



The Illuminator

a publication of
South Grand Lake Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



November

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Issue 11-1

From
the
Pastor's
Heart

I do my best not to wander through the world wearing blinders unaware of what is going on around me. Although, the blindfold you gifted me for riding in the car has made the life of my driver a bit better. Charles is so charming in his chauffer's cap. I have to wonder what the people in our path think when they peer into our vehicle and the see us wearing these gifts from you.

Thank you church for your thoughtfulness. The journal with your heartfelt love notes adorned with Teena's watercolors is something we will always treasure. It contains so many wonderful reflections of our journey together. I read through it every now and then. Recently, these specific words from you describing us and our relationship with you stayed with me...

"nurture, insight, support, love, kindness, generosity, giving, pray, laugh, patience, friendship, faithfulness, welcome, wholeness, comfort, hope, comfort concern hospitality, safe, authentic, compassion, honesty, joy, kindness, peace, encouragement, faith, leadership, grace"

Church, the ways you described Chuck's and my presence with you, I find to be true of yours with us. I mentioned at the last General Board Meeting that while we've been in ministry together the last fourteen plus years, you have been present with us – loving us, comforting us, praying with and for us through the death of Chuck's parents and brother, and the unexpected deaths of our son-in-law and daughter-in-law.

My grief is very fresh as our family of faith experiences the loss of Bob Shell. I'm mindful that in the midst of everyone's grief, together we prepared and held a beautiful service and meal to remember and celebrate Bob's life. Chuck and I could not and would not want to do any of this ministry by ourselves.

I invite you to read the words in italics again, to which Chuck and I say... right back atcha!



CALENDAR

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|--|---|
| Nov. 01 – Branson Trip to see Esther | Nov. 12 – Rev. Michael Davison preaches |
| Nov. 02 – Compassus Hospice
Service of Remembrance | Nov. 18 – Executive Committee, 10 am |
| Nov. 05 – General Board to discuss
changes to guiding documents | Nov. 19 – Congregational Meeting |
| Nov. 10 – Pastors' Vacation
to 16 | Nov. 22 – Set up for Community
Thanksgiving Meal 10:30 am |
| | Nov. 23 – Free Community Dinner
Volunteers arrive 8:30
Meal Served 11 am – 1 pm |

a moving experience . . . Many thanks to all who pitched in to move Dale & Louise to their beautiful new apartment at Heartsworth in Vinita!



Thanks to all who attended and assisted with the memorial service for our dear Bob Shell. His many faithful contributions to the life of our church will have a lasting impact on our community!



We were honored to host a special service in support of families who've lost loved ones in the care of Compassus Hospice. In a beautifully moving ceremony, the names of the 176 patients who passed since June were read aloud in their memory. Several members of SGLCC(DOC) are now serving as hospice volunteers. If you have interest in participating, please inform one of the pastors.



We are always blessed when our Associate Regional Minister, Rev. Michael Davison, makes his way to the lake. He will bring the message on Sunday, Nov. 12th as our pastors take a bit of respite.

Bible Study in November

- Nov. 1 – Branson trip to see "Queen Esther"
- Nov. 8 - Conclusion to the study of Esther
- Nov. 15 & 22 - We take a brief break
- Nov. 29 – Advent Study begins





Shane Ailey, Michael Ailey, Stephen Andrew, Fran Barton, Louise Compston, Ted Coombes, Calvin Cross, Roger Engel, Dale Ford, Dianne & Larry Farmer, Shelbie Golden, Christy Goldy, Jennifer Haines, Caleb Harrison, Karen Hendrix, Bill Lindsey, Wes McKee, Marty Mitchell, Brigette Ratzlaff, Vickey Rose, Friends and Family of Bob Shell, Alena Thibert, Jean Treat, Chris Tribble, Patty Wolfe, Jeanne Woods, caregivers, first responders, Armed Forces, national and world leaders, those affected by acts of violence, addiction, mental illness and natural disasters.



November	13 David T.
02 Joyce L.	14 Gail Y.
11 Annabelle R.	15 Barbara H.
11 Melanie M.	18 Karen O'N.



Thanks to the leadership of Susan Miller and the culinary genius Jim & Diana Sellers, we're going to serve a free dinner again this year on Thanksgiving Day. If you can help prepare the day before or serve on Thanksgiving, please let them know.



Date	General Fund	Quarters	Designated	Total
9/30/23	\$11,882.15	\$75.97	\$1,800.00	\$13,758.12
10/31/23	17,873.18	\$118.05	\$1,610.00	\$19,601.23

Blessing Quarters	
Balance Forward	\$824.72
September & October	\$194.02
Year To Date (for 2023)	Grand Total \$1,018.74

October Attendance				
Date	Members	Visitors	in Person	Online Views
10-01	37	4	41	59
10-08	30	12	42	65
10-15	28	15	43	52
10-22	30	12	42	73
10-29	22	4	26	61



An Open Letter to My Church Family

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As most of you know, I have been dealing with health issues. Unfortunately, my kidney deterioration has advanced to end state renal failure. While dialysis treatment three days a week has brought some relief, dialysis is successful for only about five years. After that, I will likely develop a degenerative bone disease that ultimately leads to death in about two years.

Please don't misunderstand my intentions in this missive. I am not asking anyone for one of their kidneys. However, our church has been a strong supporter of blood donations. It occurs to me that we should be just as supportive of kidney donations.

If you decide to volunteer to donate one of your kidneys prior to your death, please be reassured that will only be considered if doctors conclude that removing your kidney will not endanger your life.

If you are not of a mind to donate a kidney at anytime in the near future, you do have the option to donate your organs after death. At that time, not only will your kidneys be removed after your passing, but you can also designate that any other key body parts such your liver and or your eyes, to people who desperately need them.

Thank you for your consideration of these options, and may God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely,
Ted Coombes

Nominations for SGLCC(DOC) 2024

The Nominating Committee announces this list of nominees for 2024.

These names will appear on the ballot at the November 19 Congregational Meeting.

Additional nominations may be made at the Congregational Meeting. This list does not include those Trustees, Elders, and Deacons who will remain on the General Board as they continue serving the three-year term for which they have already been elected.

OFFICERS

Board Chairman	Teena Momper
Vice Chairman	Beverly Wall
Secretary	Mary Shell
Treasurer	Carla Davis
Asst. Treasurer	Dave Momper
Financial Secretary	Susan Miller
Asst. Fin. Sec.	Jo Smith

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Stewardship & Finance	Jim Sellers
Pastoral Relations	Shari Baird
Property	Ronnie Hardin
Worship	Joyce Wilson
Nomination	Teena Momper
Social	Diana Sellers
Membership & Evan.	Lynne Kennedy
Outreach	Beverly Wall
Christian Education	Mary Shell
Community Hall	Jim Sellers
Kitchen Coordinator	Debbie Jones
Historian	Shirley Hardin
Disciples of Christ Rep	_____

<u>TRUSTEES</u>	Jim Sellers, Ron Middleton
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<u>ELDERS</u>	Vickey Rose, Lynne Kennedy, Joyce Wilson
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<u>DIACONATE</u>	Jo Smith, Debbie Jones, Buddie Massey, Clint Cross, Rex Wood
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<u>JUNIOR DIACONATE</u>	Trenton Bendabout (effective February 16, 2024)
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