



the Encourager

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER |
NORTH PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST |
APRIL 2021

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

The calendar indicates that spring is officially here; optimistically, I do hope that is true. I am certain there will be some planting going on as temperatures become warmer and the ground wakes up from an extended sleep. Whether it happens to be flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, grass, or crops, spring time is a time for sowing and planting so that the renewal of the vegetation found in God's creation can take place.

Even if the weather doesn't cooperate, delaying some of our outdoor planting and gardening, there is no better time for **sowing seeds of peace** to grow relationships and strengthen bonds.

Here is some planting that each of us can do that is not dependent on the weather, but is dependent on whether or not we choose to put forth the effort.

- Plant the seed of forgiveness in the life of a friend who has done you wrong.
- Plant the seed of compassion in the life of the woman dealing with grief and loss.
- Plant the seed of encouragement in the life of the man who just lost his job.
Plant the seed of fellowship in the life of someone missing from our worship services.
- Plant the seed of love in the life of the lonely.
- Plant the seed of friendship in the life of the visitor to North Park.
- Plant the seed of understanding in the life of the one searching for a Savior.

(continued on next page)

Now water each seed with prayer, nourish each seed with a smile and a gentle touch, let the warmth of the SON bathe this spiritual garden daily and then watch what happens.

Can you imagine the beauty of the garden of souls that can bloom right before our eyes? Can you envision the wonderful, vibrant colors of joy found in a church where such seeds are planted and cared for? Can you picture the faces of those who want to experience the serenity found in such a place?

James 3:17-18 tells us, *“But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”* (NIV)

What grows in your spiritual garden? Don't let weeds of discord, criticism and hurt grow out of control in your garden but rather an abundance of love, concern, and healing. Don't let your garden be littered with the trash of neglect but keep it neatly maintained as a result of daily prayer. Don't let your spiritual garden be a place of ugliness but rather a place a beauty.

A harvest of righteousness . . . we could only be so blest as to produce such a harvest through our work as peacemakers.

Let's commit to sowing seeds of peace so that others can benefit from what grows in our lives as we work to bring glory to God.

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:17-18 (NIV)

~ Tim



APRIL

THE GRACE OF GOD

Day 1 - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
Day 2 - Ephesians 2:8-10
Day 3 - Romans 6:14
Day 4 - 1 Corinthians 15:10
Day 5 - Hebrews 4:14-16
Day 6 - 2 Corinthians 9:8
Day 7 - Romans 3:22-24
Day 8 - Romans 5:8
Day 9 - Isaiah 55:7
Day 10 - Ephesians 2:4-7
Day 11 - 2 Peter 1:2
Day 12 - Romans 6:1-4
Day 13 - John 1:14
Day 14 - Galatians 2:20-21
Day 15 - Hebrews 12:14-15
Day 16 - Romans 5:1-2
Day 17 - Romans 12:3-8
Day 18 - 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

Day 19 - 1 Peter 4:10
Day 20 - James 4:6-8
Day 21 - Acts 20:24
Day 22 - Titus 3:4-7
Day 23 - Psalm 103:8
Day 24 - Isaiah 30:18
Day 25 - 2 Chronicles 30:9b
Day 26 - 1 Peter 1:13-16
Day 27 - Joel 2:13
Day 28 - Psalm 8:4
Day 29 - Hebrews 8:12
Day 30 - 2 Peter 3:18



THOSE TO SERVE APRIL

Those to Serve -April 4, 2020

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Mark Murray
Preside: Sid Long

Those to Serve -April 11, 2020

Worship Director: Jordan Siracusa
Opening Prayer: Chris Youssi
Preside: Jose Cervantes

Those to Serve -April 18, 2020

Worship Director: Sid Long
Opening Prayer: Jeff Hagerman
Preside: Ken Maupin

Those to Serve -April 25, 2020

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Jaye Lavern
Preside: Marcus Price

Pantry Sub List

Justin Reese	815-299-0762	Jaye Lavern	815-608-4465
Elizabeth Soter	815-721-0405	Jeremy Schulz	630-418-0371
Cameron Maupin	815-978-3362	Ken Maupin	815-262-1487
Mary Riley	815-988-7440	Sara Maupin	815-262-0303
Tammy Weir	815-751-0866	Naomi Gibson	815-742-2291
Katie Schulz	630-418-0372	Cathy Firm	815-298-6341
Maxine Byrne	815-494-2512	Liz Willis	815-494-0595
Joan Schmidt	815-708-3993	Brenda Mohler	815-505-7205
Pat Seifert	815-871-7236	Tim Firm	815-914-1782

Prayer List

Jason Willis

Bruce Rooks

Lea Schorer – no visitors at this time please

Ernie Stubblefield

Gerald Harbach

Brandi Ostergard – friend of Wendy Williams who has cancer

Michelle Hutchison – Tammy Weir’s sister in law, undergoing cancer treatment

Donna Fincher— dealing with multiple health issues, shot for the pain in her leg is working

Sara Cancagallo- friend of Louise Crouch who has cancer; has been moved to a nursing home

Joyce Heckelmiller – ongoing health issues

Chuck and Ruth Mausehund– dealing with multiple health issues

Cherokee Thompson – Dean Aske’s great granddaughter/Bill and Ida Thompson’s granddaughter, suffering from cancerous spot on her brain causing seizures

Ken Lynch – recovering from shoulder surgery

Jim & Carol McGowan – both recovering from recent shoulder surgeries

Doyle McKinney – back home after a recent hospitalization from complications of COPD

Turner Family – mourning the loss of Roslin Turner

Isom Family – mourning the recent loss of both Cecil and Chris

Sue Ann Diaz – having issues with vision in both of her eyes

APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
REMINDER THAT ALL ACTIVITIES AT THE BUILDING REQUIRE PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND FACE COVERINGS						
4 Worship @ 10:30 am Easter Sunday	5 ROMEO Club meeting	6 Adkins & McGowan's ann.	7 Bible Study 10 am Linda Lynch's bday	8 6:7:30 pm Pantry Peak of the Week discussion group @ 6:30 pm Ed Long's bday	9	10
11 Worship @ 10:30 am	12 Debbie Letsinger's bday	13 Blanket ministry work day	14 HHP Food Delivery Bible Study 10 am Tim Seifert's bday	15 Peak of the Week discussion group @ 6:30 pm Jim McGowan's bday King's ann.	16	17 Pantry 10-noon
18 Worship @ 10:30 am Marcus Price's bday Memorial Service for Chris Isom @ 1 pm	19	20 Scott Weir's bday	21 Bible Study 10 am	22 6:7:30 pm Pantry Peak of the Week discussion group @ 6:30 pm	23	24
25 Worship @ 10:30 am	26	27 Cater Whitmore's bday	28 HHP Food Delivery Bible Study 10 am Parker's ann.	29 Peak of the Week discussion group @ 6:30 pm	30 Berglund's ann.	
				1 Peak of the Week discussion group @ 6:30 pm	2 Gloria Gregory's bday	3 Pantry 10-noon Soyer Nicosia & Cayle Bolen's bday R/T Hagerman's ann.

NEWS & EVENTS

*** Directory Updates ***

◇ Ernie Stubblefield's new address at St. Anne's Place is:
4405 Highcrest Rd Rm # W88 Rockford, IL 61107

- There will be a memorial service for Chris Isom on Sunday, April 18th at 1 pm at North Park Church of Christ. Please talk to Tim Firm if you have any questions
- There will be an interment service for Lonny Fortin at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL on April 5th @ 1 pm. The address is 20953 W. Hoff Road Elwood, IL 60421
- There will be a small memorial service for Roslin Turner today, March 28th, from 2 - 4 pm at their home - 2749 Wishart Drive Rockford, IL 61114
- The Meijer on 173 will be running a Simply Give campaign through Saturday, April 10th. The final Double Match Day is Saturday, April 3rd. Cards are available at the building, through a Pantry board member or you can get them in the store at the location on 173 only
- There is a weekly Peak of the Week discussion group led by Tim Firm via Zoom every Thursday at 6:30 pm. The information you will need to join will be sent out every Thursday morning.
- There is a weekly Wednesday morning Bible study at the building from 10-11am.
- Reminder: Masks and 6ft distancing are required at all times when you are around others in the building

Elder's Group E-Mail Address
northparkcofcelders@gmail.com

Steve Adkins
eldersteveadkins@gmail.com

Jeff Hagerman
elderjeffhagerman@gmail.com

Joe Nicosia
elderjoenicosia@gmail.com

Ken Maupin
elderkenmaupin@gmail.com

The North Park Church of Christ is committed to sharing Jesus with our community and the world; while encouraging the spiritual development of our youth, strengthening the bond of our families, and serving the needs of our senior adults to build a church known by its love and message that flows from the very heart of God.

Where Friends Learn to Live and Love Like Jesus

MINISTER

Tim Firm - cell phone: 815.914.1782

CONTACT US:

Phone—815-633-4253

Email—NorthParkCofC@gmail.com

www.northparkchurchofchristil.com

Helping Hands Pantry— 815-633-1504

www.helpinghandspantry.com