

THE OBSERVER

Dear friends,

On Pentecost Sunday, we had the joy of celebrating the high school and college graduations of six young women and men in our congregation. Graduation is a remarkable achievement in its own right; however, these students have finished the last year and a half of their studies in the midst of a Pandemic that has made this achievement extraordinary. They have exercised tremendous perseverance, patience, and resilience, all of which will continue to serve them well into the future.

Over the last couple weeks, I've been reading Ken Follet's historical fiction novel, *The Pillars of the Earth*. This sweeping tale set in feudal England chronicles the building of a new cathedral – a feat that often takes centuries. What I love about the novel is that the holy work of building the cathedral is hardly left to the monks and priests. A faithful, yet imperfect builder named Tom contributes his gifts of design and organization as the master builder. An enterprising young woman who has made a fortune trading sheep wool lends her financial support. An old, nearly blind man does the cooking to feed the workers. Villagers all around the town pitch in with labor and support. It is through the work of the whole community that this monument to God is constructed.

I think this is a beautiful depiction of a faithful theology of work and vocation for our new graduates. The work of the kingdom of God is given to each of us in different ways according to our gifts and skills. And we're called to ask ourselves: how does my work - be that as an engineer, teacher, artist, banker, plumber –

contribute to God's kingdom? The 20th century martyr Oscar Romero puts it this way:

"How beautiful will be the day when all the baptized understand their work, their job, is a priestly work... that each metal worker, each professional, each doctor with the scalpel, the market woman at her stand, is performing a priestly office!"

Continue to pray for our graduates and workers in the congregation, that they may serve God through their work and vocation.

Peace,

Pastor Daniel



HONORING LUPC 2021 GRADUATES



The Christian Education for Children & Youth is proud to recognize and honor LUPC high school and college graduates. Each was recognized during the May 23 morning worship service. Congratulations to the Classes of 2021!



Mackenzie Cerny

Camden Co. High School
Kingsland, GA

- Beta Club
- President of Art Club
- Honor Student in AP/DE Classes



Mackenzie plans to attend college to major in animation with a minor in graphic design.

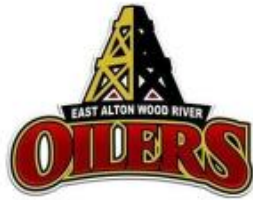
Gavin Shelton

Civic Memorial High School
Bethalto, IL



- Active member of the Bethalto Boys and Girls Club for over a decade. Chosen 2019 Youth of the Year with a \$500 scholarship.
- Captain of CM's Scholar Bowl Team.
- Received Gold Medal in the Illinois Design Educators Association competition for drafting and design.
- Has been on the High Honor Roll and Honor Roll numerous times through high school.
- Participated in several school plays at Civic Memorial.

Gavin will be participating in the Engineering Pathways to University of Illinois through Lewis and Clark Community College. He will attend his first two years of college at LCCC and then transition to The Grainger College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Spencer Slayden

East Alton – Wood River High School

- Football, 4 years
- Basketball, 4 years
- Track, 4 years.



Spencer will be leaving for the U.S. Army in July.

Kennedy Carnes

Illinois College
BS in Elementary Education



- Member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society
- Member of Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity
- Vice President of SAGE (Students for Acceptance & Gender Equality)
- Three year Member of the IC Volleyball Team

Kennedy will be joining City Year of AmeriCorps in Washington, DC for the 2021-2022 school year to help mentor students and foster academic, social, and emotional skills.



Paige Lemasson

Missouri Baptist University
BS in Business

- Outstanding Student of Achievement in Business
- Graduated Magna Cum Laude

Paige has recently accepted employment. She will be continuing forward with building a life with her husband, JJ, and their dog, Hermes.



Jordan White

University of Missouri, St. Louis



- Bachelor Degree in Social Work
- Cheerleader one year

As of now, Jordan will continue to work in activities among nursing homes, bringing joy to the lives of elderly people. She is considering pursuing a masters degree and moving toward becoming a school social worker.

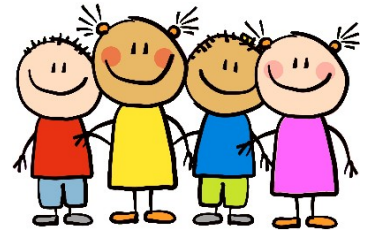


Each high school graduate received a wooden wall cross.



Each college graduate received a crystal ornament, engraved with the church name.

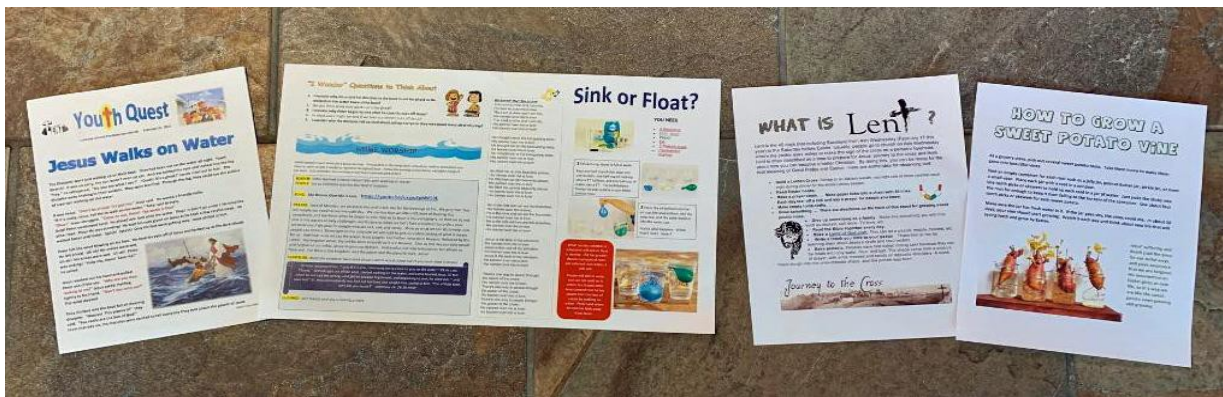
Youth Quest



LESSON MAILINGS

The 2nd Semester has ended so regular weekly Youth Quest lessons have been put on hold. However, there will be periodical mailings once or twice a month throughout the summer months. A new semester will begin on September 12, the Sunday after Labor Day. Hopefully, progress with COVID will allow us to begin meeting in person again with new programming and curriculum.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH !



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Due to COVID, it has been decided to NOT have Vacation Bible School this summer with First Presbyterian and St. Paul Episcopal Churches of Alton. However, we are exploring having an event this summer before school starts.

Re-Entry Groups

In an effort to support our community, the Adult Christian Education (ACE) team is offering an opportunity to let each of us be heard and share our experiences and intentions in moving forward through small group experiences, meeting twice a month. Groups will convene on Mondays or Tuesdays and time of day will be determined by the participants. If you are interested, please confidentially email facilitator Sandy Monroe, monroe5216@gmail.com with your preference for meeting day and time. You can call the church office to connect with Sandy. All persons, in and outside of the congregation are welcome to attend.

It is the intention of the ACE to get this program up and moving within the next couple of weeks. Please look for upcoming information on dates and times the groups will meet.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Food Pantry

You can drop off non-perishable items for the food pantry on Monday mornings between 9 am and 1 pm. The cart is by the front door. Thanks so much to those of you who continue to support our food

pantry even though we're not in the building on Sunday mornings.

Good Samaritan Fund

As we all know, these are not normal times. If you need some extra help meeting your bills or a gas voucher to make those necessary trips, please know that you can come on Mondays at 1:30 pm and we can help you.

Everything will be confidential. And if you can help support this fund, just mark your check for Good Samaritan Fund. We are here to help one another and those most vulnerable in our community.

Booth House and Saturday Café

If you have a heart for feeding the hungry, as Jesus taught that we should, helping with meals at the Booth House and/or Saturday Café is a great

opportunity for you. The Booth House is a homeless shelter operated by the Salvation Army in Alton. They do not have a meal prepared for them on Sundays. Six times a year we have agreed to prepare the Sunday evening meal to feed the approximately 20 people they may have. During these pandemic times, meals are dropped off and they serve themselves. Saturday Café is a ministry of First Presbyterian in Alton, serving anyone needing a meal. We handle this meal on the first Saturday of March, June, September, and December.

Let Brenda Donohoo or Karen Wilson know if you'd be willing to help with this.

Prayer Concerns

JoAnn Moss, Scott Shelton's Mother, Carol, & his sister, Tina, Mary Trudell, Pat Fletcher, Kate Trudell, Jim White, Rachel, Terry Allen, Judy Luck, John Lindquist, Herbert Peel, Katie Davis, Bill Meyers (Neighbor of Henson's), Nancy Yarnell (friend of Slayden's), Vickie Aldrige, Patrick Bone, Tollie Family, Glenda McDonald, Kathy Testori (Glenda McDonald's sister), Gayla Boehm, Dorothy Kelley, Laura Martin, Daniel (Friend of the Humbert's), Edwin Ehlers (friend of the King's), Dorothy Freeman (Joe Freeman's mother), Annabel Gibson, Deborah (friend of Paula Blair), Maurice and Susie Musgrave, Marian Twigg, Jennifer and Waymon Taylor (family of Brenda Greml), Bill and Susan Nesmith (family of Tanya Sisk), Jeff Loyet (friend of Humberts'), Sylvia Porter (neighbor of Sandy Franke), Bob Wilson, David Doersam (Lisa Hemphill's brother), Hayden Lindquist.

Nursing Home Residents

Riverside Care Center, Alton - Ron Franke.

Stearns Nursing & Rehab, Granite City - Christine Cunningham

Retirement Home Residents

Integrity Healthcare, Wood River – Herbert Peel

The Cottages of Carlinville, Carlinville – Shirley Martin

Villa Rose, Bethalto – Beth Forrester

Aspen Creek, Troy – Susanne Randall

Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Cliff & Mary Barnes, Shirley Burriss.

Tulip Psalm

Happy are the tulips for they are
God's Beauty.

For the fields and hills are filled with
beauty.

For the sun doth shines down on the
field as God looks
upon his children.

But like the sinner the weeds
commeth into the field.

But like the sinner the weeds shall
be cast out.

and so blessed are the children of
God and the Tulip.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 JoAnn Lamar
- 1 Selinda Jensen
- 3 Madison Klaas
- 4 Abel Bristow
- 5 Maximus Hatcher
- 5 Tiffany Milburn
- 7 Preston King
- 8 Aaron Miller
- 8 Michelle St. Peters
- 9 Delilah Shelton
- 11 Kathi Cooper
- 12 Traci Luck
- 13 Jo Carter
- 13 Lisa Hemphill
- 16 Rev. Dr. Linda Shugert
- 18 Carol Hanold
- 19 Karon Barry
- 19 Keely Rust
- 19 Kent Barry
- 21 Linda Peel
- 22 Ray Gvillo
- 23 Eileen Miller
- 24 Alice Buzzard
- 24 Judy Slonaker
- 25 Jean Day
- 27 Jessica Johns
- 27 James "Tom" Wyatt
- 28 Ashton Kudelka
- 28 Patty Miller
- 29 Kaitlyn Lewis
- 29 Richard Sisk
- 30 Bennett Kudelka
- 30 Rev. Dr. Aline Russell
- 30 William Hatcher
- 30 Alexis Suerig
- 30 Janet Barringer Phillips

Many Ways to Worship

We continue to gather in several ways at 10:15 AM on Sunday mornings as God's worshipping people. We hope you will join us online, by phone, or in-person. All three are good and faithful ways of worshipping. Online: Go to lovejoyupc.org/live and click 'connect Via Zoom.'

Phone: Dial +1 (669) 900-6833 and then at the prompt enter: 611 784 858# (long distance rates may apply)

In Person: make a reservation at lovejoyupc.org/reserve or call the church office at 618-254-5880. Participants are asked to remain masked and refrain from singing during the service. We can accommodate up to 50 people in-person. Zoom Adult Sunday School meets at 9 – 9:45 AM. Connect online or by phone according to the instructions above.

Tech Deacons are available to help you get connected online or by phone. Call the church office for information.

Contact Information

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church
2550 Rock Hill Rd.
Wood River, IL 62095

618-254-5880
www.lovejoyupc.org
daniel@lovejoyupc.org

June 2021

June

July

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9a Zoom Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship	31 Memorial Day Holiday Office Closed	6/1 Office Hours 9a-2p 6:30p Mission and Outreach Meeting	2 Office Hours 9a-2p 10:15a Zoom Bible Study 7p Online Evening Prayer	3 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Bell Choir Practice	4 Office Closed	5 Saturday Café
6 9a Zoom Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship	7 Office Hours 9a-2p	8 Office Hours 9a-2p	9 Office Hours 9a-2p 10:15a Zoom Bible Study 1p ACE Meeting	10 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Bell Choir Practice 6:30p Worship Committee (In-Person)	11 Office Closed	12
13 9a Zoom Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship	14 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Food Pantry	15 Office Hours 9a-2p 6:30p Children and Youth Christian education	16 Office Hours 9a-2p 10:15a Zoom Bible Study 7p Online Evening Prayer	17 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Bell Choir Practice	18 Office Closed	19
20 Father's Day 9a Zoom Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship	21 Office Hours 9a-2p	22 Office Hours 9a-2p	23 Office Hours 9a-2p 10:15a Zoom Bible Study 7p Online Evening Prayer	24 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Bell Choir Practice 6:30p Session Meeting	25 Office Closed	26
27 9a Zoom Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship	28 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Food Pantry	29 Office Hours 9a-2p	30 Office Hours 9a-2p 10:15a Zoom Bible Study 7p Online Evening Prayer	7/1 Office Hours 9a-2p 9a Bell Choir Practice	2 Office Closed	3



LoveJoy United
Presbyterian Church
A WELCOMING, NURTURING,
PRAYING COMMUNITY OF FAITH

2550 Rock Hill
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Fax: 618-254-1288

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

