

May 1, 2015

The Oaks



Bobbi's Bloopers - When God Made Moms

By the time the Lord made mothers, he was into his sixth day of working overtime. An Angel appeared and said "Why are you spending so much time on this one"? And the Lord answered and said, "Have you seen the spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have 200 movable parts, all replaceable; run on black coffee and leftovers; have a lap that can hold three children at one time and that disappears when she stands up; have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart, and have six pairs of hands."

The Angel was astounded at the requirements for this one. "Six pairs of hands! No Way!" said the Angel.

The Lord replied, "Oh, it's not the hands that are the problem. It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers must have!"

"And that's just on the standard model?" The Angel asked.

The Lord nodded in agreement, "Yes, one pair of eyes are to see through the closed door as she asks her children what they are doing even though she already knows. Another pair in the back of her head, are to see what she needs to know even though no one thinks she can. And the third pair are here in the front of her head. They are for looking at an errant child and saying that she understands and loves him or her without even saying a single word."

The Angel tried to stop the Lord. "This is too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish."

"But I can't!" the Lord protested, "I am so close to finishing this creation that is so close to my own heart. She already heals herself when she is sick AND can feed a family of six on a pound of hamburger and can get a nine year old to stand in the shower."

The Angel moved closer and touched the woman, "But you have made her so soft, Lord."

"Yes, she is soft," the Lord agreed, "But I have also made her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish."

"Will she be able to think?" asked the inquisitive Angel.

The Lord smiled and replied, "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason, and negotiate."

The Angel then noticed something and reached out and touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak with this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one."

"That's not a leak." The Lord objected. "That is a tear!"

"What's the tear for?" the Angel asked.

[Continued... →]

The Lord said, "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her disappointment, her pain, her loneliness, her grief, and her pride."

The Angel was impressed. "You are a genius, Lord. You thought of everything! Truly, You do all things well... Moms are truly amazing!"

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and women who make our world go round. From one of my favorite authors, Erma Bombeck.

Reverend Bobbi Blackard

Mother-Child Banquet

It's that time again!

When: Wednesday, May 6, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Please bring a covered dish.

Reservations due by Sunday, May 3rd to:

Bonnie Klaves (629-9794) or

Sharon Stroisch (629-2002)



Mother-Child Memories

Mother's Day was established by Anna Jarvis, following the death of her mother on May 9, 1905. In 1914 Congress passed a law designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and on May 9 of that year President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation declaring the first national Mother's Day. It was to be a day for American citizens to honor mothers whose sons had died in war.

Today, Riverton United Methodist celebrates Mothers with its own celebration. On May 6th we all honor the mothers of our lives. In preparation, Nadine Mackenzie is asking for women to supply memories of their mothers. This can be pictures, poems, stories, the best advice she ever gave you, etc. Please send these electronically to Nadine Mackenzie at nadinemack421@gmail.com by May 3rd.

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.*

RFUMC Calendar – May 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9:30 AM worship; 10:30 AM adult Sunday School	4 7:00 PM Trustees	5	6 9:00 AM Quilters; 6:00 PM Mother- Child Ban- quet	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9:30 AM worship; 10:30 AM coffee fel- lowship; 10:35 AM adult Sunday School	11	12 5:30 PM UMW Ladies' Night Out at Chesapeake	13 9:00 AM Quilters	14	15	16
17 9:30 AM worship; 10:30 AM adult Sun- day School	18	19 6:00 PM United Methodist Men	20 9:00 AM Quilters	21	22	23
24 9:30 AM worship; 10:30 AM adult Sun- day School	25 Memorial Day observed	26	27 9:00 AM Quilters	28	29	30
31 9:30 AM worship; 10:30 AM adult Sun- day School						

Looking Ahead...

June 21, Father's Day

July 19-24, Vacation Bible School

Next newsletter deadline: May 17

May Anniversaries

Eric and Joan Fritzeen	5/2/1954
Thomas and Marjorie Todd	5/4/1958
George and Patsy Skaggs	5/7/1966
Arthur and Janet Gowin	5/24/198

May Birthdays

Beth Baumann	5/4
John Pearson	5/6/2004
Tracy Tester	5/8/1955
Joan Fritzeen	5/9
Joshua Higgins	5/11/2011
Sahara Higgins	5/11/2011
Rose Alice Hughes	5/13/1937
Judy McCullough	5/19/1945
Leanna Pantier	5/19/1993
Casey Stoneburner	5/22/1993
Cody Thomas	5/22/1996
Ann Sims	5/23/1997

Thanks from Ellen Dixon

Thanks - a word that truly seems so small/inadequate and yet is SO huge. Gratitude is all over my days and my mind is saturated with appreciation. You –the loving caring Congregation have been so comforting and growing with me as I go through this time of grief and loss, yet a time of victory and great love from the Father God and yourselves. Thanks for paying attention and anticipating my needs when my mind could not comprehend or my emotions could function through. Prayers—I felt them and I still feel them as they carry me.

God is good all the time. Love you all so much. Ellen Dixon

SCRIP

Several folks missed this information the last time it was published, so we felt it important to repeat:

The SCRIP Program was begun in late fall of 2005.

In 2006 the program paid \$1,700.00 on the loan principal.

In 2007, it paid \$2,500.00 on the loan principal.

In 2008, it paid \$2,500.00 on the loan principal.

In 2009, it paid \$1,000.00 on the loan principal.

In 2010, it paid \$2,000.00 on the loan principal.

In 2011, it paid \$3,650.00 on the loan principal.

In 2012, it paid \$3,000.00 on the loan principal.

In 2013, it paid \$2,000.00 on the loan principal.

In 2014, it paid \$2,000.00 on the loan principal.

United Methodist Women

WILL MEET: Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 PM

Ladies' Night Out at Chesapeake

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

Join us at the Mother-Child Banquet on May 6.

This program has, so far, paid \$20,350.00 on the church's loan! YOU DID THIS!

The best part is that it did not cost you a penny. It did cost you a little bit of your time.....you had to think ahead (where will you shop in the near future? who do you need a gift for?); you had to place an order (and pay for the gift cards); then the next Sunday, you had to meet Doris and pick up your cards.....BUT then you could use those cards for anything you wanted. It is then called CONVENIENCE!

Please, keep up the good buying/selecting of gift cards. We are close to having the extra profits in this account to pay another \$1,000.00 on that loan. It would be great to be able to pay up to \$4,000 this year. We will keep you posted!

Graduates

Please give names of any spring graduates (8th grade, high school, college) associated with the church to carlyshank@yahoo.com so that they may be included in our listings.

Trustees

If you have not already done so, please, sign up on the mowing clipboard. You are welcome to do the mowing and/or the trimming; or you can pay Scott Pantier \$25.00 and he will see to it that the mowing is done for that week.

Once again, we wish to advertise that there are piles of leaves available to you for your use....mulch your garden; mulch your flower beds; etc. These leaves are free, so HURRY and get your share as soon as possible.

Also available for future use this coming winter are sticks and limbs that our beautiful trees have placed on the ground. These will make it easier for you to start a fire in your fireplace next winter when those cold winds blow. Please get them any time you are available to do the pick-up.

Quilting Update

By the time this newsletter hits your computer/mailbox, we will have finished quilting the beautiful embroidered quilt that originally belonged to Virginia Kleban. Her family is looking forward to receiving it. It will come out of the quilt frames before May. Doris will then check the stitching and proceed to finish the edges of the quilt.

The next quilt has been laid in the frames and is ready for the quilting needles to begin. The folks that are quilting would be glad to have new folks join them and learn the technique of hand quilting.

Staff-Parish Update

The Bishop has selected John Cross as our new pastor, beginning July 1. The staff parish committee met with our district superintendent a few weeks ago to discuss the needs of our church and congregation. We completed a questionnaire with the district superintendent to go through this process. All of the district superintendents meet to discuss appointments and they make suggestions of appointment to the Bishop. The Bishop makes a decision of the appointments. Our district superintendent held a meeting with our staff-parish committee to introduce John Cross.

In the meeting John told us his background and how he got into ministry. John asked us good questions about our community, our congregation and our church. He listened to our concerns, and our strengths. We feel John will be a good leader for our congregation and for the future of our church. John told us the story of his faith and we think he will be a great pulpit storyteller.

John is 56 years old and is single - he said he is still looking; but not looking for help finding! John was fourth of five sons growing up in Woodland, IL. John graduated with a Masters of Divinity Degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2003. John is currently serving the Eldorado Raleigh Parish. This is 2 churches in the Eldorado (southern IL) area.

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

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