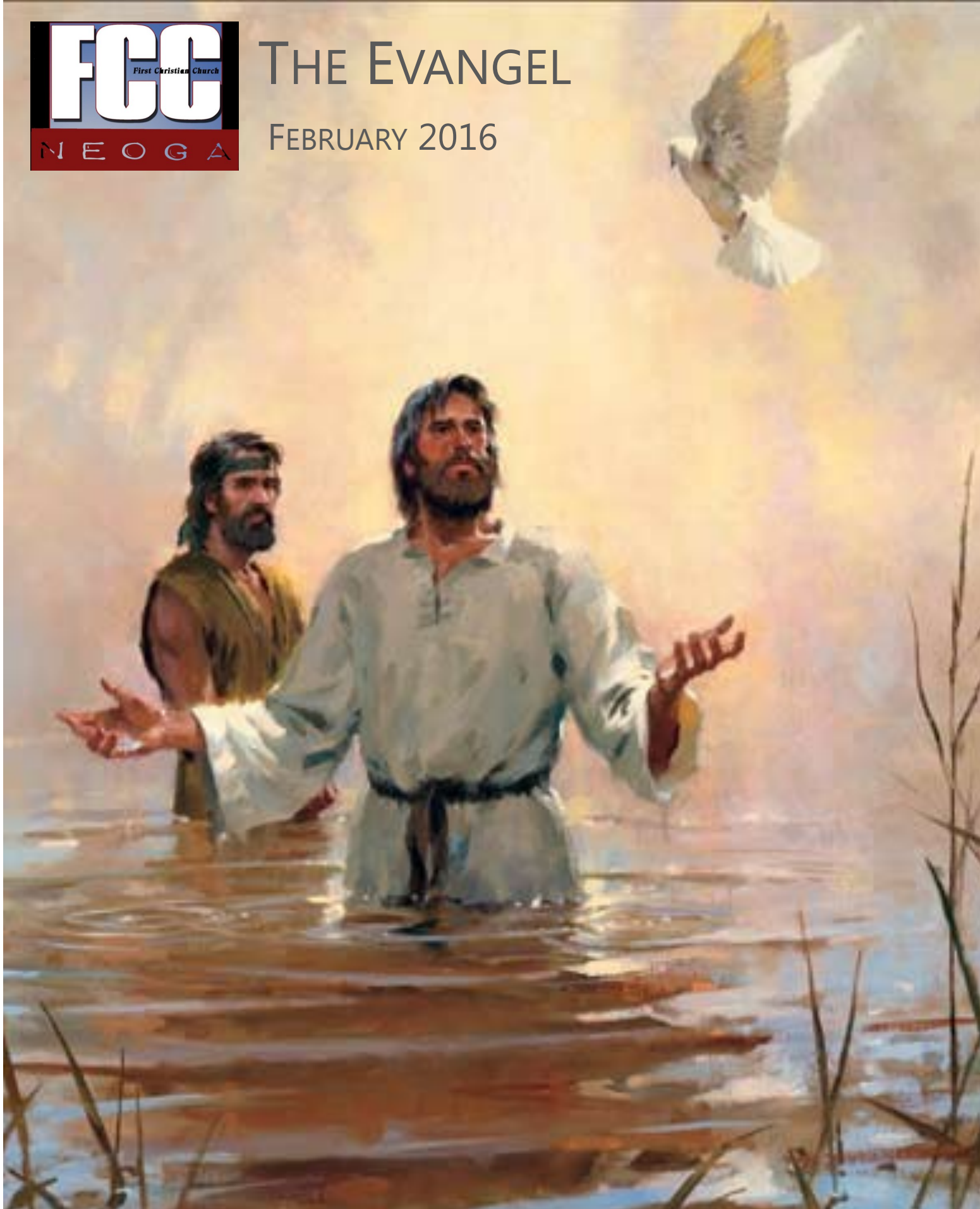




THE EVANGEL

FEBRUARY 2016



PRAYER CONCERNS

CURRENT (3 WEEKS):

Praise! Jake Ballinger baptized on Wed.
Family of Nathan Evans (Sheila Kalapis son)
Olive Stiebner— shoulder surgery 2/3
Joann Hood— knee replacement 2/5
Derrick Finney— results from Mayo visit
Larry Curry— critical care
Chris Senteney— heart transplant
Eugene Phillips— heart surgery recovery
Norma Edwards- poor health
Tim Davenport-serious infection
Ann Conn
Shawn Whetsell— pneumonia/ infections

ONGOING CONCERNS:

Alicia Myers
4/14
CIY

FIGHTING CANCER:

Sam Bean
Ann Conn
Mel Hood
Dan Letizia
Denny Mefford, jr
Brad Odum
Bob Thomas
Larry Wheeler
Lis White

IN THE MILITARY:

Tyler Briggerman—Navy
Shane Gephardt
Josh Kiest
Wes Letizia—Air Force
Alicia & Steve Tordoff—
Army Reserve

IN CARE FACILITIES:

Ivan Cooper—Heartland
Carolyn Gast—Cumberland Co
Elsie Phillips—Heartland

FIVE CONDITIONS OF PREVAILING PRAYER

by George Mueller

1. **Entire dependence upon the merits and mediation of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the only ground of any claim for blessing. (See John 14:13-14; John 15:16)**

John 14:13-14 - You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. 14 Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

2. **Separation from all known sin. If we regard iniquity in our hearts, the Lord will not hear us, for it would be sanctioning sin. (Psalm 66:18)**

Psalm 66:18-20 - If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. ¹⁹ But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer. ²⁰ Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.

3. **Faith in God's word of promise as confirmed by His oath. Not to believe Him is to make Him both a liar and a perjurer. (Hebrews 11:6; 6:13-20.)**

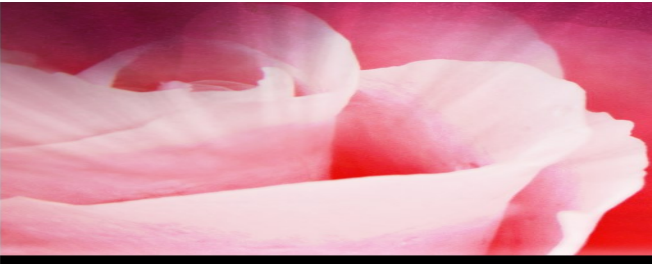
Hebrews 11:6 - And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

4. **Asking in accordance with His will. Our motives must be godly: we must not seek any gift of God to consume it upon our lusts. (1 John 5:14; James 4:3)**

James 4:3 - And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

5. **Importunity in supplication. There must be waiting on God and waiting for God, as the husbandman has long patience to wait for the harvest. (James 5:7; Luke 18:1-8)**

James 5:7 - 7 Dear brothers and sisters,[a] be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen.



"To win the fight you've got to have the right strategy and the right resources, because victories don't come by accident" -War Room.

Calling All Seniors, Just Older Youth

This FEBRUARY we will focus our attention on 4/14 (Neoga Youth Fellowship). Mark your calendar and plan to attend our Senior Fellowship on Thursday, February 11, 2016 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at FCC.

Our worship focus will include familiar hymns and “yesterdays youth favorites” and a devotion led by Bro. Matt Davis. Matt will also share current and future youth activities, reflections over the past 12 months as the FCC Youth Minister, and insights as to ways we can encourage our youth. Plan now to attend and enjoy the worship, fellowship, and lunch with the staff and seniors of all ages. Meat, drinks, and table service will be provided; each person should bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert to share.

Future dates for Senior Events:

Senior Breakfasts: Last Tuesday of each month, 8am at Depot

March 10, 2016: Senior Fellowship will host a campus minister from the Eastern Illinois University Christian Campus House. More details in March Evangel.

April 21, 2016: Southern Illinois Seniors’ Luncheon, musical program, fellowship and devotions will be held at Fairfield, IL. This event is hosted by Lincoln Christian University, and St. Louis Christian College. More details to follow later.

Ladies

Ladies Bible Study has three more sessions (Week of Jan. 31, week of Feb. 21, and the week of Feb 28) in our study with Priscilla Shirer on Breathe. We are discovering that Sabbath margin—the boundary God enables us to put around things we enjoy so that we never become slaves again—applies to us today.

Coming in March—War Room Study on Prayer.

This study utilizes movie clips from the movie War Room in an effort to help us grow our prayer life. We will offer this study on Sunday evening at 6:00 pm and Wednesday morning at 9:30 am. Sign up sheets for participation will be available at the Welcom Center beginning February 14. This five week study will begin the week of March 6 and will be offered the weeks of March 13, 20, April 4, April 11 and an optional review on May 1.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 Ladies' Day at LCU

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend Ladies’ Day at Lincoln Christian University. More details regarding the program, cost, and departure time from FCC in the March Evangel.

**Coming to FCC,
Friday March 4, 2016,
6:30 pm**

WAR ROOM *movie*

In his letter to Ephesians, immediately after Paul tells the church to put on the full armor of God to fight spiritual warfare, he closes with the admonition of prayer: “Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.” (Eph. 6: 18) The movie War Room is a compelling faith drama filled with humor, heart and a battle plan of prayer.

This movie became the #1 movie in US theaters and received raving reviews from audiences of all ages. The Jordan family seemed to have it all—great jobs, a beautiful daughter, and their dream house. But appearances can be deceiving. Their lives take an unexpected turn when Mrs. Jordan meets her newest client, Miss Clara, and is challenged to establish a “war room” and a battle plan for prayer.

If you have not seen the movie, plan to attend. If you saw the movie, come see it the second time.



Christ in Youth amplifies the call on students' lives to become Kingdom workers

Preparations for CIY are going on right now for 4/14. At CIY youth get a chance to leave their normal life behind for a bit and go off to focus on God and what He means to them. Last year was my first experience with this organization and I was deeply moved by what I saw, I know the kids were moved even more than I was.

Believe is a weekend event for middle schoolers, because only a crazy person would do a week long event with middle schoolers. At Believe we talked about King David and what it means to be "after God's heart". We had some awesome worship, teaching and some really great time together talking about things and growing together. This year we will be talking about John the Baptist titled "Switching on Truth".

The high schoolers got to experience CIY Move, a week long time of worship and focusing on God and his message for us. We worked our way through the life of Daniel and learned what it really meant to live for God. This week was amazing and I really saw God working through the lives of our teens. This year we will learn what it means to be a Kingdom worker.

CIY is a great opportunity for our kids, but the price can be overwhelming to some students. I don't want to see anyone left behind because they can't afford the price tag. To help meet their needs I am asking for your help.

Starting on February 7, there will be a board in the back of the sanctuary with envelopes from 1-100 written on them. If you feel led to help, please take one of the envelopes and commit to putting, at least, the amount written on the envelope into it. If you have been blessed, take a larger amount or put more in than called for. If you are like the women in Mark 12:41-44 and you only have a few dollars, then take one of the smaller envelopes.

Once you have taken and filled an envelope please pray over the kids at CIY that they might be drawn closer to the kingdom of God. Then bring the envelope back the next week and put it in the offering plate. Please use the envelope so that we know that this money is meant for our kids. When we move closer to the events I will have a list of name of the kids going and some specific prayer requests for those students. I will again be asking for your help in praying for these kids.

Thank you for your help and prayers.

"Witness the manhunt that changed the course of human history" This is a quote from *Risen*, the epic Biblical story of the Resurrection, as told through the eyes of a non-believer. Clavius (Joseph Fiennes), a powerful Roman military tribune, and his aide, Lucius (Tom Felton), are tasked with solving the mystery of what happened to Jesus in the weeks following the crucifixion. Their goal is to disprove the rumors of a risen Messiah and to prevent an uprising in Jerusalem.

I have seen the preview for this movie, and it looks great. You can go to www.Risen-movie.com and watch it for yourselves. We at 4/14 are planning on taking some youth to go see this movie and we wanted to invite you along as well. We are planning on going on **Saturday, February 20th** (time to be determined later) and watch the movie. We will then be going to Monical's Pizza to discuss what we saw, if our party is too large (awesome) we will get some pizza and bring it back to the school to eat.

Please, prayerfully, consider joining us for this. With all the absolutely horrible movies that come out these days, we need to support that good ones. Look at the success of *the War Room!*

CIY Believe (Jr Hi): April 1-2 CIY Move (HS): July 25-30

THANK YOU FOR MEXICO

"Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan."

Ephesian 1:11

It has been a great joy of mine to see so many from our church excited and supportive of the Mexico trip in 2015 and the one planned for 2016. I want to thank all who have supported both of these trips, whether it was through praying or financially. It is with a sorrowful heart that I am postponing the trip planned for 2016. Because of scheduling conflicts with those who were signed up, we do not currently have enough participants for this summer's mission trip. I have discussed this with the elders and transferring the Mexico funds to the CIY youth group trips would be an appropriate use of the funds. This way God will still be glorified by the enriching of youth through Christian teaching and activities. Again I want to say thank you for your support.

Jennifer Davis

CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER

Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Your "change" can make a difference in the future of our community.

Your donation will help women from our community, as they face unplanned pregnancy. Your children may also enjoy helping in this mission! Please pick up a bottle beginning Feb 7, fill it with coin, cash or check and return to the church by Feb 28.

The Crisis Pregnancy Center exists to empower woman to make an informed decision about their pregnancy by equipping them with the facts about all of their options. They provide accurate information, compassionate care and practical assistance to women with an unplanned pregnancy. The CPC provides: free pregnancy tests, limited OB ultrasound, accurate information, counseling, material needs, parenting and childbirth classes and referrals.

**As we LABOR together,
for the Lord,
watch God CHANGE lives!**

Ladies Mark Your Calendars

Priscilla Shirer Simulcast

When: April 23, 2016

Where: At FCC!!!!

Time: 9am-5pm

More details to follow

February volunteers...

	Video	Audio	Greeters	Children's Ministry	Communion	Servers
7	Matt	Aubrey	David & Sheri Coen	<u>Nursery</u> : Cathy & Mahayla Oakley <u>Wee Worship</u> : Sheri Coen, Andrea Workman <u>K-5th</u> : Joni McClure	Jack Gilbert Bill Kenworthy Zach Letizia Paul Lake	Doug Moore Harry Starwalt Tom Tomlinson Art Walk
14	Zach	Tom	Barry & Ann Conn	<u>Nursery</u> : Joann Miller, Pam Storm <u>Wee Worship</u> : Louella Drum, Katie Hakman <u>K-5th</u> : Joni McClure	Chad Walk Alan Baker Doug Baker Barry Conn	David Coen Don Coen Jack Gilbert Bill Kenworthy
21	Matt	Tom	Harry & Judy Starwalt	<u>Nursery</u> : John & Reeni Letizia <u>Wee Worship</u> : Cheryll Gilbert, Penny Hess <u>K-5th</u> : Joni McClure	Paul Lake Zach Letizia Doug Moore Harry Starwalt	Tom Tomlinson Art Walk Chad Walk Alan Baker
28	Jim	Aubrey	Joe & Pat Briggerman	<u>Nursery</u> : Judy Starwalt, Linda Baker <u>Wee Worship</u> : Rory & Paula Gentry <u>K-5</u> : Joni McClure	Doug Baker Barry Conn David Coen Don Coen	Jack Gilbert Bill Kenworthy Paul Lake Zach Letizia

Volunteer at Heartland Christian Village

February 2, 2016

FCC volunteers assist the Heartland Village residents at their Brunch by taking their orders, getting and serving their food to them and a briefly visiting with them. Following the meal, we clear the tables, and reset the tables for the next day. Volunteers work from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

There has been a shortage of volunteers in the winter months.

While the value of a smile or word of encouragement can't be measured, In the fiscal year that ended in June, 2489 volunteer hours were recorded resulted in savings of \$18,142.52 to the residents.

Men's Night @ Oil Belt: *"Walk Like A Man"*

February 5. Leave church together at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, program at 7pm, home by roughly 9pm. We will have a meeting stop in Effingham at 5:25 pm. Speaker is David Bycroft of Tyro, Kansas. Sign up at the welcome center.

4th & 5th grade Wednesday after school bible study.

It is never too late to join the fun. 23 are currently registered. Transportation to FCC from the school is provided. For more information and registration please contact Joni or Doug McClure.

Community Clothesline:

January 7th

33 Families and 86 Individuals

January 21st

21 Families and 56 Individuals

Neoga Community Food Pantry:

39 families, 111 people served

4 deliveries

11 volunteers, 27 volunteer hours

Not just health, for
your enjoyment...

9-10 am

Mon-Fri

The former grade
school will be
open for
"hall walking."



A Helping of Servanthood

"As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. ¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³ But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice." ¹⁴ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:9-13

What an amazing privilege to have God's unconditional love, in which he sent his only son to seek and save the lost. In this context it was by sharing a meal with the unworthy. It is powerful to see how Matthew, a tax collector, no questions asked, just got up and followed Jesus. Then they sat down with other "tax collectors and sinners" to share a meal. It was in this fellowship that they truly did see Christ, not only physically (what a privilege!) but for whom he truly was, their Savior. Christ did not seek the Pharisees, but those whose hearts were desperate for him. Jesus calls us to be servants and to love one another.

As Peter's dream in Acts 10 states, he thought there were certain foods he was taught as a child to never eat. However Jesus tells Peter in his dream "Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean." Peter was having a difficult time following what was ask of him because of his upbringing. Sometimes our ideas or what we have been taught do not match up with God's plan. But out of love and obedience we need to work diligently to follow the opportunities he places before us.

We have been blessed with the churches coming together and working alongside each other in the love of Christ. One of the biggest blessings we have seen is the fellowship that has come out of these meals. It has been pure joy watching Mel, Matt, or Steve Massengill sit and talk to people they may have not known before this meal. This meal is not only to feed our physical bodies but to help feed us spiritually.

On February 4th we are serving breakfast for supper. If you are interested in helping please sign up at the welcome center. We are in need of Fruit, cinnamon rolls, coffee cake and volunteers. If you have any questions please contact Amy Baker or Jennifer Davis.

*"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others
and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28*

February 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>9-10 am (M-F) 4/14 Outreach Center (former grade school, 641 W 6th) will be open for hall walking.</p>	1	2 9:30-11:30am Volunteers at Heartland 6:30pm Men's Study	3 9:30am Ladies' Study 2pm 4th & 5th Bible Study 5:15pm 4/14 Prayer 6pm 4/14 6:30pm Small Group 8:30pm College Group	4 1-7:30pm Clothesline 5-6:30pm Community Meal 6-7pm Food Pantry	5 5pm Men's Night at Oil Belt	6
<p>7 Baby Bottle Blessings begins 5pm Prayer Owen Lake</p>	8 Violet Frankie	9 Jannie Kenworthy	10 2pm 4th & 5th Bible Study 5:15pm 4/14 Prayer 6pm 4/14 6:30pm Small Group 8:30pm College Group	11 11m-1pm Seniors' Luncheon Julie Altman Donna Gentry	12	13
<p>14 3pm Elders' Mtg 4pm Financial Board Mtg 5pm Prayer 6pm Small Group</p>	15 John Letizia	16	17 2pm 4th & 5th Bible Study 5:15pm 4/14 Prayer 6pm 4/14 6:30pm Small Group 8:30pm College Group	18 1-5pm Community Clothesline Pat Miah	19	20 <i>Risen</i> (movie time TBA) Michael Baker
<p>21 3pm Elders' Mtg 4pm Elder/ Staff Mtg 5pm Prayer 6pm Small Group Ladies Study Doug Baker</p>	22	23 8am Seniors' Breakfast at Depot	24 2pm 4th & 5th Bible Study 9:30am Ladies Study 5:15pm 4/14 Prayer 6pm 4/14 6:30pm Small Group 8:30pm College Group Elizabeth Davis	25	26 Terry & Joann Miller	27
<p>28 Building Fund Sunday Baby Bottles due 5pm Prayer 6pm Small Group Ladies Study</p>	29					