

News

from  Court Street United Methodist Church

Memorial

⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a **memorial** to the people of Israel forever.” **Joshua 4:7, NIV**

Human beings like to remember things, special things, and they do so in remarkably creative ways. And so we come to Memorial Day, a day to remember. Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country’s armed forces. The holiday, which is observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service.¹ Yet for many, it’s simply a day off work, a holiday, and each year the people that gather in cemeteries to honor the dead get a little smaller.

People of faith should appreciate a biblical perspective on memorials and the importance of remembering. Take a look at Joshua 4:4-7. It refers to a memorial: “Then Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. Joshua said to them, ‘Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, “*What do those stones mean to you?*” then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a **memorial** forever.’” The people of Israel were on the final leg of their journey to the Promised Land after fleeing from slavery in Egypt. One final barrier lay before them: the Jordan River. This was an event worth memorializing, and God told Joshua to have one man from each of the 12 tribes take a stone from the riverbed and carry it onto the riverbank on the side of the newly entered territory, the Promised Land. There, Joshua heaped the 12 stones up as a **memorial** – a monument – to commemorate God’s intervention, parting the river for them.

But here is a key insight: The meaning of past events can’t be quite the same for us as for those who lived through them. So our job is not to force our kids to bow at our memorials, *but to do what we can to help them understand why they have meaning for us!* We can help them see our piles of stones, both literal and figurative ones, as memorials or at least milestones on the journey of life with God!



*Grace,
Pastor Cal*

¹ www.Wikipedia.com

The Chimes

The

The mission of
Court Street UMC

is to be a
welcoming,
nurturing,
serving
community of Christ.



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

Tim Gorman

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 Women in Faith

Sue Cram

United Methodist Men

DuWayne Stanis

Jeremiah Ministry Reps

Kay Galloway
Krysta Tilges

JFON Liaison

Kay Galloway



ROCKIN' ROCKFORD REVIVAL 2023



...revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you!

Psalm 85:6

JOIN US THIS SUMMER

Monday through Friday, August 7 – August 11

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary

Different Speaker & Special Music from Guest Musicians Each Night
FREE Admission

Like us on

facebook

Follow us on

twitter

See pictures on

www.courtstreetumc.org



COURT STREET IN ACTION



**Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful – Great American Cleanup Event
Saturday, April 29, 2023**



**Court Streeters posing with mosaic towers (corner of Haskell & Fisher).
Coronado Haskell Neighborhood**

PRESERVE THE PAST, INVEST IN THE FUTURE

Members & Friends:

The first four weeks of the Capital Improvements Campaign have been promising.

Here are the results so far:

Pledges:	49
Pledge Amount:	\$258,540
Pledge amount received:	\$105,852
Pledge Amount by year:	

<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
\$150,334	\$60,253	\$47,953

WE ARE HALF WAY TO OUR FINAL GOAL!

If you haven't pledged yet, you still have time. LET'S KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING!!

The Capital Improvement Campaign Committee

The Chimes



Geri Ryan with Tower Bell



Tower Bell being Moved

“OUR BELL”

By O.L. Shaw

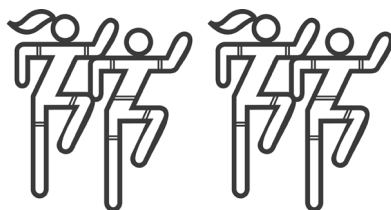
Reproduced from the October 31, 1946 *Chimes*

Did you ever see the bell in the tower? Well, the rector recalls looking it over when it rested on heavy timbers in front of the church and seemed very large. To freshen his memory he climbed the belfry the other day and with our caretaker took some measurements. It stands 4 ft. 3 in. high, the diameter is 4 ft. 10 in., and the circumference at the base is 15 ft. 2 in.

There is a large wooden wheel at the side, over which the bell rope passes, that is 9 ft. in diameter. There is an inscription reading: “Presented by Charles Fletcher and wife to the Court Street M.E. Church, A.D. 1892, Meneely & CO., West Troy, New York.” Inasmuch as the church was dedicated in 1887 it will be seen that for five years our congregation was called to worship by the bells of other churches. The heavy financial burden of building a parsonage in 1884 and the church soon after, at a combined cost of \$82,000.00, was quite a strain on the congregation and the purchase of the bell was left for later consideration.

At a meeting of the official board the matter was being discussed when Mr. Fletcher arose and asked the members if they really wanted a bell. The answer was in the affirmative and he said, “Very well, I will give you a bell.” This gift probably represented the greatest sacrifice made by any family in the church. Mr. Fletcher was not a moneyed man. He was a market gardener owning several acres just north of the present site of the Poor Clares Convent. In those days potatoes sold for forty to fifty cents per bushel, sweet corn brought ten cents a dozen, three for a quarter, and melons were five and ten cents each, provided there were any left after the boys had helped themselves. To save from \$1500.00 to \$2000.00 from

CONTINUED →



During the Month of
June

The Exercise Class Will Meet on

Mondays

9:30 AM in the Dining Room



ECHO Ringers present

June Medley

Sunday, June 11

Concert begins at 3 p.m.
SecondFirst Church
(318 N. Church Street)

such sales meant a staggering amount of work and planning. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher were very happy over the gift, however, and never regretted their action.

Mr. Walter Keyt, 815 Ashland Avenue, tells an interesting story regarding the installation of the bell (Mr. Keyt and his uncle, David Keyt, were the architects and builders.). He had the runways and hoists built and a force of men to do the work. The bell was swung into place and properly anchored. The men were all cautioned to keep hands off. Mr. Fletcher had ordered that the bell was not to be sounded until the formal ringing Sunday morning. One overly enthusiastic workman said, "Let's see how she sounds," and with that dealt a deafening blow with a hammer that he was holding. Simultaneously with his strike, the head of "Daddy" Fletcher (as he was endearingly called) popped up through a trap door. The conversation that followed is not recorded. Mr. Keyt added that anything we might say regarding Mr. Fletcher's qualities would not be amiss. He was a fine typical Christian gentleman. It is known that from 1896 to 1937 that the bell was rung every Sunday for worship services. After 1937 the bell was only rung on New Year's Eve.



Tower Bell in Its Current Location, Narthex



Detail of Tower Bell's Inscription



Sunday, June 4, 2023

Lili Breson, Kaylee Bulliner, Layla Lutmer

⁶ Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷ Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

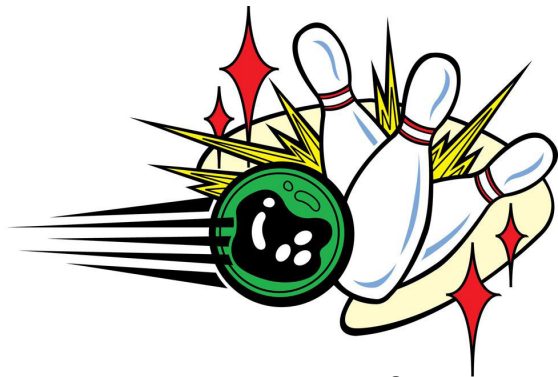
**Deuteronomy
6:6-7, NRSVUE**



Sunday, June 11, 2023

Children's Day has become a fun annual tradition in which our youngest members help to lead the congregation in worship.

Join us as we celebrate our children and youths and their accomplishments this year, particularly recent graduations from 5th grade, 8th grade, high school, and college.



***Court Street UMC
Summer Bowling Social***

**Sunday, July 16, 2023
Don Carter Lanes
12:30 PM**

**Bring Your Friends, Bring Your Family
More Details to Come**



June Greetings from the Scrip Committee!

We would like you to keep our selection of Scrip cards in mind for any Spring events (graduation parties, Father's Day, etc.) that you may have planned. Also, we have cards for home improvement and yard work (Lowe's, Menards, The Home Depot). Please stop by our table and one of us will be pleased to assist you in purchasing gift cards to meet your needs (groceries, restaurants, gasoline, movies, and more!). If you have never purchased one of our gift cards check us out to see what we have! Thank you for helping us to help meet the church's needs.

See you on Sunday, or you can stop by the office and pick up or order cards.



**Lino's
5611 E. State Street**

**Thursday, June 8th @ 6:00 p.m.
All ladies are invited.**

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



Waffles & Worship

**Sunday, June 25th
Dining Room at 8 AM**

Volunteers Needed!

Many hands make light work, and Waffles & Worship needs folks to work in the kitchen and dining room from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., particularly with after-service cleanup.

June 2023

UWF
Summer Picnic

Town Center at Wesley Willows
Wednesday, June 7, 2023
11 AM

RSVP to Donna Dow
(815) 963-3020



CSUMC Book Club



June 25 at 2 p.m.

The Return

by Nicholas Sparks

GRAND CENTRAL PUBLISHING

Karen Brown's Home
4131 Windy Ridge Trail

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

JUNE 17, 2023 @ 9 AM
ALL MEETING

The past three congregational meetings have brought forward many ideas for our future. The initial results for the Capital Improvements Campaign are being tallied, what is the next step for our congregation? Where are we in the plans that have been discussed so far? Do we need to redefine our path?

What is important to you as we map out our future? The time is now to continue our conversation! Please join us on Saturday, June 17th at 9 a.m. in the dining room.

Your voice is important to us as we move forward in faith.



**Blessing
of the
Pets**



Wednesday, June 14
5:30 PM



Court Street United Methodist Church
 The Chimes June 2023
 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!

June 4, 2023

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

June 11, 2023

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

June 18, 2023

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
 Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Kaylee Bulliner
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

June 25, 2023

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

Livestream Techs: Krysta Tilges &
 Ella Anderson

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.

06/04/23	Curly Thompson	815-988-2735
06/11/23	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479
06/18/23	Tim Gorman	815-636-0514
06/25/23	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444
07/02/23	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		
Bill Kint	Maintenance Engineer		Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Fulton, Ella	2	Lipphardt, Emma Jean	19
Manson, Jean	2	Jackson, Tammy	21
Eichelberger, Dennis	3	Scanlon, Hunter	21
Adam, Barbara	6	Doran, Nancy	22
Deleon, Kaiden	6	Liddell, Karen	22
Kahe, Nathacha	6	Miller, Nicholaus	23
Livingston, Katelyn	7	Druce Jones, Dillon	24
Urness, Dessie	7	Thies, Charlie	26
Hoople, Erin	9	Gibbons, Helen	27
Ciabatti, Jacob Ryan	12	Noble, Gary	27
Groene, Larry	13	Gilmore, Colleen	28
Whipple, Robert	14	Galloway, Kay	29
Wollstadt, Loyd	14	Sernas, Paul	29
Rodriguez, Manuel	17	Paulson, Cristina	30
Bragori, Emmanuel	18		
Miller, June	18		
Monroe, Delbert	18		

Wedding Anniversaries

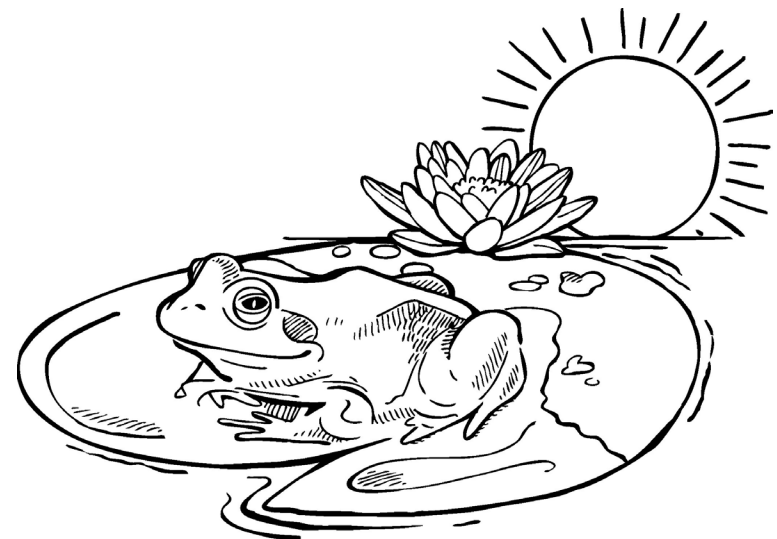
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Married</u>
Johnson, Brian and Martha	3	1978	45
Swansbro, Donald and Charlene	4	1964	59
Brown, Sara and Matthew	10	2004	19
Urness, Dessie and Dustin	11	2022	1
Wang, Richard and Jeanine	17	1990	33
Hagele, Carolyn and Eric	22	2013	10
Tunnell, Stanley and Joan	23	1972	51
Stanis, DuWayne and Nancy	25	1960	63
Philbrick, Jack and Jamalynn	28	1959	64
Gibbons, James and Helen	29	1974	49
Lutmer, Robert and Diane	30	1979	44

Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of








Janie Lucille Hardy who died on March 11, 2023

Joanne Elaine Swinson who died on May 15, 2023

Karen A. Swenson who died May 22, 2023



June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	2	3 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
4  10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities	5 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Exercise Class	6 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters	7  8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 11:00 AM UWF Summer Picnic @ Wesley Willows	8 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen 6:00 PM Chatterbox Supper Group	9	10 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 8:30 AM United Methodist Men Breakfast
11  10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities 03:00 PM ECHO Ringers June Medley Concert @ SecondFirst Church	12 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Exercise Class	13 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 5:30 PM Trustees	14  8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 4:00 PM Worship Committee 5:30 PM Blessing of the Pets	15  CHIMES DEADLINE 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	16	17  ALL-CHURCH MEETING 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 9:00 AM All-Church Meeting
18  10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities	19 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Exercise Class 4:00pm Finance Committee 5:00pm Administrative Council	20 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters	21 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 5:30 PM No IL Wood Turners	22 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	23	24 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
25 08:00 AM Waffles & Worship 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities 02:00 PM CSUMC Book Club	26 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Exercise Class	27 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 1:00 PM Knitting Group	28 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	29 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	30	