

# Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

March, 2017

## Family of GOD

**Definition of family 1** : A group of individuals living under one roof and usually under one head : household 2a : A group of persons of common ancestry : **Synonyms** blood, clan, folks, house, kin, kindred, kinfolk (or kinfolks), kinsfolk, line, lineage, people, race, stock, tribe.

When I started thinking about the word family, the first thing that came to mind was that commercial for ancestry.com. I thought, wouldn't it be amazing, if they could go back about 5000 years? Because if they could, it would show the beginning of the first families and where we all started from - at least after the flood. Another thing I was imagining was, what if they could show us that family tree, and what it would look like? I picture this very large tree with a lot of branches going back about 2500 years, and then the tree would start to look like it was upside down, because all those branches would start becoming less.... and less. It would then end up with 3 Roots, the sons from Noah and their wives.

I did a google search on Noah's ark and found a lot of different stories. One of them showed that they found this large wooden ship that happens to be almost exactly the same dimensions as stated in the Bible, and it happens to be in the mountains of Ararat, also stated in the Bible. And another funny thing is it's 13000 feet above sea level. I wonder who built a large wooden ship at 13000 feet above sea level, on a mountain about 4800 years ago? That guy must have been crazy, or maybe that is where it came to rest. Now I'm thinking that a lot of you have already seen this, or heard about it, because it is old news - about 3400 years old. But it seemed in line with the topic of family, and showing even more proof of our ancestry. Now, I know those of us in this

special family don't need more proof, but it could mean something to those that are not yet a part of our family. So we need to show those people what a true family of God is like.

Whenever I do a newsletter, I always look up that topic word in the concordance section of my study Bible. This helps me a lot, so I can read all the Scriptures using that word and think about the ones that seem to stand out to me. Now, the word family is only shown 7 or 8 times in my concordance, and none of those Scriptures jumped out at me, so.... I did more searching for father, mother, brother and sister and as you could imagine I had lot to read. The first one that came to me led me to the next one, which I have had underlined for a long time, because I liked it a lot, and it really tells us what the true family of God should be like.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8** "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. <sup>8</sup>Love never fails."

If we have this kind of love for everyone we will be with the true family of God. Now, back to the first one:

**1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (Unity and Diversity in the Body)** "<sup>12</sup>Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body-whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free-and we were all given the

FAMILY

(Continued on next page)

one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many..."

<sup>17</sup>...If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. <sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.

But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

When I read this, it made me think of my own actual body, and I thought about the times when I was injured: like the time I sprained my pinky finger, and the time I had a torn muscle. Those parts of my body were hurting, and it made things a lot harder for me to accomplish, especially the things I needed to do. Most of you know that I work on heavy equipment. It was very difficult for me during those injuries to perform the work that I had to do. Sometimes I could only use one arm, when both would have made it easier. And when I tried to install mounting nuts and bolts with a very sore finger, it just made everything so much harder. Just like it says, if one part suffers, every part suffers and that should be especially true for us in the family of God.

Another one that stood out to me, **Romans 12:4-6** "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us."

And when I read this one, I think of all the great blessings God has given to me, most of them involve hard work with my hands, and I do enjoy that. I will say though, sometimes I wish God would have given me a smarter brain, so I wouldn't have to work with my hands so much. (Just kidding God gave me the perfect brain.)

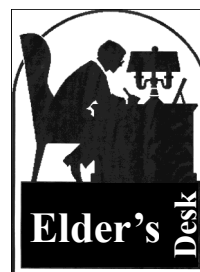
I had a lot more Scriptures that I wanted to share, but I guess, because I can't explain things very well, I use too many small words. But I have to end with this last Scripture, because I think it kind of reminds me of my self, except for the preaching part.

**1 Corinthians 2:1-5** "And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

Our family tree all starts at the same root; so let us all be a part of God's Family.



Your humble servant in Christ,  
Ted Gehman



**Connect**

Published by:

**Sunny Place Church of God**  
901 E Oak St, Addison IL 60101  
Church Office (630) 530-1830  
Editor: Lynn Drury

Senior Pastor: Peter Weber  
Treasurer: Glenda Kasza  
Elders: Sam Jacob, President  
Tim Kasza, Vice President  
Chuck Bender, Secretary  
Ted Gehman, Director  
Nona Koivula, Director

# TLC

Together Loving Christ

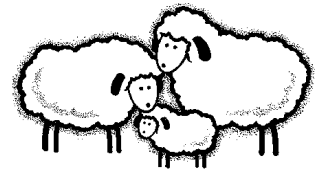
**A**re you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

**J**oin with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

**Grow in the Word!**

## Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

*Kid's Rock* available  
for children ages five to nine  
*Nursery Services Provided*



### MEN'S BREAKFAST & CHURCH WORK DAY



SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH  
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Visit us at: [www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org](http://www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org)



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

**Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ**

# Minutes of the Elders Meeting, held on February 1, 2017

Attendees: Ted Gehman, Pastor Weber, Sam Jacob, Chuck Bender, Nona Koivula, Tim Kasza, and Glenda Kasza.

Devotion and Prayer: 1Peter 5: 1-4, in these verses Peter is giving us direction as to our role as Elders and Disciples of Christ. He is telling us to be shepherds of God's flock, referring to our church, its members, and those around us. We have been entrusted, by God, to watch over, and help Christ followers around us. As Elders, we do this because we want to do it, not for money, but to serve our Lord. We need to be a constant example, and we need to constantly think about our role of helping others, and be an example to the people in the church. As Elders, we have been entrusted with watching over the church, and are responsible, and accountable to God.

## **Ministry Reports:**

Treasurer: Budgeted bank balance for February 1, 2017 is \$208.24.

Worship: There was a meeting Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> the topic was Unity and Worship. Times and dates for planned events were scheduled. Topics discussed were, creating a choir, small singing groups, training on the sound board, lyric tutorials, vocal training, adding instruments and electric keyboard and more.

Christian Education: There was a January 18th meeting, on how to grow Sunday School attendance. There was an active discussion on a multiple day Vacation Bible School this coming summer. There was discussion regarding youth program planning, incorporating social media as the platform. Meetings will be scheduled for every 2<sup>nd</sup> month

Hospitality & Encouragement: There is ongoing response to those in the church that are unable to attend due to illness. Cards and flowers have been sent to those individuals and families.

Missions: There is a missions meeting scheduled for Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of February.

Prayer and Devotion: There will be a meeting after the afternoon of prayer on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

Stewardship & Support Services: We have a stewardship meeting scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Our last work day was started with a men's meeting and finished with some general repairs around the church.

Ladies Ministry: The CWC 2017 convention will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria IL. We will celebrate the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Women's Ministry on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Evangelism and Outreach: For Valentine's Day, Suzanna will collect baked goods and deliver to the police and fire stations. Easter Eggstravaganza, is scheduled for Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>. This year, we will be adding more of an evangelistic programming with Bible story stations for the kids to visit. We will need lots of help from the congregation. There will be several planning meetings between now and the event date. Senior luncheons will resume in May.

Men's Ministry: There will be a men's meeting and event at the Allstate Arena, Monster Truck Jam outing, 1PM on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February, call Chuck or Fred for tickets and more information.

## **Old & New Business:**

- Sam and Tyler will be preaching the Sunday morning services, February and March
- The Elders retreat has been scheduled for Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>
- The Church Unity Service was a great success and well attended. There is a CD available of the recorded service.
- Connect newsletters have been assigned for the next year.
- Election of Officers: Nona, nominated Sam for President, Ted seconded the motion, Unanimous vote in favor.
- Election of Officers: Nona, nominated Tim for Vice President, Ted seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor.
- Election of Officers: Nona, nominated Chuck for Secretary, Ted seconded the motion, Unanimous vote in favor.

The next Elder's Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for the month of March.

Website: [www.sunnyplacechurch.org](http://www.sunnyplacechurch.org) Go to calendar, for a list of updated events



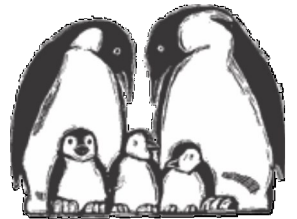
Kid's

# Connection

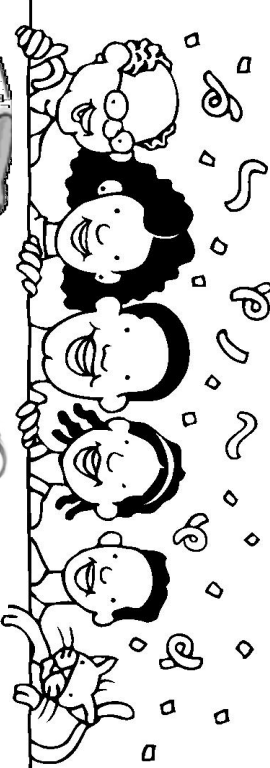
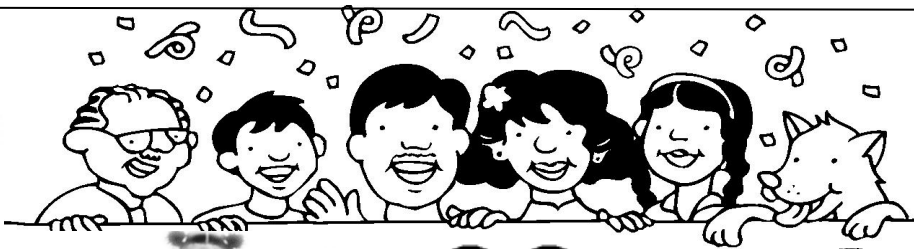


## FAMILY

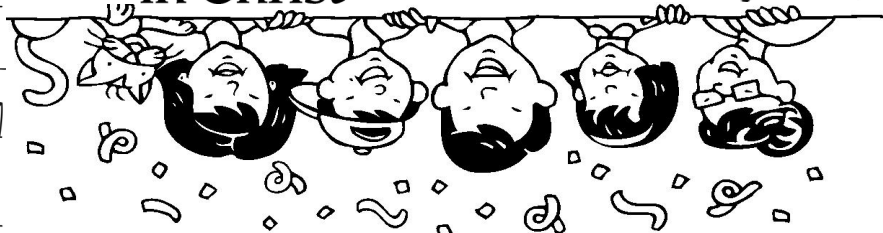
What's your family like?



Our Loved Ones



Brothers and Sisters  
in Christ

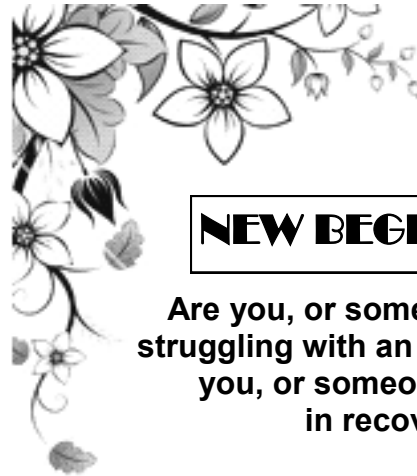






The NICE Foundation is in need of churches to partner with them to continue to feed the children in Nicaragua.

If the Lord is prompting you to give, we will sponsor a food packing event April 29th. This will be possible when we collect \$5,000. Please make checks payable to Sunny Place with the 'Nice Foundation' in the remarks.



## NEW BEGINNINGS

Are you, or someone you love, struggling with an addiction? Are you, or someone you love, in recovery?

New Beginnings, a confidential support group will meet on Wednesdays.

Please contact Laura Grafer at 312/307-8031 for further information and time.

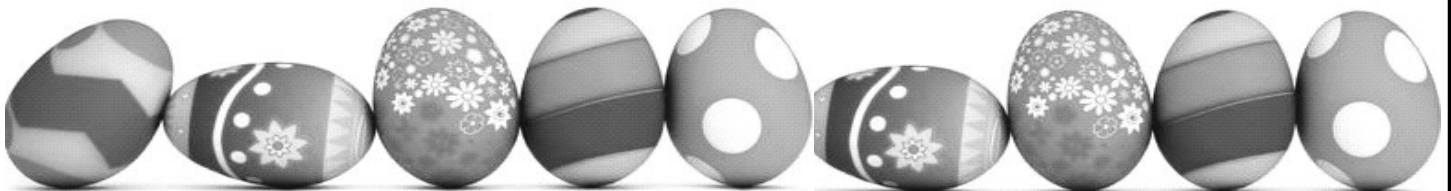
*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone, the new has come!"*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*



On March 19th, after the Worship Service, the Outreach Team will be hosting a 'Getting Ready for the Easter Eggstravaganza' afternoon.

Please join us as we share a light lunch, and have fun: filling 3,000 Easter eggs, and creating decorations. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join in on the fun.



## Anniversary Tea



Come join us as we celebrate our  
**7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Ladies Ministry**

Saturday, April 22nd, 9:00 a.m.  
at Sunny Place Church

Sunny Place Sisters—We love to share our Lord's love, sing praises to Him, and feast on a breakfast buffet.

This event will be filled with tea, tea pots, tea cups, and just about every flavor and type of tea from around the world. Our tea collectors may want to bring their own, or sample from our own gourmet tea collectors.

Expert tea teachers will be on hand to share the techniques of creating the perfect healthy tea and the healing properties of herbal teas.

Save the date for our special Anniversary event.



## Christian Woman's Connection Annual 2017 Convention

April 7th to the 9th

At the

Embassy Suites  
East Peoria, IL

There will be two keynote speakers: Dr. Arnetta Bailey, and Marcy Rivera.

The Worship Team is a group of four, God-fearing women, from the Langley Avenue, Church of God, Chicago.

For those planning to attend, please send registration checks of \$150 to Ronda Creason, prior to the March 30th deadline.

For more information about the convention, contact Nona at 630/220-4298

## Sunday School Line-Up Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Adult  
Bible  
Study

### "The Light of the World"

A Study of God's light  
in a dark world.

Led by Glenn Sterkel



## Children's Classes

**Grades 1-4** led by Carla Weber  
**Grades 5-7** led by Chuck Bender  
**Youth 8-12** led by Kim Gehman  
& Sabra Martin  
**Nursery services are provided**



Thursday Evenings  
7:00 p.m.  
at Sunny Place

## "A Walk on the Roman Road"

A Bible Study through  
the book of Romans.

Led by Pastor Pete

# March



2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			<b>NO</b> Elder's Meeting today	<b>NO</b> Adult Bible Study today		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
 Holy Communion				Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 Audio & Visual Tutorial 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place			Christian Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	Grief Services *6:00 p.m. At Sunny Place  Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	 Happy St. Patrick's Day	Men's Breakfast 9:00 at Sunny Place  Church Workday 9am at Sunny Place
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Afternoon of Prayer, following a light lunch,  Eggstravaganza meeting 1:00 at Sunny Place	 HAPPY First Day of Spring!		New Beginnings at Sunny Place see Laura to schedule	Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place		
26	27	28	29	30	31	