



The Grapevine

JOYFUL HARVEST CHURCH • “Growing Together for Christ”

November 2020

Volume 7, Issue 2

Notes from the Press Room:

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the new Grapevine. Thank you for your patience as we work to get it up and running once again. Any questions, comments, suggestions or submissions, should be directed to the editor Bruce Harmel or his trusted assistant Rose Stevens. In these uncertain times, we must remember to rely on prayer and our trust in God to carry us through each day with hope and lots of joy. God Bless you all!

Music Update - Kim DuBois

Growing up in churches with very traditional hymns, it was a welcome change when I first attended JHC and entered a whole new world of contemporary Christian music. Over the years these modern songs have become my new favorites. Our choir, led by Wade Frazier, sings our hearts out each week accompanied by multiple guitars and drums. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, we have been unable to meet regularly. Wade however, has continued to lead us all in music via zoom worship and outdoor worship. Until we can fully worship together again, it's the best we can do. If anyone wants to sing and praise the Lord using their vocal gifts, please let Wade know and he will do what he can to accommodate you. Lets all pray we will be as one back in the church very soon!

Bernie's Book Bank Update - Stephanie Peight

Two out of three low income children have no books of their own. Bernie's Book Bank, Chicago's largest provider of quality children's books, is changing that with 12 books per year for 12 years. The founders of Bernie's believe that books and reading are both the vehicle and the road to a better life. Since 2009, almost 19,000,000 books have been distributed to 275,000 children, including our own Johnsburg and McHenry elementary schools. Joyful Harvest Church has been a part of this amazing feat! With the COVID pandemic shutting down schools and families struggling to support children doing remote learning, access to reading materials ensures education can continue outside of the traditional classroom. Bernie's has continued to pair with other nonprofit organizations, such as the Northern Illinois Food Bank, to safely distribute books to under-served children. Bernie's Book Bank is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Since Bernie's is up and running but most collection sites are not, it is their hope that people will consider a donation of \$12 to provide one child with 12 books.

Council News

Your roving reporter has this update... which was spotted on the church calendar...

the next council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17th at 7:00 - location unknown, my guess is Zoom-

Someone is to submit info for the Council - but no word yet on who. Not to worry folks, this reporter intends to get to the bottom of this. Stay tuned it should get interesting...

Savings with Susan

Connie & Gary Craig's daughter Susan has set up a link on the church website for all your online shopping needs and Joyful Harvest will get a donation each time you shop. So sign up at Savings with Susan on the website and find all the Deals & Giveaways!

Secret Sisters Update - Rose Stevens

My Dear Sisters in Christ,

Thinking of you with affection - and sending this greeting your way~

God Bless You!~God Love You!~God Grant You - a happy and wonderful day! *Just a little poem for all of you!*

With November coming up, it's time for the Reveal party!

I know we can't really have a party so I need a little help from all of you. Anytime in November, I would like you to reveal yourself to your sister! You can do it anyway you like and I would love to hear some of the stories! If you need any help doing this for your sister please, please let me know and I will help. I know it's not the same as being together in fellowship but God is with each one of us, together separately! Only our Savior can do that!

So, next month, surprise your secret sister with who you are!!!! Don't leave anyone sisterless!

It doesn't matter if you sent gifts or cards, it matters that you prayed!! We will never completely know how much our prayers can do, this side of heaven. But I believe we will know the differences we've made in prayer when we do get to heaven!

Thank you all for the prayers and encouragement towards each other and when it's safe, I promise we will meet again! One more thing, never forget - "You are the Daughter of a King!"

Things to Remember

- **Daylight Savings time ends Saturday, Oct. 31st - turn your clocks back 1 hour**
- Saturday, Nov. 7th the Cub Scouts will be hosting a Blood Drive at the church beginning at 8am.
- Men's Group will be meeting on Zoom each Saturday at 7:00am - Grab a cup of coffee and your slippers and join the guys as they share their thoughts on our Lord and study His word!
- Bible Study continues on Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm - Nothing like giving God the Glory!
- Virtual Rummage sale going on - The treasures you will find are great! - Pastor says "everything must go" so I guess that means a blow-out sale right?! Perhaps Theresa A. will give us a bit more direction as to how to get to the site, as many are finding it difficult to reach.
- We are unable to work the ministries the way we normally do - But, we can still support them! We are collecting monetary donations for the food pantry, OCC, Bernie's Book Bank, etc. You can also make a general donation to the church which will help in additional ministries.

Favorite Bible Verses from the Congregation

Challenge yourself, look them up for the context and perhaps you will see why it's their favorite.

Roberta Miller - Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God. I will be supreme over all the nations; I will be supreme in all the earth."

Stephanie Peight - John 15:5 "I am the vine, and you are the branches. If any remain in me and I remain in them, they produce much fruit. But without Me they can do nothing."

Woofe Kutz - John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life."

Cindy Kutz - Romans 5:1-5 "Since we have been made right with God thru faith, we have peace with God. This happened through our Lord Jesus Christ who brought us into that blessing of God's grace that we may enjoy. And we are happy because of the hope we have in sharing God's glory. We also have joy with our troubles, because we know these troubles produce patience. And patience produces character, and character produces hope. And this hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out his love to fill our hearts. He gave us his love through the Holy Spirit, whom God has given us."

Rose Stevens - Psalm 37:5 "Depend on the Lord; trust Him and He will take care of you."

Lawn mowing can be a hot activity!

In September, our lawn mowing crew had a bad day – our zero-turn lawnmower caught fire and burned to a crisp! Thanking God that no one was hurt!



Here's an idea about all the fun things we discuss at Council Meeting, an excerpt from the Minutes!

Joyful Harvest Church, ELCA Abbreviated Minutes October 20, 2020 Council Meeting

Pastor's Report

- Due to the high volume of Covid 19 cases in the last few weeks, the Council decided to go back to ZOOM church. Kim motioned to accept this decision, and Jim seconded. Vote was unanimous. Men's Group will resume Zoom meetings and Wednesday Bible Study will meet tomorrow (10/21/20) to finish the current program we are studying. We will begin Zoom Bible Study next Wednesday, October 28.
- Friday, 10/23 will be the last day for Cub Scouts to use our building until we are using the building again.
- Memory Books were very well received. Thank you to Pastor Doug, Trudy, and Kim.
- Pastor Doug's vacation is again on hold until things normalize a bit around here!

OLD BUSINESS

- **Habitat for Humanity** - They are up and running and looking for people to help. When we feel that it is safe enough for people to participate as a group, we will set up a date. Until that time, if individuals feel safe, they can contact and serve.
- **Feed My Starving Children** - They are up and running with restrictions to size of group, mask-wearing, etc. It was decided that we would let the congregation know and they can decide if they want to start going again.
- **Grief Share** - one person via phone
- **Media Outreach** - Bruce will now include minutes from our Council Meetings in the monthly newsletter.
- **ALL ON HOLD** - El Divino mission trip, chicken and corn roast, volleyball night, birdhouse painting contest, silver anniversary, concrete pad behind church garage for outdoor worship, electric hookups, water line, Thanksgiving Potluck...
- Theresa is selling some of the **Rummage Sale** items on FB Marketplace. To date, we have made over \$1100 on sales! Fabulous job, Theresa!
- Work on repairing and refinishing kitchen floor has begun and continues.
- Parking lot project completed and it looks wonderful! One line is missing, but Pastor will contact them about painting it.
- Fire extinguisher for garage was purchased.
- AED equipment - purchase tabled until we are meeting in person again.
- Cleaning crew has been using a disinfecting sprayer which has been very time efficient for them.

NEW BUSINESS

- Hanging of the Greens - even with Zoom services possible, it would be nice to have some Holiday Decor in the background. Will decide more at the November meeting.
- Giving/Angel Tree - Pastor Doug has set up a "gift registry" for the Angel Tree tags and will publish the web address as soon as tags are received and entered. You will be able to select that item and it will then be removed from the registry so that we don't inadvertently purchase an item twice.