

Reading the Bible, God's World and Each Other

Of course, there is something higher, deeper, clearer and more authoritative than the words of the printed Bible: The living word of God alive and well and living still beyond the sacred page, who invites us to let him teach us how to read and understand the words printed there. That is one of the several reasons that St. Paul invited, encouraged, exhorted us to have among ourselves "the mind of Christ Jesus."

The Living Christ acts like a pair of corrective glasses which clear away the sinful blur from our damaged minds and hearts so that we can really see and understand what's printed there. The Christ lenses clear away our distorting prejudices, our self-centeredness, our justifications for ourselves and our put-downs of others through which we habitually read and project onto the Bible. The Christ lenses no longer allow us to read the Bible in that old way.

Did you ever get a new pair of glasses and almost get dizzy from the shock of seeing the world in a new way? Did you ever get a set of new glasses and see the world more clearly and colorfully than ever?

That's what happens to our whole lives, when we "put on Christ." We read not only the Bible more clearly, but also see through the propaganda of this world. We also see each other through the corrected lenses of God's love, which means we see each other for the first time and from then on with the eyes of God. We see and take in the precious beauty that God has put there.

This is so much better than trying to navigate life blind!

— Pastor Bill

**Office Hours**

Monday thru Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm until September 12, 2013 when it goes back to Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm and Thursday from 1:00-5:00 pm

To start the **Prayer Chain** for someone in need of prayers call Mary Cordes at 618-465-1760 or 462-0677 ext. 2835 or Marj Bryant at 618-466-5421 or 466-6005.

**ESPC Web Site**

<http://espcalton.tripod.com>

<http://espc.weebly.com>

**LITURGISTS**

**August**

- 4 – Jenny Wyatt
- 11 – Tom Wyatt
- 18- Mary Cordes
- 25 – Chance Shewmake

**USHERS**

August – The Shewmakes

**Please volunteer to usher. It takes more than one, the same ones are doing it over and over, let's everyone take a turn if you are able. A Sign-up sheet is in the sanctuary.**

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

**September 1**

Audrey Stewart, Chr.  
Karen Auston, Mary Cordes,  
Jenny Wyatt (Set-up & Serve)

**October 6**

Nancy Bailey, Chr.  
Tom Wyatt, Becky Saville  
Sandy Krug (Set-up & Serve)

**Special Music for August**

- 4 – Debbie Wallace
- 11 – The Shewmake Family
- 18 – Melissa Hiller (from Encounter)

**ATTENDANCE**

6/16-41, 6/23-27, 6/30-32, 7/7-27  
7/14-27, 7/21-27, 7/28-29

**THANK YOU'S**

Thank you very much for helping me, celebrate my graduation from Alton High School. I love the key chain. *Jamie McLaughlin*

Dear Elm Street, I want to thank you all for the gift, cake and coffee hour that you provided for me and the other graduates. I really appreciate the thought and work that everyone put into it.

*God Bless, Jessica Schultz*

Dear Elm Street, Thank you for honoring my graduation and for the pen, key chain and mug. I particularly enjoy the Bible verses accompanying these items. These will serve as a reminder that God is with me on my college/life journey and of the church I grew up in. Philippians 1:3 says, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you." This will reign true as I start a new chapter of my life. *Thank you again, Jenny Huber*

Dear Elm Street, Thank you very much for the gifts honoring my graduation!

*God Bless! Love, Kaitlyn Gunning*

**BIRTHDAYS**

**AUGUST**

- 3..... Zachary Bryant  
Sandy Krug
- 6..... Sara Keene
- 7..... Timothy Shewmake  
Rev. Ken DeWall
- 9..... Maggie Paddock
- 10..... Mike Wyatt
- 11..... Mary Cordes
- 14..... Carol Jo Domescik
- 15..... Mark Springgate
- 16..... Willanette Ball
- 17..... Jake Brey
- 28..... Kayla Wray
- 30..... Sarah Wyatt Kirkpatrick

**SEPTEMBER**

- 4.....Al Wallace
- 10.....Mark Stone
- 11.....Tyler Trusty
- 21.....Dean Stiegemeier
- 27.....John Kennedy

**OCTOBER**

- 3.....Jeremy Shewmake  
Owen Williams  
Aaron Gunning
- 4.....Charles Tague
- 6.....Jenny Wyatt
- 7.....Katelyn Saville
- 9.....Jeff Auston
- 10.....Michael Stolze  
Sara Lichtsinn
- 11.....Lynne Phelps
- 24.....Carole Springgate
- 27.....Mike Paddock
- 29.....Mark Darr  
Jeannette Greene

If I have missed your birthday, I'm truly sorry. I hope it was a good one. Please, let me know when it was. Marj Bryant

**DEACONS REPORT**

The Deacons will not be meeting during the summer. They are still **collecting empty ink-jet cartridges with printer heads.**

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Plan to continue collecting items for First Fruits of Jerseyville through August.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

A Sunday school class for the preschoolers is being held during the Worship Service when we have children present. A Bible Study is being held on Wednesdays at **6:00 pm.** They are finishing up the study of Isaiah and will soon be starting another one. It will be: "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S.Lewis. The first night they will show the movie called "Shadowlands" also by C.S. Lewis. Everyone is invited.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

The committee has not started the Stewardship Program yet, but has ordered envelopes for the year 2014.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

The committee has many other projects going. The VNA will again be giving flu shots at ESPC and are beginning earlier this year.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

The worship committee met and discussed plans for Special Music for the rest of the summer. Cheri will be gone on August 18 and Rev. Veith will be gone the weekend of October 11, 2013. Choir practice will begin September 5, 2013.

**SESSION INFORMATION**

The Session did not meet in June. They did meet July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Session approved the following:

1. The minutes of all Session meetings.
2. All treasurer's and committee reports.
3. For Molly Allsman to have an exercise class on Saturday mornings in the CE Building for approximately an hour and a half. The Session decided take a free will offering for use of the building at the present time.
4. Elected Tom Wyatt as Presbytery Commissioner for the August Presbytery meeting in Florissant.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**The Outreach Committee** will continue collecting items for First Fruits during the month of August. Items needed are:

- Toilet paper, paper towels, napkins
- Laundry detergent (high efficiency)
- Trash Bags (13 and 55 gallon size)
- Cereal
- Sugar, Self-rising flour, Oil
- Breakfast meats
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Coffee, Salt/Pepper, Ketchup/Mustard
- Pancake mix, Syrup, Jelly
- Household cleaners
- Personal care items (shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc.)

**ENCOUNTER SCHEDULE 2013**

July 27-August 4 – Encounter Tour  
Wisconsin/Chicago

August 11 – Final Performances Main Street  
UMC 4:30 & 7:00 pm

**ENCOUNTER**

Serving God through Music and Christian  
Service

1972-2013 Celebrating Our 40<sup>th</sup> Season  
Will present  
“VICTORIOUS”

Created by: David Moffitt, Cliff Duren &  
Jonathan Crumpton

At

**THE ALTON APHITHEATER**

On Wednesday August 7, 2013 at 7 pm  
Admission – Canned Goods for the Crisis  
Food Center

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**Over 55 MINISTRY – Upcoming Events:**  
**Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** – We will board the Spirit of Peoria paddlewheel boat in Grafton for a 2 hour sightseeing cruise on the Mississippi between Grafton and Alton. We will leave CAPC parking lot at 8:15 am and board the boat for a 9:00 am departure. We return to Grafton where our bus will pick us up and take us to Lockhaven for an elegant buffet luncheon. You have your choice of Baked Salmon or Chicken Marsala with appropriate accompaniments. We should return to Alton by 1:30 pm. Cost all inclusive is \$55.00. Very few spaces remain. Reservations must be in by August 14, 2013

**Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>** – Tour of the refurbished St. Louis Public Library and Peabody Theater, with lunch at the Spaghetti Factory.

**Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>** - The Sheldon to hear Miss Jubilee and The Humdingers followed by lunch at Cedars, the restaurant at St. Raymond Church.

**Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>** – The Museum of the Dog and the Museum of Transportation. Lunch location to be determined.

**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** – St. Louis Symphony for their Christmas Concert.

**The Office will be closed Labor Day**  
**Monday September 2, 2013.**

Human Trafficking Program  
Saturday, September 7, 2013 at 2:00 pm  
United Wood River Presbyterian Church.  
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**What the Pastor says....**

We had a good turnout for prayer.

**What the Congregation hears...**

We had two people besides my wife show.

**What the Pastor says....**

We need a junior high teacher

**What the Congregation hears...**

We believe in human sacrifice

**What the Pastor says....**

This Monday is our church's turn at the rest home

**What the Congregation hears...**

We need people to go who we won't allow to sing or preach in real church.

**What the Pastor says....**

The senior high is having a car wash.

**What the Congregation hears...**

The senior high is having a car scratch.

**What the Pastor says....**

Today I'll be preaching on "Giving"

**What the Congregation hears...**

Today I'll keep you here until you give.

**What the Pastor says....**

We need volunteers for VBS.

**What the Congregation hears...**

We need to remove one of your vital organs.

**What the Pastor says....**

The men are having their third annual wild game feast.

**What the Congregation hears...**

We want you to get food poisoning.

# AUGUST 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Worship 10:00 am Communion	5 8:00 pm AA/Anon	6 9am-3pm VNA training	7 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	8	9	10
11 Worship 10:00 am	12 8:00 pm AA/Anon	13	14 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	15	16	17
18	19 6:30 pm Outreach comm. Meets 8:00 pm AA/Anon	20	21 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	22	23	24 Presbytery meeting
25 Worship 10:00 am Bridal shower CE Bldg. 11-4	26 8:00 pm AA/Anon	27 7 pm Session meets	28 8:15 Over 55 trip 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	29	30	31

# SEPTEMBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Worship 10:00 am Communion	2 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 pm AA/Anon	3	4 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	5 7pm Choir practice	6	7
8 Worship 10:00 am	9 8:00 pm AA/Anon	10	11 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	12 7pm Choir practice	13	14
15 Worship 10:00 am	16 6:30 pm Deacons 7 pm Outreach comm. Meets 8:00 pm AA/Anon	17	18 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	19 Over 55 trip 7pm Choir practice	20	21
22 Worship 10:00 am 12-5 Baby shower CE Bldg.	23 8:00 pm AA/Anon	24 7 pm Session meets	25 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	26 7pm Choir practice	27	28
29 Worship 10:00 am	30 8:00 pm AA/Anon					

*Elm Leaf Prayer Concerns –August & September 2013*

*“Members”*

Esther & Bill Bott  
Nellie Smithee  
Lois Mitchell  
Brent Phelps  
Elaine & Buck Hamer  
Dorothy Waggoner  
June Justice  
Carole Springgate  
Mark Darr

Nancy Bailey  
Michael Stolze  
Brent Phelps

*“In The Nursing Home”*

Pat Gross.....Willow Rose  
Willanette Ball.....Eunice Smith Nsg. Home  
Jeannette Greene.....Warrenton

Relatives and Friends of ESPC

Carol Jo & Don Domescik.....Carole Springgate  
The Reynolds family.....Cherilyn Trusty’s Family  
Kathy Shewmake.....Zada and Chance’s daughter

Mary Brown	Bill Oertle	Bill McClintock
Dave Cordes	Chuck Gable	Gary Ralston
Mary Brinkley	Andy Torrez	Terry Barton
Carol Bryant	Heather Baker	Les Harrawood
Terry Shewmake	Heather Baker	Melanie Welch
Kenny & Elaine Stolze	Doug Waggoner	Dylan Healy
Dale Bailey	Janet Vandegriff	Jennifer Hopkins
Ron Bauser		

All who need prayers not mentioned but are in our hearts.

For ESPC: Courage, Unfailing Strength, Wisdom, Patience and Reinforced Faith

*Please let me know if any of these people can be taken off of our prayer list.*

*Please call the church office at 466-5421*

*Thanks Mari*