

August 1, 2014

The Oaks



Riverton First United Methodist Church, (217) 629-9721

SCRATCHINGS FROM THE DIXON PENCIL

I wrote here last month about our church being founded 140 years ago, in 1874. Today I want to continue that theme, with things that have happened in our era. Besides our beginning, 1874 saw the birth of Herbert Hoover and Winston Churchill, who went on to become world leaders. The poet Robert Frost was also born that year. We were in good company.

By 1877 the fledgling congregation was ready to erect a building, so that is the year listed on our cornerstone near the front door. That was also the year the phonograph was invented by Thomas Edison; one year after Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone; two years before invention of the microphone; two years after Remington started producing typewriters and electric lights were introduced. We have lived through the era of growing and changing technology ever since.

The building raised in 1877 was just north of our present one, about where the telephone company building now stands. While at that spot we added the word "First" to our name, the same year Marconi invented radio. We and technology marched on.

By 1908 the congregation had grown so much that it needed to remodel and add on to the facility. The project was extensive enough that the year was added to the cornerstone. That was also the year of the introduction of the Model T by Ford and the formation of General Motors. A parking lot was clearly in our future.



In 1924 that wood frame building burned. Almost immediately construction was begun on the brick one we still occupy, accounting for the latest date on our cornerstone. So this is the 90th year of our present building as well as the 140th year of the congregation.

Our world, our church and our community have changed greatly in 140 years. As we remember and celebrate, let us recommit ourselves to preserving our heritage and providing for the future.

Pastor Jonathan Dixon

RFUMC Calendar – August 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					August 1-3 Mission U for UMW	
3 9:30 AM Worship with Missionary, Connie Wieck; 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class	4	5 7:00 PM Trustees	6 9:00 AM Quilting	7	8 Summer Lunch Pro- gram ends	9
10 9:30 AM Wor- ship; 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study; 6:30 PM Finance and Ad- ministration Meeting	11	12 7:00 PM United Methodist Women	13 9:00 AM Quilting; 9 – 12 CLM at Church; 6:00 PM Bible Study	14	15	16
17 9:30 AM Wor- ship; 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	18	19 6:00 PM United Methodist Men	20 9:00 AM Quilting; 9 – 12 CLM at Church; 6:00 PM Bible Study	21	22	23
24 9:30 AM Wor- ship; 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class	25	26	27 9:00 AM Quilting; 9 – 12 CLM at Church; 6:00 PM Bible Study	28	29	30
31 9:30 AM Wor- ship; 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class						

Looking Ahead...

September 1, Labor Day
 September 7, Homecoming Sunday
 September 14, UMW Sunday
 October 18, Chili Supper
 November 2, Charge Conference at Williamsville
 November 23, Community Thanksgiving Service, Here
 November 29, Hanging of Greens and Way of Lights
 Outing

August Anniversaries

Jonathan and Ellen Dixon	8/8/1970
Doranne and Jerry Julian	8/14/1967
Melvin and Cheryl Allison	8/14/1965
Barry and Tracy Tester	8/19/1978
Tom and Sharon Stroisch	8/28/1999



140th Homecoming Celebration

The Riverton First United Methodist Church invites the public to join our congregation in celebrating our 140th anniversary at a “Homecoming” on Sunday, September 7, 2014.

The Homecoming celebration will begin with church services at 9:30 a.m. We have invited dignitaries from the Illinois Great Rivers Conference to participate in the service, which will include communion and special musical offerings. A celebratory old-fashioned church picnic luncheon with fried chicken “and fixings” will follow in the fellowship hall at 11:00. The luncheon will be provided by the United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, and members of the church. Please contact Lori Payne-Mullett at 971-3920 if you need more information about the luncheon.



According to Pastor Dixon, “The founders of our church worked to build a tradition of faithfulness that would endure across the generations. We now celebrate their sacrifice and dedication, as we also honor our church’s ongoing commitment to our community and to our Lord.”

The church grounds will be open for walking tours from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with information available on notable and historical aspects of the church’s interior and exterior.



Pastor Dixon added that all current and former members of the church, as well as all others from the community, are invited to participate in the Homecoming celebration. The celebratory service, tour and luncheon are free and open to the public.

For additional information, please contact Ellen Dixon at 629-9720.

Trustee News

We have done more work on the lift door and Harold Shepherdson has painted most of the church's exterior doors. That has given a fresh look to the exterior of our church. Also plans are in place to put a "boundary" around the Memorial Garden. Many of the small repair jobs have been repaired/fixed. It won't be long, perhaps next spring/summer, we will have to consider sealing our parking lot. Also keep in mind that our church yard has a lot of trees that need to be trimmed around. This is a job that takes a lot of time and the yard mower would be glad to have any and all assistance. Come any time and trim all you would like. Also, feel free to pick up limbs for your own firewood---any time!

Scrip News

Please keep in mind that using the Walmart gift cards for fuel will save you ten cents (\$.10) per gallon until mid-September. Our next order date will be the first Sunday in August. Also, with the hot weather, you may enjoy the gift cards from the Dairy Queen. ☺

Quilt Updates

The ladies (I use ladies, because no man has joined us as of yet) are about to finish a beautiful embroidered quilt and ready to put in the next one, which is an antique quilt top. Come join us for a joyful experience on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M. till 11:30 A.M.

Bible Study

We are going through the Book Of Luke to get a complete view of the Life of Jesus on the Earth.

We are open to any discussion or question.

6pm every Wednesday for an hour, in the parlor of the Church. Call 629-9721 for info.

WOW

Congratulations to Kelsey, Josie, David and Taylor for raising over \$200 for the Riverton Food Pantry by running Lemonade Stands throughout the town of Riverton. Well done and we are proud to have you as part of our Church.



August Birthdays

Harriet Beckey	8/3
Jo Anna Eyer	8/3/1938
Sarah Caldwell	8/5/1997
Michael McKenzie	8/5/1960
Jerry Julian	8/14/1945
Hope McKenzie	8/17/1959
Barbara Rhodes	8/18/1929
Damon Hermes	8/21
Hilda Fetter	8/22
Laila Mann	8/24
Pat Baker	8/25/1954
Bob Hughes	8/25/1936
Bonnie Klaves	8/26/1934
Sharon Caldwell	8/29/1948
Bob Falzone, Sr.	8/31



*Riverton United Methodist
Church
invites you to
A Historical Tea
August 16, 2014 1:00 pm*

A formal luncheon and dessert will be served followed by "A Glimpse of the Past" presented by Nancy Torgerson. Nancy will speak about and show fashions from the 19th and 20th centuries.

*Reservations are \$8.00 and must be made by August 10, 2014.
To make your reservation, please call:
Bonnie Klaves 629-9794
Mary Pugh 629-9021
Judy McCullough 629-9736*

Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we celebrate 140 years in the Riverton Community. Please feel free to wear your favorite hat.



Riverton First United Methodist
429 East Lincoln
Riverton, IL 62561



Address Correction Requested

RFUMC PHONE: (217) 629-9721
E-MAIL: rvtnumc@sbcglobal.net
WEBSITE: www.rivertonfirstumc.org

See inside for information about upcoming 140th Homecoming Celebration – September 7, 2014

***MISSION STATEMENT:** Our mission is to draw people into relationship with Christ and the church and to lovingly challenge them to spiritual growth.*

***OUR VISION:** A warm fellowship of Christians in the Riverton area, growing in numbers and spiritual nurture, with facilities and programs to do ministry in the name of Jesus Christ for generations to come.*