kitchen bags, Ziploc bags, bleach, Pinesol, and bagged salt for melting snow and ice.

(For a list of items that the ministries of Churches United need, check out the link to our AmazonSmile wish list on page 4).

HUGE

Baby Clothing

SALE

FEBRUARY 1 - 16

50¢

EACH ITEM



1605 Harrison Street, Davenport

A Shop with a Purpose

10 AM to 4 PM MONDAY- FRIDAY
10 AM to 2 PM SATURDAY



Save the Dates!

Thursday, March 26th - Delegate Assembly at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church, 1201 13th St, Moline, IL. Executive board orientation for new and current board members will take place from 5pm - 6:30pm. Our large group meeting will take place from 7pm - 9pm. We will reflect on 2019, examine where we are as an organization, and look ahead to where we are going. This is also our opportunity to recognize those who have made significant contributions to our organization this year. This event is free. Reservations are required. Make your reservation by calling our office.

Thursday, April 16th at 6pm - Quarterly Meeting at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 2601 15th St, Moline.

Thursday, August 20th at 6pm - Quarterly Meeting. Iowa location TBD.

Saturday, September 19th - 2nd Annual Church Casserole Cook-Off at Bethel Wesley UMC. Details coming soon.

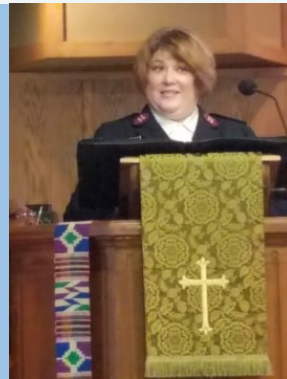
Thursday, November 19th at 6pm - Quarterly Meeting. Illinois location TBD.

For more information about upcoming events, contact Betsy Vanausdeln at bvanausdeln@cuqca.org or by phone at (563) 332-5002.

Thank You!



Thank you, First Presbyterian Church, East Moline and Reverend Becky Sherwood for hosting our Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ecumenical Service. Thank you, Major Jolinda Shelbourn for your sermon. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in this service.



Thank you, CBI Bank and Trust for your generous donation.



Help
Encourage
Give

Thank you!

The response to our holiday appeal was tremendous. You have enabled us to pay for needed repairs to Winnie's Place Shelter. We had people come forward to volunteer for positions that we needed to fill. This has taken pressure off of our staff. We will continue to update you about the progress that you have allowed us to make through your generosity.



Churches United of the Quad City Area

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United in Faith Helping People in Need



On the Web

www.cuqca.org

Incorporated in the State of Illinois, Churches United of the Quad City Area is recognized by and in full compliance with the General Not For Profit Corporation Act as certified through the offices of Secretary of State in Illinois and Iowa.



OUR CHRIST CENTERED MINISTRY BELIEVES

- Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior
- We express our oneness as the Body of Christ and we celebrate the richness of our diversity.
- As we speak and act in unity we become more effective in ministry and mission.
- As the Body of Christ we are called by God to reach out cooperatively, with sensitivity and responsiveness, to the needs of the community through specific ministries.
- The Christian community is strengthened by participation in ecumenical worship, study and service.
- As the Body of Christ we are called to be an ethical and moral voice to the community.

"For the one in authority is God's servant for your good." Romans 13:4

Give TODAY to Churches United

Online at www.cuqca.org † Call us at (563) 332-5002

Mail or drop off your gift
Churches United of the Quad City Area
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Bettendorf, IA 52722

THANK YOU!



Keep up-to-date and check out daily reflections by following us on Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchesUnitedoftheQuadCityArea/>

and find out about the latest deals at Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop at

<https://www.facebook.com/WinniesWishesResaleShop/>

amazon
smile

Support CUQCA by designating us as your charity and by purchasing items from our Wish List.

https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/19QO2R6L5908/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_4?_encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist



We need new members to join our board of directors.

Expectations:

- Must be a member of one of our 148 member churches.
- Attend monthly meetings. (Meetings are in the evening on the 4th Thursday of each month).
- Participate in at least one event.
- Give personal financial support to Churches United.
- Be a part of an ad hoc committee.

Churches United needs you to serve.

If you would like to join our board, contact Betsy Vanausdeln at bvanausdeln@cuqca.org or call our office at 563-332-5002.