



THE PARISH VISITOR MARCH 2024

From the Desk of Pastor John

John Omerod,
Pastor



The character may have been referring to Proverbs 21:25 :
“The desires of the lazy will kill them, because their hands refuse to do anything.” Listed below are more quotes on labor and moving mountains:

1. ***“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” (Mt. 17:20)***
2. ***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” (Col. 3:23-24)***
3. ***“Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.” (Ephes. 4:28)***
4. ***“May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands. (Ps. 90:17)***

(continued on next page)

NEED TO CONTACT US?

Church Office:
630.556.3986

Pastor’s Cell:
815.761.3910

Pastor’s email:
jckburbnk@yahoo.com

Church Secretary’s
email:
ecuccsecretary@gmail.com

Church website –
www.ecucc.org



(con't)

5. *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 4:10-11)*

6. *“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if in prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teachings; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:6-8)*

And one final thought:

“Faith moves mountains, intelligence goes over them, wisdom goes around them, but love levels them.”— Matshona Dhliwayo (Zimbabwean-born and Canadian-based author)



The **Hinckley Area Food Pantry (HAFP)**, located at 190 W. Lincoln Hwy. in Waterman, serves the communities of Big Rock, Hinckley, Maple Park, and Waterman and provides food assistance to our neighbors in these communities.

We welcome and appreciate your support and donations to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry! The Hinckley Food Pantry needs include: kidney beans, chili beans, ramen noodles, pasta sauce, canned pasta, macaroni, noodles, sugar, flour, Bisquick, baking supplies, canned meats, Jell-O, pudding, lunch box stuff (individual serving sizes fruit, desserts, chips, etc.), toilet paper, Kleenex, toothpaste, laundry soap, bath soap, condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, relish) and juice.

If you wish to make a direct monetary donation to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry, their address is: Hinckley Area Food Pantry, PO Box 463, Hinckley IL 60520. They will also send a tax donation letter to you at the end of the year.

They can actually buy MORE food with your monetary donations!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Here is a list of our homebound and their addresses.
A card to let them know that you are thinking
of them would appreciated by all:

Neva Cooley—c/o Aperion Care, 1212 S. 2nd St., Room 215, DeKalb, IL 60115

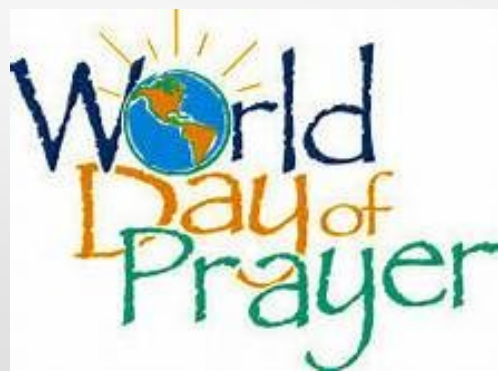
Judy Hatfield—c/o Prairie Crossing, 409 W. Commanche Ave., Shabbona, IL 60550

Sue Lee—46W028 Granart Rd., Big Rock, IL 60511

Hank Washburn—46W600 Dolly St., Big Rock, IL 60511

Joyce Self—Asbury Gardens, 210 Airport Rd, Room 203, North Aurora, IL 60542

Joyce Landmeier—9200 E. Mohawk Ln., Scottsdale, AZ 85255



Friday, March 1st

***One Great Hour of Sharing
Sunday, March 10th***



*Please see more information on
the following page regarding
how important and helpful
your support is to those
in their time of need!*

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING COLLECTION

MARCH 10th

“You are God’s field; God’s building.”

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are planting seeds of new life.

Together, we are investing in communities worldwide: providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending and seeing people through to self-sufficiency, empowering families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all.

These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God’s children, in addition to disaster relief and refugee initiatives.

Through your generosity, the world is a better place. But more is needed. Today, you have an opportunity to plant seeds into the lives of others. Be a co-worker with God. Building, planting, watering...and trusting that God gives growth to all good gifts shared in faith. Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for your generosity.

Invest in Futures

In Thailand, a 13-year-old girl arrives at the New Life Center, seeking relief from the cruel conditions that have brought her here. Her life up to this point has been mostly about survival. Here, she meets others like her. Some are survivors of sexual abuse, domestic violence or human trafficking. Some have been forced to work when they wanted to go to school.

What will the future be like when she is empowered to share her gifts with her community and the world?

At the New Life Center, she is met with the investment of time, support, and resources. And she is loved. She is allowed to imagine a new future. Finishing school. Learning a trade. Even going to University to earn a degree. In I Corinthians 3:9 Paul writes that we are all co-workers together in God’s service. Some of us plant. Some of us water. But God gives the growth. Paul reminds us that we are all called into the service of God, who cares for each and every one of us. What could the future be like when we work to plant and water together, and trust God to give the growth?

When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you invest in the futures of these girls and countless others like them. Your gifts go to provide education, vocational training, basic necessities, and much-needed community support. When we share the love of Christ in this way, we see lives transformed. Not just their lives, but ours as well. Because when we empower girls to build a life for themselves, we help God build a better world for us all.

As we invest in futures and serve as co-workers with God, the future becomes one of endless possibility and opportunity. What a great return on our investment!



A Letter of Thanks From Eden Seminary



January 29, 2024

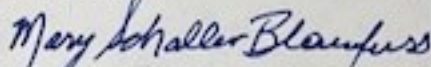
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Eden Theological Seminary, thank you for your gift of \$2,960 on 1/23/2024 in support of the Nicholas J. Ashby Memorial Counseling fund.

The Dean of Students is aware of this generous fund and will recommend a recipient on a "needs basis." While all recipients remain anonymous, when a recipient has been identified, we will send correspondence with general information about the circumstance of the student and hope you share our gratitude with your congregation.

Thank you for continuing to support this important designated fund and for caring deeply about the students at Eden. We remain grateful for Nicholas' legacy not only here at Eden, but also beyond the walls of the seminary.

In Gratitude,


Rev. Dr. Mary Schaller Blaufuss
Vice President for Advancement

Thank you



Gratefully acknowledges a gift of

\$2,960

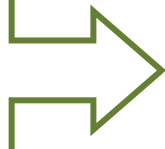
Received from

English Congregational Church

*Unless otherwise stated, Eden Theological Seminary has not provided any goods or services in consideration for the contribution acknowledged on this receipt.

Volunteers for March

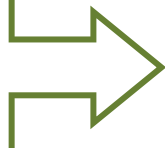
March 3rd
 Sunday School at 9am
 Worship at 10:15am
 Communion
**CHANGE UP
 SUNDAY**



Ushers: The Ashby and Peters Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Jeri Covelli and Gloria Goodin

 Communion Servers: Vice Moderator, Youth, Outreach
 Lock Up: Teaching and Learning

March 10th
 Sunday School at 9am
 Worship at 10:15am
***One Great Hour of
 Sharing special
 offering***

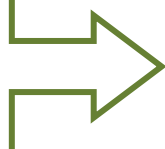


Ushers: The Ashby and Peters Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Jim and Amy Ashby

 Lock Up: Worship



March 17th
 Sunday School at 9am
 Worship at 10:15am



Ushers: The Ashby and Peters Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Volunteers Needed


 Lock Up: Youth

March 24th
 Sunday School at 9am
 Worship at 10:15am



Ushers: The Ashby and Peters Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Volunteers Needed

 Lock Up: Moderator

 **March 28th—
 Maundy Thursday
 Worship with
 Communion at
 7pm**

 **March 29th -
 Good Friday
 Worship at 7pm**

March 31st
EASTER SUNDAY
 Sunday School at 9am
 Worship at 10:15am
 Communion
 Nick Ashby Memorial
 Collection for Eden
 Seminary



Ushers: The Ashby and Peters Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Volunteers Needed

 Lock Up: Treasurer

March 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					<p><i>1</i> Worship Ministry Meeting at 9:30am Lifespring Pizza Night at 6pm in Aurora</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>
<p><i>3</i> Sunday School—9am Worship 10:15am Communion Change Up</p>	<p><i>4</i></p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p>	<p><i>8</i></p>	<p><i>9</i>  Change your clocks this evening. Move forward one hour.</p>
<p><i>10</i> Sunday School—9am Worship 10:15am One Great Hour of Sharing Collection</p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p>
<p><i>17</i> Sunday School—9am Worship 10:15am St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p><i>18</i> Executive Council Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p>	<p><i>22</i></p>	<p><i>23</i></p>
<p><i>24</i> Sunday School—9am Worship 10:15am</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i> Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion at 7pm</p>	<p><i>29</i> Good Friday Worship at 7pm</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>
<p><i>31</i> <i>Easter</i> Worship 10:15am Nick Ashby Memorial Collection for</p>						

March Birthdays



March 2—Mike Dugan
March 9—Sue Lee
March 10—Michelle Dugan
March 15—Matt O'Donnell
March 17—Sharon Wolbers
March 18—Amy Ashby
March 23—Mallory Dugan
March 28—Debbie Stiles



2am on Sunday, March 10th!!

Turn your clocks forward on Saturday evening so you don't miss our service on Sunday!!

ENGLISH
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

301 Rhodes ~
PO Box 156
Big Rock IL 60511

Church Office:
630.556.3986



Pastor's cell: 815.761.3910
Pastor's email:
jckburbnk@yahoo.com

Church Secretary's email:
ecuccsecretary@gmail.com

Like us on
Facebook 



**"SEEKING JUSTICE, LOVING
KINDNESS AND WALKING HUMBLLY
WITH OUR GOD"
2024 VISION STATEMENT**