



December 2015

Volume 44 Issue 11
Newsletter deadline-8th of Month
Email: newsletter@cuqca.org

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

www.CUqca.org

***Davenport Chordbusters
Present
Celebrate the Holidays***



With special guests:

**Bend of the River Chorus, Hersong, Riverbend Bronze,
Crimson River, Schrader Duet, Jonathan Turner,
QC Music Guild Youth Chorus, Laila Haley**

Friday, December 11th, 7:00 p.m.

Heritage Church

4801 44th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

Admission Information:

Free will donations for Churches United food pantries

www.thechordbusters.com

Or call 563/650-3884



A Word From Anne....

This is my last article of the year. Our newsletter will look and feel different in 2016 so I thought I would post some questions for us to think about.

According to the PEW Survey, Americans are becoming less religious. The religiously unaffiliated now account for 23 percent of the adult population in the United States, up from 16 percent in 2007. Granted, many of those are the millennials. Yet those that say they are religious and Christian feel their faith has become much more deeper and intense over the past few years. As the holidays approach, we will see many in our pews that we haven't seen since Easter. Does that mean they are "less" Christian than those of us that attend more regularly? Who's to say? Maybe the other 50 Sundays of the year, they are out on mission trips or helping refugees or serving at a homeless shelter.

People often comment about appreciating the world around us, the creation that God has made. Yet as a society we seem to continue to destroy the earth. Violence is all around us, controversy, antagonism, and many folks in leadership positions – activists of any movement seem to be wearing out. We are so consumed with our child being the best athlete, or attending the best college, or driving the best car or getting the best grade all before the age of 12 that we are forgetting that isn't what life is about. Jesus tells us to love one another, to be kind, to help those that are less fortunate than us, to serve and be faithful servants...

So as this year is way too quickly coming to an end, let us challenge ourselves with perhaps some tangible things we can do. Let's try and throw the newspapers in the recycle bin. Let's say hello to the neighbor who lives across the street from us and yet we do not know them. Let's spend time talking to each other instead of Facebooking friends that are really not our friends. Let's not be in a rush and set aside the time each day to pray for all that we are thankful for. Let's really practice what we preach. TOLERANCE, JUSTICE, KINDNESS, PEACE, LOVE and RESPECT.

In the book of John, Chapter 14 Thomas asks Jesus "Lord, we do not know where you are going, and how can we know the way? Jesus replied, I am the way, the truth and the life".....

Nothing else needs to be said –

With hope,
Anne

Save The Date!!!
April 17th, 2016
Annual Delegate Assembly
Guest Speaker: Tony Campolo
First Presbyterian Church
1702 Iowa Street, Davenport, IA

Winnie's Place



Greetings from *Winnie's Place!* The shelter is getting ready for Christmas! I know, we have not celebrated Thanksgiving yet, but we will and there will be a feast on Thanksgiving! Nevertheless, it takes us quite a while to get families' wish lists and get these families adopted, so we are in full swing getting Christmas projects organized. We will need people/groups to adopt families and special projects for the shelter. If you are interested in helping, please call us at 309-764-9466 and speak with Pauline or myself.



We would like to thank ATI Information Services Department at Alcoa for tackling some projects that needed attention at the shelter. There were shelves built, stairs replaced, painting done, cutting back plants and mulching! Thank you all for giving your time and talents!!!



Genesis Emergency Department, Illini Campus will be holding **Fill the Rig** on December 12 at Hy-Vee in Silvis from 9 am – 3 pm! What is Fill the Rig? It is a special collection to help stock the shelves of supplies needed at the shelter. There will be volunteers at the store entrance handing out a list of needs that can be purchased while you shop and dropped off in the Ambulance after you have shopped! Look for the Ambulance near the entrance. Watch our Facebook page for more information.

Because of Him, Kit

NEEDS: 13-gallon trash bags, adult Ibuprofen, parmesan cheese, gallon baggies, butterfly mops, vinegar-gallon size, 2-step stepstools and curtains. If you are interested in making, purchasing or have curtains, please call for window sizes! 309-764-9466

Cha-Cha-Changes.....

Greetings to our faithful readers. For the past year, staff and the board have discussed different ways of communicating with our donors, our member churches and all 4600 of you who receive our newsletter each month. The newsletter over the past 55 years has changed and morphed a bit. Its very first publication included one of our old logos – Noah’s Arc and it was called the ARC. How’s that for a little bit of trivia!! It takes a lot of work to publish the newsletter and it is a process that after much prayer and discussion NEEDS to change for 2016. Firstly though, I must thank Janet Martin who although is our financial manager, has been the guru of publishing the newsletter since her tenure here. I know I drive her nuts when I don’t meet the deadline for my article and sometimes what I want in the newsletter and what we can produce internally are vastly different. With that said, I wanted to say thank you to her publically. She has been the main reason you have received such a great newsletter. I have been the first to resist changing the newsletter as I believe a written document being held, felt and read tangibly is just if not more important than receiving it on line. So we will still be sending you the newsletter but it will have a different feel and look and it will be designed in a way that you will still receive needed information but will be reduced from 12 issues a year to 6 issues a year.

Be patient with us... this exercise is called change by trial and error. We want to do a good job but we need your help. If you are involved with a mission project, your faith community offers a special type of worship service, or you have a unique ministry or a great event coming up please let us know!!! If you know a person who has “volunteered” (we are getting rid of that term) or partnered with us at a food pantry or meal site or at Winnie’s Wishes or the shelter or someone that has been a great recruiter for the CROP Hunger Walk or simply a supporter for all things Churches United we WANT and NEED to know. Send us an email!!!!

Remember, this is change is by trial and error or as my pastor says we are working “under an umbrella of grace”. For now, send us the information to newsletter@cuqca.org.

Looking forward to hearing from our readers!!!!

2015-2016
Directory of Churches
is now available for purchase
Directory \$30
Non-Profits \$15
Member Church additional copies \$5



Thank You

Churches United recently received grant awards from the following Funders

Amy Helpenstell Foundation
Shelter Ministry

Community Resources Corporation
Shelter Ministry Grant

IA Annual Conference of the UMC
Hunger Ministry

IL Conference of the UCC
Hunger Ministry

Rotary Club of Davenport
Hunger Ministry

Classifieds

Wanted: Bettendorf Presbyterian Church seeks a part-time (15-20 hours a week) Director of Christian Education to help establish, direct, and oversee the educational ministry of our children and youth. Salary is negotiable. Resumes along with references may be submitted to Rev. Troy Winder at bpcpastor@msn.com or mailed to 1200 Middle Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

Wanted: Blessed Beginnings Preschool, a ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, 1330 13th St., Moline is currently seeking candidates for a Classroom Teacher position. It is a full-time, partial-year position. September through May it averages 37.5 hours a week, with some hours over the summer. The pay rate is \$10/hour. Education and/or experience in the field of early childhood are preferred. Background check is required. Please e-mail letter of interest and resume to: thayz@tlcmoline.org

Wanted: Eldridge United Methodist Church is currently looking for a part-time Children, Youth, Family Ministry coordinator. Good communication, organizational and people skills with the ability to delegate tasks will be important. Being knowledgeable in the area of social media will be an asset. Hours and pay are negotiable. If interested, please contact the church office (563/285-4314) for further details.

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



New Location!!!

1605 Harrison St, Dav.

Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

563/323-5007

Winnies' Wishes proceeds help support the shelter program! It IS a shop with a purpose and YOU can be a part of this wonderful group of people!

We need volunteers Mondays 10 – 1pm, Tuesday 10 – 1pm, Wednesdays 1 – 4pm, Fridays (both shifts) 10 – 1 pm & 1 – 4pm and Saturdays 10 – 1 pm. Monday – Friday volunteers typically work one shift a week or every other week. Saturday volunteers either work on a bi-weekly or monthly basis! Please stop by the shop to get an application, call 309-764-9466 to have one mailed to you or email me at kmiller@cuqca.org to have an application emailed!

Winter clothing is now being accepted. As you are switching over your closets at home, please hold onto the summer items you plan to donate, until next spring. Donations can be delivered to the back door, just ring the bell and someone will be there to assist you.

Remember to watch Facebook for new items, updates, specials and sales! <https://www.facebook.com/WinniesWishesResaleShop/?fref=ts>

The volunteers make the resale shop all that it is; they spend time organizing the clothing by size & color, they set up wonderful vignettes, keep the store clean and create a fun place to shop! Because we get very little time to show our appreciation to the volunteers, *Winnie's Wishes* will be closed the morning of December 16th so that the volunteers can enjoy the morning with food, fellowship and friends!

Blessings, Kit



Community Events

23rd Annual Cookie Walk at First Lutheran Church, 1230 5th Avenue, Moline, on Saturday, Nov. 21st, from Noon to 2 PM. Large variety of Christmas cookies and breads. Also featuring crafts and a raffle for beautiful hand embroidered and quilted butterfly lap quilt.

"Earth to Paris" interfaith call to action! Monday, November 23 (7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. doors open at 6:30 p.m.) at the Augustana Wilson Center in the College Center, Rock Island (http://www.augustana.edu/Documents/map_2015.pdf). UN Climate Talks will be held November 30 thru December 11 in Paris. Please plan to join with us Monday, November 23 to honor the Earth, to recognize the huge problems we have caused for our environment, and our hope and insistence, that the nations of the world recognize the need for action!

Annual Snowflake Cookie Walk: First Christian Church, 510 E. 15th Street, Davenport, IA, will be having their Annual Disciple Women Snowflake Cookie Walk on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9AM – 1PM. Cookie dough will be available for purchase by the pound and comes in a large variety of flavors. There will also be homemade peanut brittles, delicious fudges, many different kinds of candies, and cookies of all kinds for sale. ALL proceeds go to local charitable organizations and our global missions. Any questions call 563/322.0929 or email us at davenportfcc@msn.com.

The Gospel According to Scrooge: New Hope Foursquare, 2305 7th Ave, Moline will host the musical drama. It will be performed on Friday, December 4th at 7pm, Saturday, December 5th at 2pm and Sunday, December 6th at 6pm. Doors open 1.5 hour prior to play. Free-will offering received. No child care provided.

Annual Cookie Walk: New Hope Presbyterian Church will be having their 5th Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at New Hope Presbyterian Church, 4209 West Locust Street, Davenport, IA from 9 am to 11:30 am. Cookies and bars will be available for \$6.00 per pound. Other items that will be available are candies, snacks and baked goods. Any questions call 563/386-5278 or email newhope@q.com. Free coffee and cookie samples.

Chili Cook-Off: MOPS Adventure will host a Chili Cook-Off at Adventure Christian Community Church, 6509 Northwest Blvd, Dav on Friday, January 15, 2016. Enter your favorite Chili for a \$10 entry fee per category. There will be judging in four categories: Spicy, Vegetarian, White and Best All Around. There will be prizes for the top chili in each category. Contestant set-up is at 5pm, with doors opening to the Public for tasting from 5:30-7:30pm. Adults are \$5, Children (4years - 12 years) \$3, Children 3 and younger are free.