

June 1, 2015

The Oaks



Pastor's Corner

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

It is hard to believe that it is almost June already. It will not be very long and I will be moving to Riverton. June 23rd is my scheduled move date. That will give me a week to get settled in before my appointment starts. I am looking forward to becoming your pastor and getting to know you. I have already met some of you thru the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, e-mails and Facebook. My e-mail is jmcross58@gmail.com. If you wish, friend me on Facebook, but when you send the request tell me that you are from Riverton so I will know to accept your request.

A few things that you might need to know about me. I usually go by Pastor John, but I am currently in a part of the state where some people always use Brother John or Reverend John and some people just call me John. I am not good at remembering names so I ask for your help and understanding. Please do two things to help me; first, until I get your name down, remind me who you are, and second, make me repeat your name if I do not do it automatically. I do not use a home phone so you will need to call my cell phone. When I get up to Riverton I will be changing my cell phone number to a local number and let everyone know what it is.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor John

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.*

Welcoming Pastor John

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will be organizing move-in week hospitality for Pastor John Cross. If you would like to assist with that, please see a member of that committee. Members are Carly Shank, Nik Caldwell, Lesta Fitzpatrick, Lori Payne-Mullett, Barb Lucas, Cheryl Allison, Mary Pugh, Marsha Sutton, and Erin Martincic

RFUMC Calendar – June 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:00 PM Trustees	2	3 9:00 AM Quilters	4	5	6
7 9:30 AM worship service; 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School	8	9 7:00 PM United Methodist Women	10 9:00 AM Quilters	11	12	13
		Annual Conference				
14 9:30 AM worship ser- vice; 12 Noon Fare- well Potluck Picnic for Ellen Dixon	15	16 6:00 PM United Methodist Men	17 9:00 AM Quilters	18	19	20
21 Father's Day 9:30 AM worship ser- vice; 10:30 AM Fel- lowship; 10:35 AM Adult Sunday School	22	23 Pastor John Cross ar- rives	24 9:00 AM Quilters	25	26	27
28 9:30 AM worship ser- vice; 10:30 AM Fare- well Fellowship for Bobbi Blackard; 10:35 AM Sunday School	29	30				

Looking Ahead...

July 5, Pastor John Cross in the pulpit
July 19-24, Vacation Bible School

Next newsletter deadline: June 21

June Anniversaries

John and Erin Martincic
June 2, 2007
Scott and Shawn Binion
June 3, 2006
Ron and Cheryl Armintrout
June 7, 1970
Mike and Barbara Lucas
June 23, 1976

June Birthdays

4, Kim Beckey
5, Patsy Skaggs (1947)
12, Melba Blakley
Ken Carriker
June Hallford
Dorane Julian (1949)
13, Kelsey Greenwood (2002)
16, Carrie Horn
18, Michael Pugh

20, Marilyn Kresse
Scott Pantier (1995)
Marjorie Todd
21, Avett Shank (2010)
26, Sarah Carriker (1996)
Marion Upton (1941)
27, Brett Pearson (1968)
28, Cindy Logsdon (1957)
29, Cora Martincic (2012)
30, Darlene Schermerhorn

Farewell Picnic-Potluck for Ellen Dixon

On Sunday, June 14, the church will host a farewell picnic-potluck for Ellen Dixon following Sunday service. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Table service and fried chicken will be provided. Please plan to join us and thank Ellen for her many years of fellowship, leadership and service to the Riverton First United Methodist Church.

Memorial Garden Dedicated Five Years Ago

Five years ago this Memorial Day, the Reverend Jonathan L. Dixon, PhD, dedicated the Northeast corner of the church property as a Memorial Garden. The garden is for the cremated remains of any Church Member, Church Attendee, Pastor, and family members of the above, at no cost.

The Memorial Garden Committee researched the laws and requirements to establish the garden, and registered the Memorial Garden with the State of Illinois prior to the dedication of the hallowed ground. The Memorial Garden has enough 2x2 foot spaces to intern 1,880 cremated remains. Remains can be buried, and or ashes spread. Head stones must be flat, and paid for by the survivors of the deceased.

The Garden is landscaped with multiple trees, flowering bushes, and a small rose bed. Benches are available for contemplation, sitting and conversation.

Sadly, the Reverend Jonathan L. Dixon, PhD, is the second person to be interred in the Memorial Garden. His wife, Ellen Dixon has a reserved space next to him.

Trustee Update

The church office needed to be cleaned and organized, so three of the trustees and two others packed up the books in boxes and donated them to a Springfield church's garage sale coming up. Other items were sorted, filed, destroyed and/or pitched. The office is in amazing shape and awaiting the arrival of our next minister, Pastor John Cross.

Sometime in June, the parsonage will have some work done in the downstairs and get that mess cleaned up quickly. We all remember how the Dixon Family had to survive the dirt, dust, noise and commotion of all the remodeling. They were very patient with the trustees for a very long time! We are so glad that Ellen has been able to enjoy the beautifully remodeled kitchen/dining/living rooms. At some point we will go over the upstairs and the appliances to be sure that everything is clean and in fine working order before Pastor John arrives. We have been so blessed to have such a caring family in the church's parsonage for so many years. We thank Ellen for all the love she has shared in that home.

United Methodist Women

WILL MEET: Tuesday, June 9, 7:00 PM

Program: Judy Book Review

Hostesses: Judy Lafary & Doris Lamkey

We welcome all the ladies in the church.
Come see us in the fellowship hall

Scrip News

Last month you will remember that it was stated this account as paid over \$20,000.00 on the church's loan principal. With your continued participation, we are hoping to be able to pay another \$1,000.00 on the loan by the end of June.

This program is only as successful as you make it. Without your support.....it would be a flop. Thank you for all the orders that you have been placing. Don't forget to get those gift cards for your personal use during the hot summer months. Get a frozen drink from Starbucks, Steak n Shake or THE DAIRY QUEEN! Also keep in mind that it will be too hot to cook---indoors or outside, so how about ordering food to go? Just think ahead and order the cards for all the businesses you love.

Quilters

We would love to help you learn an old craft. Come to the church on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and the ladies will help you learn---from the best!

2015 Graduates

Middle School

Devan Martincic, Tri-City
David Sims
Zachary T. Todd, Williamsville Middle School

High School

Cheyenna Davis, Richland High School, Texas
(Sharon Stroish's granddaughter)
Sarah Caldwell, Riverton High School
Alyssa Koger, Riverton High School
Ann Sims, Princeton High School

College

Leanna Pantier, Illinois College
Lauren (Logsdon) Roberts, LLCC
Brice Jesburg, UIS (Cindy Logsdon's son-in-law)



Please give names of any graduates associated with the church to carlyshank@yahoo.com so that they may be included in our listings.

Mission Items for Annual Conference

As part of the annual conference; we will be taking book bag donations for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Items being collected are:

- 1) Spiral notebooks (8X10 1/2 inches) - 70 - 80 pages, 1 subject
- 2) Stick style pens (blue or black) - no advertising
- 3) Boxes of 24 crayons
- 4) blunt school scissors (rounded tip)

In keeping with the Native American theme for the annual conference, school bag items will be going to Native American reservations especially the United Methodist Tree of Life in Mission, S.D.

Lori Payne-Mullett will be taking the items to the annual conference on June 10th.

2015 Vacation Bible School

July 19 – 24, 2015, 5:30 – 8:30 PM

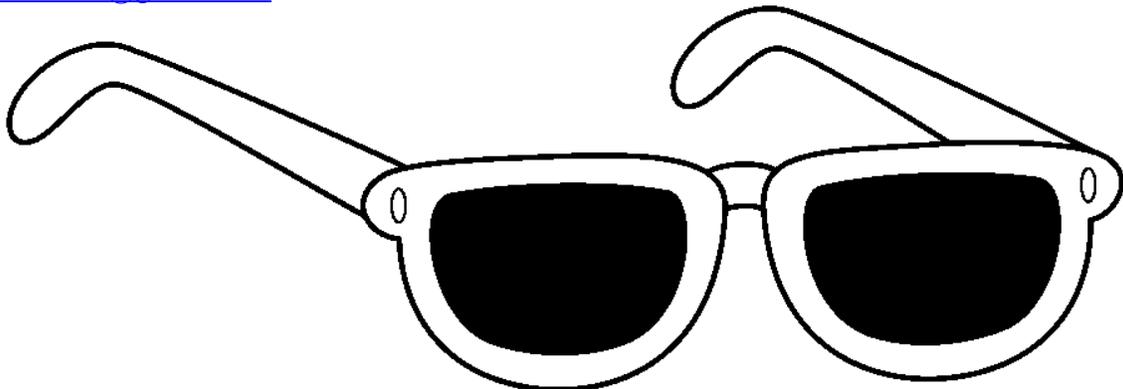
St. James Catholic Church & Riverton United Methodist Church

Welcome to Bible Blast to the Past— where kids discover God’s everlasting love!

Get ready to travel on a life-changing adventure that leads kids in search of a love that lasts forever! At Bible Blast to the Past, kids will eat dinner before time travel begins. Then they will participate in the large group excitement of Blast to the Past Bash, experience God’s Word at Timeless Truth Tent, discover ancient arts and facts through science and crafts at Discovery Ruins, and enjoy games at Backtrack Bazaar.

Secure your child’s place on the journey! VBS is open to all children of our community entering grades PK – 8th Grade. A Closing Program will be held at 6:30 PM on Friday, July 24th at the Riverton United Methodist Church.

If you would like more information or to become a volunteer, please contact Hope McKenzie, (217) 416-7892 or soccermom859@comcast.net or Nadine Mackenzie, (217) 416-0890 or nadinemack421@gmail.com



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