



UMW NEWS

UMW will not meet in July. Our next meeting is August 14 at 9:30am. Coffee will be served by Winifred Horney and the program will be given by Chris Stevens.

Day Apart is August 13 from 9:00 – 2:00 at Dayspring UMC in East Peoria. That is the day before our August meeting. I'll have more about this in July

Morning Circle will not meet during the summer months. Evening Circle will meet July 16 at 7:00.

God's grace-
Carol Kemper

A Heartfelt Thank You

Wow! July 3rd will be a year since my surgery! Pastor Dave didn't know me and yet he had the whole church pray for me the day before my surgery. Then he and Daniel drove to St. Louis to visit me, Dave & Linda you raised a very caring son. I just want to say Thank You to all that have prayed for me this year.

Gerri Pettit & Family



July Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Janis Waite Hayden
- 2 Roland & Becky Caulkins
Anniversary
- 4 Tom Hayes
- 6 Marilee Hurst
- 6 Rachel Link
- 7 Jared Roberts
- 9 Roland Ekstrand
- 9 Erik & Laura Davis Anniversary
- 10 Larry & Norma Bowhay Anniversary
- 10 Hayden Warner
- 12 Betty Montgomery
- 15 Michelle Armbruster
- 15 Joe & Deb Gasparovich
Anniversary
- 16 Griffin Wagner
- 17 Kristina Link
- 23 Jim Dawson
- 25 Derek Cantu
- 29 Catie Tracy



Greetings friends, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

I must admit I have guilty pleasure I enjoy the television show called American Pickers. I like watching these two guys go cross country looking for what they call "rusty gold." It is incredible some of the stuff they find, and it's unbelievable some of the things they leave behind. But I'm also more intrigued by a series of videos you can find on YouTube called dumpster diving. I know a person that does this not per se goes through the dumpsters, they drive around on special pickup days and pick up furniture and other items that they can restore. They usually take it home clean it up, strip it down if it's wood furniture and repainted. They call it shabby chic!

I recently read about a man by the name of Matt Malone, an Austin, Texas security consultant. He estimates he could make a quarter of a million dollars in a year if he gave up his day job and pursued his weekend hobby full-time -- a cool quarter million. Every weekend, Malone leaves corporate life behind, climbs into his Chevy Avalanche and goes dumpster-diving. Yes, dumpster-diving. But not just any old dumpsters. Malone has learned to be discriminating. He targets dumpsters behind retail chain stores. Much of what he finds there are store returns: items customers took home, didn't like and brought back to the store. Most are in perfect, like-new condition, still in their original packaging: vacuum cleaners, power tools, furniture, carpeting, industrial machines and consumer electronics. Even the scratch-and-dent items can be restored to near-pristine condition with "a little love," as he describes it. Malone also targets dormitory dumpsters at the nearby University of Texas. At the end of the semester as students are moving out is the best time. All year round, he makes for the dumpsters outside storage-unit rental places. As the tenants check out, they have second thoughts about taking everything with them. A small-time entrepreneur like Malone -- who's willing to deal with cast-off items one by one and is creative about refurbishing and reselling them at his weekly garage sales -- can make a great deal of money, and Matt Does. Most all these items are being sold on eBay or other auction sites for big money. What could be considered junk or trash is now treasure fetching big \$\$\$.

Dumpster-divers or junk collectors like Malone are following an ancient, even biblical tradition. The Scriptures depict God as being something of a dumpster-diver, as a deity who can transform trash into treasure. As the author of Psalm 107 puts it, God is a Redeemer: "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble." Think of the people of Israel as quality merchandise that's accumulated a few dents and dings but retains its original potential. The Lord can be counted upon to "gather them in from the lands", those distant places where they have been exiled. These items are not vacuum cleaners and computer printers, of course. They are human beings, created in the image of God. They hunger and thirst. Their souls faint within them. They cry out to the Lord in their trouble, and the Lord answers them. I think this is a right image for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He dives into our lives, into the messy moments, into the dirty parts, into the stuff that we wish we could throw away. With our scratches, dents, and bangs from sin. So do you think you cannot be restored? Never forget God is in the restoration business. He's willing to go anyplace, dive into any situation and do the hard work of rebuilding you like new. But, we're also to help God in that process. There are millions of people out there, right now, that feel like their junk. Are you willing to help Jesus dive into those dumpsters, along with the curbs? Do you see the potential in the beauty that Jesus saw in you? You are loved, you are redeemed, you are saved. In the name of the Redeemer Jesus. PD

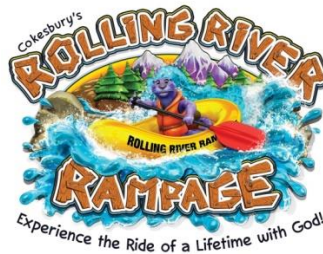
Youth News



Happy Summer to all our church youth! J-Squad had a great time swimming with the Catholic Youth Group in June. We will join them in a kickball game on July 15. Invite your friends!

Be watching for more information coming regarding our Summer 2019 Mission Trip. A parent meeting will be scheduled soon.

Kids third grade and younger, be sure to join the Children's Church group every Sunday. The leaders have something fun planned every week for you. The High School Sunday School class is meeting through the summer. They are studying the bible through The Bible miniseries.



Registration is underway for Rolling River Rampa Vacation Bible School!!

It's almost here! VBS starts on Saturday, July 21 at 9am for the pre-K kids and Sunday, July 22 at 6:30 for K-6. It's not too late to invite your friends and get registered for the ride of your life!

There are several ways to help with this important community-wide mission. You can volunteer as a helper any or all days of the week, you can sign-up to donate food for snacks and dinner or you can "sponsor a child" to off-set the expenses for supplies and materials. You can sponsor one for \$10 or three for \$25. Call the church office for more information.

Sign your child up today for this great adventure into the bible and onto the river! Go to the website www.elmwoodumc.com and click on the VBS tab. Volunteers are needed as well!

Fit FOR GOD

A friend of mine, Jackie Davis, in Bandera, Texas created the Fit for God fitness ministry. It is hosted by Christ Chapel of Bandera where she attends church regularly and leads the Women's Ministry. She started in one room with a few ladies and is now offering classes Monday through Friday, morning and afternoon for a total of 33 classes per week in new rooms with equipment for everyone. She has added nutrition classes once a month. She is an amazing Christian woman, with lots of energy and organizational skills. All this is FREE. She has a small Church budget and has received donations from people that see the importance of this Women's fitness ministry.

I attended several classes a week during the winter. I worked with Jackie and her staff to bring this ministry to Elmwood. She graciously shared information and training at no cost. She has given me routines and music to share. I am so EXCITED to share with you. The Lord is leading Jackie in this ministry and He is leading me too! I cannot say enough that Jackie Davis is an amazing Christian Woman.

On Monday, Wednesday and Fridays I lead the fitness ministry at the United Methodist Church of Elmwood from 8am – 9am. Currently we have 6-10 women attending the classes. I have some extra equipment to share, but you are encouraged to bring hand weights if you have them, a towel and water to stay hydrated. In the future I plan to have more equipment and bottled water to share.

Please join me in this Fit for God fitness ministry. Check it out. Attend classes. **No experience necessary**. It is so much fun. **IT IS FREE**. In the future I plan to have a monthly social outing in addition to fitness classes. Suggestions are welcome. I will try an afternoon/early evening class if there is interest.

Questions? Need more info? Call or text me at 309-696-6174 or email tbearschulz@gmail.com

Blessings,
Rene' Schulz



*"Do you not know that you are the temple of God
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"*

I CORINTHIANS 3:16 (NKJV)

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

9 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

July 1, 2018

GREETERS: Mike/Leann Sweeney
USHERS: Kent/Georgia Stevens
LITURGIST: Jason Hahn
ACOLYTES: Faith Foster/Katie German
VIDEO: Aaron Miller
MUSICIANS: New Day
NURSERY: Karla/Sara Kane
COMMUNION:
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

July 8, 2018

GREETERS: Roland/Cathy Ekstrand
USHERS: Janet Vallas/Rusty Koll
LITURGIST: Denise Hayes
ACOLYTES: Addi Powers/Cassidy Carr
VIDEO: Jason Hahn
MUSICIANS: Closer To Free
NURSERY: Lexi/Ellie Claerhout
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

July 15, 2018

GREETERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd
USHERS: Mike/Leann Sweeney
LITURGIST: Tom Hayes
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
VIDEO: Chuck Stevens
MUSICIANS: New Day Worship Team
NURSERY: Janelle Schrodtt/Abi Davis
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

July 22, 2018

GREETERS: Mary Drone/Laurie Leadley
USHERS: Gerri Pettit/Sara Kane
LITURGIST: Doreen Smith
ACOLYTES:
VIDEO: Kent Stevens
MUSICIANS: TBA
NURSERY: Laurie Leadley/Mary Drone
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

July 29, 2018

GREETERS: Lois Hill/Gail Sprout
USHERS: Curtis Smith/Bob Paige
LITURGIST: Cathy Ekstrand
ACOLYTES:
VIDEO: Jason Hahn
MUSICIANS: VBS Kids
NURSERY: Megan Perryman/Emily Roberts
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

July 1, 2018

GREETERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd
USHERS: Charlotte Haley/Mary Howard
LITURGIST: Mary Nell Simpson
ACOLYTES: Faith Foster/Katie German
PIANIST: Kris Petermeyer
NURSERY: Nancy Davis/Katie Parm
COUNTERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd

July 8, 2018

GREETERS: Charlotte Booth/Diane Malott
USHERS: Chuck/Connie Johnston
LITURGIST: Celene Duley
ACOLYTES: Addi Powers/Cassidy Carr
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Michala Schauble/Laurie Leadley
COUNTERS: Celene Duley/Alana Parm

July 15, 2018

GREETERS: Mary Howard/Karen Prouty
USHERS: Nancy Davis/Celene Duley
LITURGIST: Chris Stevens
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
PIANIST: Charlotte Booth
NURSERY: Shelli/Nicole Shoop
COUNTERS: Kanes

July 22, 2018

GREETERS: Nancy Wilson/Cheryl Whitehurst
USHERS: Tom Morse/Chris Stevens
LITURGIST: Janet Mottaz
ACOLYTES:
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Angie Ladd/Alix Steele
COUNTERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd

July 29, 2018

GREETERS: Dan/Pat Keefer
USHERS: Mary Howard/Lawrence Kane
LITURGIST: Karla Kane
ACOLYTES:
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Celene Duley/Alana Parm
COUNTERS: Celene Duley/Alana Parm