

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

January, 2017

Communion: The Gift of Love and knowledge

COMMUNION

The act of communion brings two different thoughts to mind. It is actually a continuation of the same action bringing us together in the fellowship with God. The act of breaking bread together in the Lord's Supper is an acknowledgement of the parts of the body of Christ that we, as the church, are all a part of. Secondly, it is the act of sharing, and exchanging, intimate thoughts and feelings on a spiritual level. I would like to write about the communion of the Holy Ghost, as written in 2 Corinthians 13:14. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all."

The word communion, in the Bible, is translated from the Greek word and means "sharing", which Paul used to describe the taking of bread and wine as the body and blood of Christ. The use of the word communion in the Bible is very extensive and is seen in Genesis 18:33. "And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place." In Acts 2:42, "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." These verses show us the closeness, togetherness, and connection we have with God and other Christians.

In our communion with the Holy Spirit, we have the ability to have constant and continual connection with God. There is a constant readiness on His part to admit us

into His presence, and listen to all that we say. We are encouraged to give everything to Him. We need to empty ourselves of all that is of this world, and seek the arms of the Savior. God's interest in us is so great that He is willing to talk to us, and guide us through our slightest injustice, trials and difficulties. God does this without ever getting tired, or impatient; God has a great interest in us.

Every true Christian knows what it is to feel a secret moving of the heart toward God. It is a silent, but deep, and powerful drawing away of the soul from the world. We feel ourselves being pulled away from everything into a sacred and private interview with God.

Through communion with the Holy Spirit, we are able to see how weak we are; and with continual temptation surrounding us, how easily we may be overcome. It is only by the grace of God, that we are saved, and at that time, we are sure we are in communion with God. It is only when we are able to open up our hearts, exposing our deepest thoughts, emotions, affections and secrets will we know we are in communion with Him.

When we commune with God, sometimes we find ourselves pleading and reasoning with Him; we want to influence the mind of God. In Genesis 32:22-28, "That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ After he had sent them

(Continued on next page)

across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. ²⁴ So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. ²⁶ Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷ The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered. ²⁸ Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel,^[a] because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome." We need to take hold of every strength of God, and hold fast to His faithfulness and promises.

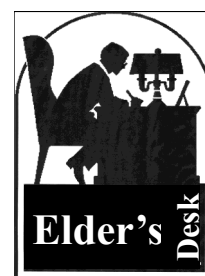
When we make God our sacred confidant, and tell Him all those secret things which we would tell no other in the universe, we are in a state of communion with our Lord. Romans 8:22-26, ²² "We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."

When we open the Scriptures and take hold of the word of God, understanding the word, and applying it to our lives, we are in communion with Him. We have victory over our spiritual enemies, we have communion with the Holy Spirit. When your soul is in communion with God, you can easily tell Satan to be gone and he will depart. When our mind is in this state, we will rise above our spiritual enemies and the power of temptation.

I am reminded of the song, Standing on the Rock. The words go, "Standing on the Rock, Rock of my salvation, standing on the rock, on Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground is sinking sand". We must be willing to be just what He wants us to be in this great partnership. Romans 5:1-5, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we^[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we^[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

What we have of heaven in this world lies in this work of the Holy Spirit who loves us.

Respectfully in Christ,
Chuck Bender



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	Senior Pastor: Peter Weber Treasurer: Glenda Kasza Elders: Sam Jacob, President Paul Gigous, Vice President Chuck Bender, Secretary Phyllis Clark, Director Ted Gehman, Director Tim Kasza, Director

TLC

Together Loving Christ

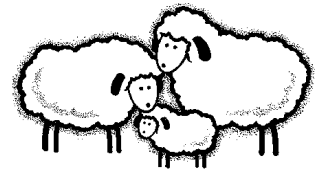
Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

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

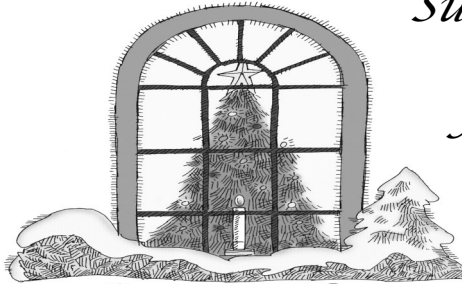
Grow in the Word!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

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



Pastor's



Open House

Sunday, January 1st

5:00 p.m.

At Pete & Carla's

Bring family & friends, all are welcome.

Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Minutes of the Elders Meeting, held on December 7, 2016

Attendees: Ted Gehman, Pastor Weber, Sam Jacob, Chuck Bender, Paul Gigous.

Devotion and Prayer: Titus 3:1-8. These verses talk to us about our past and the foolish and disobedient things that kept us slaves to Satan. Our life needs to be peaceable and considerate and we need to show true humility to all men. The passage goes on to remind us of the short comings we experienced in the past. Christ has saved us through the regeneration and the renewal by the Holy Spirit. The kindness and love of God our Savior, has caused us to change. We need to be ready to do what is good in the sight of the Lord and this decision has made all the difference in the world.

Ministry Reports:

Worship: The sound board training has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

Christian Education: The youth convention was attended by several of our youth and they took 1st place in a video contest.

Hospitality & Encouragement: The care packages have been sent out to the troops, and flower arrangements have been sent to the elderly.

Prayer and Devotion: The prayer team will meet after the next Afternoon of Prayer on the 18th of December. (They are planning to meet after each Afternoon of Prayer)

Stewardship & Support Services: We are presently engaged in several minor repairs around the church. There will be no church work day or Stewardship meeting in the month of December.

Ladies Ministry: They are planning a breakfast buffet and after, they will begin a new project to create pillowcase dresses for the young girls of Nicaragua. This will be an on going project, with a Saturday sowing session. Anyone wishing to join in, please see Nona.

Evangelism and Outreach: The outreach team will meet Sunday the 11th after church.

Men's Ministry: There are events being planned for the next several month details to follow. See Fred for details.

Old & New Business:

- Ministry Team Annual Reports are due now.
- Elder Nominations are in.
- Unity service will be held on the 15th of January, at 6:00 p.m.

The next Elder's Meeting will be held on Wednesday the 4th of January.

Website: www.sunnyplacechurch.org Go to calendar, for a list of updated events

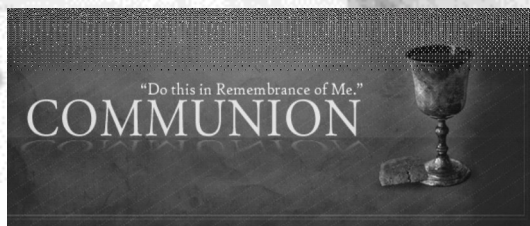
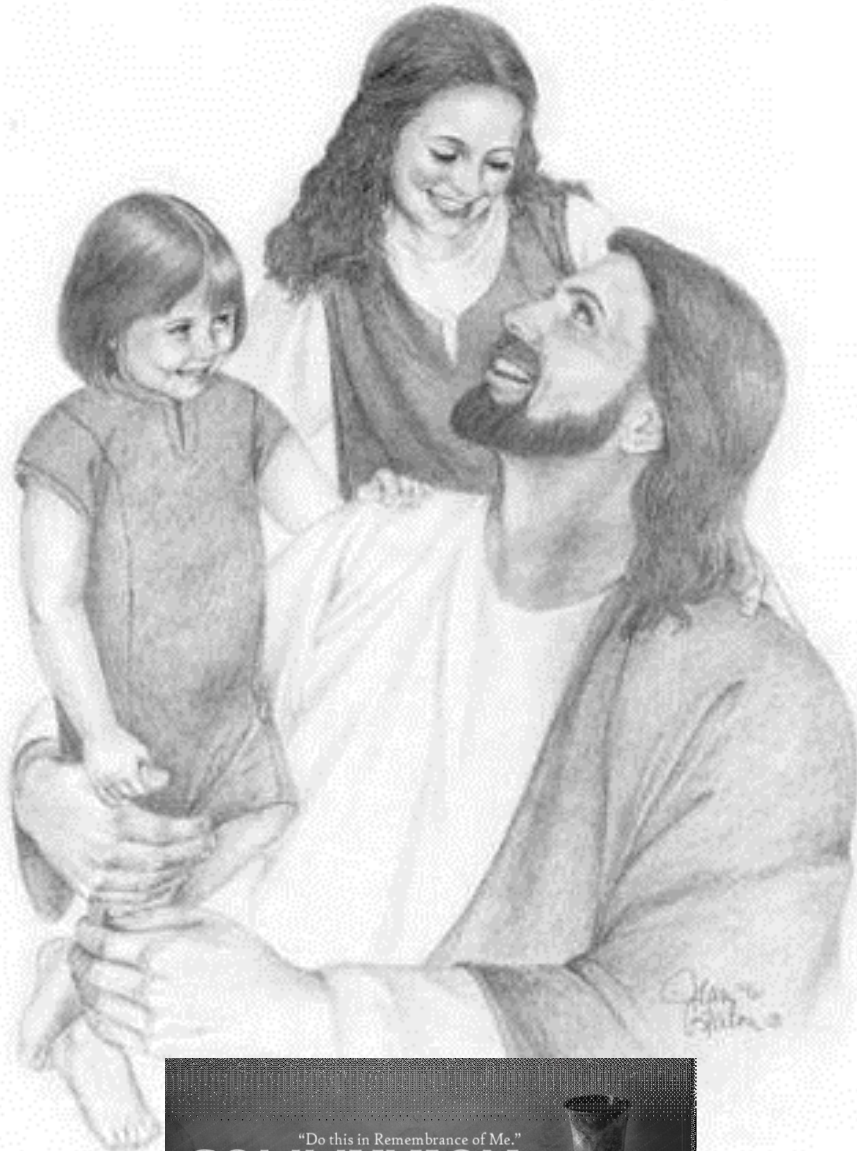


Kid's

Connection

Communion

We celebrate and share in our Lord Jesus.
We thank Him for His great sacrifice,
as we look forward to His return,
and our salvation.



HANDS OF SERVICE ...HEARTS OF LOVE

To celebrate our two year completion of the three year campaign, as highly devoted followers of Jesus Christ and Sunny Place Church – the Body of Christ.

It is only with His grace and blessings, we are able to make pledges and keep our promises to Him. 'Hands of Service' describes our dedication to the stewardship of our church and resources.

Progress Report

'Hearts of Love' describes our joy of giving. Our three year total pledge goal is \$173,765. Actual giving as of November 2016 is \$94,806 about 18% behind our pledge goal. We are deeply grateful for all donations and thankful for your sacrificial giving for the first two years. All pledges and donations are held completely confidential.

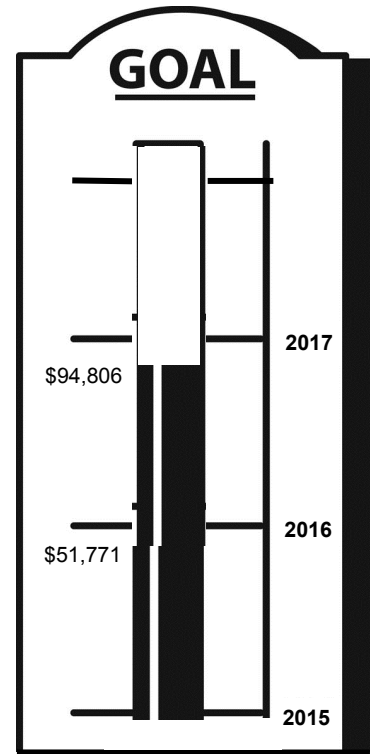
This campaign is about allowing Jesus to show His mighty power at work within us. Remember the Apostle Paul in Ephesus? A handkerchief that touched Paul healed the sick. That's Jesus' mighty power at work within Paul and it is within us as the Body of Christ. All things are possible.

"I have been led by the LORD to do His work here and it gives me great joy to know that through His love all things are possible." Chuck B.

We are awaiting pledges to accomplish this list of projects;

A digital projector for our worship service
Carpeting classrooms, fellowship hall and the office
Replace windows, Interior painting, payment of parking lot
Glass entry doors to our narthex

Thank you for your devotion to Jesus, being led by the Holy Spirit and unified as one in the Body of Christ.



Ladies Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, January 28th 9:00 a.m. at Sunny Place

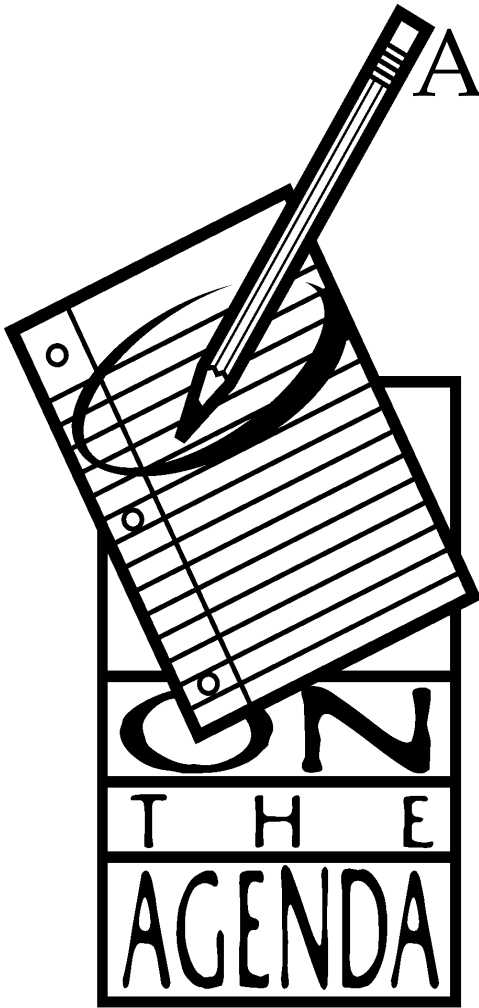
There will be a breakfast buffet and after the meal, we'll begin a new project to create pillowcase dresses for the young girls of Nicaragua. This will be ongoing, not a one time, one Saturday sowing session



We'll have examples; bring your ideas, ribbons or decoration for these dressing
Serving those in need, let's join together to enhance the of joy of giving.



Annual Business Meeting



Sunday, January 22nd

- 12:30 p.m. Light Luncheon
- 1:15 p.m. Annual Business Meeting

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

Adult
Bible
Study

“Hillside Teachings of Jesus”.

A study of the Sermon
on the Mount
Led by Pastor Pete



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

“The Miracles of Jesus”

A Bible Study unpacking
the significance of these
miracles.

Led by Pastor Pete



january 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p>  <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>Pastor's Open House 5:00 pm</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i></p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>Senior Luncheon 11:30-1:30 pm at Sunny Place</p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>Afternoon of Prayer, & light lunch, 12:30p</p> <p>Unity Church 6:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>Grief Services 6:00 p.m.. Sunny Place</p> <p>Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>Men's Meeting 9:00 a.m. at Sunny Place</p> <p>Church Work Day 9-1p.m. at Sunny Place</p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>Annual Business Meeting 12:30 at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>Ladies Breakfast Buffet & Nicaragua Project 9:00 a.m.</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>Worship Meeting 12:30 at Sunny Place</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p>				