

Helmar Heartlines



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“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”—John 12:24-25

A very clear picture of the Christian life can be seen during planting and harvest times. Corn and bean plants have to die before you get a useful harvest. A seed can't remain on the cob or in the pod if it's going to be of any use.

Jesus died in order to give us life. Yes, His life and ministry here on this earth was important. But it wasn't until His death and resurrection that we received life. In order for Jesus to bring us life, He had to endure a death on the cross. He died that we would have life and have it abundantly!

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”—John 10:10

For us in the church, living in Christ means dying. Jesus warns us that if we love our lives, we will lose everything. We will sacrifice eternity with Him for a few moments of holding onto this life. Scripture tells us that our lives are short. The Bible compares our lives to a mist that is gone in an instant (James 4:14) or grass that grows one moment and is withered the next (Psalm 103:15-16). Life is too short to hold onto earthly things (our desires, our possessions, our pride). Let them go! Let them die and receive abundant life in Him.



There have been many times when I love my life above anything else. I've sought out my own comfort, happiness, popularity, and acceptance. Jesus says a life in Him is the opposite. I should hate this self-centered way of thinking. My own selfishness dies and instead I find life when it's all about Jesus.

We live in a world where it's all about us. We have Facebook to show people our activities, Twitter to show them our thoughts, and Instagram to show our every move. We anxiously look to see how many people “like” our pictures, words, and ideas.

Jesus commands us to let our selfish nature die. Instead of making ourselves known, we make Him known. Instead of living to draw people towards us, we live a life that draws people closer to Him. Instead of making sure we are pleased, we live a life that pleases Him.

Jesus died so that we could have life, and have it abundantly! Let's live for Him!

In Christ,
Gary Maxwell



Quilters report for August 2017-August 2018:

Our quilters assembled 105 full size quilts, 40 lap robes and 20 baby blankets along with 49 mixture of lap robes and baby blankets that were distributed during the year. They were delivered to Park Point Nursing Home in Morris, New Beginnings (assisting and mentoring women) in Morris, Hurricane Harvey in Texas, Urban Renewal (Wayside Cross) in Aurora, Coal City Pads, Coal City, IL, Naknek, Alaska, (via Deb Andersen) and Hessed House in Aurora. The women have a fun time working on the quilts, assembling the tops, sewing tops together, assembling the quilts with batting and backing, sewing the quilts together and then tying the quilts with yarn. Three of our quilters assemble and quilt at home. We also gave baby blankets to new babies in our congregation. Each quilting day we average between 13-18 workers and complete 5-7 quilts.. We invite anyone to come and join us for the morning or afternoon as we work on these quilts, or just come and visit and enjoy our coffee break with us.



It's that time again! Let's see how many shoeboxes we can fill! It's been 25 years since the first shoeboxes were collected in the United States and Canada. Sadly, last year we only filled 26 shoeboxes. :(I know we can do better this year! Let's DOUBLE that number at the very least! O.C.C. shoeboxes and instructions will be available October 7th in the FLC lobby and the narthex. FUN FACT-Shoebox collection began in 1993. In 1995, it expanded to 17 countries. In 1996, it expanded to 35 countries. In 2001, shoebox gifts exceeded 5 million for the first time. For many of those who receive these boxes, it is the only gift they will get and it will be the first time they hear about Jesus! Let's be a part of this great project!

Birthdays and Anniversaries*

Oct. 1

Don Schoenfielder

Oct. 3

Ethan Carty

Oct. 4

Seth Johnson

Oct. 6

Rebecca Carty
Brandon & Angie Niles*

Oct. 7

Kary Niles
Brad & Shelly Punke*

Oct. 11

Barbara Thorson

Oct. 13

Brad Punke

Oct. 14

Adam & Katie Chelsen*

Oct. 17

Matt Greven

Oct. 20

Katie Blanchard
Steve Bunge
Cheryl Durland
Judy Duvick
Stephen Meyer

Oct. 23

Tim Blanchard, Sr.

Oct. 24

Beth Adams
Crystal Cryder
Hope Frieders
Angie Niles

Oct. 25

Mike & Becky Butts*
Kenny & Cheryl Durland*
Jim Hagen
David Mathre

Oct. 26

Leonard Chally
Karl & Sandra Michaelson*
Logan Punke
Natalie Toftoy

Oct. 27

David & Donna Braund*
Marlon & Sheila Mathre*

Oct. 28

Dennis O'Malley
Jim Vogen

Oct. 29

Ryan Cryder
Brent Urton

KID'S KORNER

Apple orchards, combines and tractors gathering their bountiful harvest, apple cider donuts, carving pumpkins and the smell of chili cooking in a crockpot are the wonderful things that make fall such a special time. As we reflect on this upcoming season of change we are reminded of the passage in Ecclesiastes 3:1-11, that identifies time periods of life and how to navigate through them. We are reminded that God created every season for a purpose but times in our lives have a purpose too. Times that we will laugh, love others and find happiness but the season can quickly change to times of mourning and grief, hardships and unfaithfulness. You may be facing a season of joy and happiness or a season of darkness but we know our seasons will change.

But the one thing that we know is that our God will never change. He will never leave us or forsake us. He will be there to support us as our seasons change. God says that "He has made everything beautiful in its time" (3:11). That means that He has taken even the worst seasons of life and turned them into something more beautiful than we could ever have imagined. This fall remember to turn your worries and praises to the Lord for His love endures all things.



**Sunday, October 28th
5-7pm in the FLC**

Is your family ready to go on a TREASURE HUNT? This is a family-oriented follow-up event to our Shipwrecked VBS.

Castaways will learn about Finding ALL You Need in Jesus with lots of treasure hunt type activities as well as yummy chili & hot dogs for supper. Kids can wear non-scary costumes if you'd like.

This is a great event to invite the families in your neighborhood to Helmar!

If you can help with this super fun event, check out the sign up sheet in the narthex to see where you can plug in! See Kary Niles with questions.

YOUTH FRONT

Paul's prayer, from Ephesians 3: 16-19, is for us, too! "I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." Are we overwhelmed with God's great love and sacrifice?? As we begin each day with that thought, it will guide how we view the people and situations we encounter. Let us be your hands and feet, God!

6-8th graders are invited to JAM (Jesus and Me) in the library on Wednesday nights at 7pm. High school kids meet in the basement of the Maxwell home. Save the Date--October 21st--Hiking at Matthiessen State Park after church for 6-12th grades.



If you would like to share flowers from your garden or have flowers done for the altar, see the Altar Flower sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you have any questions, contact Sheila Marie Urton. Thank you!

Forgiven Quartet Concert
Helmar Family Life Center
November 10th, 6:00pm
Soup & Chili Dinner
FREE

The Forgiven Quartet is made up of four men from the Vandalia, IL area. They sing about the Lord with a fine southern gospel style. One is a corrections officer, one is an HVAC contractor, one is retired and one is a community college instructor. Here is an absolute fact.. these men all love the Lord and His unconditional forgiveness. They especially enjoy singing His praises! Join us for a time of fellowship, great music and good food!



This year's annual Christmas cantata, the "Corinne Mathre Memorial Cantata" will be "Night of Miracles". We will honor Corinne's memory and thank God for her musical service of many years as choir director, singer, pianist and composer at Helmar.

"Night of Miracles" will be presented on Sunday, December 9th at 7pm and we will begin Cantata rehearsals on Sunday, October 7th at 5pm in the basement.



Be sure to check out the book stand in the FLC lobby. There are kids books, DVD's, adult Christian fiction and magazines with lots more books & DVD's in the library. A new release by Karen Kingsbury is a great read. "In This Moment" is about a high school teacher that is being sued for starting an after school Bible study. Sometimes we have to fight for what we believe!

OCTOBER 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:30am Fellowship Time 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30am Food Pantry Appreciation Dinner 5pm Cantata Practice		6:30pm Deacon's Mtg. 7pm Trustee's Mtg. 8pm Council Mtg.	1:30pm Senior Bible Study 2:30pm Dessert Fellowship 7-8pm Adult & H.S. Bible Study, BLAST, JAM 6:30-6:55 & 8-9pm Open Gym	6:30pm Worship Choir Practice	9am WeeCare 9am Ladies Prayer Hour	8am Men's Bible Study
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am Fellowship Time 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30am Food Pantry Appreciation Dinner 5pm Cantata Practice		6:30pm Deacon's Mtg. 7pm Trustee's Mtg. 8pm Council Mtg.	9am-2pm Quilting 1:30pm Senior Bible Study 7-8pm H.S. Bible Study, BLAST, JAM 6:30-6:55 & 8-9pm Open Gym	6:30pm Worship Choir Practice	9am WeeCare 9am Ladies Prayer Hour 5-7pm Food Pantry	8am Men's Bible Study
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am Fellowship Time 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5pm Cantata Practice			1:30pm Senior Bible Study 7-8pm H.S. Bible Study, BLAST, JAM 6:30-6:55 & 8-9pm Open Gym	6:30pm Worship Choir Practice 7pm Faith Circle	9am WeeCare 9am Ladies Prayer Hour	8am Men's Bible Study
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am Fellowship Time 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am 6-12th grade Trip to Matthiessen State Park 5pm Cantata Practice	3-5 pm Food Pantry		9am-2pm Quilting 1:30pm Senior Bible Study 7-8pm H.S. Bible Study, BLAST, JAM 6:30-6:55 & 8-9pm Open Gym	6:30pm Worship Choir Practice	9am WeeCare 9am Ladies Prayer Hour	8am Men's Bible Study
28	29	30	31			
8:30am Fellowship Time 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5pm Fall Festival 5pm Cantata Practice			1:30pm Senior Bible Study 7-8pm H.S. Bible Study, BLAST, JAM 6:30-6:55 & 8-9pm Open Gym			