

Still Time to Buy a Goat

In the past few years, Esther Circle has sent monetary gifts to IDES to go towards providing goats for people in need in other parts of this world. We thank those of you for sharing with us in this ministry in the past. Esther Circle is again preparing to send monetary support for goats to IDES and we would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join us, as the more donations the more goats that can be provided for these families. This ministry is a gift of giving, to the needs of others, and a gift to yourself, a warm and caring feeling. Jesus' life message while on this earth was to reach out to others and this ministry is a way of carrying on that message. If you would like to join us or if you have any question about this ministry, please contact anyone of us in the Esther Circle. We would be happy to be of help to you.

Thank You,

Betty Martin
Eleanor Johnston
Sandy Specht
Vangie Sins
Jan Hanson
Joyce Clark



We Christians have no veil over our faces; we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him. II Corinthians 3:18



The annual Giving Tree for residents at Countryside Estates has four remaining ornaments to be chosen. We ask that you limit your spending on each resident to \$15 so each has a fair share of gifts. If you do not have time or are unable to shop for gifts, but still want to choose an ornament, please do so and give your gift money to Cheri Salter who is willing to get the gifts for you. Please choose an ornament and write your name next to the name of resident you chose so we may know who has taken which resident. Please have your gifts wrapped, labeled, and put under the Giving Tree in the church lobby by Friday, **December 12**, so they are ready for the Christmas Party on Sunday, **December 14 from 2-3 p.m.**

THANK YOU
Esther Circle Homemakers
VERY MUCH!

We are very thankful for your thoughtfulness of us with your recent delivery of homemade treats.

In His Great Love,

Eleanor Varce	Roger Sassman
Ruth Dean	Helen Dittmer
Charlene Peterson	

Thank You



The Cherokee Quilt Batts would like to express their appreciation for the use of your church fellowship hall for our monthly meetings and sew days. Your kindness and generosity to let us use your facility is greatly appreciated by each member.

Vacuum Volunteers Needed

Anyone willing to take a turn vacuuming the church once a week for one month at a time please contact the church office at 712-225-2667 or Dixie Draper at 712-225-4838.

Your service is greatly appreciated.



772 N. 2nd Street
Cherokee, Iowa 51012

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Committed to Growth by Sharing Life - John 15

Visit us online at www.cherokeefcc.com
Schedules ~ Sermons ~ Helpful links

Minister: Tom Lewis 221 - 1858 (cell) tomlewis200@gmail.com	
Secretary: Nancy Nelson 225-2667 (office) cherokeefcc@gmail.com	
Church Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:30 am—1:30 p.m.	
ELDERS Kirk Nelson 434 - 2214 Mike Sparks 261-4730 Chris Weinreich 375-5035	DEACONS Mark Patten 283-2813 Mark Casey 221-9102 Jeremy Strasser 368-4891 Larry Heschke 221-7592

Bible Buddies
Christmas Program
Sunday, Dec. 14
6:30 p.m.

Church Offering	
November 2, 2014 Attendance: 116 Offering: \$2,787.22	November 23, 2014 Attendance: 102 Offering: \$ 2,899.10
November 9, 2014 Attendance: Offering: \$ 2,150.10	November 30, 2014 Attendance: 100 Offering: \$ 2,704.37
November 16, 2014 Attendance: 67 Offering: \$ 3,665.15	

CONNECTING POINT

First Church of Christ ~ 772 N. Second St ~ Cherokee, IA 51012
www.cherokeefcc.com

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
D-Groups 10:45 a.m.

December 3, 2014

Preachers Point . . .

Wish list stuck to the fridge, black Friday, cyber Monday, deck the halls, put up the tree, decorate the house, hide the mistletoe and hang the stockings with care... the season of Christmas is upon us. We begin to wonder what gift our "true love" might leave under the tree. According to an article posted at Forbes.com the PNC Christmas Price Index®, which measures the cost of buying one set of each of the gifts given in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," has become quite pricey. You know the list: 12 Drummers Drumming, 11 Pipers Piping, 10 Lords-a-Leaping, 9 Ladies Dancing, 8 Maids a-Milking, 7 Swans-a-Swimming, 6 Geese-a-Laying, 5 Gold Rings, 4 Calling Birds, 3 French Hens, 2 Turtle Doves andddd A Partridge in a Pear Tree. If your true love shelled out enough to cover the costs of everything on the list this year, those 78 items would cost \$27,393.17! I only have two words in response to this; "that's crazy!"

Sadly, though – too many people tie their love to material gifts which will spoil and fade. During this time of advent – this time of expectation – and the celebration of God's answer to man's problem let us remember that true love cost so much that you can't write a check big enough to cover it. True love cost everything. Jesus said; "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NIV) The Bible also says: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23 NIV) We have a valuable gift from our true love. A gift that has nothing to do with drums, geese or golden rings; it is a gift of GREAT value – the gift is His Son. "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1st John 4:9-11 NIV)

The gift of true love is eternal life with God the Father. The price of true love is everything.

- Preacher Tom

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday, December 7, 2014
11:30 a.m.
following D-Groups**

THANKS So MUCH!

A Community of Thanksgiving. That is truly what is happening in Cherokee each year on Thanksgiving day. A true community of willing servants combined with generous donations in food, time, finances and facility. First; thank you to Carey Hetrick and his staff at Carey's Café for his extraordinary trust in turning over his business and building for the day so that families and individuals who might otherwise be alone can come together and share so much more than a meal. Additionally, we need to thank Carey for his donation of the hand-peeled-home made mashed potatoes, gallons of "real deal" gravy and the corn vegetable side. Carey, your generosity is greatly appreciated and it goes without saying—all credit and glory belongs to the Lord!

Secondly; the community of Cherokee has greatly embraced this ministry through generous financial gifts and help in getting the word out to those in need.

Finally; to the church body here at First Church of Christ. You are being used by God to be the hands, heart and face of Jesus through this ministry. The offering you give through finances, time and groceries is priceless. A special thanks to Paul Burch with all her help in coordination and leadership of this year's outreach. 18 doz. dinner rolls, Cool Whip, butter, chicken broth, 40 boxes of stuffing mix 30 pumpkin pies close to 20 volunteers and HyVee's preparation of enough turkey to serve 200 hungry friends made this happen. Thank You!



2014 Bible Reading Plan

Daily reading for the week of:

December 7

Monday
John 15:1-8
Revelation 2:18-29
Job 27
Hosea 9-12
Tuesday
John 15:9-17
Revelation 3:1-13
Job 28
Hosea 13, 14
Wednesday
John 15:18-27
Revelation 3:14-22
Job 29
Joel 1
Thursday
John 16:1-11
Revelation 4
Job 30
Joel 2, 3
Friday
John 16:12-24
Revelation 5
Job 31:1-23
Amos 1, 2

2014 Bible Reading Plan

Daily reading for the week of:

December 14

Monday
John 16:25-33
Revelation 6
Job 31:24-40
Amos 3, 4
Tuesday
John 17:1-5
Revelation 7
Job 32
Amos 5, 6
Wednesday
John 17:6-19
Revelation 8
Job 33:1-11
Amos 7-9
Thursday
John 17:20-26
Revelation 9
Job 33:12-33
Obadiah 1-21
Friday
John 18:1-18
Revelation 10
Job 34:1-20
Jonah 1-4
Saturday
John 18:19-27
Revelation 11
Job 34:21-37
Micah 1-3



Praise for **volunteers** who work and serve in the church.

Bentia Herrera (from Joshua Y from MCS) that she gets well and that when she gets heart surgery it goes well and can recover soon.

Jude P. from MCS asks prayers for his mom, **Heather Plum**, who is not getting enough sleep at home because she is working on a house.

Kathryn Hazen who is recovering from an injury at Heartland Care Center in Marcus.

For the **MCS students** and their families.

Della Rupp for successful radium treatment.

Continued prayers for **Tara Kleich** daughter of Melissa Stines.

The mother of **Georgia Crouch** for healing and successful surgery for lung and heart problems.

Mike Yaremko, Karen Weinreich's father, for health and continued transition to a new home in Correctionville.

Ongoing Health

- Mike Jansen
- Ava Simonsen
- Helen Dittmer
- Lois Schlichting
- Donna Specht
- Mavis Weaver
- Opal Berger
- Mike Yaremko
- Lola Johnson
- Mindy Witham
- Jack Foley
- Judy Aimers

PLEASE update us on those listed on this prayer list. Call the office at:
(712) 225-2667
or email
cherokeefcc@gmail.com

Nursing Assisted Living

- Roger Sassman (*Countryside*)
- Winkie Cain (*Countryside*)
- Helen Davis (*Villa*)
- Helen Dittmer (*Villa*)
- Vangie Sins (*Gardens*)
- Bob Hartwig (*Sunset Knoll*)

Mission Ministries

- Midwest Christian Services
- Nebraska Christian College
- Camp Nebowa (*Mark Leonard*)
- South Africa (*Mike & Caryl Stanley*)
- CEM (*Michael Knight*)
- Deaf Missions (*Chad Entinger*)

Military

- Bodi Alfred
- Frank Buck
- Roger Howard
- Derek Woltman
- Kyle Skaggs
- Levi Newman
- Heather Sittler
- David Weinreich
- Jeremy Strasser

Homemaker Hotline

The Homemakers were busy this month. We donated money toward the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. We brought goodies for the cookie plates. We delivered about 20 plates of goodies to our friends in nursing homes as well as some at home.

Our Christmas party will be December 11 at 10:30 a.m. instead of the usual 9:30 a.m. **The December meeting will be at 10:30 a.m.** After a short meeting, we will go to The Little Panda for lunch.

We will all of you a Blessed Christmas season. We look forward to a new year of service to this church and Christ's kingdom.