



# Faith Connections

United in Faith Helping  
People In Need

Volume 5, Issue 1

January 2022

**Our Mission:** Bringing together an ecumenical coalition of Quad City area churches to help feed the hungry, offer emergency assistance to those in crisis, and provide a transitional housing program for women and children who are victims of domestic violence or human trafficking.

## Together We Are Better: Our Constant For 2022



One of my biblical heroes is Joshua. Moses, that towering figure who had led Israel for 40 years, was dead. Now his assistant had to step into Moses' giant sandals and assume leadership in the most precarious and unsettling of times. Israel was about to cross the Jordan River at flood stage and attack the heavily fortified city of Jericho. The Israelites had been slaves, then desert nomads. What did they know of war?

They couldn't stay where they were, but to go where God was leading was frightening and fraught with change.

God prepared Joshua with these words: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Change is one constant, but the other constant is God himself, the One who never changes, who sees the end from the beginning, and for whom the future holds no surprises. God has made us a solemn promise: to be with us always. That promise holds wherever we are, and is not invalidated by the unexpected. In whatever success we enjoy and amidst whatever failure we suffer, God has promised to be there with us.

I really don't like roller coasters. I don't like to scream all the way down. I don't like fear. Unfortunately, life in the new millennium is likely to be that kind of ride with its dizzying heights, its gut wrenching turns, and its free fall downslopes. But we have a seatmate who is God himself, there to steady us, protect us, and guide us. Today he repeats to us those timeless words that echo across the centuries and millennia: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Blessings,  
*Mel*

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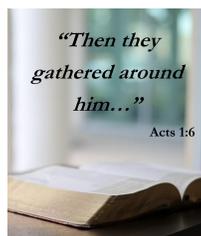
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## Thank You



Thank you to everyone who graciously donated to our fall appeal. We are glad that you found our organization worthy of giving to this year. Know that we will be faithful stewards and your contribution will go to assisting those most in need in our area.

Thank you to everyone who purchased our holiday candles. We are appreciative of your generosity.



Thank you, Canadian Pacific. Through the #CPHolidayTrain program, Churches United received a very benevolent donation. This will go a long way in helping those in need.

## Delegate Assembly 2022



Dr. N. Jonas Ohrberg, founder of the Human Promise, is returning to the Quad Cities to speak at our Delegate Assembly on Thursday, March 24th, 2022. Delegate Assembly will be held at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Moline.

According to the Human Promise website, “Dr. N. Jonas Ohrberg is simply someone who cares about others, believes in positive and constructive progress in society, and has hope for a better future. Based on personal experiences and observations Jonas decided to put some ideas and thoughts on paper and he developed the concept of

The Human Promise. The Human Promise is not an extraordinary concept, but rather very simple.”

“The Human Promise is rooted in the words, writings and life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The attempt is to increase awareness of fostering a society rooted in the human spirit and human progress through acceptance, cooperation, fairness, and reconciliation.”

Delegate Assembly is our annual meeting. This is wonderful gathering of representatives from our member churches. It provides an opportunity to reflect on the past year, examine where we are as an organization and where we’re going, and to recognize those who have made significant contributions to our organization.

To RSVP for Delegate Assembly, call our office at 563-332-5002. Registration will begin at 6:30pm and the program will start at 7pm. Masks are required.

Source: [https://www.thehumanpromise.org/about\\_us](https://www.thehumanpromise.org/about_us)

## Thank You



Thank you, Bettendorf Presbyterian Church and Edginton Evangelical Church for collecting and donating items to our clients. We are grateful for your magnanimity.

Thank you, CBI Bank & Trust for your continued financial support of our ministries. We are grateful for your commitment to our community.



**We have opportunities available to help the ministries of Churches United.**

### **Meal Site Coordinator**

**We need someone to oversee one of our meal sites that provides meals to those in need on Monday and Wednesday evenings with the potential for additional hours.**

### **Food Pantry Coordinator**

**We need someone to manage a food pantry, including: organizing and recruiting volunteers, ordering food, and coordinating the distribution of food to those in need.**

### **Food Rescuer**

**We need licensed drivers to pick up food from local businesses and transport the food to local food pantries.**

### **Winnie's Transitional Housing Committee Members**

**We're looking for people who are passionate about helping women and their children escape domestic abuse and human trafficking. Members will provide insight and oversight for Winnie's Transitional Housing.**

### **Hunger Committee Members**

**We're looking for people who want to help us combat hunger in the Quad Cities.**

**If you are interested in helping, please contact our associate director, Betsy Vanausdeln at 563-332-5002 or by email at [bvanausdeln@cuqca.org](mailto:bvanausdeln@cuqca.org).**



## Churches United of the Quad City Area

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## Give Today to Churches United

Online at <http://www.cuqca.org/donate.php>

Call us at (563) 332-5002

**Mail or drop off your gift:**  
**Churches United of the Quad City Area**  
**2535 Tech Drive, Suite 205**  
**Bettendorf, IA 52722**

Thank You!

Donate, keep up-to-date, and check out daily reflections by following us on Facebook at:



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

[ChurchesUnitedoftheQuadCityArea/](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchesUnitedoftheQuadCityArea/)



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

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## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is January 18-25, 2022. The theme for 2022 is "We Saw the Star in the East, and We Came To Worship Him."

"Like the Magi who braved the perils of a long and dangerous journey to find the Christ child, our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East face many hardships as they strive to live out their faith in Christ. Our prayer in solidarity with their suffering is a light of hope and communion."

For more information, go to: <https://www.atonementfriars.org/2022-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity/>

## BLACK MEN'S HEALTH SERIES

### What's Weighing on Your Heart?

Answers to Your Questions About Heart Healthy Living

Thursday, January 27 | 6 to 7 p.m.



Learn about heart disease. Get the answers and support you need to lead a healthier and longer life.

**Location:**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center,  
630 9th Street, Rock Island

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Bouyella H. Reddy, MD, Cardiovascular  
Medicine, P.C.

**Moderator:**  
Thurgood Brooks, Martin Luther King Center

**Event Sponsors:**



As the leading cause of death, heart disease cuts too many Black men's lives short. Commit to a healthier you in 2022.

Find out what you can do to reduce your risk.

Bouyella H. Reddy, MD, Cardiovascular Medicine, P.C. He shares heart disease signs and symptoms and covers when and how to seek help with your heart care.

Explore what UnityPoint Health® offers to the community to help you lead with heart.



REGISTER TODAY AT:  
[unitypoint.org/YourHeartHealth](https://unitypoint.org/YourHeartHealth)



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