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TO KNOW JESUS AS SAVIOR AND  
LORD AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN.

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Decatur, IL 62521  
Permit No. 143

## 2018 GREAT BANQUET FALL DATES

Decatur Correctional Center  
September 27–30, 2018  
Gale Stenger, Lay Director

Men's Fall Great Banquet  
October 25–28, 2018  
Kevin Rosborough, Lay Director

Women's Fall Great Banquet  
November 8–11, 2018  
Sarah Wamser, Lay Director

Taylorville Correctional Center  
March 1-3, 2019



### Sunday Morning Worship

9:15 am

10:45 am

### Sunday School

Classes for Children and Adults  
at 9:15a & 10:45a

Fellowship 10:15-10:45am  
Children's Church 11:00am

September 6, 2018



### MEETINGS!

#### September 9

Team meetings  
DCC #15, Men's 111  
Women's 112, Boston #1  
6p

#### September 10

Intercessory Prayer  
5p  
Stephens Ministry  
6p

#### September 11

Women's Bible Study  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
10a  
Deacons  
7p

#### September 12

Bible Study  
6p

#### September 13

Exercise Class  
10:30a

#### September 15

Holy Harvest Party  
5p

#### September 16

Team meetings  
DCC #15, Men's 111  
Women's 112,  
Boston #1 & #2

# The Chimes

## BECOMING PAGAN #2

Last newsletter I talked about how the U.S. is becoming pagan and also how many of us are being slowly changed as the world infiltrates our minds and hearts and our lives. I gave three areas where we are slowly nibbling our way into Paganism.

1. We have made our SELF-INTERESTS A PRIORITY LIFE STYLE
2. THE BELIEF THAT THERE ARE NO MORAL ABSOLUTES
3. THE EROSION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

So here we go with a couple other things that we are doing to nibble our way into paganism

So here is # 4 . THE BELIEF THAT PAIN AND SUFFERING ARE **NOT TO BE EXPECTED.**

It is not just that we deny pain and suffering, it is our belief that pain and Suffering **SHOULD NOT BE.** No one wants pain and suffering. No one deliberately sets out to create pain and suffering, but we used to be able to admit that, more often than not, pain and suffering teach us lessons we could never learn any other way. We no longer believe that.

It goes deeper than "pain and suffering." A lot of Christians today (it is thought but not always said) should never have to experience anything negative. We are giving new meaning to the word "soft." People are more than soft. It appears that many of us are incapable of persistence, perseverance, patience, and of "long suffering."

## 5. THE DENIAL OF CONSEQUENCE.

No one believes anymore that what one does has any effect on anyone else. Let me clarify this statement. *IF* what I do appears to affect someone else, then **THEY** have a problem – not me. In other words, we have been able to intellectually isolate our behavior so that we no longer believe our decisions, and actions,(not to mention our words) about what we do affects anyone else, nor do we believe that our decisions should affect anyone else. (This is something that I have learned about people in the last 45 years of ministry).

We are bewildered when other people's lives are disrupted by our behavior. We refuse to believe that what we do today not only immediately effects those around us, but that the effects could go on for generations.

Take things like divorce, priests doing dirty things, addictions like alcohol, cocaine, heroine, and just eating too much on a regular basis. People who get divorces have the most difficult time comprehending why their children do not understand, why they can't adjust, why they can't get back to normal.

The fact of the matter is, we don't live in a vacuum. What we do or don't do affects others, sometimes to the detriment of people that we say we love.

Just an observation on why we are becoming pagan.

The truth is pretty simple. Sin has consequences that live on and on. One can be forgiven and learn from their mistakes, but one can never, ever, stop the consequences of their sin.

And so, even though we are Christian, even though we believe in the Bible, our thinking has been so altered by the world, that we actually believe that God will protect us from experiencing consequences of our behavior.

Depressing? Angry? I will lighten up on the next newsletter. We should be concerned if not frightened. The demons can slip in the backdoor while you are dealing with life through your front door.

See you in church . . . . . Jack

**!!!!CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!!!!**

There will be a Congregational meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:25 SHARP to:

- ◆ Change Jack's call due to his leaving PCUSA and being transferred to ECO denomination concerning medical coverage.
- ◆ To hear the report from the "Task Force" regarding transition on what we are doing for the future.
- ◆ To elect an Elder to fill the unexpired term of Matt Dyer.

Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

ATTENDANCE			
	2016	2017	2018
January	240	250	226
February	268	250	228
March	300	255	254
April	297	302	302
May	247	229	241
June	281	256	242
July	225	210	227
August	262	286	286
September	259	240	
October	243	243	
November	285	276	
December	265	278	

Loan Balance as of end of Aug 2018  
\$713,844.77

Capital Fund Contribution Through Aug, 2018  
\$73,389.81  
Expenses through Aug, 2018  
\$77,322.62  
\$19,914.68 Interest  
\$57,407.94 Principal

Capital Fund Checking Account End of Aug 2018  
\$6,161.05

Giving thru Aug, 2018  
\$326,236.61  
Expenses through Aug, 2018  
\$360,864.12

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Bri Lockwood	01
Ginger Wortman	01
Tobin Corrigan	02
Guyla Pilger	02
Amy Spry	02
Walker Brown	05
Sierra Hummel	05
Hunter Martincic	08
Nick Adkins	09
Norma Davidson	09
Lydia Morthland	10
Mary Haynes	11
Cheryl Fansler	12
Lori Urquhart	12
Cody Woodrum	12
Jeshae oSwag Moneyö Ali	13
Callie Schnitger	13
Chris Johnston	15
Jenny Walker	15
Timothy Reimer	16
Mike Fansler	17
Cody Layfield	17
Kevin Rosborough	18
Del Cearlock	21
Donna Whitsett	22
Heidi Kane	23
Michele Slunder	23
Butch Haynes	24
Abi Cardasio	25
Zoe Johnson	26
Matt Dyer	27
Hannah Gadberry	27
Rochelle MacAtee	27
Bricen Rodgers	27

**SEPT ANNIVERSARYS**

Dennis & Tina Miller	02
Andrew & Danielle Garrett	03
Mark & Tonya Rueff	03
Matt & Theresa Kuzel	09
Tom & Nell Steele	10
Jeff & Christy Rickman	12
Rick & Jody Welch	12
Robert & Joan Nelson	13
John & Tammy Wright	19
Donnie & Bethany Cisco	20
Matt & Laura LaFrence	20
Randy & Melinda Richards	22
J.C. & Kathy Coale	23
Mark & Chris Gadberry	23
Bobby & Lori Carlson	30

*You're Invited...*



**Women's Bible Study**

Join us Tuesday's at 10am

Lampstand Conference Room

Babysitting provided...please call the church to register your little one (217) 428-8839

*The Lazarus Life: A study on Spiritual Transformation begins Sept. 11*



**HOLY HARVEST PARTY**

Where: Lampstand Church  
When: Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 6p - 9p

A ducks quack doesn't echo. No one knows why!