



Faith Connections

United in Faith Helping
People In Need

Volume 5, Issue 10

October 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.

Lord Is That You?



Trouble is an unavoidable part of the human existence. It is so common, in fact, that we have come to accept it as normal. As a result, we rarely look any deeper or stop to consider whether the Lord might be attempting to get our attention. From our nearsighted perspective, each incident is an isolated event, and the goal is to relieve the pain, solve the problem, and get back to normal. But what if the situation is God's discipline? He uses a variety of methods to teach and correct us, but if we don't recognize what He's doing, we will miss out on His valuable training.

So, how can we discern whether our troubles are divine discipline or the result of living in a fallen world? There is no reason to see every problem or pain as punishment for sin; but on the other hand, we do not want to miss the correction our loving heavenly Father sends our way.

Before we can perceive discipline in our life, we must understand what God's discipline is and what He intends to accomplish through it. When the word is used of adults, it refers to whatever cultivates the soul and increases virtue, especially by means of correcting mistakes and curbing passions.

Too often we equate discipline only with punishment, but the Lord disciplines us in positive ways as well. For instance, the Bible is one of God's instruments of discipline in the believer's life. When we heed His instruction, we are trained to live righteously, thereby avoiding the pain of chastisement, which comes to those who ignore His Word.

Sometimes we experience affliction because we have sinned and the Lord wants to draw us back to obedience, but on other occasions, our trials may actually come while we are walking obediently with Him. This is what happened to Paul. (see 2 Corinthians 12:7-10). The "thorn in the flesh" was a tool to protect the Apostle from pride. God also used it to teach Paul – and us – that divine power is perfection in human weakness. These situations can be defined as God's discipline because they accomplish His purpose: "that we may share His holiness" (Hebrews 12:10)

Blessings,

Mel

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October 2022

Dear Member Churches,

Thank you for your gracious support this past year to Churches United of the Quad City Area. As you know with our Spring Appeal, we were seeking financial contributions to update the three-tiered shelter deck at Winnie's Transitional Housing. The deck needed updating and to be brought to code for quite some time. Thankfully, this need has since been met through the generous contributions from our member churches and donors. Our priority is to continue helping women and children who are victims in domestic violence and human trafficking situations and to place them in a safer environment. We are also committed to serving the needy through our food pantries, our hot meal site, and CareLINK programs.

Due to the cold weather that we had in February 2022, the pipes burst in Winnie's Transitional Housing causing damage to all six units. All units need renovations. We have updated the emergency shut-off valves in all of the units, but there is still quite a bit more to do in order for us to start taking in clients.

Another Churches United ministry to consider in your decision to give is our Hunger Ministry. During the last two years due to the pandemic, we have seen a drastic drop in donations both in monetary and through perishable and non-perishable food items. The food banks, as well as our food pantries, are struggling to get food on the shelves to feed the many families in need. We are also hosting a hot meal site at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport Monday through Friday providing a meal from our area churches. At our meal site, we are feeding over 100 people each evening. We are serving a lot of desperate families. Our meal site and food pantries have consistently served over a million meals annually and we hope to be able to continue to serve our community at this level. The expenses are real and are not letting up anytime soon.

Churches United is a Christ centered ministry and we assist those in need with dignity, compassion, and patience, just as God has shown us to do for others. We are a staff of three, yet we still get as much ministry done as we can. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to our organization.

Blessings,



Dr. Melvin L. Grimes
Executive Director



Thank You!



We are thankful for all of the volunteers who helped at Winnie's Transitional Housing on Saturday, September 10. A special thanks goes to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Doug and Lynn Cropper, members of The Order of the Phoenix from Augustana College, and Minister Jay McCowan.

The CP Holiday Train is Returning to the Quad Cities

Mark your calendar. The 2022 Holiday Train is scheduled to arrive in Davenport at approximately 5:45pm on Saturday, December 3rd.

This is major event for Churches United because proceeds go toward the support we provide for our member food pantries. We also collect donations for our pantries during the festivities.

More information will be coming soon!



Thank You!



Thank you for responding to our plea for help. We have almost every date in 2022 covered at our meal site at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport.

We are still working on our 2023 calendar. If you have a group that is willing to provide and serve a meal or meals at our meal site, we'd like to get you onto the calendar. If your group would like to serve on a regular basis in 2023 and you have days that work best for your group, now is the time to let us know.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Betsy Vanausdeln at 563-332-5002 or by email at



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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
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Thank You!

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

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COME AND HEAR VOICES FROM THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

"TAKING A STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE."

TESTIMONIES FROM VICTIM TO VICTORY



FROM ABUSER TO ADVOCATE



Please RSVP by October 21st, 2022 to Tammy Trice at tammyt50@yahoo.com



CULTURALLY SENSITIVE SERVICES

- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Personal Care



OCTOBER 28TH, 2022

WHERE

The Center
1411 N Brady
Davenport, Ia.

Time: 1:00-3:00

Sponsored by
DEI Trainer
Tammy Trice
The Center

Needs List for Winnie's Transitional Housing Clients



Our clients at Winnie's Transitional Housing often leave domestic abuse situations with very few possessions and no money. We are also seeing an increasing need for basic goods from those in the community coming to us for help through our meal site and pantries. Donations of gift cards, household items, and food help those who are struggling tremendously.

Our job seeking clients can benefit from office supplies and the children who live in our shelter often need school supplies

If you would like to donate, please drop off your donations at our office or mail them to us.