



*Blessed is the nation whose  
God is the Lord.*

*--Psalm 33:12*

**Friendship**  
United Methodist Church  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

305 E. Boughton Road  
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

**Worship Service 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](http://friendshipchurchumc.org)

## Coming Soon to Friendship Church



### **The God Story, begins July 24th**

This sermon series gives us the opportunity to spend seven weeks walking through the story of the Bible. The whole story can't be told in such a short time, but the series will focus on connections between figures and events in the Bible that can sometimes seem disconnected. Using traditional elements of storytelling, the God Story will help us see ourselves and our roles in the great story of God's people.

#### **Don't miss this Seven week Series!**

- **Week One**—In the Beginning
- **Week Two**—Suspension of Disbelief
- **Week Three**—Rising Action
- **Week Four**—The Inciting Incident
- **Week Five**—Soundtrack
- **Week Six**—Waiting for Resolution
- **Week Seven**—Twist Ending

Be sure to like us on Facebook and read your weekly eFocus for updates and more information as it gets closer!

### **Back to Church Picnic**

**August 28, 11:00am**

Tell your neighbors! Invite your friends! This is Friendship Church's opportunity to show others what we are "all about"!

Free food, entertainment, and prizes for all ages!



## *Church Picnic*



#### **New This Year:**

Bounce House  
Bungee Run  
Fire Truck and Police Car  
Photo Booth

Watch the bulletin for your opportunity to donate food/prizes!

Opportunities to volunteer are also available!

**Don't miss out!**

## Reflections from Pastor Anna

“And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.” (Gen. 2:2-3)

In Thornton Wilder’s play, *Our Town*, Emily, a young woman who dies in childbirth, is allowed to return from death for one day of her life with her family. She has high hopes for that one day. However, she became very disappointed. Just before she returns to her place in the cemetery, she expresses her frustration:

Emily: “We don’t have time to look at one another...Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it—every, every minute?”

How do we realize that we really live? I remember the words of Jesus in the Gospel of John: *I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.* (10:10, CEB) I believe Jesus noticed people need help to live life to the fullest.

Tilden Edwards, in his book ‘Sabbath Time,’ explains that in our world “the rhythm of life for countless people...emerges as one that oscillates between driven achievement (both on and off the job) and some form of mind-numbing private escape...this crazed rhythm, based on a distorted view of human reality, increasingly poisons our institutions, relationships, and quality of life.”

By some reason we have learned that good things in life come only through unceasing achievement and tireless effort. Even on the day-off or un-employed we can never truly rest. And we wonder why we are not happy but rather lifeless or exhausted.

Perhaps we have lost the gifts of rhythm of life: rest and work! I am not better than anyone else. Perhaps I am one of the most guilty party.

Naming our overwork and activism as violence, Thomas Merton writes “the frenzy of our activism... destroys our own inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our own work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.”

We know that all living things require rest. If there is no rest, there is no fruit. As nature reveals year after year, some kind of rhythm of life is embedded in our body. Judeo-Christian tradition is very clear about that. For six days God worked, and on the seventh day God rested.

Sabbath keeping suffered from a negative image of legalism. Even Jesus criticized his contemporaries regarding legalistic Sabbath keeping practice. But more than ever in today’s world where we often feel trapped in speedy driven-ness for achievement, recognition, and possession, we need to restore a Sabbath Keeping practice.

Do you realize that you have a life to live? Give thanks to our Creator who appreciates the joy of rest and work. I pray you may create a good rhythm of life this summer. I feel certain that the whole world will get better and be more at peace if we learn how to rest.

In joy of loving and being loved,



Pastor Anna



# Children & Family Ministry News



**Vacation Bible School!**  
**July 25-29**  
**9:00-11:30am**

**Grab your sunglasses, sunscreen, and beach balls and join us for Vacation Bible School!**

**Ages 3 years old through incoming 5th graders are welcome!**

**Bring your friends, neighbors, and relatives (and don't forget your surf board!)**

**Registration and volunteer sign up are available at**

**[friendshipvbs.org](http://friendshipvbs.org)**

# Children & Family Ministry News

## Donations Needed!

Our Vacation Bible School is hitting the beach this year with *Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love*. We need your help to create a fun beach atmosphere. Check around your house and let us know if we can borrow or have any of the following items. Donations accepted through July 17th. If you would like your item returned, please fill out the Surf and Share tag on the back of this sheet and place it with the item. Thanks!

- ◇ Surfboards or Boogie Boards
- ◇ Beach towels, chairs, umbrellas, or Lifeguard chairs
- ◇ Sea Shells or Sand Dollars
- ◇ Beach toys, bags, hats
- ◇ Pool Noodles
- ◇ Artificial Plants
- ◇ Bunting
- ◇ Kites
- ◇ Bath scrunchies or loofah sponges
- ◇ Hula Hoops
- ◇ Ball caps, Beachcomber hats, or Visors
- ◇ Fishing nets or Fishing Line
- ◇ Colorful sunglasses
- ◇ Boomboxes
- ◇ Flip flops
- ◇ Small beach-type tents
- ◇ Hawaiian shirts
- ◇ Life Rings
- ◇ Blue Plastic Table Covers
- ◇ Tiki Torches, Party Lanterns, Rope Lights
- ◇ Suntan Lotion/Sunscreen
- ◇ Wet suits
- ◇ Colorful swim trunks
- ◇ Grass table skirts
- ◇ Inflatable palm trees



## Summer Sunday School



The Sunday school children studied the story of Noah's Ark during the month of June. Check out the hallway bulletin board to see pictures they painted during Sunday school to go along with the story!

Join us during the month of July as the children learn about the Fruit of the Spirit. They will be studying Galatians 5:22-23: *The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

The key point this month is "The Holy Spirit helps me act in good ways."

Just a reminder, there will be no Sunday School on July 4th so teachers and kids can worship with their families.



# YOUTH MINISTRY



The youth journeyed to Bear Creek Kentucky to participate in various mission projects to aid those in need in that area. The ongoing theme for all of us was to remember that it's not about the project, it's about the people. Comforting the old, helping the needy, loving the children! The youth will share their adventures during worship on July 3rd.

## Around and About Friendship Church

### From the Church Council Chair

The church council meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> began with several celebrations. We are within \$200 of reaching our \$5,000 goal for Imagine No Malaria. Thank you to everyone, especially our children and youth who have helped raise money for this important cause. The Eagle Scout project, a prayer garden, is underway and should be completed by July 4. The Step Up To The World campaign to raise money for Connectional Giving, has collected \$3,091 to date, which will bring our contribution to apportionments up to 68% of what Friendship is asked to contribute. Prayers were asked for Kathy and Virgil Banker, Wilma Gabanit, Nancy Hansen, Carolyn Larsen, and Bill Schmid.

A question was raised as to how we could recognize all the wonderful volunteers at Friendship. It was discussed that we honor one group each month, in the newsletter, bulletin, and in the church service.

Our annual food drive collected 85 bags of food that were given to Power Connection and the Seventh Day Adventist food pantry.

Community involvement continues to grow. Many are now volunteering at Power Connection either in the food pantry or the resale area. Career Choices for High School Students will expand beyond our church this fall. 15 freshmen at Bolingbrook High School will be mentored by Friendship volunteers. Mentors still needed!

Pastor Anna reported on the Annual Conference she recently attended.

Melissa Schoonover reported on the wonderful mission trip the youth recently completed. Attendance has increased at their weekly meetings since the change to Saturdays.

Our next meeting will be at 7pm on August 16. Save the date for the church picnic on August 28. —Carolyn Weber

### Giving Tree

“A book is a gift you can open again and again.”  
Garrison Keillor

Stop by the Giving Tree at the back of the sanctuary this month and take a tag or two. Buy a new book or donate a gently used book to the summer reading program at Tibbott School in Bolingbrook. It is so important for children to keep reading over the summer to be prepared for school again in the fall.

Questions? Carolyn Weber, [csweber@comcast.com](mailto:csweber@comcast.com).

### All Church Food Drive Update

Thanks to all who contributed! We collected 85 bags of food, and it was distributed to POWER Connection and Seventh Day Adventist food pantries. Volunteers from FUMC served at POWER connection and were able to distribute some of the food donated by our members and friends! What a great testament to the generosity of Friendship Church!



## Friendship Community

### Prayer Chain:

Please email your requests to [prayerrequests@friendshipchurchumc.org](mailto: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 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.

The celebration offering for the month of June totaled \$282.00 from 11 envelopes. They are for thanksgiving for our daughter's high school graduation and youth mission trip; our Sunday School teachers and all graduates at FUMC; God's wonderful grace in our life; Jesus lives!; God's grace and blessings on us as family; 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; daughter's 2<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

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

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, July 15 @ 5:30 pm*

*Breakfast Saturday, July 16 @ 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, July 21 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**

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](mailto:chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info)



# July 2016 ~ Friendship Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 10am Youth Lead Worship No Sunday School  5pm AA	4 4th of July Office/Building Closed	5 10am BPC Ministry	6  6pm CCHSS 6:30pm Scouts	7	1 10am BPC Ministry 7:30pm GA  8 10am BPC Ministry 7:30pm GA	2 9am AA  9 9am AA
10 10am Worship & Sunday School  5pm Gujarati Worship	11	12 10am BPC Minis- try	13  6:30pm Scouts	14  7pm Anxiety Support	15 10am BPC Ministry  5:30pm Daybreak 7:30pm GA	16 5am Daybreak 9am AA
17 10am Worship & Sunday School  5pm AA	18	19 10am BPC Minis- try	20  6:30pm Scouts	21 11:15am Sr. Lunch & Bible Study	22 10am BPC Ministry  7:30pm GA	23 9am AA
24 9am Confirmation 10am Worship & Sun- day School 11:15am Friendship Fund Meeting  5pm AA	25  Vacation Bible School 9:00-11:30am	26	27  6:30pm Scouts	28  7pm Anxiety Support	29  7:30pm GA	30 9am AA
31 10am Worship/VBS Presentation  5pm AA						