

Thank
You

Churches United recently received grant awards from the following Funders

Iowa Annual Conference of the UMC
Hunger Ministry

Emergency Food & Shelter Program
Shelter Ministry

Community Events

How "Green" is your Congregation? The 'Green Teams' of several congregations have been working to green their congregations by implementing ways to be better stewards of the Earth have formed a group called EarthKeepers <http://www.wix.com/earthkeepers/earthkeepers>. Please join us as we exchange ideas to "green" our congregations! Our next meeting is **Monday February 22 – 7:00 p.m. – St. John's Lutheran Church**, 4501 7th Avenue, Rock Island. **Our guest speaker** will be Mike Wilcox, who will provide a comprehensive overview of how climate change is impacting our planetary home in general and the midwest in particular. There will also be information on the very positive trends developing with renewable sources of energy. The presentation will utilize information provided by the Climate Reality Project, whose chairman and founder is former Vice President, Al Gore.

Chili Cook-Off: MOPS Adventure will host a Chili Cook-Off at Adventure Christian Community Church, 6509 Northwest Blvd, Dav on Friday, January 15, 2016. Enter your favorite Chili for a \$10 entry fee per category. There will be judging in four categories: Spicy, Vegetarian, White and Best All Around. There will be prizes for the top chili in each category. Contestant set-up is at 5pm, with doors opening to the Public for tasting from 5:30-7:30pm. Adults are \$5, Children (4years - 12 years) \$3, Children 3 and younger are free.

14th Annual Believers Together Winter Snow Ball: "Island Dreams" To be held at the Believers Together Community Center, 3209 60th Street, Moline on Saturday, January 30, 2016. Cocktail Hour at 5:30 pm with Dinner to follow at 6:30 pm. Dinner prepared by "At Your Service Catering". Pre-Dinner Music provided by Kevin Carton and Matt Sivertsen. Dance Music provided by Soul Storm...Dancing 7:30 pm until 11:00 pm. 50/50 Windfall Raffle drawing at Intermission Silent Auction 5:30 pm until 9:30 pm Reservations due by Friday, January 22, 2016. Dinner reservations are \$50 per person. To register reservations or to purchase your 50/50 Windfall Raffle tickets, visit the website, christthekingmoline.org or calling (309)762-4634 ext. 202 To pay online with your credit card, click the "Give Online with WeShare" button on the home page. All proceeds for this event support the Believers Together Community Center.

Trivia Night: MOPS Adventure is hosting a Trivia Night on February 26, 2016 at Adventure Cristian Community Church, 6509 Northwest Blvd, Dav. The doors open at 6pm, Trivia begins at 7pm. Food and Drink (non-alcoholic) welcome. 8 person tables, \$10 per person. Door prizes, raffle items and 50/50 drawing. To reserve you table call: (563) 579-7285.



1605 Harrison St,
Davenport
563-323-5007

Open: Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-1

Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop

Winnie's Wishes Christmas and New Year's
Schedule:

Dec. 24 10 – 1 pm **OPEN**
Dec. 24 1 – 4 pm **CLOSED**
December 25 **CLOSED**
MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!

Dec. 31 10 – 1 pm **OPEN**
Dec. 31 1 – 4 pm **CLOSED**
Friday, Jan 1 **CLOSED**
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Be sure to stop by for your last minute Christmas decorations, dishes, serving platters, centerpieces, Christmas outfit or even a dress for New Years!

What will you be doing in the new year? Will you have three hours to spare each week to help at the shop? We would love to add you to one of the teams! The teams make *Winnie's Wishes* a fun place to shop and they have loads of fun each day! You may even make some new friends! You will want something to do to get out of the house, right?!! Call us at 309-764-9466 to have a volunteer application mailed or emailed to you!

We would like to thank each and every volunteer for their time and talents! We wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to our continued partnership!

For unto you a child is born,
a Savior, Christ the Lord.

Merry Christmas! Kit

Dining Club books are now available!! They make great gifts!! Please call our office at 563/332-5002 for more information!!



**January/February
2016**

Volume 44 Issue I
Newsletter deadline-8th of Month
Email: newsletter@cuqca.org

2535 Tech Drive - Suite 205, Bettendorf IA 52722 563/332-5002

www.CUqca.org

3rd Annual Big Bacon Bonanza 2016

The people of Churches United of the Quad City Area are hard at work every day to help those in the Quad Cities. The organization serves hundreds of thousands of Quad Citians each year, through various ministries including: Winnie's Place, the shelter for women who are homeless or escaping abuse, Winnie's Wishes, the resale shop, who's profits directly benefit the shelter, and the 26 food pantries and 3 hot meal sites. In 2014 the food pantries alone had more than 40 thousand visits, and served more than 136 thousand individuals. In order to make this work happen fundraising dollars need to be generated. That is why on April 9, **2016 we will host the 3rd Annual Big Bacon Bonanza.**

The 3rd annual Big Bacon Bonanza will take place at the River Center Great Hall, from 4:00pm-7:00pm. This is a unique opportunity for locals to serve locals. It is a family event with vendors, tastings, music, and bacon fun for all! Last year there were 22 food vendors and over 500 attendees. New this year is the honor of being a preferred qualifier for the World Food Championships in the Bacon platform. This means a local restaurant, caterer or individual will represent the Quad Cities in 2016 Championships in Kissimmee, Florida. Having a winner from the Quad Cities, could lead to countless partnering possibilities for your business and Churches United. We will once again welcome back Diva Q, to be our celebrity guest and judge. Diva Q is the host of the hit TV show BBQ Crawl and one of Canada's highest ranked competitive BBQ'ers on the The Kansas City Barbecue Society team, listing the world's largest organization of barbeque and grilling enthusiasts, with over 25,000 members worldwide.

We would love for you to be a part of this experience and are grateful for your consideration. If you are so inclined to sponsor, together, we will be **BACON A DIFFERENCE!!**

If you are interested in becoming a vendor, sponsor or volunteer for this event, contact Meredith Dennis; 563-676-9472 or mdennis@cuqca.org.



A Note from Anne

As you read this article, 2016 is just around the corner!!! It has flown by!!! As you might recall, I have shared with you that Churches United will be making some changes to the way in which we communicate. We have updated our website, introduced an active Facebook and along with all this social media look for us soon on twitter!!!! With that said, we want to continue to share news within the faith community to our many subscribers but we feel the need to change things up a bit so....

Here are our changes for those of you who receive our regular newsletter. Each issue, we will be featuring a member church that can share its story. We will be featuring an individual, or groups of folks, who share their talents at our food pantries. We will be sharing stories of the impact each of our supporters, be it individuals, member churches, faith groups or corporations have on the community through the ministries that Churches United provides.

Lastly, our newsletter will be sent to you every other month. Due to time restrictions and work load of our small staff, we need to utilize the newsletter and their time in the best way possible. Besides, the community, the churches, the partners, the media and other entities that support us make up the community of Churches United. We would not exist without each of you. So we hope you will enjoy the newsletter with some new and different articles, pictures and stories.

With that said, I would like to wish each of you of a Merry Christmas and a truly Peaceful New Year.

With all that is going on in the world, the violence, the political jargon from politicians and even some clergy in the national arena who feel the need to spew hatred, let us remember not to get caught up in all the verbal fanfare. Jesus Christ is our father and savior and it infuriates me when those very people use religion as an excuse to promote hatred, violence and oppression— and yes some of those very same people call themselves Christian.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and may the world find some peace in 2016.

With Peace in Christ,
Anne

Winnie's Place



Greetings from *Winnie's Place!* It has been great having such nice weather and makes things so much easier! We have been organizing Christmas projects and are getting everything ready for the big Santa Party. It is always a special time to hear how the clients are doing since some of them have moved out of shelter when we have the party. A big thank you to everyone who donated gifts for the Santa Party, adopted shelter projects and families this Christmas! It is such a special time of year with them!



We would like to thank the of Quad Cities Chapter of The Links, Incorporated for their generous dona-



tion to *Winnie's Place* as well as Royal Neighbor of America for their Baskets of Hope for both the shelter and clients!

Thanks to Genesis Medical Center, Illini Campus, Emergency Department for collecting daily needs on December 12 at the Hy-Vee in Silvis! This collection will help stock our shelves with items that are used every day at the shelter!



The staff at *Winnie's Place* would like to thank everyone for thinking of shelter needs all year, wish you all a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. This program would not be all that it is without the community support!

Because of Him, Kit

NEEDS: There are still special projects that need adopted for the shelter and clients; please contact us at 309-764-9466.

The Annual

Delegate Assembly

The Annual Delegate Assembly for Churches United of the Quad City Area will be held on Friday, April 15, 2016. It will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 1702 Iowa Street, Davenport. The Assembly will begin at 7pm. The Guest Speaker for the evening will be Dr. Tony Campolo.



Tony Campolo is Professor of Sociology and Special Assistant to the President at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. He previously served for ten years on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Eastern College and earned a Ph.D. from Temple University.

As founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education (AEPE), Dr. Campolo has worked to create, nurture and support programs for "at-risk" children in cities across North America, and has helped establish schools and universities in several developing countries.

Dr. Campolo is one of the founders of the Red Letter Christian movement and blogs regularly at www.RedLetterChristians.org. He also is a media commentator on religious, social and political matters, having guested on television programs including The Colbert Report, Nightline, Crossfire, the Charlie Rose Show, CNN Network and MSNBC News. He co-hosted his own television series, Hashing It Out, on the Odyssey Network and presently hosts Across The Pond, a weekly program on the premier Christian Radio Network in England. Dr. Campolo has authored 39 books, with the latest release in October 2012, Red Letter Revolution (Thomas Nelson), with co-author Shane Claiborne.

Dr. Campolo is an ordained minister, having served American Baptist Churches in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and is presently recognized as an associate pastor of the Mount Carmel Baptist Church in West Philadelphia.

He and his wife, Peggy, live in the Philadelphia area and have two grown children and four grandchildren.

For more information on Dr. Campolo, see www.TonyCampolo.org

Spotlight on a Member Church

St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church Cares

That is the tagline and has been the mission of St. Mark since arriving in the west end of Davenport in 1922, to serve as an outreach to the neighborhood community, to show they care.

The commitment to the mission is evident in the atmosphere daily, as the St. Mark Preschoolers use the gym or the outside playground equipment. You will find community members coming in to visit the Churches United food pantry, either to volunteer or to receive a bag of groceries. St. Mark has had a food pantry in their church since 1981 and was one of the original ten food pantries that came together under the Churches United umbrella in 1988.

Weekly, you will find Saturday evening and Sunday morning worshippers coming and going or staying and enjoying fellowship with others in their church family; you will find Tuesday evening or Friday morning Bible study groups hustling in to learn and appreciate the Word of God.

Monthly, you will find the sign-up sheet in the lounge to recruit people to help prepare and serve dinner at the Churches United Meal Site at the Salvation Army. St. Mark has been serving on the 4th Thursday of each month since 1982.

Annually, the Rummage Sale serves the mission as an outreach to the community at-large with extremely cheap treasures and as a time of fellowship between co-workers and neighbors. Of course the monetary payoff from the Rummage Sale goes into the Seminarian Fund.

St. Mark has a strong history of nurturing and supporting young adults with a call to ministry. They are currently supporting Emily Martin who is the 17th seminarian to call St. Mark home.

Classifieds

Wanted: Bettendorf Presbyterian Church seeks a part-time (15-20 hours a week) Director of Christian Education to help establish, direct, and oversee the educational ministry of our children and youth. Salary is negotiable. Resumes along with references may be submitted to Rev. Troy Winder at bpcpastor@msn.com or mailed to 1200 Middle Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

Wanted: Eldridge United Methodist Church is currently looking for a part-time Children, Youth, Family Ministry coordinator. Good communication, organizational and people skills will be important. Being knowledgeable in the area of social media will be an asset. Hours and pay are negotiable. If interested, please contact the church office (563/285-4314) for further details.

Wanted: Part-time Music Director: First Baptist Church of Rock Island. 3-6 hours per week. For further information regarding this position and/or a copy of the Job Description, please call the Church Office at 309-786-2617, or E-Mail Church Office, fbcori@mediacombb.net. If interested, please submit your Resume soon as possible. **Web page:** www.fbcrockisland.com

Wanted: Part-time Custodian: New Hope Presbyterian Church Davenport IA: Part time Custodian Position, 6-9 hours per week. \$10.00. Duties include vacuuming, bathrooms, floor care and windows. Please contact Nancy Carlisle, Chair of Personnel Committee at 563-357-0526 or njcarlisle56@gmail.com

Free: Harmony Hill Baptist Church has 9-10 burgundy choir robes with gold sashes that it wishes to give to an interested church. Please contact Bonnie Engel at 563/355-3657.