

Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop



We are now accepting spring/summer clothing! So how do you donate? Pull around the back of the shop and ring the bell. As you are probably aware, we don't have parking in the back, but you can pull up to the back door to unload donations! Need a receipt for tax purposes? Just let the volunteer know!

Some Hilltop Village businesses coordinate special events and sales like you may have seen with "Cupid Comes to the Hilltop" in February! We hope you are following us on Facebook so that you are notified of sales, flash sales and special events!

We are looking for volunteers on Mondays from 10-1pm, Tuesdays from 1-4pm, Fridays both 10-1pm & 1-4pm and most Saturdays from 10-1 pm. To get an application, call 309-764-9466 or email kmiller@cuqca.org for one to be mailed or emailed to you or pick up an application at the shop.

Blessings, Kit



Winnie's Wishes
Resale Shop

1605 Harrison St,
Davenport
563-323-5007

Open: Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-1

Community Events

On Sunday, February 28, 2016, the men of Second Baptist Church will hold their annual **Men's Day Celebration** at the 8:00 and 10:45 am church services with the theme: "The Real Superman" coming from John 2:19. The Guest Speaker for the 8:00 and 10:45 am services is Dr. Jack Thomas, President of Western Illinois University. Music will be rendered by the Second Baptist Church Men's Day Chorus.

Trivia Night: MOPS Adventure is hosting a Trivia Night on February 26, 2016 at Adventure Cristian Community Church, 6509 Northwest Blvd, Dav. The doors open at 6pm, Trivia begins at 7pm. Food and Drink (non-alcoholic) welcome. 8 person tables, \$10 per person. Door prizes, raffle items and 50/50 drawing. To reserve you table call: (563) 579-7285.

Classifieds

Wanted: Part Time Children's Ministry Director. Asbury United Methodist Church in Bettendorf. The position is approximately 20 hours per week. The responsibilities will be to oversee the children's ministries in partnership with clergy and Education Commission, coordinate the planning and implementation of broad educational programs for children, research and assess curriculum and make recommendations to the Education Commission. Contact: (563) 355-5218

Wanted: Asbury is seeking a Nursery Attendant The position is for part-time help in our nursery on Sunday morning and week nights as needed. Hours are flexible, but not to exceed 8 hours per week. Occasional additional hours because of special event. Must be at least 19 years old. Contact: (563) 355-5218

Dining Club books are now available!! They make great gifts!! Please call our office at 563/332-5002 for more information!!



**March/April
2016**

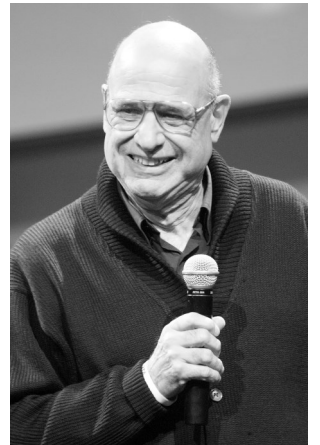
Volume 44 Issue 2
Newsletter deadline-8th of Month
Email: newsletter@cuqca.org

2535 Tech Drive - Suite 205, Bettendorf IA 52722 563/332-5002

www.CUqca.org

JOIN US APRIL 15, 2016 at 7 p.m.
for the ANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY.

Churches United is in its 55th year, and as such, our Annual Delegate Assembly on April 15, 2016 will be very special! We will be installing new members to our Board of Directors, presenting financial data for our delegates to approve, and have a Special Guest Speaker, Dr. Tony Campolo. As this will be his first time speaking in the Quad Cities, we are privileged to have him here with us. An ordained minister, he is leader of the Red Letter Christian movement and a well-known commentator on religious and social matters, has appeared on Charlie Rose, CNN, MSNBC, the Colbert Report, and Nightline. You can learn more about Dr. Campolo on his website, www.TonyCampolo.org.



EVERYONE is welcome to join the event, which takes place at First Presbyterian Church, 1702 Iowa Street, Davenport, beginning promptly at 7:00pm. Dessert will be served after the program, offering an opportunity for fellowship. We anticipate standing room only for this event, so plan to arrive early!

Third Annual Big Bacon Bonanza

The 3rd annual Big Bacon Bonanza will take place April 9, at the River Center Great Hall, from 4:00pm-7:00pm. This is a unique opportunity for locals to serve locals. It is a family event with vendors, tastings, music, and bacon fun for all!

New this year is the honor of being a preferred qualifier for the World Food Championships in the Bacon platform. This means a local restaurant, caterer or individual will represent the Quad Cities in 2016 Championships. We will once again welcome back Diva Q, to be our celebrity guest and judge. Diva Q is the host of the hit TV show BBQ Crawl and one of Canada's highest ranked competitive BBQ'ers on the The Kansas City Barbecue Society team, listing the world's largest organization of barbeque and grilling enthusiasts, with over 25,000 members worldwide.

We would love for you to be a part of this experience and are grateful for your consideration. If you are so inclined to sponsor, together, we will be **BACON A DIFFERENCE!!**

If you are interested in becoming a vendor, sponsor or volunteer for this event, contact Meredith Dennis; 563-676-9472 or mdennis@cuqca.org. Tickets are available at www.cuqca.org.

A Note from Anne

On February 2nd I attended a small, informal event, but one where I could feel and hear God's strong presence. On that Tuesday evening, I, along with about 20 others, shared congratulations with 16 faith groups that raised \$1,000 or more for the 2015 CROP WALK that has taken place every year here in the Quad Cities since 1971.

Yes, we handed out certificates and the infamous Golden Shoe Award, which by the way is handmade!!! We ate pizza and ice cream and had the chance to chat and talk. But the best part of it all, was the fact that communities of Christians, Jewish and Muslim faiths were together at the Mosque. Yes, the CROP WALK reception this year was at the Bettendorf Mosque, full of people with hope and peace in their hearts. Hugs were given, words of welcome were received, and respect of each other was very present.

We heard words from the Quran and words from Christian scripture. Little anecdotes were shared about each group as they were being recognized; and when it was all over we heard the lovely prayer chants of those members at the Mosque praying at their 7:30 prayer time. Those of us that were not of the Muslim faith were invited to watch or pray in our own faith tradition.

With all the hateful spew that has been shared by us adults in the past several months, from politicians to those in the media and even clergy persons, you could sense an aura of peace in the room. A place where those of us in the Christian and Jewish community were welcome. Where all of us shared a common bond – to make the world a better place. Yes, that might sound simplistic and a bit romanticized but also, so true.

The group consisted of Iowa and Illinois congregations, excited to learn and hear all that Church World Service was doing in the world, and being proud for just a few minutes that Churches United was such an important partner in all of this. Most importantly though, were the relationships.

Yes, the world is a rough place, and yes there are so many issues we need to deal with, but just for those 90 minutes in the multi-purpose room at the Mosque, it was just a roomful of people to celebrate, to gather, to respect, to converse and to hug. For that short amount of time, we were in our own world, the contentedness of peace and community.

When the event concluded, some of us needed to leave to attend the next event in our life, be it the next meeting or the tucking in to bed of a child or the anxiousness of getting home before the bad weather started. For others of us, we didn't want to leave quite yet. We searched for a sense of belonging and to receive, as well as to give, one last wrap of the arms in a tight hug. But no matter how we left, we knew for those 90 minutes that we were one. Children of God, of peace and acceptance.

For anyone willing and wanting to learn about other faith communities, you can certainly research on the Internet, but the Quad Cities has a plethora of faiths that you can explore. Talk to those that are a part of those faiths, learn and listen. Gee, what a novel concept!!

With Peace,
Anne

Winnie's Place



Greetings from *Winnie's Place!* We would like to thank the Genesis Emergency Department, Illini Campus, for taking the time to collect donations for *Winnie's Place* on December 12th! The donations collected at this event help stock several types of daily shelter/client needs for several months. It is impossible to get all the shelter needs on that list but we would like to thank the staff for volunteering their time to help others in the community as well as thank those who donated! This year, several Churches United Board Members and staff also volunteered their time to help "Fill the Rig"!



A big thank you to First Lutheran Church (Moline) and their women's ministry for hosting *Winnie's Wishes* volunteer brunch! The food was wonderful, the hosts were gracious and the time of fellowship is always a blessing!

Many thanks to Christ United Methodist Church (East Moline) for hosting the annual Santa Party at the church and for helping with the food/drinks and families! We are grateful for the space and help! It means so much for the staff to be able to catch up with families that have been served as well as have some fun with the families at a very busy time of year in the shelter.

The shelter program is blessed by the many partnerships we have within the community. Thank you to all for providing us space for parties, providing in-kind donations, for helping with building maintenance, for praying for the staff, program and program participants, and for the financial support. This ministry would not make it without your support!

Because of Him, Kit

NEEDS: size 5 diapers, canned gravy, cream soups, coffee creamer, coffee filters, egg noodles, parmesan cheese, hamburger, hamburger, hamburger, stuffing mix, pasta, ravioli & spaghetti O's, allergy medications for adults and children, Illinois bus tickets, and Fareway gift cards.

Member Church Spotlight

Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline is making a difference in a lot of lives. Last year the Church's Relay for Life team was ranked #2 in the Country. As the team gears up for 2016 they are always looking to expand in hopes of hitting that #1 spot.

The Calvary team was formed eight years ago with its beginnings under the church's Parish Nurse Program. Several members of the church were already supporting Relay for Life with other teams, so it was logical to begin a team within the church.

The team was originally made up of Church members, but as interest expanded through participation in fund raising and the event activities, friends and families joined the efforts.



Church team members raise contributions to Relay by holding fund-raising events. Those include a Palm Sunday Brunch, Taco Lunch, and Ice Cream Social. They also serve a once-a-month Coffee Hour after church. "We also have wonderful donors and sponsors that contribute to the team using team's web page at www.relayforlife.org/rockislandil or with donations of cash or check," said Marilyn Gross, leader of the Calvary Crusaders Relay for Life Team. "We also participate in selling the luminaries honoring our loved ones that line the relay track the night of relay. Fund raisers are also a part of the Relay event at all the team's campsites."

The 2016 Rock Island County Relay for Life will be held again at Black Hawk College track on Saturday, September 17.

"Just get going! Get enthusiastic people involved who are willing to put forth an effort for a community cause," add Gross. "This is such a worthy cause. All of us have been affected by cancer having relatives, friends, and members of our church who have battled cancer. The American Cancer Society plays a vital role in funding research, education, advocacy and support in the fight against cancer."

The community can get involved by forming a relay team or supporting one of the existing teams listed on the ACS Relay for Life web site listed above or by contacting the Relay staff partner, Tanya Huntington with her e-mail: tanya.huntington@cancer.org.

Thank You

Churches United received grant awards from the following funders:

Iowa Annual Conference of the UMC
Hunger Ministry Grant

Melvin L. McKay Trust
General Operating Grant

Riverboat Development Authority
Hunger Ministry Grant

Stewardship Spotlight

Betsy Vanausdeln Ashford Hero Of The Year

At Ashford University is dedication to improving lives extending beyond the wall of our University. Each year, it recognizes one employee volunteer who has exemplified our commitment to the community. This year, for the fifth year in a row, the Ashford Hero of the Year is Faculty Support and Development Associate Betsy Vanausdeln.

Betsy has continued to demonstrate her dedication to giving back.

In 2015, Betsy volunteered with Asbury United Methodist Church as a mentor and youth group leader, and has devoted several hours to Ashford Heroes efforts in Iowa. In total, Betsy donated an incredible 1160 hours this year.

As part of her recognition for being named Ashford Hero of the Year, the University will donate \$1,000 to the charity of Betsy's choice. For Betsy that is Churches United. Please join us in congratulating Betsy and thanking her for her dedication to enriching the community.

