



HOLY WEEK

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 13, 9:00am and 10:45am

Procession of the Palms/Dramatic presentation of the Last Supper
Based on Kevin Stoltz's script, "The Lord's Table", be a part of this congregational responsive dramatic reading.

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 7:30pm

Love in Mystery

A service of Holy Communion and hand washing ritual
Come to remember the last supper of Jesus with his disciples
and reflect on God's sacrificial love for all.

Good Friday

April 18, 7:30pm

Tenebrae Service

This night will be a somber service of shadows.
Through scripture and candles,
we will be led to the most somber moment of Holy Week, Jesus' crucifixion.
Music by the Chancel Choir.



Easter Sunday

April 20, 9:00am and 10:45am

CHRIST IS ALIVE!

A celebration of Resurrection with Children's and Chancel Choirs, Brass and Bells!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

We celebrate that Christ is risen to show us love is more powerful than any forces of destruction. Christ is alive!

Youth group will provide breakfast before the worship services, starting from 8:00am.

Between the services, traditional Easter egg hunt will take place around the church grounds!

Reflections from Pastor Anna

It has been a long winter! How difficult it would have been if we had not had special people who helped us through the cold and icy weather! I have realized how we humans need one another in the wintry days of our lives, when our tired bodies get cold and our hearts face the arctic wind. At these times, we need someone to warm our frozen bodies and hearts and to stand by us. They give us a sense of hope and strength to sustain us through the down times and bring us a vision of tomorrow: Spring!

There are moments in our lives when we are not strong. We feel vulnerable. If we have others who stand by us and walk with us the journey will be bearable. Even Jesus desired companionship. In the Gospels, Jesus had his own “moments”. He often sought solitude and desired renewal when his body and spirit were weary and worn out by relying on the movement of the Spirit. In Bethany, at the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, their friendship must have provided him with great comfort. He yearned for his disciples to be awake and praying in the Garden of Olives during the final hours of his journey. Jesus showed us that we all need companionship. It is clear to me why he sent out his disciples in pairs.

People hide their pain and sorrow. They do not like to be dependent, even on something physical like using a cane. For some reason, we feel less strong if we become less independent.

The truth is, in both living and dying, we all need to rely on others. That's the blessing of human love and compassion. There are situations and moments in our lives when we are not strong. We become weak, miserable and helpless. If we learn to rely on others in such moments, perhaps we will be led to rely on God in life. Perhaps we will be able to get a glimpse of the power of the resurrection that brings life to the dead.

Easter is on the rise! Please come and celebrate the risen Lord in your community of faith.

“In the shadow of your wings I take refuge, until destroying storms pass by.” (Psalm 57:1)

In anticipation of joy of a living God,

Pastor Anna



Ministry Focus: Study Club

From Kandy DeWitt, Coordinator:

It's hard to believe that we are almost finished with our sixth year! We started with an idea, a grant from the United Methodist Foundation, six students, and six volunteers! And now, the Friendship Center, Sunday School Room, and hallway are transformed every Wednesday from 4 - 5pm into a mini school with 20 students and 20 volunteers. We are a free, community outreach program that involves Wood View Elementary School students, BHS National Honor Society Members, Friendship Church members, family and friends. One of our mentors is a former Study Club member from Wood View! Whether the student calls the volunteer their mentor, their teacher, or their partner, they know they have a special friend - someone who cares just about them. They struggle with reading and/or math skills, and their principal, Jody Ellis, recommends them to our program based on test scores. So, we gather once a week so that all students can achieve academic success!

Interested in getting involved?

Contact Kandy DeWitt, coordinator, at 630.637.1216.

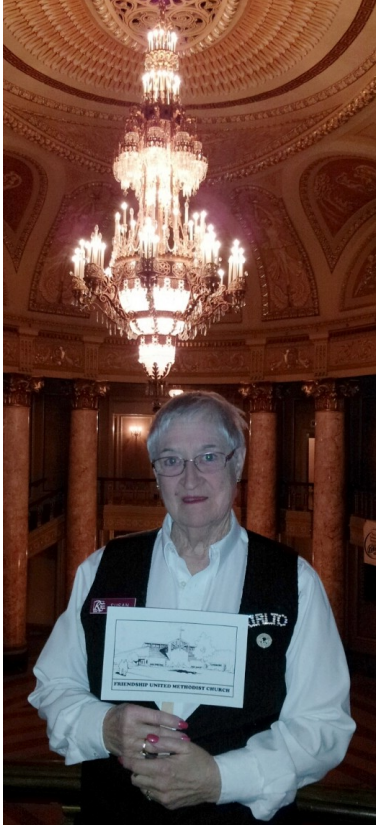




Friendship

United Methodist Church

40^{and} Forward **in** Faith



Where in the World are the people from Friendship Church sharing their faith and the good news?

The pictures from around the world are pouring in! Well, actually two have come in and the Anniversary Committee is anxious to get our collage started. **So, grab a fan from our information station and take a picture holding it up in front of you.** Doesn't matter if you are in Bolingbrook, Indiana or India, just take the picture and send or bring it to us!

If you already have taken a picture, send it to us over email. We have started a folder and want to fill it up! Or, bring in a picture and put it in the picture box on the counter behind the door in the church office. Don't forget to include the **names of the people** in the photo and **where it was taken!**

The collage will be an important part of our 40th anniversary celebration. We want at least one picture from every person or family in our church! You may bring in pictures from now until the end of the year! Do not forget!

Anniversary T-Shirts on Sale!

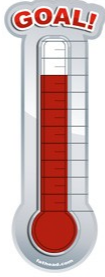
T-shirts commemorating the 40th anniversary will be available to order starting March 30 at the information center. Choose from Adult sizes S-XXL and Kid Sizes S-L. Kids' shirts are also available in a variety of colors. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$10 for kids. Special thanks to Jim Steadman and Carolyn Larsen for their help in designing the shirts!



Adult Shirt



Kids' Shirt



40 and Forward in Faith – Sanctuary Facelift Update

We are almost there! The Sanctuary Design Team is pleased to announce that we have received commitments from 48 of our members who have pledged a total of \$30,975 towards the sanctuary facelift project. We only need about \$4,000 in additional pledges to meet our budget goal of \$35,000. It is not too late to help. You can turn in a commitment card in church on any Sunday.

The generosity of our members is overwhelming and we are so grateful. We can get the rest of the way with just a few more pledges. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help us beautify the sanctuary for our 40th anniversary celebration in October.

Thanks again to everyone who has participated so far.

Gene Paquette

Sanctuary Design Team

Variety Show

The Sanctuary Design Team and the Anniversary Committee will be sponsoring a variety show on Sunday, May 4. Proceeds from ticket sales will go towards the Sanctuary Facelift Fund to help aid in purchasing chairs and carpeting.

You are needed! Acts are needed!

If you can sing, dance, play an instrument, be dramatic or perform in some other way, we need you! Get together with friends or go solo. The show can't go on without you! Please consider performing. If you would like to participate, please contact Pat Prins at 630.972.1011.



Watch for more information as it becomes available.



**Become a Fan
on Facebook**

Mission Focus: Daybreak Shelter

Serving at the Daybreak Shelter -- Richard R. Guzman

In the richest country on earth, homelessness grows. Over 1.5 million of those are children, which drives the average age of a homeless person in the U.S. down to 9 years old. That's one reason the work Friendship Church does at the Daybreak Shelter in Joliet is so important: more people than ever need our help. It also helps us fulfill one of the Bible's most persistent calls: to serve the poor in Jesus' name.

Despite the unfortunate circumstances of the shelter's clients, it's fun to get to know them and to experience their thankfulness. As volunteers, we get to know each other better, too, as we cook and serve together. And bringing the whole family is one of the best ways to help ingrain a spirit of service into children--a spirit that can bring joy, purpose, and a passion for helping others into their futures. It's one of the greatest things a parent can give their kids.

I've done a small Daybreak video. See it at: <http://richardrguzman.com/daybreak-video/>. The post accompanying it contains many links where you can learn more about homelessness and how to help end it.





Upcoming Events



The Mission Possible and Cee Gee Three Core groups to attend Noah

Sunday, April 6, mid-afternoon (time TBA)

We will meet at the Regal Showplace 12 at the corner of Boughton and Weber Roads in Bolingbrook. Afterwards, we will go across the street to the Patio restaurant to discuss the film and eat if you wish. The movie is PG-13 so it's your decision as to whether you feel your kids can attend.

Questions? contact Carolyn Weber, 630.972.1301 or Jane Pierce, 630.759.6353

Friendship Flames Softball Team

Come join us for fellowship and fun on the field, our church softball team is open to men and women ages 16-90.

Season starts in May, and we play 1-2 times a week in the evenings.

For more information, contact Larry Hilb 630-759-7461 or

Email LLhilb@comcast.net

Brochure at information center.



Church Picnic



Save the Date! Sunday, August 17, 2014

Getting tired of the cold and snow? Mark your calendar for the 2014 Church Picnic scheduled for Sunday, August 17, beginning immediately following the service. More information forthcoming with new festivities, lots of food, Chef Dave's gourmet barbequing talents, and guaranteed warmer temperatures. Believe it or not, but spring and summer are on their way!

2014 CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, October 2014

Friendship United Methodist Church is once again sponsoring the 2014 CROP Hunger Walk on October 19, 2014. Barbara Murmann (Seventh Day Adventist) and Kathleen Campbell are the Co-Chairs for this year's event. We are looking for volunteers who would want to join in our efforts to make this year's walk even more successful than last year. We are in the beginning stages of planning and welcome all who are interested. There will be an informational meeting on April 27, at 4:30pm at FUMC. The level of involvement depends on you, and we welcome everyone to become a part of this commitment to help ease world hunger in our community.



First Friends Preschool



First Friends Preschool: Engineers at work!

The children have been very busy figuring out the new marble-run toy, creating racetracks for the small cars and building with blocks. They are junior engineers, learning the laws of physics by **DOING** physics. They are asking themselves questions, and testing their theories, just like real scientists or engineers. They work together and share their ideas.

They are learning something every minute:

like symmetry, balance, and problem-solving. They really have to think about what they want to happen to the cars or the marbles, how they want them to move. My favorite part is watching the process of cooperation. The children have come a long way in their social development this year! These scenes are typical at this time of year. How very different from September, when they usually played by themselves, and were just learning to share!

Tell your friends and neighbors: Registration for fall 2014 is now open! Call Mrs. Bosacki 630.739.3010 for more information.

Children and Family Ministry

Easter Basket Sales

It is Easter basket time again! There are cute toddler baskets, theme baskets for children, and a variety of smaller baskets for youth and adults! Come, look and then buy one for a special person! The baskets will be on display and for sale each Sunday, March 30, April 6 and April 13. Look for them in the friendship center between services and following the 10:45 service. The children's ministry team makes the baskets each year. Proceeds from the sale will go to our Friendship Church connectional giving. Our giving helps us join hands with other United Methodist congregations to help God's children all over the world!



Family Movie Night

Friday, April, 4 6:30-8pm

Join FUMC's youth group as they host a showing of "Frozen" the movie hit of the winter! Come for fellowship, snacks and fun. Bring the whole family! For more information, contact Melissa Schoonover at 815.341.2050.



Easter Egg Hunt

The annual FUMC Easter Egg Hunt will be held Easter Sunday, April 20th, 10:00 A.M., between the two worship services. The Children's Ministry Team and the Youth Ministry Team are working together to make it a big success! Here is how you can help! **We need bags of small or mini, individually wrapped pieces of candy to fit inside the regular egg sized plastic eggs. Small toys or trinkets for Easter, which will fit inside an egg, are also welcome. Please, bring the bags of candy any time before April 6th. The candy can be left in the church office on the counter behind the door.** Our youth group members will fill the eggs and help prepare for the egg hunt. This will be done the week before Easter. We appreciate their enthusiasm for helping make this a fun time for the children of our church! Our two ministry teams thank you!



Choralier Choir

The Choralier Choir has two more rehearsals, April 2 and 16, before they perform on Easter Sunday, April 20. They will also perform on May 4 at the church's variety show. No rehearsal during Valley View School District's Spring Break, April 9. All children Kindergarten through 8th grade are welcome to join!

Youth Ministry



Youth Group

Sundays 2-4pm

No Youth Group, 4/20

Movie Night

Friday, April 11, 6:30-8

Bring the whole family to see "Frozen"!



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20 between services

Volunteers needed to fill and hide eggs.

Contact Jane Pierce, 630.759.6353



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 20

7am Arrival

8am Serving begins

30 hour Famine

Friday, May 2-Saturday May 3

Contact Dave or Robin Lichty 630.630.759.4804

for more information

Drawing Contest

Drawings due: May 11

Theme verse: Colossians 3:12

Winning drawing will be featured on the Mission

Trip T-Shirt

Save the Dates

Mission trip June 23-27

More information to follow.

Prayer and Celebration

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you.” *Matthew 7:7*

Do you have a special need, doubt or fear? Join us for prayer fellowship on Friday nights at 7:00pm. If you need a ride or have questions, call Marlene Inglis at 630.783.0969.

Prayer requests can be emailed to: prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org if you don't use email please call the church office and the request will be forwarded.

Celebration offerings



The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering. It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed

upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

We have been blessed continuously with generous sharing and giving from our church families to share their moments of thanksgiving and joy with others who need an extra encouragement.

March celebration offerings came from 12 envelopes totaling \$144. Celebrations included children's birthdays, thanksgiving to god for allowing international travel, medical treatment for a cancerous spot, God's power in life and family and a trip to the mountain top.

Blessings, Anna

DAYBREAK

Serving at **Daybreak** is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter.

Dinner on Friday, April 18 @ 5:00 pm

Breakfast Saturday, April 19 @ 5:00 am

Richard Guzman, Coordinator

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011

Study & Lunch: Thursday, April 17, @ 11:15 am

AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.

AA Meetings: Saturday @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm

GA Meetings: Friday @ 7:30 pm

ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all

STUDY CLUB

Wednesdays 4-5pm. Mentoring students from WoodView School.

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Now serving 7th Day Adventist Pantry

2nd Sunday of every month

Requested for the month of April:

Peanut Butter

Community Easter Egg Hunt

April 19, 2014

11:00 am

Ages PreK-Middle School
DuPage Township Building
241 Canterbury Lane
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

March 2014 ~ Friendship Church

Worship on Sundays ~ 9:00am & 10:45am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10a African Worship	2 8 am Bolingbrook Clergy Breakfast 11:15a Women's Bible Study 5:15p Lent Study 6:30p Scouts, Bells, Choralier Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	3 6p First Thursday Dinner @ the Patio	4 10a African Worship 6p Daisy Scouts 7p Prayer Fellowship 7:30p GA	5 9a AA
6 Family Worship 11:45a Youth Bells 2p Youth Group 5p AA	7 5:30p Girls Scouts	8 10a African Worship 7:30p Evangelism	9 11:15a Women's Bible Study 6:30 Scouts, Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	10 7p Anxiety Support Group	11 10a African Worship 7p Prayer Fellowship 7:30p GA	12 9a AA
	Preschool Spring	Break				
13 Palm Sunday 12p Confirmation 12:15p Youth Ministry Team 2p Youth Group 5p Gujarati 5p AA	14 5:30p Girl Scouts	15 7p Church Council	16 11:15a Women's Bible Study 3:30p Study Club 5:15p Lenten Study 6:30 Scouts, Bells, Choralier Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	17 Holy Thursday 11:15a Senior Luncheon and Study 7:30p Worship	18 Good Friday No Preschool 10a African Worship 6p Daisy Scouts 7:30p GA	19 9a AA Market Day
20 Easter 8a Youth Pancake Breakfast Egg Hunt between services 5p AA	21 5:30p Girl Scouts	22 10a African Worship 7p Church Council	23 11:15a Women's Bible Study 3:30p Study Club 6:30p Scouts 7:30p Chancel Choir	24 7p Staff Parish 7p Anxiety Support Group	25 10a African Worship 7p Prayer Fellowship 7:30p GA	26 9a AA
27 12p Confirmation 2p Youth Group 4p Teacher's Workshop 4:30p CROP Meeting 5p Gujarati Worship 5p AA	28 7pm Anniversary Committee	29 10a African Worship 7p Scout Committee Meeting 7p Children's Ministry Team	30 11:15 a Women's Bible Study 3:30p Study Club 6:30p Scouts 7:30p Chancel Choir			