

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

March

24 – **Palm Sunday** -Chance Shewmake

31- **Easter Sunday** – Richard Sisk

Liturgists are needed to fill in the open dates. Sign-up sheets are in the sanctuary.

USHERS

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

**April 7 – Chr. Chance Shewmake, Kathy Steinmann, Ann McLaughlin
Richard Hetge (Set up & Serve)**

**May 5 – Marj Bryant, Chr. Audrey Stewart, Jenny Wyatt
Mary Cordes (Set up & Serve)**

**June 2 – Karen Auston, Chr. Nancy Bailey, Becky Saville
Sandy Krug (Set up & Serve)**

ATTENDANCE

1/6-24, 1/13-20, 1/20-28, 1/27-29, 2/3-34,
2/10-32, 2/17-32, 2/24-26, 3/3-34
3/10-25, 3/17-31

NEW ADDRESSES

Caitlin McLaughlin

2313 Old Jacksonville Road
Apartment 4
Springfield, IL 62074

Bill Bott

1373 D'Adrian Professional Park
Apt. 207
Godfrey, IL 62035
Phone: 468-8010

Dorothy Waggoner

St. Clare's Villa Apt. 305
915 E. Fifth Street
P.O. Box 340
Alton, IL 62002

Jeannette Greene

C/O Warrenton Manor Rm. 119
#65 Highway AA
Wright City, IL 63090

June Justice

The Fountains Rm. 120
1000 Airport Road
Godfrey, IL 62035
(check with Marj)

Stephen Wilson

1414 Linden Street
Cheswick, PA 15024-1418

Brent Phelps

5239 Humbert Road
Alton, IL 62002

THANK YOU

What a treat I had when my Christmas cookies came from my friends at church. They were delicious. Many Thanks for remembering me.

Carole Springgate

She also sent many thanks to her church friends for their thoughts, prayers, visits, flowers and cards when she had her knee surgery. That part of her body is pain free now.

Mike Paddock said he really enjoyed the birthday cards he received

Jane Hellrung wants to thank those at ESPC for their heartfelt sympathy cards. They have helped her a lot to work through the loss of her mother.

I want to thank everyone for helping me enjoy my "surprise" 80th Birthday Party. The party not so much of a surprise but of the number that were there and my grandkids from Oklahoma. I am still going through the gifts and cards and writing thank you notes. Thanks and God Bless each and every one of you. *Marj Bryant*

Thanks so much for the Christmas Gift Bag from my ESPC friends. Enjoying all the really nice and useful items it contained. It was such a nice surprise. Also thanks to the "Cookie Bakers" too. All the cookies were delicious and another great surprise. I always appreciate and look forward to the visits from the outreach committee throughout the year. Sincerely, *Dale Bailey*

Received a note from *Jeannette Greene's* niece saying she enjoyed her birthday cards and enjoys the bulletins and Elm Leaf she receives.

Congratulations

2012 -2013 Alton High School Tatler has taken a prestigious honor, The Golden Dozen Yearbook Award. One of the yearbook senior editors was our own *Hannah Auston*. *Hannah* also won first place for Yearbook Layout Design at the Winter Journalism Conference.

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

- 4.....JoAnn Phelps
Elisa Wallace
Jackson Saville
- 9.....Cathy Lister
- 12.....Karen Auston
- 29.....Audrey Stewart
Jessica Schultz
- 31.....William Bott

APRIL

- 3.....Brienne Bonnell
- 10.....Brittany Thatcher
- 20.....Lucy Manker
- 21.....Elizabeth Brey

- 24.....Sarah Williams
- 26.....Harry Fessler
June Justice
- 29.....Laura Schultz

MAY

- 1.....Zada Shewmake
- 6.....Kathryn Jarman
- 9.....Cherilyn Trusty
- 10.....Brian Brey
- 12.....Richard Stolze
- 15.....Brent Phelps
- 18.....Joyce McCormick
Judy Colburn
- 19.....Lynleigh Lichtsinn
- 20.....Matthew Stolze
- 25.....Josie Williams
- 27.....Jerry Wray
- 31.....Pamela Stolze

I know some of these birthdays are over, but save the list for next year and maybe even send a belated card, that would be a nice surprise. 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

CRISIS FOOD CENTER REPORT

ESPC sent over 128 items (including Souper Bowl Sunday collection) to the Crisis Food Center and \$312.85 since reported in our last newsletter. Their goal for 2013 is the same as 2012, to distribute a 5 day supply of nutritionally balanced food and not turn anyone away. The new Buzz Word used by the media is "Food Insecurity". But Hunger is not new; 17 million children in the USA don't know if the next time they are hungry, there will be enough to eat. Here in Madison County 24.2% of young children live in poverty. Without our help CFC could not do all the things they do. They also appreciate the items for the Nearly New Shop. If you use the internet for your shopping please consider using www.gooddearch.com as your search engine. Each search earns CFC a penny. (3.5% of an online Target purchase is donated to the CFC through the Goodsearch site).

DEACONS REPORT

The Deacons are asking you to continue using the green Deacon Fund envelopes found on the shelf in the rear of the sanctuary or write in Deacons on the new envelopes and designate on your check the amount for the Deacons fund or better yet put in separate checks for the Deacons and for your pledge. **And don't forget they are still collecting empty ink-jet cartridges with printer heads.** See Up-coming Events regarding the Spaghetti Supper.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The committee will host a Coffee Hour on April 7, 2013 honoring the March and April Birthdays. They are in the process of updating their Calling List. They will again sell White's coupons beginning in early April.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A Sunday school class for the preschoolers is being held during the Worship Service. A Bible Study is being held on Wednesdays at 700 pm. They are studying the first 35 chapters of Isaiah. Everyone is invited.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

**The Per Capita for 2013 is \$28.25
Per church member.**

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The committee has signed on with First Energy Solutions to obtain lower electric rates, saving us about \$1,000.00 over a three year period. The church and C.E. Building have new roofs without any out of pocket expenses, covered by insurance. The A/C that was stolen has been replaced and the new one protected with a cage.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee met and planned for the Lenten Season. Rev. William Veith will be preaching during this. The Easter Cantata will be sung on Easter Sunday, March 31 during the Worship service.

SESSION INFORMATION

The Session has met several times since the last Elm Leaf. The Session approved the following:

1. The minutes of all Session meetings.
2. All treasurer's and committee reports.

3. The use of the CE Building by the Girl Scouts for their cookie deliveries, the Boy Scouts to make pizzas for them to sell and for the Consolidated Election in April.
4. The Nominating Committee's revamping of the staff's job descriptions and 5% increase in staff's salary.
5. Collect all four of the suggested Presbyterian Offerings, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peacemaking, Pentecost and Christmas Joy.
6. The transfer of the membership of Mark Stone to the Zion church.
7. Sue Bryant as treasurer and Marjory Bryant as Clerk of Session for 2013.

The new slate of officers for Class of 2015 was installed on January 6 and February 3, 2013.

Class of 2015

Elders- Chance Shewmake
Position open
Deacons – Mary Cordes
Sandy Krug
Jenny Wyatt

Class of 2014

Elders – Nancy Bailey
Audrey Stewart
Tom Wyatt
Deacons – John Kennedy
Becky Saville

Class of 2013

Elders – Karen Auston
Marjory Bryant
Kathy Steinmann
Deacons – Richard Hetge
Ann McLaughlin
Pamela Stolze

Committees for 2013

Outreach, Fellowship and Evangelism

Nancy Bailey - Chairperson, Karen Auston – Co-Chair, Deacons – Ann McLaughlin and Sandy Krug

Stewardship

Tom Wyatt – Chairperson, Audrey Stewart – Co-Chair, Deacon – John Kennedy

Buildings and Grounds

Chance Shewmake – Chairperson, Audrey Stewart – Co-Chair, Deacon – Richard Hetge

Christian Education

Tom Wyatt – Chairperson, Deacon – Becky Saville

Worship

Kathy Steinmann – Chairperson, Marj Bryant – Co-Chair, Deacon – Mary Cordes

Personnel

Kathy Steinmann – Chairperson, Chance Shewmake

Nominating Committee

Marj Bryant – Chairperson, Deacon -Pam Stolze – Co-Chair. Members of the Congregation – Jeff Auston, Lyndal Colburn, Richard Sisk and Michael Stolze

UPCOMING EVENTS

Church Women United Lenten Services for 2013
March 27 – Greater St. James Baptist Church
2016 Belle Street, Alton
Preaching – Rev. Jame Hahs of Main Street Methodist Church
Good Friday, March 29 – Unity Fellowship Church 1301 West Delmar Avenue, Godfrey
Preaching – Rev. David Goins of Morningstar Baptist Church

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**Easter Cantata @ ESPC
Sunday, March 31, 2013
During Worship
“How Great Is Our God”**

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**St. Matthew United Methodist Church of Belleville is presenting “The Joy of Easter”
On March 27, 28 & 29, 2013 each night at 7:30 pm.**

Quarter Auction to benefit Behavioral Health Alternatives Saturday, April 6, 2013 at the Wood River KC Hall Doors open at 6:30 pm. First paddle \$5.00, additional paddles \$1.00 each. All in paddle \$25.00 Drinks available for purchase, bring your own snacks.

ENCOUNTER SCHEDULE 2013

March 31-Easter 4:30 & 7:00 pm
Main St. United Methodist Church
April 7 – 6:00 pm
Emmanuel Free Methodist Church
April 14 – To Be Announced
April 21 – 6:30 pm.
St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
May 5 – 6:00 pm
Alton Riverfront Amphitheater
May 19 – 6:00 pm
East Alton First United Methodist Church
June 2 –6:00 pm.
Morning Star Baptist Church
June 9 –6:00 pm.
College Ave. Presbyterian Church
June 23 – 6:30 pm.
St. Matthew’s UMC – Belleville
June 30 – 6:00 pm.
Bethalto Church of God
July 7 – 6:00 pm
St. John’s UMC – Edwardsville
July 14 – 6:00 pm
Vaughn Hill Church of Christ
July 21 – 6:00 pm
St. Ambrose Catholic Church

Vacation Bible School dates and theme have been set. It will be held June 23-27 with a potluck on the 28th from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm The Theme is “Fun Fair For All” and it will be held at the Nature Institute. ESPC will again be in charge of Registration and Attendance and the first few nights we need at least three to do this. There are also many other places where help is needed. If you can help in anyway our next meeting will be Thursday, April 11 at 6:00 pm at ESPC or see Marj.

Deacons Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, April 20, 2013
4:00 – 7:00 pm
Adults - \$7.50
Children (ages 3 to 12) - \$4.00

Elm Leaf Prayer Concerns – Spring 2013

“Members”

Esther & Bill Bott
Nellie Smithee
Lois Mitchell
Brent Phelps
Bob & Doris Watkins
Buck & Elaine Hamer
Dorothy Waggoner
June Justice

“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

Dean Williamson	Mary Brown	Bill Oertle
Dixie Darr	Bill McClintock	— Dave Cordes
Chuck Gable	Gary Ralston	Dave Roberts
Mary Brinkley	Andy Torrez	Terry Barton
Carol Bryant	Heather Baker	Phil Stewart
Les Harrawood	Marcie Fagilia	Megan Lawrence
Melanie Welch	Mia Brueggman	Brady Powers
Vicky & Bernard Dechman.....	Ann McLaughlin’s co-worker	
Becky & Donna.....	Friends of Audrey Stewart	
The family of Martha Fleming		

Healing of ESPC: Courage to move forward, Unfailing Strength, to do so and Wisdom to know how and Reinforced Faith

In Service: -Brandon Medlock and Jesse Wittman –deployed to Afghanistan

**If you know of anyone that can be taken off of the prayer list,
please call the church office and let us know.**