



THE OAKS



Riverton First United Methodist Church

MAY 1, 2009

Pastor's Letter



May is a good month for memories, a time of remembering, so please indulge me. May first is May Day. To people like me that brings back thoughts of May Baskets. In my childhood days, children, especially girls, would gather flowers--wild and otherwise-- to place in little baskets or other contrived containers, and present the packages to others as a gift of affection or of celebration that Spring had finally come and flowers were blooming. Being a boy, I wasn't as enthused about the tradition, but I had five older sisters, so I was drug along on their adventures of gathering and delivering flowers. It didn't kill me, and I look back on it now with a smile. Those May baskets were acts of kindness and love, and we can all use plenty of that.

May Day means other things as well. It is a cry of distress, equivalent to SOS. If an airplane is going down, we may hear, "May Day! May Day!" May Day was also the day of the parades in the old Soviet Union during the Cold War. The whole world was treated to images of tanks, rockets and various other weapons as they were drawn through the streets of Moscow. I'm glad those tense Cold War days are over. May your May Days and your days in May be filled with flowers and kindness, not distress and weapons.

May is also the month for Mother's Day and Memorial Day. Those are both times of remembering as well. On the second Sunday in May (May 10 this year) we remember to appreciate the women who gave us life, cared for us, and loved us no matter what. If your mother is living I hope you will honor her especially this day and month. If your mother is gone from this life, join me in remembering what a blessing she was when we she was with us. Mothers were one of God's truly great creations.

On Memorial Day we remember those who gave their lives in service to our country. Some of those were our relatives and ancestors. All of them were someone's child, someone's sibling, someone loved and missed. I remember the flags flying high all around the cemetery outside my hometown on Memorial Day. It was an impressive sight. It stirred my feelings of patriotism and appreciation. Now I also appreciate it because it decorates the area where several members of my family are buried. I will remember them as well this Memorial Day.

If you are still reading, thank you for indulging me in my reverie of memories about May. I hope I have stirred up some memories in your mind as well. It is good to remember and appreciate. May God bless you with good memories and pleasant days this May.

Pastor Jonathan Dixon

The May Riverton United Methodist Women

When: May 12th

What: The monthly meeting of women of the United Methodist Church Of Riverton and any friends they wish to bring with them.



Who: All women may come

Program: Ellen Dixon

Refreshments: Jo Eyer and Ellen Dixon

Where: In the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm

Topic: We will be exploring the History of the Love Feast



If you have any questions contact Ellen at gramto6@sbcglobal.net or call her at 691-7676.



June – the United Methodist Men will be teaching the classes so our Educators can have a break time. Thanks to our Men!!!!

These classes will be in the Fellowship Hall with some possible time in our great lawn and/or the Pavilion directly behind the Church building.

Sunday School happens when the Worship time ends (approximately 10:30) to 11:30.

June 7th the Teachers are invited to be part of the Scripture Seekers class taught by Grace Carriker in the main level Sunday School room in the north side of the Denkert Room off the main sanctuary.

June 14th will be a class for all adults in that same room but we are giving Grace the week off for her spiritual restoration.

June 21st Mr. Ken Runkle will be our guest teacher on the Gifts of the Spirit. This will be in the same room as previous weeks.

June 28th will be the follow-up class from the class taught by Ken. It is our own self study part. This will also happen in the North part of the Denkert Room.

The theme of the Christian Education this calendar year is **Love Your Neighbor**. Special projects are being done and considered by the classes.

June 14th through the 18th is the **Vacation Bible School** that we team up with the St. James Catholic Church. This will be in the evening with the usual format of suppers at St. James before the beginning of the evening activities.

It is a Jungle theme, so be putting these dates on your calendar and think of how you want to contribute to this time for the children and youth of our towns.

Contact Barb Lucas if you have ideas or want to volunteer.

Ellen Dixon- Christian Education Director

Youth Group

The Youth Group will be participating in a 30-hour Famine to raise money for World Vision to help hungry children around the world. We will begin our famine at midnight on Friday, May 16, 2009 and end at 6 am on Sunday, May 18, 2009. On Sunday, May 10, 2009, the youth will auction off 4 hours of their famine (auctioned off in 2 hour blocks of time) to members of the church to: provide spring cleaning, complete requested tasks for the individual, and for individuals that win the auctions. The youth will be serving breakfast to the congregation on Sunday, May 18, 2009 at 8 am to celebrate the end of their famine.

Forget when an event is happening? Check the OAKS

Online at www.rivertonfirstumc.org



Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks

We can't say enough thanks to so many people that do so many things in our Church but here is a start:

- ❖ To all those who helped fill the Card Shower Easter Baskets for Frances, June, Blakleys and Morris'. They were truly enjoyed!
- ❖ To Barb and Mike for filling the Easter Eggs and all who helped with supplies and a bonus of the youth Sunday School class for facilitating the hunt.
- ❖ To Ralph Shank for the updated website with the current (as well as past) Oaks Newsletter being able to be viewed.

www.rivertonfirstumc.org

- ❖ To all who create our wonderful Oaks Newsletter and specifically acknowledge Blair Stoneburner and David Bumgardner. It is a superb addition to our church services!
- ❖ To all who help the Scripture Seekers (Adult Sunday School class) with their supporters at the Inner City Mission on the 3rd Sunday at 5pm each month.
- ❖ To Carly Shank for directing our talkative choir with such finesse' and grace i.e. patience.
- ❖ To Judy and Doris for handling the Scrip program.
- ❖ To Doris for our coffee Sunday mornings in the Denkert Room Parlor.

FRANCES KRUPHAUPT

WILL CELEBRATE HER 95TH BIRTHDAY ON FRIDAY
MAY 15TH WITH A FAMILY DINNER
AND CARD SHOWER. CARDS MAY BE
SENT TO:

95th



1036 LINCOLN STREET
RIVERTON, IL 62561

May 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 AM Youth	4 7:00 PM Board of Trustees	5 6:00 PM Bible Study	6 6:00 PM Mother-Child Banquet	7	8	9 7:30 AM United Methodist Men
10 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School Mother's Day and Covenant Sunday	11 6:30 PM Finance Committee 7:15 PM Administrative Council	12 7:00 PM United Methodist Women	13	14	15	16
17 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Youth Group	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	25 Memorial Day 	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School						



PRAYER FOR YOU AND ME



I WOULD LIKE TO CHALLENGE US TO MORE PRAYER AS THIS IS SO BENEFICIAL FOR US, OUR FAMILIES, OUR FRIENDS AND THOSE WE SEE ON A REGULAR BASIS.

IDEAS CAN COME FROM OUR BULLETIN WE GET EACH WEEK.

- † PRAY FOR EVERY NAME YOU SEE IN YOUR BULLETIN THAT WEEK.
- † UTILIZE THE PRAYER LIST THAT IS PROVIDED AND ADD THE REQUESTS THAT ARE GIVEN OFF THE PRAYER SHEET THAT COMES FROM THE BACK TABLE.
- † PRAY FOR THE ACTIVITIES THAT ARE SCHEDULED FOR THAT WEEK, LIKE THE YOUTH OR THE UMM.
- † PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE ENCOURAGED TO GO TO SOME OF THE MEETINGS AND ASK IF YOU NEED TO CALL THEM OR GIVE THEM A RIDE.
- † PRAY HOW YOU COULD BE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST. IS IT TIME TO CALL THEM OR SEND A NOTE?
- † PRAY FOR YOURSELF THAT YOU WILL LISTEN MORE AND ENJOY GOD EVEN MORE. WE NEVER CAN DO THIS ENOUGH. GOD LOVES US SO VERY MUCH!

BY ELLEN DIXON YOUR LAY SPEAKER

VBS NEEDS YOUR

!!! HELP !!!

This summers Vacation Bible School needs craft and food supply donations. Please see the list below or at the back of the sanctuary next time you attend church. VBS is scheduled for June 14th.

We will also need empty paper towel rolls (75 total). Bring them to church instead of throwing them away! Your donations are sincerely appreciated. The VBS staff.

75 EMPTY paper towel roles; for crafts	4 rolls of sugar cookie dough
1 bag of chocolate chips	1 1/2 gallons of ice cream
1 bottle chocolate syrup	40 bananas
4 cans frozen orange juice 10 8oz containers whipped topping	2 boxes Cheerios
2 bags plain M&M's	4 bags Swedish fish
2 bags banana chips	2 bags mini marshmallows
4 cans biscuit dough	1 jar cinnamon
1 box of raisins	10 packs unsweetened drink mix
3 5lb bags sugar	100 dessert sized paper plates
100 bowls	50 clear plastic punch cups
200 small drinking cups	200 napkins



RIVERTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.RIVERTONFIRSTUMC.ORG



THE OAKS

Deadline for next issue is
Sunday, **May 17, 2009**
E-mail articles to
newsletter@rivertonfirstumc.org



Looking Ahead

- May 6 Mother-Child Dinner
- May 10 Mothers Day
- May 25 Memorial Day
- June 3-6 Annual Conference at Peoria Convention Center
- June 14-18 Vacation Bible School
- June 21 Fathers Day
- September 13 United Methodist Women Sunday

- October 24 Chili Supper
- October 31 Trunk-er Treat
- November 8 United Methodist Men Sunday
- November 22 Community Thanksgiving Service

SCRIP CALENDAR

SCRIP - ORDER DAY	SCRIP - PICK-UP DAY
May 3, 2009	May 10, 2009
May 17, 2009	May 24, 2009
May 31, 2009	June 7, 2009
June 14, 2009	June 21, 2009

