

SecondFirst Church
Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)
318 N. Church Street, Rockford IL 61101
(815)963-8431
www.secondfirst.org
www.facebook.com/secondfirstchurch/

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Permit No. 3734
Rockford, Illinois

THE TOWER

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL UCC/FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PC(USA)

Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace



A LITTLE BIT FROM BECKY E...

Hello Church,

Rest and Relaxation is always good for one's soul. I have been gone on a few Sundays, but beginning August 25, I will be officially off for the week. I look forward to relaxing in the quiet of ... wait a minute, since when is riding roller coasters at Cedar Point in Ohio relaxing? I am having an anxiety attack just thinking about it! Then I will be basking in the freezing, murky waters of Lake Erie. I've heard that sharks

are adapting to fresh water. I might need a vacation from the vacation.

Sometimes, when you are really looking forward to something, your expectations run so high that you might be easily disappointed. Then other times when there are no expectations, things work out better than you can imagine. Vacations are like that. Roller Coasters may not be my thing and swimming in the water where I can see clear to the bottom is preferred, I might be pleasantly surprised.

Church can be like that. Some Sunday mornings getting out of bed is the last thing you want to do. Why drive downtown, when you'd rather be drinking coffee at your favorite little neighborhood bistro. But if you do come to church, you may be pleasantly surprised. The music may lift your spirits. The message might be just what you needed to hear. The fellowship might make you feel joy and the coffee even better than Starbucks.

So if you have been gone awhile or have missed just a few Sundays, give us a try! You will be pleasantly surprised!



We launched our community mural kickstarter campaign! See inside for details (pg2)

SAVE THE DATES

- October 5: Community Concert
- October 6: Cider and Donuts
- October 13: Alternative Worship
- October 20: AGO Concert & CROP Walk
- October 27: Bell Concert
- October 27: Trunk or Treat



HAITI SCHOOL PROJECT

Last year we sent \$8,367 to Saut-d'Eau, Haiti for children's education. Tuition for one year is \$250 per child, which also includes books, backpacks, meals and uniforms. There is no free public school and the country faces shortages in educational supplies. We remember that beautiful Haiti is also the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere with a literacy rate of 61% for males and 57% for females.

Last year our church assisted in sending 52 children to school and we hope that these students can return to school this fall with our support. Perhaps we can add additional students to our efforts! Our Goal for Haiti Education this fall, is \$5,000. If you would like to support our education program in Haiti, you may send a check to the church office marked "Haiti School Project" in the memo line.

For questions or to join the Haiti Interest Group to help further our work Contact Carolyn Greenlaw at 815-978-0723 or csgreen52@aol.com

NEWS FROM OUR DENOMINATIONS

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
AN OHIO MEMORIAL TO VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE MORE THAN PRAYERS, SONGS AND SHOES



Scores of empty shoes littered the lawn outside an Ohio church on Thursday evening, a stark but poignant memorial to the lives lost in two mass shootings in El Paso and Dayton. The people of United Church of Christ Congregational in Vermilion, 30 miles west of Cleveland,

were moved to act. Devastated by the latest incidents of gun violence less than 24 hours apart on Aug. 3 and 4 which left more than 30 dead and dozens injured, they planned a prayer vigil and a community call to action. "It's not just thoughts and prayers," Quellhorst said. "We have to do action; we have to be in our communities, to share peace and to talk to each other.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
A WOODCARVER'S MINISTRY OF WELCOME



The Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw in Florence, Oregon, displays a large Celtic cross on its property. That cross inspired a unique ministry for longtime church member Andy J. LaTomme Jr. For nearly three decades, the 99-year-old has been giving out wooden replicas of that cross to church members and visitors alike.

LaTomme has been a woodworker and carver since the 1960s. He has carved some beautiful pieces, such as an interlocking heart sculpture for his wife, Alice, who passed away in 2009, and the stand that holds the Christ candle in the church's sanctuary. "I was intrigued by the church's cross. I wanted to see if I could make one," LaTomme said.

COMMUNITY MURAL PROJECT

CREATING AN AVENUE TO EXPRESS LOVE: SecondFirst Church with Jeremiah Development is partnering with community mural artist Tia Richardson and Rockford residents to paint a 1,000 sq ft mural on the outside wall of the church gymnasium.



"SecondFirst Church invites all of Rockford to participate in this community healing art. Let's come together to imagine a future of hope, peace and equity, and have that reflected on the west facing wall. Built for the community, inside the gym hosts events that draw every type of Rockford person. Now let's put that spirit on the wall outside to inspire generations to come!" Rev. Rebecca White-Newgren, SecondFirst Church

We want to give people a chance to beautify their community in a fun, hands-on way. In creative workshops, Tia offers people

the chance to express what challenges are important to them, ways of improving them, and imagine a better future. The design is made with these ideas. Then everyone can be part of history by 'painting-by-numbers'! All can join the experience – no art skills needed!

In order to make this mural a reality we need the support of our community! We've started a kickstarter campaign with the goal of raising \$30,000 by October 5, 2019. **Follow this link to make a donation: <http://kck.st/2P6mAKf>**



Tia Richardson speaks with community members at the mural launch on Wednesday, August 21.



Ms. Alma was so excited about the mural launch, she went home, brought back balloons and blew them all up! Pictured behind her in the fence.



SUNDAE SUNDAY

September 8, after service in the gymnasium

Come celebrate our ministry teams and the work that they do. As you go from table to table you can create your own sundae, visit with members and learn about the activities of the ministry team. Community groups and mission partners will have tables, also. Come and learn more about KFACT and other activities that Second First Church is active in.

TURKEY ROAST

Saturday, September 14, 6:00 pm

The annual church turkey roast will be held on Saturday, at the Conklin's house at 4048 Will Ann Drive. We are saying 6:00 pm for a start time but won't really start eating until about 6:30. Turkey, dressing, beverages and s'mores will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Let Debbie in the office know if you are coming so that we will know how much food to prepare and how many to set up for. If you decide to come at the last minute and have not let anyone know, COME ANYWAY!!! We always set up some extra places. Questions? Contact: Ed Conklin ejc4048@aol.com



THIRD ANNUAL PIG ROAST

Saturday, September 21, 12:30 p.m.

It keeps on getting better and better every year! Join us on Saturday, September 21 for a fun day. The feasting will begin around 12:30. Bring a chair to sit on as we will be outside by the garage. (If it rains we will move to the gym.) For more information call the church office. 815-963-8431.

SPECIAL UCC AND PCUSA OFFERING

Sunday, October 6

Opportunity for Giving: Neighbors in Need/Peace and Global Witness Offering. This month we receive a denominational support offering for both the UCC and the PCUSA. Neighbors in Need (NIN) supports UCC ministries of justice and compassion throughout our country: the Council for American Indian Ministry, and Justice and Witness Ministries. NIN funds projects that address systemic injustice. Peace and Global Witness (PGW) supports PCUSA programs in justice and reconciliation in cultures of violence, both locally and world-wide. Your support for this vital work is greatly appreciated.

CIDER AND DONUTS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, October 6, after church

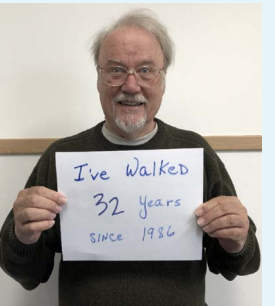
Towards the beginning of October, the temperatures cool off and we start to think about fall. Enjoy the sweet taste of apple donuts and cider with your church friends during the Fellowship Hour after church. Contact: Linda Mohaupt

50 YEARS OF WALKING. 50 YEARS OF ENDING HUNGER TOGETHER.

You know what hunger looks like. You've seen it in on local news stations and in the faces of kids around the world. It is long-lasting, and it is everywhere. But, with your help, so is our response to it.

For 50 years, average Americans have come together to fight hunger in exceptional ways through the CROP Hunger Walk. These aren't politicians or celebrities – they're passionate (and compassionate!) farmers, students, members of the faith communities, volunteers and more who care that the people they see on a daily basis are struggling. And for five decades, they have walked to make a difference.

Thanks to Stanley Campbell and Rockford Urban Ministries Rockford has held a CROP Hunger Walk for 32 of those 50 years. Congregation members and school students have asked family and friends to sponsor them as the walk to fight hunger in Rockford and around the world. This year's Walk is Sunday, October 20. Please join the effort either in person or in spirit. Request a Walk envelope or Walk On the Web. Contact Bob Saunders, 815-877-5008, for more information.



CHURCH PICNIC RECAP

The annual picnic was held Sunday, August 18 after church in the basement, due to a heavy rainstorm in the area. The rain kept us inside, but everyone enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch, and wonderful fellowship!

GOVERNING COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS OF JULY MINUTES

- Elizabeth Stites was ordained at SecondFirst and will be serving a church in Wichita, Texas.
- The Building and Grounds committee has been expanded to include the Landscape committee; Ron Schaad is the Chair.
- Thanks to the generous support of KFACT board members, along with donations that Shamika was able to obtain, and the Foundation, the cost of the flooring in the offices has been covered. Alice Uphouse, Ramon and Jeff have been working hard, as have Roger and the other trustees.
- The 55th UCC IL Conference Annual Meeting was held at Elmhurst College. "Love in Action". Both Jim Delmore and Rev. Rebecca thought it was inspiring, enthusiastic and informative, and the Rev. Gonzales who presented at the Conference will preach here in our church on 11/3/19.
- Presbytery Report: The June meeting was attended by Joyce Pogue, Terry Mohaupt, Rev. Rebecca and David Jones. Rev. Steinberg spoke "God's mission has a Church." The Stronghold Camp's summer counselors were commissioned.
- Plans are continuing for the separation of Stronghold from Blackhawk Presbytery to become a subsidiary with its own 501(c) (3) status, with final vote of Presbytery on September 10, including a new Board of Directors, etc. Terry Mohaupt and Rev. Rebecca are serving on this committee currently.
- Saturday, 9/28/19, is scheduled for SecondFirst as a work day to remove weeds from the pollinator garden and help prepare for the Olde English Faire which is the first weekend of October.
- On Tuesday, November 12, the Presbytery meeting will be held at SecondFirst.
- Active Ad Hoc Committee Reports were given on: Safe Church Policies, Rockford Overnight Café, Strengthening UCC ties between Spring Creek, Woodside, and SecondFirst.
- A new Ad Hoc Committee is being formed on Worship, Music and the Arts.
- A copy of the July Governing Council Minutes can be seen in the office.

GET READY, MUSICALLY!

by Paul Laprade, Music Director

Our exciting and eclectic summer music ends in August. As in all things, the end of one chapter is the beginning of another. September is when our traditional choral and bell ensembles return. Here is your guide to our ‘beginnings’, with a not-so-subtle hint (and request) that you should consider joining us if you aren’t already a member.

Carillons start Thursday, September 5 with their semi-annual “polish the bells” party at 9am, followed by a rehearsal from 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

Sanctuary Choir begins its rehearsal activities on Thursday, September 5, at 7:00 pm.

Martin Ringers start again on Wednesday, September 11.

Bellcantos hold their first meeting on Thursday, September 12. Join the fun!

CHOIR? COME JOIN US!!!

by Paul Laprade, Music Director

Wondering what to do on a Thursday night at 7:00 pm? Or on Sundays at 9:00 am? Our choir meets at these times because we simply love being together and singing together! Some of our members read music, others do not. Some consider themselves trained singers, some do not consider themselves singers. Some join choir simply to experience the special ‘robe induction’ ceremony that one of the altos traditionally leads in the choir storage area. Whatever the reason, we are open to all members of our church.

Please don’t think “leave it to them because they are good enough.” We need more members to keep our choir strong. The whole is always greater than the sum of the parts, but the whole is stronger when we have you. Please pray on it. Our first rehearsal is on Thursday, September 5th. Paul Laprade, music director

HANDBELLS

by Julie Cook Ramirez, Director of Handbell Ministries

Summer is almost over, the kids are back in school, Handbell Ministries is gearing up for another amazing program year, and we have super-exciting news to share!

This year’s Christmas concert will highlight and benefit Miss Carly’s, an incredible local organization providing invaluable assistance to Rockford’s homeless population in the form of meals, clothing, hygiene items, and so much more. Truly a “lighthouse for the lost,” Miss Carly’s builds relationships and gives unconditional love to those on the margins, helping them lift themselves up for a better tomorrow. To learn more, visit www.misscarlys.org or visit their Facebook page. Be sure to mark your calendars NOW to join us on Saturday, December 14 at 3 pm for “A Very Carly Christmas!”

Of course, you will already be there if you join one of our fabulous and fun handbell ensembles. Martin Ringers (adults and teens) rehearse Wednesday evenings; Carillons (adults) meet Thursday mornings; and Bellcantos (adults and teens) practice Thursday evenings. Our adorable Peanut Ringers meet on selected Sunday mornings. (Tower Ringers are taking this year off.) All our groups (except for Carillons) use a color-coded system, so you don’t even need to read music to ring bells!

Please contact me at 815-543-9739 or julie.cookramirez@secondfirst.org for more information.



Adult Education hosted a conversation on this history and need in Haiti.



Alice Uphouse displays kindness and generosity as she makes salad for Serious Soup.



Good work continues on repairing the stone of the Tower!



The Lindblade twins are excited about the prizes they won at the picnic fair.



Pastor Rebecca responded to mass shootings for the Rockford Register Star.



Ms. TeTe discusses the very important temporary tattoo choice at the picnic fair.



The Rockford Housing Authority hosted a poverty simulation in our gym for their employees and other non-profit leaders.

NOTES FROM THE MODERATOR

by Jim Delmore

Each week when making the announcements I give our Vision Statement and our Mission Statement. I think it is important that it is said, as the Strategic Plan is important for each of our Ministry Teams. That is why I am asking all of the Ministry Teams to review their Strategic Plan and determine if it is still relevant. If not, what needs to be changed? The plan or what the team is doing? Please bring your reply to the next Governing Council meeting.

I was in one of the rooms off Emerson Hall. The room had been used to store costumes and other things. Most of the lights were out, the walls were dingy and it was depressing because I know when the room was built it had to be beautiful. Now the room is beautiful again. New flooring, working lights and walls freshly painted. The room has pictures on the wall, furniture and other decorations.

I am so proud of our church for realizing that the space could be put to a much better use. Inviting KFACT to use Emerson Hall and the adjoining rooms has brought a new life to that part of the church building. It is no longer a storage center; it is a center of new beginnings. It is hard to imagine all of the work that had to take place to allow this to happen. I thank everyone who has worked so hard to make this a reality.



All activities will take place at SecondFirst Church
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Friday, October 4

6:00 PM COMMUNITY DINNER
7:00 PM CHORAL REHEARSAL

Saturday, October 5

9:00 AM CHORAL REHEARSAL
4:00 PM CELEBRATORY CONCERT
(FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

Join us!



WHAT IS JOYFEST?

JoyFest is an event for directors and singers in which gospel, spirituals and traditional music will be used as a vehicle for bridging cultures, communities, and approaches to meaningful music making. Emmy-nominated musician/conductor Dr. J. Donald Dumpson comes to Rockford to create a memorable experience for singers and directors alike. Dr. Dumpson will share his successful work in creating new communities through choral music, lead choral singers in rehearsal through some of his favorite works, and conduct an afternoon concert of celebration and community.

The festival will begin with a community meal at 6pm on Friday, October 4th. Choral singers will be invited to register to sing at 7pm on Friday, October 4th or 9am on Saturday, October 5th, for rehearsals led by Dr. Dumpson. The event will conclude with a 4pm celebratory concert.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- Any choir or individual, high school age and above, that is comfortable and interested in learning gospel, spiritual, traditional and other music from both notated and non-notated traditions.
- Directors are encouraged to bring mixed choirs that are balanced in parts, but all choirs are welcome.

REPERTOIRE AND PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

No purchase or advance rehearsal of music will be necessary. The event focuses on style, expression, technique, and building community. We respectfully ask that 'Sunday wear' clothing be used for this event's performance attire.

COST: SUGGESTED DONATION \$25/PERSON

Suggested donation for participation: \$10
Suggested donation for Friday dinner: \$10
Suggested donation for Saturday lunch: \$5

Registration forms and donations are due September 15.

Hosted by
SecondFirst Church
with support from

ABOUT J. DONALD DUMPSON Ph.D.

J. Donald Dumpson, Ph.D. has committed his professional life to ministry and education. He is president of Diverse Arts Solutions, Minister of the Arts at Arch Street Presbyterian Church; founding conductor of the Westminster Choir College Jubilee Singers; founding conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Community Chorus and founder and artistic director of the Philadelphia Heritage Chorale, Inc.

He continues to present clinics and workshops through the lens of social justice and sociocultural awareness by engaging culturally responsive arts presentations borne of the African Diaspora to America and of Europe.



Pictured above: Dr. Dumpson produces and conducts A Soulful Christmas at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, PA each December.



Marilyn Hartzog interviews Rosie Massenet and Jameson Casmir about our renewed Haiti Project.



Volunteers from River District 12 helped with garden chores!



Jeff Byrne captured this stunning rainbow that formed over our church on Tuesday, August 13.



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, September 1
Communion
8:30 AM – Koffee Klass
10:00 AM – Worship Service
10:20 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Fellowship Hour
11:15 AM – Fair For All Shop

Monday, September 2
Labor Day Office Closed
No Serious Soup

Tuesday, September 3
7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast
8:30 AM – Chapel at Wesley Willows
No Thrift Shop
9:30 AM– Free Showers

Wednesday, September 4
9:00 AM – Hospitality Team
10:00 AM – Staff Meeting
5:30 PM – Membership Team

Thursday, September 5
9:30 AM – Carillons
9:30 AM – Free showers
5:30 PM – JD Meeting
7:00 PM – Choir

Friday, September 6
No Scheduled Activities

Saturday, September 7
10:00 AM – Jubilee Soup Kitchen
10:00 AM – Bridge Clinic

Sunday, September 8
Sundae Sunday
8:30 AM – Koffee Klass
10:00 AM – Worship Service
10:20 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Sundae Fellowship
11:15 AM – Fair For All Shop
4:00 PM – Alternative Worship

Monday, September 9
11:30 AM – Serious Soup
5:00 PM – Deacons

Tuesday, September 10
7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast
9:00 AM – Thrift Shop returns
9:30 AM – Free Showers
9:30 AM – Presbytery Oswego
6:00 PM – DVT

Wednesday, September 11
10:00 AM – Staff Meeting
5:00 PM – Trustees
6:30 PM – Martin Ringers

Thursday, September 12
9:30 AM – Carillons
9:30 AM – Free showers
6:00 PM - Bellcantos
7:00 PM – Choir

Friday, September 13
No Scheduled Activities

Saturday, September 14
10:00 AM – Bridge Clinic
6:00 PM – Turkey Roast at Conklin’s
7:00 PM – JD Movie in Haskell Park

Sunday, September 15
Baptism
8:30 AM – Koffee Klass
10:00 AM – Worship Service
10:20 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Fellowship Hour
11:15 AM – Youth Car Wash
11:15 AM – Fellowship Ministry Team
11:15 AM – Music Ministry Team
11:15 AM – Fair For All Shop

Monday, September 16
11:30 AM – Serious Soup

Tuesday, September 17
7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast
9:00 AM – Thrift Shop
9:30 AM – Free Showers
5:00 PM – Missions Ministry Team
6:00 PM – Executive Committee
6:00 PM – League of Women’s Voters

Wednesday, September 18
10:00 AM – Staff Meeting
6:30 PM – Martin Ringers

Thursday, September 19
9:30 AM – Carillons
9:30 AM – Free Showers
6:00 PM – Bellcantos
7:00 PM – Choir

Friday, September 20
No Scheduled Activities

Saturday, September 21
12:30 PM – Pig Roast
10:00 AM – Bridge Clinic

Sunday, September 22
8:30 AM – Koffee Klass
10:00 AM – Worship Service
10:20 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Fellowship Hour
11:15 AM – Family Christian Ed Team
11:15 AM – Fair For All Shop

Monday, September 23
11:30 – Serious Soup

Tuesday, September 24
7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast
9:00 AM – Thrift Shop
9:30 AM – Free Showers
6:00 PM – Earth Care Committee

Wednesday, September 25
10:00 AM – Staff Meeting
6:30 PM – Martin Ringers

Thursday, September 26
9:30 AM – Carillons
9:30 AM – Free showers
5:30 PM – Governing Council
6:00 PM – Bellcantos
7:00 PM – Spring Creek Meeting
7:00 PM – Choir


Friday, September 27
No Scheduled Activities

Saturday, September 28
10:00 AM – Bridge Clinic

Sunday, September 29
Carillons
8:30 AM – Koffee Klass
10:00 AM – Worship Servic
10:20 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Fellowship Hour
11:15 AM – Fair For All Shop

Monday, September 30
11:30 – Serious Soup

NEIGHBORHOOD
NUMBERS
(July 25 through August 20)
Showers: 25
Clothing needs: 6
Bus trip home 1



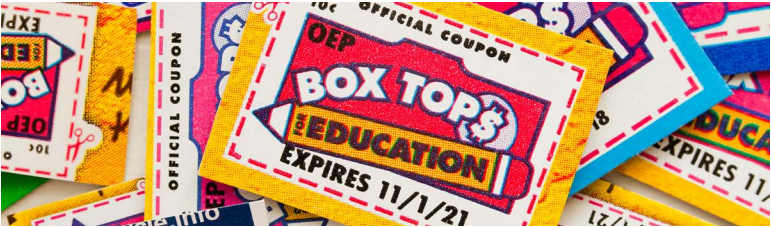
SERIOUS SOUP
July 29: 81 guests served
August 5: 87 guests served
August 12: 65 guests served
August 19: 80 guests served

alternative
WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
4:00 pm in the Rearranged Chapel

This is a laid back gathering with fun spirit-filled music, storytelling and food. Curious? Come! There will be storytelling and mission making. There will be communion wandering and prayer stations. There will be jeans and coffee drinking. Everything revolves around the Table, now in the center of the room. There is no “up front.” All people participate in making worship. Join us!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Thank you for continuing to support Haskell School through the “Box Tops for Education” program! We will continue to collect Box Tops for the upcoming school year. A collection bin is located on the shelf directly across from the main church office. Please note: soup labels will no longer be collected as the program has ended. Questions? Contact: Holly Beeman at hbeeman@martinauto.com

KFACT’S STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE SETTLED INTO EMERSON HALL

By Roger Greenlaw

During early August SecondFirst Church welcomed KFACT staff into their refurbished office area, and the last week of August the Girls arrived and are getting acquainted with their new home in Emerson Hall. KFACT provides mentoring for 250 Girls from 6th grade through college. Over 10 years, this program has achieved graduation rates of 95-100%. We hope they have an open house this fall because you will be amazed at the transformation of this wonderful space...with its new windows and many renovations. We wanted a purpose to renovate this space...AND WE GOT IT IN KFACT.

To make this transformation of Emerson Hall happen, Bells moved to the 4th floor chapel, Kids Zone moved to the 3 floor, Adult Education and Bride’s room moved into the former nursery area next to the office (Grooms will use the Heritage room). Many storage areas were moved as well. Now it is time to recheck with all these areas to see that we have kept our promises to make the new areas appropriately decorated, furnished and functional. Trustees would like to know if your group that was affected by relocation has leftover needs or have discovered the support you need to ‘complete’ the transition to your new space.

We celebrate spreading God’s grace in downtown Rockford “and beyond” as KFACT moves into Emerson Hall. Thank you to the congregation for support of this huge project during the past year and to all who donated time to make it all happen!

Questions or comments to Roger Greenlaw, Chairperson Trustees Ministry Team
Rgreen97@aol.com, cell 815-262-1776

YOUTH CAR WASH
Sunday, September 15, after service

The youth will be starting early this year in their efforts to raise money for their mission trip. On the back of such a successful year, the students elected to travel to New Orleans at the end of July 2020. We will be taking advantage of the nice weather and offering a car wash after service on September 15th. Any donations are welcomed and appreciated, but we are happy to be at the service of this fine congregation regardless, and will gladly clean your car!



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK OFF
by Aubrey Barnett

Sunday School will be returning September 8, and children of all ages are welcomed to participate! Come to the gym after worship for a 2019 parent tour to get the inside scoop. We start our year in the newly renovated Sunday School room on the 3rd floor as we learn about the Psalms aligned with the liturgical calendar through the Post-Pentecost season. This close look at one book in the Bible will aim to help children learn what a Psalm is, why people wrote them and the different types, how they were meant to be songs, and of course, read to them to understand what they tell us about God. There will be interactive lessons each week with fun take-home projects to get families talking about God’s message on the ride home. Lastly, we will be adding artwork and reflections about who we understand God to be on our bulletin board on the 3rd floor, and we hope that everyone from the congregation will come visit our space to see how it grows as we learn more about God’s unfailing love.

