



“THE STARTER”

March 2022

Rev. Brian Beck

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Faith

Faith is the eye by which we look to Jesus. A dim-sighted eye is still an eye; a weeping eye is still an eye.

Faith is the hand with which we lay hold on Jesus. A trembling hand is still a hand.

Faith is the tongue by which we taste how good the Lord is. A feverish tongue is nevertheless a tongue.

Faith is the foot by which we come to Jesus. A lame foot is still a foot.

He who comes slowly nevertheless comes.



Thank you!

I'm speechless! Just speechless! The retirement card and gift you gave me was beyond my wildest dreams. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 23 years as your secretary, here at First Church. The first welcome I got on my first day was Shirley Tieman. The rest of the church eventually came to my office throughout the years; always with a smile and something to chat about. I've made friends I'll have for the rest of my life. I hope I've made a difference in keeping First Church running smoothly and reflecting the love of Christ to all I've met. I've been blessed more than you know.

Ellen



Grumpy Sunday

Daylight savings time officially begins Sunday morning, March 13th. This is the day we set our clock ahead and lose one hour of sleep-consequently it is known as Grumpy Sunday. So set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night and join us for worship and some grumpy fellowship March 13th.



You are cordially invited to attend the

*Installation
of*

The Reverend Brian Beck

as

Pastor

of

*The First Congregational
Church of Peru*

To be held Sunday, March 27,

2022

2:00pm

*A reception to honor Pastor
Beck*

will follow immediately in

Morgan Hall



The Greatest Man in History

Jesus had no servants, yet they call Him Master. He had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. He had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. He had no army, yet kings feared him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him. He was buried in the tomb, yet He lives today!



The 7 Ups

***Wake Up! Decide to have a good day. "This is the day the Lord hath made: let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24*

***Dress Up! The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. 'The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart.' 1Samuel 16:7*

***Shut Up! Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. 'He who guards his lips guards his soul.' Proverbs 13:3*

***Stand Up! for what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. 'Let us not be weary in doing good, for at the proper times we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good...' Galatians 6:9-10*

***Look Up!... to the Lord. 'I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13*

***Reach Up!... for something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct your path.' Proverbs 3:5-6*

***Lift Up!.. your prayers. 'Do not worry about anything, instead pray about everything.' Philippians 4:6*



New Members

We would like to welcome our new members, February 27th, Pastor Brian Beck, and Barbara Beck and Rob Dickson.



Welcome to the Movies

Christian Ed is hosting several afternoon movies. Sunday March 20th at 4:00pm the movies will be the next movie in the series of "God's Not Dead". They are open to everyone! Come enjoy fellowship. There will be popcorn and drinks available.



Bowling

Christian Ed. will be sponsoring a family bowling afternoon. Open to everyone. We will be meeting at the IV Superbowl on Sunday, March 6th at 1:00pm. Bowling and shoes provided, all extras (snacks, drinks,) on your own.



Christian Education

The Adult Bible class meets each Sunday morning at 9:00am in the lounge. They are currently embarking on a journey through "Genesis". All are welcome! The JR/SR High class will begin on Sunday mornings at 9:00am taught by Dawn Tieman. Ellen Marincic will continue teaching our elementary children during worship service after children's message. We will begin a PreK-K class also to be during worship service after children's message. This class will be taught by Vicki Hall. The Woman's Bible study of "Habakkuk" meets on Monday mornings at 10:00am in the lounge. Sunday Funday's are always a hit with the kids. February study of God's Love where we made valentines to be mailed. Hide and seek in the dark is always fun. We are switching up next funday open to all (kids of all ages, adults) for a bowling afternoon at the IV Superbowl. Movie afternoons have been well attended. Next movie is March 20th at 4:00pm. All are welcome. New to our schedule is the monthly diner's group, meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. All our welcome. The initial meeting of the group will be March 21st 5:00pm at the Big Apple Restaurant in Peru.



Ways and Means

The Ways and Means Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on the core Ways and Means Committee. The core group plans fundraisers. Contact Diana Dornbusch with any questions and to get on board!!



Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil... it has no point.

Diner's Interest

The Dining group will meet on March 21st at 5:00pm. We will be meeting at the Big Apple in Peru. Please keep in mind everyone is responsible for their own dinner.



Painting Party

Painting parties and crafts with Lucy will be here. March 26th at 2:00pm, and April 9th at 10:00am. More information to come or see Diana Dornbusch.



2022 Small-Town Pastors' Conference

This seminar will be April 25-27 in Morton, Illinois. Flier on bulletin will be on the bulletin board outside the office. Questions and more information please see Pastor Brian.



Pray for the health of Jane McClintock, Char & Pete Belski, Marilyn Cobb, Rita Tieman, Dawn's parents &, Dawn Tieman. Trisha Glasper on the passing of her grandmother.

**Please pray for daily grace for our shut-ins:
Myrle Sapienza Carol Edgcomb
Don Walker Jane McClintock
Lillian Mini Daryl & Lin Stuhr

** Pray for Pastor Roy Jacob & Peace Mission in India caring for children and widows

** Pray for Jews for Jesus

** Pray for the Surbers and Supply & Multiply

** Pray for Abigail Women's Clinic

** Pray for Cup of Cold Water Ministries

** Pray for Transport for Christ

** Pray for PADS providing shelter to the Homeless



Knowing that we can be loved exactly as we are gives us all the best opportunity for growing into the healthiest of people.

Fred Rogers

Practice the Pause

When in doubt, pause.

When angry, pause.

When tired pause. When stressed, pause.

And when you pause,

PRAY



Lord, Prop Us Up

Every time I am asked to pray, I think of the old fellow who always prayed, "Lord prop us up on our leaning side." After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that prayer so fervently.

He answered, "Well sir, you see, it's like this... I got an old barn out back. It's been there a long time; it's withstood a lot of weather; it's gone through a lot of storms and it's stood for many years. It's still standing. But one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit.

So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on it's leaning side so it wouldn't fall.

Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn. I've been around a long time; I've withstood a lot of life storms; I've withstood a lot of hard times and I'm still standing too. But I find myself leaning to one side from time to time. So I like to ask the Lord to prop us up on our leaning side, 'cause I figure a lot of us get to leaning at times.

Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, leaning toward bitterness, leaning toward hatred, leaning toward cussing, leaning toward a lot of things that we shouldn't. So we need to pray, 'Lord, prop us upon our leaning side, so we will stand straight and tall again to glorify the Lord.'



The weatherman says a bad storm is coming. Everyone panics and gets prepared. The preacher says Jesus is coming and nobody moves. Let that sink in for a minute.



Illinois Valley Food Pantry/PADS

Don't forget the food pantry this winter. Please bring any of these needed items: cereal, mac and cheese, soup, canned fruit and veggies, peanut butter, toilet paper, laundry soap, diapers. Let's fill the baskets!!!!