



Plattville United Methodist Church  
13025 Church Rd, Yorkville IL  
815/475-4128

September 2020

WE ALL NEED TO BE REFRESHED

"Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you."

Matthew 11:28

In these changing times, it seems we need to change our ways. Parents and grandparents must find new ways to educate their children and grandchildren. And we now even must wear masks in our church service.

Oh, how we all need to be refreshed!

Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, many of us are having to adjust our lifestyles to live more simply than before. I have a suggestion to make today, as we all adjust to a new lifestyle. Instead of getting frustrated or angry, why not use the situation as an opportunity to hear what the scripture has been saying to us all along. That it is essential for the followers of Christ to embrace a simple lifestyle.

The problem for many of us is that we have taken on too much excess baggage. In Jesus's words, we have cluttered up our lives with things that rust or are eaten by moths. With things that are stolen or that become obsolete. Things that, in and of themselves, can never bring us true happiness.

Another problem for many of us is that we feel we are being deprived of the good life, because the things we have are not bringing us happiness. But instead of seeing this as a clue that "things" are not the answer, we go on wanting for more things.

"If only I had more. If only I had MORE!"

A true story:

Back in the 1880s, a farmer in South Africa heard that the real place for fame and fortune was in India. So, he decided to sell his farm and moved there to find it. But after searching long and hard for his fortune and never finding it, he despaired and took his own life.

Meanwhile, the man who bought the land from the farmer was out plowing his field and had to keep throwing large rocks aside to clear the way. As he tossed them aside, one caught his attention. He cleaned it off and placed it on his mantle.

One day, the farmer was visited by his pastor who noticed the sparkling rock...And now, the rest of the story... as Paul Harvey would say!

That large rock was a diamond! The farmer's field was full of them! The field was named "Acres of Diamonds", and became the world's largest diamond mine!

If the farmer who sold his farm to go find fame and fortune in India had been content with living simply, rather than always wanting MORE, he would have seen that what he was looking for was already beneath his feet.

We too, in our spiritual lives, are standing on acres of diamonds.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you."

We all need to be refreshed.

Thank you to all of our viewers on Facebook each Sunday morning!

Keep the faith,

Pastor Terry

\*Over 7 million copies of "Acres of Diamonds" have been distributed.

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Clara McLaughlin

Dan Thur

Grace Brummel

Don McCord

Caregivers

Pastor Terry

John Patterson family

Jeanette

Keith Millard

Our country's leaders

Bonnie Gunterman

Harvey Urton

Paisley & Parker

Military personnel

Prayers for PEACE

## **Praise**

Jill & Dave Ashton welcomed the birth of third child Tucker Earl on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Amanda & Kory Tedder welcomed daughter Olivia on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Arriving early Olivia spent the next 7 weeks in the NICU but is now home with Mom & Dad.

Amy & Jimmy Robbins are now back in the US after living over 2 years in Japan.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

### **September**

2	Sue Cummings	21	Darlene Ashton
5	Amy Robbins	22	Alyss (Anderson) Wilkes
5	Joel Smith	23	Ryan Anderson
6	Beverly Bender	23	Chris Ferko
11	Ben Leifieit	28	Carol Bilinski

### **WORSHIP**

Though we are few in numbers our worship continues to be rewarding and uplifting especially during these unprecedented times. We continue to pray for one another and hope that one day sooner, rather than later we will gather as we once did.

It is good to have Pastor back and feeling healthier.

Thanks to Kim, Mark, and Sharleen for making our online services available.

The good news for every day is:

God is good, all the time.

All the time, God is good.

Take care and find blessings in your surroundings.

Nancy Horton, Worship chair

### **3 Things you need to know about worship:**

- 1) We are safe
- 2) We are meeting in person
- 3) We are on Facebook live on Sunday mornings



However you are comfortable!

We started meeting in person in June and have averaged around 10 people (16 is our highest) in attendance per week. We are still following the guidelines that we set in June, hand sanitizer at both entrances, use of only the front entrance unless you need the elevator, masks, social distance seating, offering plates at the back of the church as you enter, and no congregational singing - you get the picture.

For those who choose not to attend in person we are putting a portion of the service on Facebook live and our attendance there has been an additional 15 to 20 people. The even cooler thing about online has been the extra views that the service gets during the week. We have had a high of 260 views in one week and the lowest was an additional 61. We have had views from as far away as South America and Japan. We even have a few new viewers from our local area.

At our church in Philadelphia they found out that most new visitors to church were those who are invited to attend by a friend and the way you can do that now is to start a watch party on Facebook as you are participating in the church service.

One thing that I have been asked about is about prayer concerns, we made the decision to not include those in our online service. It is one thing to share with our church family it is something entirely different to put them out on Facebook. So, we will be relying on email prayer chain to get those concerns to our prayer warriors.

However you have been joining us, please stay safe and remember that God is with us all until we can meet again.

Kim Crown, Lay Leader

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

At this time, we have decided for everyone's health & safety there will not be any Sunday School classes in the fall.

We have also decided to not hold our annual Ham Supper this year.

Church Council will meet following worship on September 6<sup>th</sup> in the church basement with social distancing in place.

Although our finances remain stable, just a friendly reminder that we continue to have our regular upkeep and bills for the church. We continue to have our monthly special collections, just footnote your check in remarks for specific funds.

Your gifts can be mailed to:

Susan Munson  
8641 Walker Rd.  
Yorkville, IL 60560

Thank you on behalf of the Finance Committee

*Generosity*  
changes everything



## **NEEDS**

We continue to collect plastic grocery bags (Jewel, Walmart, etc) and egg cartons for the Kendall County Food Pantry. Leave them next to coat rack at the front door.

The Kendall County Food Pantry uses about 1000 bags a week for their food distribution and they receive eggs by the case and need to repackage into cartons.

September's Change for Mission on September 13 will go to **Red Bird Mission** in Kentucky. Red Bird Mission was founded in 1921 in the southeastern corner of Kentucky to provide educational, health and spiritual outreach through the churches and schools. The mission supports an accredited K-12 school, health clinic, elder care, offers economic opportunity through their resale store and works camps volunteers.

