



# Faith Connections

United in Faith Helping  
People In Need

Volume 3, Issue 6

June 2020

**Our Mission:** Serve this community † Revitalize the Church † Celebrate Christian Unity

## Power: Intimidation or Servanthood?

The call to us today is an urgent summons to have Christ's attitude of servanthood. Our power is not based on bullying, domination, or manipulation. Like Jesus, we are to take on "the form of a bond-servant" (Philippians 2:7) and make the towel and the cross the symbols of our daily walk.

To do this, we need to know how a commitment to power through servanthood will actually show itself in our daily relationships. We must make some specific commitments in tangible situations or all of our talk about servanthood is hypocritical.

Three characteristics are necessary to become a person with a servant heart. As we seek to develop these three characteristics in our lives, we will find that we will be able to serve more effectively and to better unleash the power of Christ in our world.

### A Servant Looks for the Best in Others

Jesus called a tempestuous Simon "a rock" and changed his life. He called Zacchaeus "a son of Abraham" and had supper with him. He conversed with the adulterous woman at the well and, in doing so, affirmed her worth as a person. His ministry was one of seeing and calling out the best in each person He met. Those who would imitate His style will also look for the best in people. The worldly person looks for imperfections to exploit; Christian power looks for strengths to call forth. Someone made the statement, "See a man as he is, and he will remain as he is. See him as what he can become, and someday he will become it." Anyone who will have a servant's heart will eliminate criticism and negativism (which is exactly what is running rampant in our society today) and see people in the light of what they can become.

### A Servant is Genuine

Servant power follows closely on the heels of honesty and transparency. People are liberated in the presence of someone who recognizes his/her own humanity and dares to express it. False piety and the imitation of perfection only serve to drive people away and destroy any hope for real communication.

The truth, according to Scripture, is that all of us are oddballs, misfits, and sinners. And the one who will release the power of selfless love into the world are those who dare to admit their weaknesses -- those who will be genuine and real.

### A Servant Takes Hold of "The Real Edge"

The people who will experience servant power will be the ones who, like the Suffering Servant Himself, take hold of individual people and situations and attempt to make a difference there.

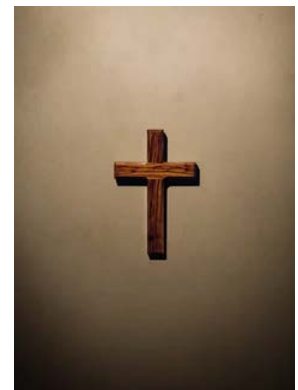
I believe that anyone who tries to call out the best in others, is genuine and real, and who gets intimately involved in specific needs will be on the verge of finding the kind of power explosive enough to move the world toward God.

Many in our culture and society today view this servant concept of power as foolishness. Like those first-century skeptics who scoffed at the cross, they will see servanthood as pitiful and humility as weakness. The dollar, the bomb, and the corporate machine will continue to reign as symbols of modern power. The towel and the cross will be seen as tools only for mad people and fools. But to those of us who have committed our lives to the Word of God know that we have found the only power potent enough to make a new world. And we cling tenaciously to Paul's words to the Corinthians: "But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things that are strong." (1 Corinthians 1:27).

Blessings,  
Mel

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**COVID-19 Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop Update**

Thank you for supporting our store and Winnie's Place Shelter.

We're potentially opening soon!

Beginning on June 26th, we hope to be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10am – 3pm. We will begin accepting donations by appointment, beginning June 29th.

We need volunteers. If you are interested in helping, call Donna at 563-340-8264 or contact our office at 563-332-5002. Send email inquiries to Betsy at [bvorausdeln@cuqca.org](mailto:bvorausdeln@cuqca.org) or Kim at [kreese@cuqca.org](mailto:kreese@cuqca.org).

For the safety of our volunteers, face masks will be required to shop - no exceptions. Keep following us for more information!

**We're getting ready for Thanksgiving in July.**

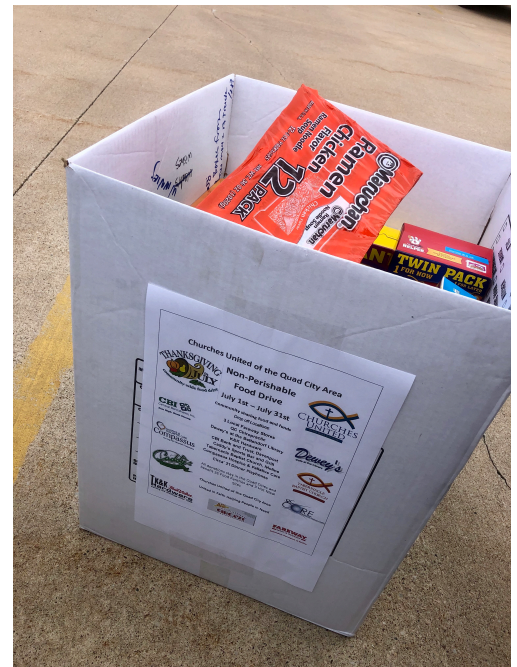
Thanksgiving in July, a community-wide, non-perishable food and essential items drive is back for the fifth consecutive year. All donations will go directly to our 26 food pantries, 2 hot meal sites, and Winnie's Place Shelter. Donations will be collected throughout the month of July.

Thanksgiving in July is a competition among food collection agencies throughout Iowa. We won in 2019.

Keep an eye on your email because we'll be sending fliers to member churches soon. If your church hasn't been a part of TIJ but you would like your church to participate, contact our office and we will connect you to a Churches United pantry.

We also need business partners! We provide, deliver, and pick up the boxes. Partners collect donations. Business logos will be featured on the boxes, our website, our newsletter, and our Facebook page.

For more information, contact Betsy or Kim at 563-332-5002 or send email inquiries to [bvorausdeln@cuqca.org](mailto:bvorausdeln@cuqca.org).



**Items that we're collecting for Thanksgiving in July**

**Non-Perishable/Non-Expired Food Items**

Clorox Wipes

Aluminum Foil

Bus Passes

Disinfecting Spray

Laundry Detergent

Postage Stamps

Batteries (AA, AAA, C, & D)



**Save the Dates**

**August 25, 2020 - Women in Clergy Luncheon**

**August 27, 2020 - Delegate Assembly**

**Details Coming Soon!**

**Welcome, Fast Feasts (our newest food pantry).**

Fast Feasts is a mobile food pantry delivering food to those in need throughout the Quad City Area founded by Mike Shinbori. Fast Feasts will be serving no-contact boxes or bags of food to over 1,200 people.



**Thank you, Bethany P.**

Bethany is a member of a group called Little Flowers that studies saints, Scripture, and virtues. Inspired by studying 2 Corinthians 9:7 (God loves a cheerful giver), Bethany asked to have a food drive for Churches United. She made a poster and advertised on her homeschool group's website. Families from the group signed up to give and Bethany, along with her family, drove around collecting donations.



**Thank you, faithful supporters.**

Your response to our most recent fundraising campaign has enabled us to continue our mission to serve this community, revitalize the Church, and to celebrate our Christian Unity. We are grateful for your support.



**Thank you, SmokinPyro BBQ.**

Since we had to close our meal sites on March 15th, Smokin Pyro BBQ graciously stepped up and served dinner to 80-90 people nightly, six nights a week. The individuals they served were displaced from local shelters and living in hotels. Many of the individuals were our meal site clients. Due to housing changes, the last night of serving meals was May 30th.

We are grateful to have collaborated with Smokin Pyro, BBQ. They have done a spectacular job serving our community.



## Churches United of the Quad City Area

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On the Web

[www.cuqca.org](http://www.cuqca.org)

## Give TODAY to Churches United

Online at <http://www.cuqca.org/donate.php>

Call us at (563) 332-5002

Mail or drop off your gift  
Churches United of the Quad City Area  
2535 Tech Drive Suite 205  
Bettendorf, IA 52722

THANK YOU!

Donate, keep up-to-date, and check out daily reflections by following us on Facebook at:



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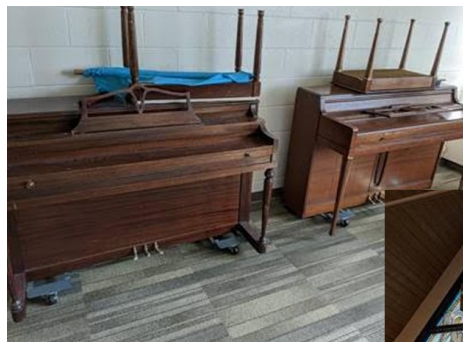
Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop at:

<https://www.facebook.com/WinniesWishesResaleShop/>

Support CUQCA by designating us as your charity and by purchasing items from our Wish List.



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### YMCA Giveaway

Two Rivers YMCA owns a building that used to be a church in Moline. They have 3 pianos, 1 electric piano, an organ, and a wooden cross that are no longer used in the building. They are free and on a first come, first serve basis.



Anyone interested can reach out to Jeff Cornelius (Program Executive & Sr Director of Youth Development) directly to arrange pickup. Jeff may be reached at 309-797-3945, 309-277-1782, or by email at [jcornelius@ymcatr.org](mailto:jcornelius@ymcatr.org).

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