



My soul finds rest in God alone.

~Psalm 62:1



305 E. Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Worship Service Sundays at 10:00am

Vision Statement:

*To **Be** a faith community that **Loves** God and all creation, **Grows** in the knowledge of God and **Serves** actively because of our faith in God.
If not us, then **WHO?***

630.972.1011 ~ friendshipchurchumc.org

Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 13 during worship

Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship for a special blessing on Sunday, August at 10:00am. Pastor Anna will give the following blessing for students as they return to school:

*Caring God,
we offer these backpacks,
as a sign of our thanks
for all you will do
with us and for us
this year at school.*

*We bless these backpacks
as companions to us
as we learn and grow.*

*May they carry
food for bodies
and food for thought.*

*Let them be a reminder
that you are as close to us
As the backpack on our back.*

Always and forever, Amen!



Students will receive a bookmark with this prayer to help them remember that God is always by their sides!

Back to School/Back to School Picnic Sunday, August 27, following worship

Come for worship at 10:00am and stay for the fun! Join your church family for an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship!



Bring a dish to share as we enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs. There will be a climbing wall, train, and games for all ages.

Sign up sheets will be included in the August 6 and 13th bulletins as well as available on the information station.

Please be sure to sign up to ensure enough eats and seats for everyone!

Tell you neighbors!

Bring your whole family!

Invite your friends!

Let's show them what Friendship Church is all about!

Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin

Yes, But, How?

I guess this is the question that I have recently raised most often. *Yes, But How?*

--Yes, I understand the mission of the church is to make disciples for the transformation of the world. But how do we do this? What does making disciples look like? What is a disciple anyway?

With that question in our hearts, on Thursday nights last several months, from March through July, I have been blessed to sit around the Sunday school room table with 8 of you (Deji, Mike, Dave, Robin, Vicki, Carolyn W, Carolyn J, Leonard) who have agreed to serve on a task force that will explore how our congregation might structure, prepare ourselves for creating disciple making process as a congregation.

We started with several questions: what does mature disciple of Jesus look like? What are we doing? Where do we want to go? How will we get there?

Mature disciples of Jesus Christ are like the one who has the knowledge of Bible, displays humble spirit, spends time in devotion to the word and prayer, gives one's financial resources and time and talents generously for the bigger than oneself; takes care of others who are in need...

At one point we asked to imagine, 'before' picture and 'after' picture. For example, picture of yourself now or before you join Friendship Church and picture of yourself after several years of being active at Friendship. Will there be any difference in your behavior, thoughts, words, values? How would you look like, act like in daily life? Do you expect to be transformed to having 6 pack core of Christian faith?

Imagining we all want to claim 'six-pack-core', our next question was 'how do we start?'" Do we, as a church, offer a kind of roadmap for people to imagine themselves to grow strong and mature in knowledge and love of God? If we do, do people know about it? How do we hold accountable for one another toward our spiritual health and growth?

We've admitted that we have not offered any roadmap or guidance to our people to be mature disciples of Christ at this moment and we've concluded that we should create a clear, focused, intentional, aligned with our vision as the Body of Christ in 21st century, and simple process to get there together and communicate them with the congregation. That has been the work of this task force and we are excited to share with you this month. You will hear the invitation through sermons and several invitations about 'Following Jesus Passionately.' We invite you all to take this invitation seriously!

"Discipleship is an organic, life-long process. It has something to do with what Wesley called "sanctification". The process of becoming more and more holy, simply becoming more like Jesus, being 'set apart'. Basically, someone says it means you're different than you were. And that process continues until you die." (Cary Nieuwhof, pastor and writer in church leadership)

Anna Shin



Children and Family News



August 2017

August 6, 13, 20, - Sunday School

August 13 - Blessing of the Backpacks

August 27 - Church Picnic - No Sunday School



Summer Sunday School - Sundays at 10:00am



Join us each week during the month of August to see how God chose Joshua to be one of his servants!

There will not be Sunday School on August 27 so the children can enjoy worship with their parents and join the picnic fun!

Bring your friends!

See you in Sunday School!

VBS Mission: Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Amount Collected: \$305!

MMDC is a disaster relief facility located on an 8 acre campus, 4 miles south of Springfield, Illinois. Construction began in October of 1999 and opened for ministry in the year 2000. MMDC is a caring ministry related to the Illinois Great Rivers Conference and the North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church. MMDC is also a cooperating depot in the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Relief Supply Network as of January 2010.

MMDC's campus provides opportunities for individuals and groups of all walks of life, denominational backgrounds, abilities, and ages to help provide disaster relief kits and resources as well as educational and medical supplies to those in need both locally and internationally. MMDC provides that "hands on" mission experience.

Midwest Mission Distribution Center's history includes the construction of school desks; this has been an MMDC project since nearly the beginning. School desk projects are truly important to us, many people, hours and trials have gone into the work of fine tuning these designs and revisions.



Hero Central - Vacation Bible School

Hero Central Vacation Bible School 2017 was a great success! Thank you to the more than 30 volunteers who made this week a meaningful experience for the more than 60 children who attended! Lots of hard work went into the planning and implementing of this awesome week! Special thanks to Amber Pidgeon and Jane Pierce for their marvelous leadership!



Youth Happenings



Middle School Sunday School- Sundays @10am

Begins again September 10

6th-8th graders are invited to explore the meaning and mystery of the Bible through readings and discussion as they study God's creation, God's calling, and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Teachers will follow the "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum.



THE FOUNDRY

**Returns August 26
Saturdays, 7-9pm**

Youth ages 6th-12th grade are invited for a time of worship, devotions and of course, youth group games!

The praise band "Band of Bread" will rehearse from 6:30 to the start of the evening at 7pm.

Contact Miss Melissa mell0cell0@aol.com
or Mr. Tom thomas.d.marsh@gmail.com
for more information.





Giving Tree Update

Thank you to all who contributed to this month's Giving Tree collection. The supplies were used to create 20 children's activity bags! The bags were lovingly packed and sent to Daybreak Shelter in Joliet. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



Flood Relief

With recent flooding, some have asked where to turn for assistance or how they can help.

Our Conference Disaster Response Coordinator Rev. Christina Vosteen is working with state officials, the Red Cross, UMCOR and district Disaster Response Coordinators on an organized response to the recent flooding that has spread across the state.

Flood buckets will be delivered to affected areas and a special session is being planned soon to train volunteers in basement mucking.

Meanwhile, donations may be made through your local church to UMCOR Advance #901670 or to NIC Disaster Response by mailing checks and write in the memo: Advance #50000148

Mail to: Northern Illinois Conference
PO Box 5646
Carol Stream, IL 60197-5646
or visit umcor.com and donate online.

Friendship Flames Softball

All Games are held at Jamie McGee School

Start time: 6:30pm

Tuesday, August 1

Wednesday, August 2

Friday, August 4

Tuesday, August 8

Friday, August 11

End of the Season Tournament

Saturday, August 19 at Remington Field

Start time: 9:00am

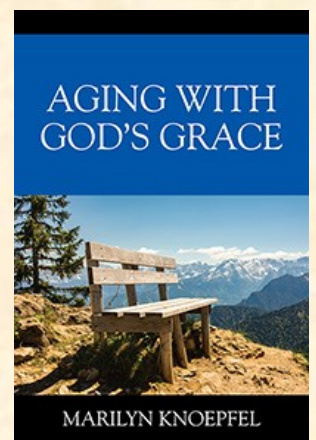
Bring your chairs and snacks for a day of fun!

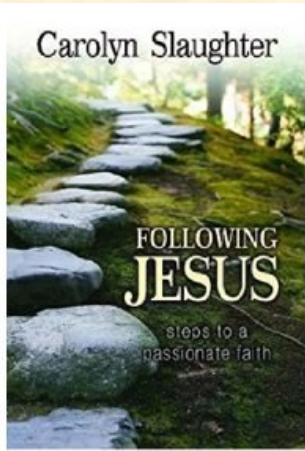


New Book for Friendship's Library!

A big thank you to Julie Verson for donating a new book to the Friendship Library (in the Chapel). Aging with God's Grace was written by her Mom, Marilyn Knoepfel, who writes; *When I reached my 80s, I was shocked by the changes in my life....With my background in Biblical Studies, this book.....was born. It is dedicated to - the Giver of all Grace, who said, "Even to your old age and gray hairs, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you, and I will carry you, I will sustain you and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46:4*

A copy of the book is on the Information Station. Please feel free to borrow it and return it when you are finished.





Following Jesus: Steps to a passionate faith

Have you wondered who Jesus is, or what it means to follow Jesus in your life, or what it is exactly like to follow Jesus in this world? And what are the first steps you need to take?

People have many opinions about who Jesus is, but many of them, unfortunately, are without much basis. In this study, you'll be searching for answers about the identity of Jesus and his role in your life, you'll discover more about your own spiritual gifts for ministry and new ways to be in service, and you'll think more deeply about what it means to be part of the church, the community of Christ. These are the first steps that lead to a deeper relationship with Jesus and a more passionate faith. All are encouraged to attend! More information about registering to follow soon!

Here are several options for you:

12 Sundays 9:00 am – 9:45 am (45 minutes)

September 10 – November 26

OR

11:15 am – noon (45 minutes)

September 10 – December 3

OR

6 Sundays 11:15 am – 12:45 pm (90 minutes)

September 10 – October 15

OR

6 Fridays 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, and 20.

OR

12 Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 7:15pm,

September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25,

November 1, 8, 15, 28, December 6, and 13

Skin in the Game: Equipping Congregations to Challenge Racism

Practical guidance and resources
for clergy, lay leaders, and
Christian educators



August 19, 2017 | 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church - Elmhurst, IL

Guest speaker: Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

Register online at: UnitedVoicesforChildren.org

Friendship Community

Prayer Chain:

Please email your requests to prayerrequests@friendshipchurchumc.org. If you don't use email please call the church office and the request will be forwarded. If you do not have access to a computer and wish to join the prayer chain, please advise the church office or see Kathryn Bulman, prayer chain coordinator. Please be mindful that even though prayer requests may be common knowledge, it is our responsibility to maintain confidentiality.

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 received \$150.00 from 10 envelopes. They are thanksgiving and celebration for God's unbelievable hand of protection over my life; children and family; God's grace in healing; 50th anniversary.

May God continue to bless you richly as your compassionate heart grows daily!

Blessings,

Pastor 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, August 18 @ 5:30 pm
Breakfast on Saturday, August 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, August 17 at 11:15am

AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.
AA Meetings: Saturdays @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm
GA Meetings: Fridays @ 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 (During the school year)
Mentoring students from WoodView School.

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES:

7th Day Adventist Pantry
POWER Connection
West Suburban Community Pantry
1st Sunday of every month

FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00am-12:00pm
Contact Chris Bosacki, Director,
for more information.
chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info

August 2017 ~ Friendship Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Softball @McGee School	2 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Softball @McGee School	3	4 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Softball @McGee School 7:30pm GA	5 9am AA
6 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship & Sunday School 5pm AA	7	8 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Softball @McGee School	9 6:30pm Boy Scouts	10 7pm Anxiety Support Group	11 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Softball @McGee School 7:30pm GA	12 9am
13 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship & Sunday School Blessing of the Backpacks 5pm AA 5pm Gujarati Worship	14	15 10am BPC Ministry	16 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:pm Nominations Committee	17 11:15am Sr. Lunch & Bible Study	18 10am BPC Ministry 7:30pm GA	19 9am AA 9am Softball Tournament at Remington Park 8:30am Skin in the Game Elimhurst
20 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship & Sunday School 5pm AA	21	22 10am BPC Ministry	23 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm Nominations Committee	24	25 10am BPC Ministry 7:30pm GA	26 9am AA 7pm The Foundry
27 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship 11:30am Church Picnic 5pm AA	28	29 10am BPC Ministry	30 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm Nominations Committee	31 7pm Anxiety Support Group		