

News

from  Court Street United Methodist Church

Face-to-Face



³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

³⁷ He said to him, “‘you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:36-40, NRSV

Lent is a time when we attempt to “give up” and “pick up.” We deny ourselves of things that we delight in and we take on new disciplines or activities. All this is motivated by our assumptions about what we think God desires of us, obedience. The prophet Micah proclaims, “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8). Relationship!

Merriam-Webster defines face-to-face as, “being within each other’s sight or presence. In a face-to-face context, both individuals exchange information directly.” Jesus in this text, tells the Pharisees that all the writings of the law and the prophets were summed up in the command to love God and neighbor. Thus they couldn’t merely hold people at a distance by measuring them against the law. They needed to actually put the law into practice, getting their faces out of the scrolls and looking people in the eye. This was the essence of Jesus’ critique of them as people who had “neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith” (Matt. 23:23). Jesus’ warning about the Pharisees is one that we need to hear as well. Yes, we have access to instant information and gratification of our technological age, but at the risk of “forfeiting” authentic relationships characterized by face-to-face love for God and others.

When Jesus says, “You shall love the Lord your God. You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” he is giving us the center and heart of who he is, and he is backing it up with his own life. He didn’t just tell us that God loved us. Jesus showed us. Jesus went to the cross filled with love — he loved the Lord his God with all of his heart, soul and mind, and he loved his neighbors as himself. He loved each of us enough to die for us. And that helps us to know that God loves us and wants a face-to-face relationship with us, with you! “This is why loving God and loving our neighbor is so important. Our love of God informs our love of neighbor, and our love of neighbor offers a holy context to our love of God. This love is who Jesus was, fully human and fully divine, God with a face.”¹

*Grace,
Pastor Cal*

The mission of
Court Street UMC
is to be a
welcoming,
nurturing,
serving
community of Christ.



¹The Grace of Les Misérables, Matt Rawle p.59

The
Chimes

Lay Leadership

**Lay Delegate
to Annual Conference**

Diane Risley
David Risley

**Alternate Lay Delegate
to Annual Conference**

Jeanine Wang

Administrative Council Chair

Joan Tunnell

Staff/Parish Relations Chair

Sue Cram

Finance Chair

Mike Davis

Stewardship Chair

Jeanine Wang

Treasurer

Gene Ferry

Endowment Chair

Mike Davis

Trustee Chair

DuWayne Stanis

Lay Leader

Georgalee George

Nurture & Outreach

Georgalee George

Worship Chair

Joan Tunnell

Local Missions Chair

Helen Gibbons

Christian Education Chair

Diane Lutmer

Arts Committee Chair

Richard Wang

United Methodist Women

Sue Cram

United Methodist Men

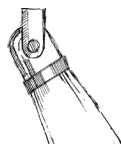
DuWayne Stanis

Jeremiah Ministry Rep

Joan Tunnell

JFON Liaison

Kay Galloway



COURT STREET IN ACTION

1

Nurture & Outreach Committee delivering enough breakfast items to feed 40 guests at Carpenter's Place.

2

Court Street Youth collecting donations for Church World Service (CWS) during this year's Blanket Sunday.

3

Ella Anderson donating peanut butter to Rock River Valley Pantry.



Deborah Circle

Wednesday, April 20

9:30 a.m. @ Stockholm Inn



**Domestic
Violence**

We know that during the pandemic, it was challenging for domestic violence victims in our area to receive help and support. The DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUBCOMMITTEE, part of Nurture and Outreach, will resume our meetings on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH AT 11:00 A.M. in the church library. Anyone is welcome to attend. We will have a general discussion of how we can reach out and support the Peace Center.

In addition, we encourage any of you to write an uplifting comment, a scripture verse or a welcome comment to Court Street United Methodist Church to show and express our love and care for others. The chalk board is outside of the Education Entrance. Chalk is either on the board or in a bucket inside, immediately to the left of the door.

For more information or further questions, call Barb Ferry at (815) 965-6518 or at (815) 621-5580.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, April 27, 2022 | Library @ 11 AM

Like us on

facebook

Follow us on

twitter

See pictures on

www.courtstreetumc.org

170 YEARS OF COURT STREET

Let's Hear it For The Men!

As a movement that was begun by a couple of brothers (Charles & John Wesley), the Methodist Societies, Classes, and Churches were led predominately by men seeking a deep and sincere relationship with God through prayers, study of scripture, and a deep and sincere relationship to Jesus Christ as Lord.

History at Court Street: Until 1968 organized activity among men was mostly a unified activity under the title Methodist Men or so it was often labeled "Men's Club." An executive board proposed monthly meetings and calling, and a contact group saw to it that the list of 55 to 60 men got regular announcements and reminder calls. Each leader would contact a minimum of 5 men. A speaker would be planned for each monthly meeting. The men helped to support youth and children's activities as well as assisting in women's key events like the Mother's Day Banquet. Through the years, the men's club or U.M.M. (after the '68 merger) supported special connectional programs like "Prison Release Ministry" and "The Potato Project." Then as now, Court Street men share in District and some Conference gatherings for worship and fellowship.

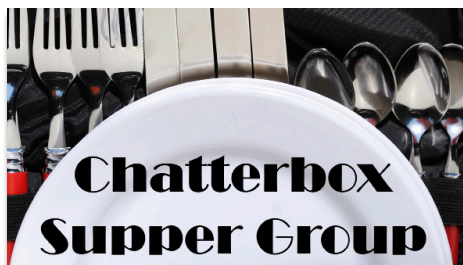


The United Methodist Men now meet on second Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. at Stockholm Inn, and we are always working to welcome any man, young or older, to join our fellowship. A men's reading and discussion group called "The Journeymen" meets in

Rev. Richard A. Wang, History and Archives



THE CHURCH
WILL BE CLOSED
ON MONDAY,
APRIL 18TH FOR
THE EASTER
HOLIDAY



**Chatterbox
Supper Group**
Backyard Grill & Bar
6473 N. Second Street
Loves Park, IL

Thursday, April 14th @ 6:00 p.m.

*All ladies are invited.
Contact Cindy Fisher at
(815) 519-3653 by noon of
the Wednesday before the dinner.*

CSUMC Book Club

All are welcome!

April 24th
@ 2:00 p.m.

*The Last Thing
He Told Me*
by Laura Dave
Simon & Schuster



Contact Diane Risley for more info
at rishouse@juno.com.

Health & Wellness: *From our Parish Nurse, Teresa Field*

Age-related Macular Degeneration: What Is It and Why Would You Want to Know More About It?

It is an eye disease that may get worse over time and this eye disease can be a leading cause of severe permanent vision loss in people over sixty. The retina is the light sensing nerve tissue that we have in the back of our eyes. When the small central portion of this tissue called the macula wears down, we begin to have what's called age-related macular degeneration. This usually does not cause blindness but might cause severe vision problems. Be aware that there is another macular degeneration that affects children and young adults called Stargardt's disease. In this newsletter I will focus on two main types of age-related macular degeneration, which is wet and dry.

Dry form of age-related macular degeneration: People with the dry form may have yellow deposits, called drusen, in their macula. As these deposits may grow bigger and increase in number, they will tend to dim or distort one's vision, and one may notice this more when reading. As the disease may progress, the cells in one's macula get thinner and will eventually die off. One may have blind spots in the center of one's vision, and as it gets worse, one may lose central vision.

Wet form of age-related degeneration: In this form blood vessels start to grow underneath one's macula. These blood vessels can leak fluids and blood into one's retina. The blood vessels and their bleeding will eventually form a scar, which can lead to permanent loss of central vision. At first, one's vision is distorted where

straight lines look wavy. One may also have blind spots and loss of their central vision.

Most people have the dry form. Only about 10% of people get the wet form. However, the dry form can lead to the wet form. What causes age-related macular degeneration besides getting older? There may be a genetic component. If someone in your family has this your risk might be higher. Smoking, having elevated blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, eating lots of saturated fats, being light-skinned, female, and having light colored eyes are also risk factors.



The good news is that a routine eye exam can spot age-related macular degeneration. A doctor can see the tiny yellow spots under the retina or pigment clumping. There are also different tests the eye doctor can use to see which kind of age-related macular degeneration one may have. It is very important to have regular eye exams for these and other conditions, and if one notes changes in their vision to visit the doctor sooner. Treatment can slow the condition and make it less severe. There are even new experimental surgery research on the horizon to help with treatments.

Remember people rarely lose all of their vision from age-related macular degeneration. The dry form tends to get worse slowly. The wet form, which is much rarer (only 10% of people get this form), is one of the leading cause of permanent vision loss. This is why it's so important to get one's eyes examined on a regular basis and to follow the doctor's advice in taking care of oneself.



Someone graduating in your family this year?

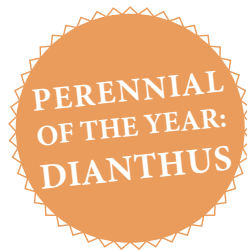
Please submit graduate recognition details and photos to the church office by May 1st. Graduates will be recognized during the Heritage Sunday Service on Sunday, May 22nd.

A Fun Eye Quiz

1. **Staring at a computer all day will ruin your eyes.** False! It may make your eyes tired and give you a headache. Follow the 20–20–20 rule, every 20 minutes take your eyes off the screen, focus on an object 20 feet away for 20 seconds.
2. **If you don't have problems when you read or drive, there is no reason to get your eyes checked.** False! Get an eye exam every one to two years. That's the best way to find problems and get them treated as early as possible.
3. **Which of these damage your eye sight: watching TV in the dark, sitting too close to the TV, wearing drugstore reading glasses, or none of the above?** None of the above.
4. **3-D movies are bad for your eyes.** False!
5. **Is it normal to see significant halos around lights.** False, the key word is significant.
6. **Most of the time, floaters are nothing to worry about.** True—but if you suddenly notice a lot more of them, your vision quickly gets worse, or you see flashes of light, call your eye doctor. Your retina could be torn or detached from the back of your eye.
7. **Sunglasses are like sunscreen for your eyes.** True.
8. **Smoking ups your risk of getting cataracts.** True.
9. **Call your doctor if—A) a blank or blurry spot is in the middle of your vision, B) Tender red bump on the eye lid, C) Eyelid twitch.** The answer is A, but for B and C, call your doctor if it persists and doesn't get better or lasts longer than a week.
10. **Eyesight gets worse as you age.** True—eat well, don't smoke, protect your eyes from sunlight, and get regular checkups.....



Sidewalk Plant Sale
 Friday, May 20th
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



ANNUALS
 PERENNIALS
 HANGING BASKETS
 HERBS & VEGETABLES

AGERATUM
 ALYSSUM
 BEGONIAS
 IMPATIENS
 LOBELIA
 MARIGOLDS
 MOSS ROSES
 PETUNIAS
 ZINNIAS

BEDDING
 PLANTS

 \$21
 PER
 FLAT

PREORDERS DUE A
 TUESDAY P 19
R

Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation

“Come to the Waters”

October 2–7, 2022

Siena Retreat Center (Racine, WI)

Registration ends July 15th.

Register before April 15th to receive Early Bird rate of \$625/ person.
Normal rate is \$700/ person. For more information and to register,
visit umcnic.org/calendar/five-day-academy.



LOCAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE CHIMES REPORT

MARCH 15, 2022

FIRST QUARTER REPORT

Members: Helen GIBBONS-Chairperson, Joanne DILL, Barbara FERRY,
Kay GALLOWAY, Annette GILLETTE, Margaret RHOADS, Susan ZIMMERMAN

LOCAL MISSIONS is pleased to resume our dedication to Rockford Local Mission Work. We are well aware of the terrible impact that this COVID experience has had on our world, country, and local community.

Local Missions Committee is beginning this first quarter of 2022 GRATEFUL. We are grateful because of Faithfulness of our Regular Donors to Local Missions. We are also grateful because we are now able to worship together in our beautiful sanctuary.

Your caring and extreme generosity is beyond words and WE THANK YOU AGAIN. Please CONTINUE to STAY SAFE AND WELL. Please continue to MAIL IN your donations to the LOVE OFFERING ACCOUNT as you have so faithfully done. The church office will CREDIT your account as usual.

LOVE OFFERING Balance on 09/29/2022 – (\$929.35) (Before the deducted donations below).
(Quarterly Donations to the community are made FROM THE LOCAL MISSIONS ACCOUNT)

Local Missions Donations to be made by March 31, 2022

\$ 50.00	Boys and Girls Club of Rockford	\$ 50.00	Rockford MELD
\$ 50.00	Carpenter’s Place	\$ 50.00	Rock House Kids
\$ 50.00	CASA	\$ 50.00	Rockford Rescue Mission (Pitney Place)
\$ 50.00	Children’s Home and Aid	\$ 100.00	Rock River Valley Food Pantry
\$ 50.00	Goldie B. Floberg Center	\$ 50.00	Veteran’s Drop-In Center
\$ 50.00	Habitat For Humanity	\$ 50.00	Rockford Urban Ministries
\$ 50.00	Life Scape (Meals-On-Wheels)		
\$ 50.00	RAMP		
\$ 50.00	REMEDIES		

\$ 800.00

Total LOCAL MISSIONS Donations March 31, 2022

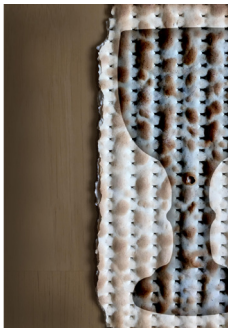
(Helen Gibbons-Chairperson)

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 10

Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 14

The Living Last Supper

by Ruth E. Schram

Video Service Online

Good Friday

Friday, April 15

Tenebrae Worship Service

Chapel at 12:00 p.m.



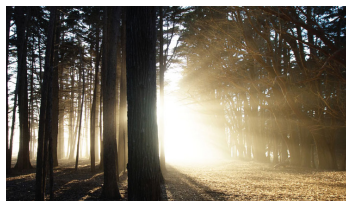
Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 17

Resurrection Celebration

Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

~~SONG~~ ~~Worship~~
Sanctuary at 6:15 a.m.



From The Green Committee

Some thoughts and actions to consider during Lent for helping to take care of our Earth.

- Neither Paper Nor Plastic:** bring your own cloth bags with you when shopping. You can cut down on the 350 bags the average American uses each year and reduce marine life deaths caused by plastic bags that end up in streams, rivers, and oceans.
- Bring Your Own Bottle (BYOB):** Last year Americans went through about 50 billion plastic water bottles. When reasonable, use a reusable water bottle. If plastic water bottles must be used, be sure to recycle them appropriately. The bottles and caps are often different types of plastics. If you have a place to recycle the caps appropriately, like we do at Court St. UMC (in the container in the Narthex), then do that. Otherwise, the bottled water companies are suggesting that you recap the bottles before putting them in the recycle bins.
- Go For Seconds:** Recycling doesn't just mean separating out your recyclables but considering second uses for some of the items you might be recycling. Perhaps the "doggie bag" or take-out container you brought home from a restaurant could be reused for sending home leftovers to a visitor or taking food to a friend or family member.
- Get Off Mailing Lists:** If you are receiving catalogs from companies you never buy from, call the company and insist they take you off their mailing list. If you receive mail from agencies you do not wish to support or hear from, the Post Office says you can write ANK (Addressee Not Known) or Refused, Return on any such unopened mail and put it back in your mailbox or any mail drop for the USPS to handle.



Court Street United Methodist Church
 The Chimes April 2022
 215 North Court Street
 Rockford, IL 61103-6897

Return Service Requested

Phone: (815) 962-6061 Fax: (815) 962-9754
 www.courtstreetumc.org

Thank you for volunteering!

April 3, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Natalie Urness
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

April 10, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Stan Tunnell
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Lili Breson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

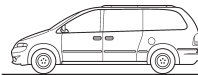
April 17, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Tim Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Ella Anderson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

April 24, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Kaylee Bulliner
 Liturgist: Rev. Norma Lee Barnhart

If you wish to receive The Chimes electronically or to be removed from this mailing, please call the church office at (815) 962-6061 or e-mail Communications@courtstreetumc.org.



Need a Ride to Church?

Riders, please call drivers for a ride by 6 p.m, on the Saturday before the Sunday you wish to attend.

Riders must wear a mask, be fully vaccinated, and able to show their vaccine card to the driver if requested.

04/03/22	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444
04/10/22	Tim Gorman	815-636-0514
04/17/22	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479
04/24/22	Tim Gorman	815-636-0514
05/01/22	Curly Thompson	815-988-2735

Please thank these men for making this ministry work!

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Calvin Culpepper	Pastor	ext. 220	cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org
Ryanne Ludington	Director of Christian Education		ludingtonryanne@gmail.com
James L. Crow	Director of Arts Ministries	ext. 209	jlcrow@live.com
Krysta Tilges	Director of Video Ministries		ktilges@gmail.com
Jack Armstrong	Director of Music	ext. 221	gogo234@att.net
Andrew Mertenich	Organist		andrew.mertenich@gmail.com
Teresa Field	Parish Nurse		Teresabsf5@yahoo.com
Verlette Gorman	Church Administrator	ext. 202	ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org
Tiffany Wilken	Publications Secretary	ext. 200	Communications@courtstreetumc.org
Bert Cromwell	Nursery		
Mike Smith	Maintenance Engineer	ext. 295	Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays

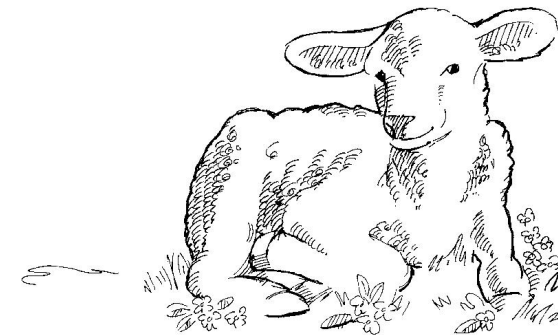
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Stanicek, Kathleen	1	Tropp, Jason	19
Toalson, Kirby	1	Morse, Dillan	20
Mertzenich, Andrew	2	Crawford, Boden	21
Woods, Cindy	2	Crow, Andrew	22
Ryan, Geri	3	Zantow, Marvin	22
Smith, Destini	3	Justice, Gordon	24
Culpepper, Cambron	4	Weiss, Donald	24
Scheffel, Jeremy	5	Crahan, Caryl	25
Nelson, Sally	6	Swenson, Karen	25
Regnier, Michele	6	Kant, Marie	26
Mann, Stephanie	8	King, Brandt	26
Armstrong, Eve	9	Parke, Amanda	26
Whitmore, Rachel	9	Bulliner, Kaylee	27
Powell, Dorothy	12	Diodan, Fernande	27
Rodgers, Danielle	12	Mott, Gregory	27
Miller, Amanda	13	Fulton, Carrie	28
Armstrong, Fern	14	Mott, Sarah Ann	28
Woods, Heidi Ann	15	Deleon, Melissa	29
Froeber, Brianne	16	Ferry, Eugene	29
Jones, Christine	18	Johnson, Bruce	29
Tunnell, Joan	18	Rhoads, Ray	29
Enderly, Steven	19	Wang, Jeanine	29
Pearson, Lawrence	19	Palmer, Gregory	30
Pearson, Michael	19		
Shindel, Nancy	19		

Wedding Anniversaries

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Married</u>
Rupp, Paul and Ashley	21	2012	10
Justice, Gordon and Julie	27	1957	65

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 1:29, NIV







Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of:

Marilyn Riggs Schmauss,
who died on February 18, 2022

Leroy Davis,
who died on February 21, 2022

Robert Henbest,
who died on March 17, 2022

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	2 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
3 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Lenten Study	4 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	5 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Jubellation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service 4:00 PM Worship Committee	7 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Stewardship Team 10:00 AM UMW Leadership Team 1:00 PM The Journeymen	8 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	9 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 8:30 AM United Methodist Men Breakfast
10  PALM SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Lenten Study	11 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	12 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 5:30 PM Trustees 6:00 PM Jubellation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service	14  MAUNDY THURSDAY "Living Last Supper" Online Video Service 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen 6:00 PM Chatterbox Supper Group	15  GOOD FRIDAY CHIMES DEADLINE CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Good Friday Tenebrae Service	16 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 9:00 AM ECHO Ringers
17  EASTER SUNDAY SONrise Easter Service – Cancelled 10:00 AM Easter Celebration Worship Service	18 CHURCH CLOSED FOR EASTER OBSERVANCE	19 GARDEN BAZAAR ORDERS DUE 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Jubellation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	20 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 5:30 PM No IL Wood Turners	21 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	22 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	23 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
24 10:00 AM Worship Service 2:00 PM CSUMC Book Club	25 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	26 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Jubellation 6:15 PM Knitting Group 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 11:00 AM Domestic Violence Subcommittee	28 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Jeremiah Exec. Board 1:00 PM Chimes stuffing 1:00 PM The Journeymen	29 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	30 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment