

February & March , 2020

The Observer



Clinton First *Ignited* Methodist Church

WILDCAT STORE, 2019



On December 11-13, the Wildcat Store was open for business! Donations of all kinds were way up. The outpouring of love and caring from both the community and the churches was truly outstanding! More middle and high school students were served than ever before, and it was a huge success!

Congratulations go to Angela Cripe from the Bono Church, who spent countless hours in bringing the project to fulfillment. Also, her trusty sidekick, Audrey Lientz, the coordinator from our church, was there every day, helping everything run smoothly.

Many volunteers from the Cluster churches also pitched in to make the experience and this Christmas a very positive one for SV students. And, again, the store wouldn't have been possible without all the generous donations!

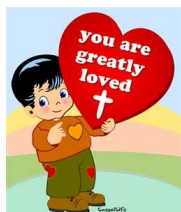


At top--Audrey Lientz helped the store run smoothly. Note the many prizes behind her. In front of her was a jar in which students guessed how many pieces of candy were in the jar. The student with the closest number won!



At Left--Joyce Short from Wayside UMC is straightening shoes and stacks of clothes. Volunteers also served as "personal shoppers."

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Upcoming February Events and Activities

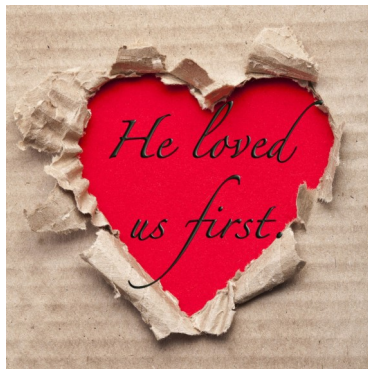


Valentine Cards for Nursing Homes



Our church will once again be making valentine cards for the two local nursing homes.

If you would like to make some, please do so by **February 9** so that they can be labeled and distributed. See Pastor Tom or Audrey Lientz.



Love Plates for Loved Ones!

Esther Circle Annual Project

Each year Esther Circle members prepare cookies and other goodies, and then assemble them during their meeting in February. A business meeting will also take place. .

On December 16, the Circle gathered at the Co-op Grill for food and fellowship. No meeting was held in January.

Next meeting:
Tues. February 18
7:00 pm @ church

Lenten Plans!

Lent: Feb 26-April 8



**Feb. 26, Ash Wednesday Service
at 7:00 pm at Clinton First**



**2020 CAMA Lenten Breakfasts
Saturday Mornings 8:00*-9:00 am**

A free will donation will be taken to support those in need.

Date	Where
February 29	FIRST UNITED METHODIST 310 S. 4th Street
March 7	UNITED PRESBYTERIAN 315 Mulberry Street
March 14	FIRST CHRISTIAN 649 Blackman Street
March 21	WAYSIDE UNITED METHODIST 14895 S 200 E
March 28	FIRST BAPTIST 448 Walnut Street
April 4	CLINTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD 223 North Main Street

*Note the later beginning time for the breakfasts.

Please offer to volunteer for our breakfast. We have the first one!



Church Administrative Board Meets

At the Administrative Board meeting on January 26, the board voted to replace the basement windows on the other side of the church with glass block windows, similar to the ones near the main entrance.

Cluster Sponsors Pre-New Year's Eve Party This year marked a change in this party, which in the past has been for youth only. This year, the party was for families. It was a huge success! The party was at Paradise Bowl with free pizza and bowling for the evening. All but two lanes were busy! Students who shopped at the Wildcat Store were invited, and several of them attended with their families.



Easter Plans Taking Shape!

Holy Week: April 4-11



Palm Sunday--April 5--9:30 am Worship

>Celebrate Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem!

Maundy Thursday-April 9

Good Friday-April 10--CAMA Sponsored Event

>at South Vermillion High School

>Carry-in Meal at 6:00 pm (Cafeteria)

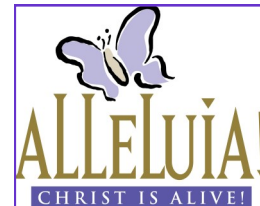
>Worship Service at 7:00 pm (Auditorium)

Speaker: Mark Schimmel, principal of SVHS

>Hosted by New Life Family



Easter Sunday
April 12



First 2020 CAMA Quarterly Meal and Service

The First Christian Church hosted the first CAMA Quarterly Worship Service on January 12 for a fellowship meal and worship service.

Approximately 70 people were in attendance for the carry-in meal of delicious soups, sandwiches, and salads, along with dessert. An uplifting time of song and a message followed the meal.



Correction: Bryce Weeks is marrying **Savannah** Van Skyhawk on July 5. Her name was printed "Samantha" in the previous newsletter. Apologies for the error to the Weeks' family!

It's Official! Jan. 21 Was Adoption Day!



Jocelyn, Trinity and Joyce, are surrounded by court officials on the left and family & friends on the right. All are supportive and wishing them the very best!



Trinity's service dog, Misty, is a family member, also, as the humans get set to dig in!

Trinity and Jocelyn Rector are now officially adopted by Grandma Joyce Harvey. They appeared in front of Judge Swaim at the Parke County Courthouse on January 21 to bring the adoption to closure. Throughout the long process, Judge Swaim has been very encouraging and supportive of them, as well as other persons involved in the process, either as officials or as friends or family. Many of the group below gathered for brunch afterwards to savor the moment.



**Church
Christmas
Party**

FUN!



Welcome Home!



Brandon Alexander Reunites with Family

Brandon writes, “There’s too many people to say thanks for all the support and how much I appreciate everyone saying they are glad I’m back.. so if you’re reading this, Thanks!! Also, please don’t forget the prayers for the ones that are still over there and especially for the families that did not get their loved ones back.”

Wife Jessica and their children and Mom and Dad Alexander are very relieved and grateful to have Brandon safely back on US soil. Our church family would like to thank Brandon for his service and rejoices in his return!

FORD
DRIVE
4 UR COMMUNITY



Drive 4 UR Community
(888) 893-3673
drive4urcommunity@gtb.com

*A little drive could
go a long way.*

Fundraiser to Benefit

Backpack Program!

What: TEST DRIVE a vehicle and earn \$20 to be used to buy food to send home in backpacks of students in need. There truly is no sales pressure at all at this event. Tommy Wilson’s goal is to raise funds and awareness for the Backpack Program serving South Vermillion elementary schools.
Shelby Marsof

When: Saturday, May 9

Times: 11:00am-4:00pm

Where: Tractor Supply, SR 163 Clinton



Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!

Easter Egg Hunt to Follow!

Plastic eggs are NOT needed this year, but small trinkets and/or candy to go inside, such as erasers, stamps, bouncy balls, etc. are requested. Monetary donations will be used for prizes. Volunteers will be needed! A date has not been set yet for this popular event, and more details will be coming. Contact person, Ashley Downs

Community Appreciation Dinner Coming Up!

An appreciation dinner is being planned for all Clinton City employees and their families. This includes police officers, firefighters, EMT's, office workers, and others. The dinner is to demonstrate our church's appreciation for their efforts in maintaining and sustaining our town. The date has not been set yet, but will be on a Saturday after Easter. Please watch for more details to come. Volunteers will be needed in this rewarding event! Margie Lapworth is spearheading it.



Deadline Extended for New Church T Shirts and Hoodies

Notice the change in the logo in the hoodie Pastor Tom is wearing. Be sure to order your shirt by Sunday, February 9. Please make checks out to CFUMC since payment will be made through the church. Hoodies are \$26, Long-sleeved T-shirts are \$18. Short-sleeved Tees are \$12.50.

Welcome to New Member!

Sharon Butcher, in black, third adult from the left, stands surrounded by her family after her baptism on January 12.

Sharon attended the church many years ago, and we welcome her back to the congregation.



Volleyball Tournament Was Tons of FUN!



Brenda Alexander's Team!



Loren and Angela Crouch's team!

The competitive juices were really flowing during the round robin volleyball tournament on January 12 at CRC.

Three teams participated: the Loren and Angela Crouch family, Brenda Alexander's team and Pastor Tom's team. Brenda's team emerged as the victor! All the teams and the spectators enjoyed the pizza and great exercise on a cold January afternoon. This was such fun that another tournament is being planned. Spectators will be welcome! Watch for the announcement about the next one. (Sorry, there is no picture of Pastor Tom's team.)

FEBRUARY, 2020			
Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	Feb. 16	9:30 am	Hannah Hoover will bring the message
Tuesday	Feb. 18	7:00 pm	Esther Circle meeting at church
Weds.	Feb. 26	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday service at CFUMC
Saturday	Feb. 29	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at CFUMC
MARCH, 2020			
Saturday	March 7	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at United Presbyterian
Sunday	March 8	-----	Daylight Savings Time begins
Saturday	March 14	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at First Christian
Tuesday	March 17	7:00 pm	Esther Circle meeting
Saturday	March 21	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at Wayside UMC
Saturday	March 28	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at First Baptist
APRIL, 2020			
Saturday	April 4	8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast at Clinton Assembly of God
Sunday	April 5	9:30 am	Palm Sunday service 
Friday	April 10	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Good Friday Meal at SV High School Service follows
Sunday	April 12	-----	HAPPY EASTER!
Tuesday	April 21	7:00 pm	Esther Circle meeting



Prayer Concerns

*Telecare Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request or concern,

Notes from Rhonda Reed:

Check us out on Facebook – www.facebook.com/clintonfirst

Upcoming Events - <http://clintonfirst.org/fumc/calendar/>

Please send any additional upcoming events info to admin@clintonfirst.org so they can be added to web / Facebook as soon as possible.

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Clinton First Ignited Methodist Church

Upcoming Events & Activities:

Feb. 18 Esther Circle Assembles Love Plates 7:00 pm

Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm

Feb. 29 Lenten Breakfast at First Clinton 8:00 am

Regular Events Calendar

Sunday	9:30 am	Worship service
		Communion 1st Sunday
	11:00 am	Sunday school for all ages
Thurs.	2:00 pm	Backpack packing
Thurs.	3:00 pm	Prayer Team



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