

“Asking for Greater things”

¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 14:12-14 (NIV)

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The Joyful Noise



Here we are over 6,000 miles from Jerusalem, Israel, as the crow flies. It is a great distance from the place where the most wondrous event took place. The place where the sins of humanity were carried to the cross and drip by drip forgiveness purchased in blood. Redeemed by the Son of God as proven by the empty tomb. Jesus is ALIVE and we are FORGIVEN!

Have you ever wondered how the Good News reached you? Did mom or dad teach you? Did grandma or grandpa tell you about Jesus?

Have you wondered how the Good News first came to your family generations ago?

At one time or another in my family, some missionary made it to the cold north of Norway and Sweden. (German and English are in my background too. Mostly Norse though.) Somehow the Good News of Jesus Christ crossed the many miles from Jerusalem to the region of Scandinavia. Then the Faith came to settle in America as my ancestors emigrated.

What this means is that at a time in my family history a missionary brought the Good News. I praise the living God that someone loved enough to endure hardships to cross great distances, braved the weather, and persisted in telling the truth of Jesus Christ. My family was given life, Eternal Life, because of some missionary that had compassion for the lost souls of Scandinavia.

Have you reflected on how the Christian Faith came to live in your soul? Have you ever thought through how the Christian Faith came to be your family's Faith? Someone shared Jesus. Someone at sometime in your life or in your family's history shared Jesus. A missionary brought the Good News to you.

Our Lenten Journey with missionaries has been to inspire our hearts and souls. To fill us with compassion for the lost. To urge us to love the broken. To send us to save souls with dedication and determination because everyone needs JESUS!

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20:18 (NIV)

From Mary Magdalene to the disciples. From the disciples and Apostles to Jerusalem and the regions beyond. From the next generation of believers to the next generation of believers. Through the telling of the GOOD NEWS, great distances were covered and the years were crossed to reach you! The Good News of Jesus Christ reached you!

Now, to whom will you tell the GOOD NEWS?

Jesus is ALIVE!

We are FORGIVEN!

Heaven is OPEN!

Eternal Life with the LORD!

ALLELUIA!!!

In worship and AWE!

Pastor Jeff

Prayer Moment:

Prayer of Trusting in God's heavenly Promise

by St. Augustine (A.D. 354 - 430)

My God, let me know and love you, so that I may find my happiness in you. Since I cannot fully achieve this on earth, help me to improve daily until I may do so to the full. Enable me to know you ever more on earth, so that I may know you perfectly in heaven. Enable me to love you ever more on earth, so that I may love you perfectly in heaven.

In that way my joy may be great on earth, and perfect with you in heaven. O God of truth, grant me the happiness of heaven so that my joy may be full in accord with your promise.

*In the meantime let my mind dwell on that happiness, my tongue speak of it, my heart pine for it, my mouth pronounce it, my soul hunger for it, my flesh thirst for it, and my entire being desire it until I enter through death in the joy of my Lord forever.
Amen.*

Thursday's during Lent

During Lent we will be focusing on Missionaries and how they put their faith into action. The Gospel of Jesus compelled them to proclaim the Good News to a lost and heathen world. They knew by experience the power of the Word of God to transform lives. They burned in their hearts with compassion for the lost and willingly endured much difficulty, sacrificing all, and completely abandoning their lives into the care of Almighty God. And guess what, God did wonders in response to their faith.

Our foundational verses are Luke 18:28 - 30:

²⁸ Peter said to him, "We have left all we had to follow you!"

²⁹ "I tell you the truth," Jesus said to them, "no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰ will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life."

Bring a Friend and both be Inspired towards a deeper walk with Jesus and an enlarged faith in the Power of God.

Building Churches in partnership with Gospel for Asia

We are partnering with Gospel for Asia and raising funds to build churches in Asia. By God's great grace, we have raised funds in 2013 to build one church. Now we are looking forward building a second church and be a blessing for a second Christian community of faith in Asia. Offerings for Ash Wednesday, the five Thursday's of Lent, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are designated to this ministry.

Holy Week Worship Services

Maundy Thursday, April 17th 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday worship service will be traditional with Holy Communion. The service will conclude with the stripping of the altar.



Good Friday, April 18th 7:00 PM

Good Friday worship service will be candle light and contemplative.



Easter

Resurrection Sunday, April 20th

7:30 am	Celebration Worship – Worship with Holy Communion
9:00 am	Easter Breakfast begins serving
9:45 am	Easter Egg hunt begins - (get ready at 9:35 am.)
10:15 am	Celebration Worship – Worship with Holy Communion

Walking in the Word – Tuesday Night
Bible Study will meet April 1st, 22nd,
29th beginning at 7 p.m.



Walking in the Word

Elijah is on the scene. Great wonders from God are being wrought. Chariots of Fire and Elisha will be appearing. Exciting things are found in the Word of God.

Come and share in this faith deepening time together with your brothers and sisters in Christ. We concluded by 8:15 p.m.

Children's Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

Come and enjoy time together in the House of the Lord. Through Bible reading, songs, memory verses, and crafts children will be disciplined in the Faith.



Sunday School

Children's Sunday School will be exploring **Who Jesus Is** this year. We will be studying the names of Jesus from A-Z. We will learn about Jesus' character and power by exploring His titles and adjectives. Join us in learning about Jesus the Creator, Healer, and Teacher and MUCH, MUCH, MORE!

Heather Lee looks forward to each week teaching and discipling the children of Faith in Christ.

Remember Children's Choir is included in this time each week.

Faith in Christ Summer Creative Arts Ministry

Do you have a creative arts skill you would like to pass on to the next generation? Or Can you give an hour a week of your time to just be present and get to know the precious children of the community? No commitment to teach, just be there for them and love them as Christ has loved you.



Summer Creative Arts Ministry is the opportunity for community children who have completed 3rd through 8th grade to learn creative arts, and hang out too. We meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings 10 am till noon through the summer. During Day Camp week FIC Summer Creative Arts takes a break.

Let's get together and love these children into the kingdom of God , for Christ's sake.



Upcoming Events

COMING IN MAY. . .

Watch for more information coming up on our

BLESSINGS IN A BOTTLE

FUNDRAISER

for the Parent Infant Center of
Springfield - start collecting your spare
change today!



Women in Service

Loyal Followers of Christ - (LFC)

Will meet on Friday, April 4th at 12 Noon.

Sewing & Service Circle

Has cancelled the scheduled April meeting. Any future meetings will be advised.

Ruth Circle

Currently not meeting.

Women of Today

Will meet for their regular meeting on Monday, April 21st at 3:00 in the church.



SPECIAL OFFERING DESIGNATION

In your booklet containing your offering envelopes for the year, you will find some envelopes that are designated for specific ministry areas. **ALL** donations placed in these envelopes will be designated for these specific ministry areas. These funds will not be used for “Regular Ministry”, “Building Fund”, “Altar Flowers”, etc. At the same time, **ALL** donations placed in the regular weekly offering envelopes will be used for our usual and customary ministry areas - regular ministry, building, fund, flowers, etc. You must indicate on your regular giving envelopes where you want your donation to go. If you not so indicate then all funds in that envelope will go into our “regular giving” ministry account.

In **2014** our special offerings to date have been designated for the following:

New Year's Prayer - TWIGS ministry to IHN

Ash Wednesday - Gospel for Asia “Build a Church” Program

Lent - Gospel for Asia “Build a Church” Program

In **April** our special offerings will be designated for:

Maundy-Thurs - Gospel for Asia “Build a Church” Program

Good Friday - Gospel for Asia “Build a Church” Program

Palm Sunday - FIC's General Fund

Easter - FIC's General Fund



EASTER FLOWERS

2014

As we have in the past, we are now coordinating efforts to adorn the altar with flowers for Easter. The cost of either a Lily or a Tulip is \$9.00. The numbers of Tulips available is limited so please place your order as soon as possible.

To order please fill out the order blank and return it to the office. Mark "Easter Flowers" on your check or on the envelope.

CHECK WHICH TYPE OF FLOWER YOU PREFER

And Indicate Number of Flowers Ordered:

LILY ☐

TULIP ☐

Please designate the following:

I would like my Easter Flower(s)

in "Honor/Memory" of:

(Circle Which Applies)

Name: _____

From: _____

THE DEADLINE TO ORDER IS

April 6th!



Lord, send me a surprise.

One that catches me off guard
and makes me wonder.

Like Easter.

Send me a resurrection when
everything looks dead and buried.

Send me light when the night seems
too long.

Send me spring when the cold and
frozen season seems endless.

Send me a new idea when my mind
is empty.

Send me a thing to do when I am just
waiting around.

Send me a new friend when
I am alone.

Send me peace when I'm afraid.

Send me a future when it
looks hopeless.

Send me your resurrection when I die, Jesus.

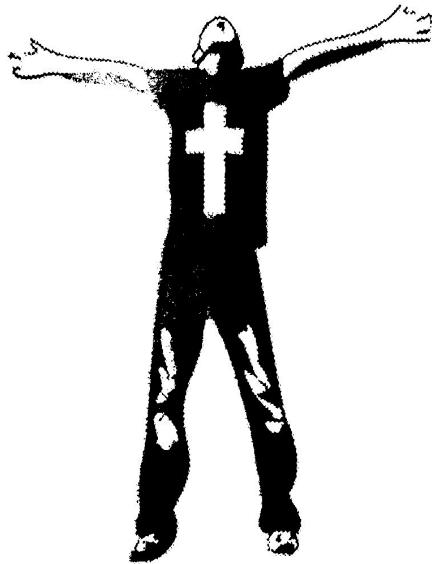


Calling all who love to sing!
We will be "EASTER CAROLING" to our
homebound after worship on
Palm Sunday, April 13.
Please bring a brown bag lunch.
Following the caroling there will be a
pizza party at Dave & Holly's house!



hot breakfast will be made & served by
Faith in Christ's Confirmation Class
on Easter Morning
beginning at 9:00 am.
Bring your friends and family!

"Celebration of FAITH" Service



on Sunday, May 4!

TNT youth will be sharing their faith
through messages, music, and more!
Mark your calendar and join us.
A luncheon will follow the service.

May 4	Parish Nurse Sunday
May 3	TNT Rehearsal
May 4	Pass out baby bottles for Blessings in a Bottle
May 4	TNT Easter Celebration & Luncheon
May 9	Scout Dinner @ FIC
May 24	Private party - fellowship hall
May 25	Food Pantry Sunday
June 1	Parish Nurse Sunday
June 1-7	Fellowship Hall Reserved for Garage Sale Prep
June 3	Feed IHN's Guests
June 6 & 7	Scout Garage Sale @ FIC
June 21	Ice Cream Social @ FIC
June 22	Food Pantry Sunday
June 22`	Return Baby Bottles to church
July 6	Parish Nurse Sunday
July 7	Day Camp Begins
July 14	Teens to Luther Ridge Camp, Tennessee
July 27	Food Pantry Sunday
July 29	Feed IHN's Guests