

Helmar Heartlines



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From the Pastor's Study

“...let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband” (Ephesians 5:33).

Mary Daniel's husband, Steve, was in the Rosecastle memory care facility in Jacksonville, Florida. He lived at home with Alzheimer's until a few years ago. When the pandemic locked down the facility, Mary went 114 days without seeing him. She asked if there was any way she could get in to see him. She was told she could get a job as a dishwasher at the facility. So, at \$9 an hour, she worked a shift on Thursdays and Fridays to gain entrance. After each shift she spent time with her husband. Whatever it takes...! (USA Today, 7/14/20)

Good marriages don't just happen. There must be commitment to making the relationship work, whatever it takes. And, according to the verse above, a husband is to love his wife with the same attention and care that he is inclined to give himself. A wife needs a husband's self-giving love. And, a husband wants love from his wife in the form of respect. Love and respect in marriage go very well together like bacon and eggs.

When Mary and Steve got married years ago, likely the farthest thing from their minds was disease and a facility. We wouldn't expect otherwise. It was a special day, their wedding day! And, on that day Mary and Steve promised their love, “for better for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do we part.” Mary's love was more than a promise. Rather, her love was lived out, joyfully washing dishes just so she could have a few precious moments with the man she loves! Whatever it takes!

Pastor Steve

Rally Sunday, September 13th!

What is Rally Sunday? Rally Sunday is when Sunday School and All of our programs launch for the Fall.

Church Picnic

There will be an all-church picnic following the worship service on September 13th. The meal will be potluck with the church providing chicken and beverages. If your surname ends in A-I, please bring a cold side dish; J-P, please bring a hot side dish; Q-Z, please bring a dessert. Of course, if you have a “signature” dish that will result in scolding if it’s absent, you are welcome to bring that as well. Please sign up at the Welcome center so that we know how much chicken to order.

Sunday School

Who is Sunday School for? EVERYONE, young and old alike.

What time is Sunday School? 9-9:50 am

On the 13th, everyone will start in the sanctuary. There will be a dedication of the teachers, and the 1st and 7th graders will receive Bibles (their parents will be contacted). Then each class will be dismissed, and the adults will remain in the sanctuary for a short lesson. On following Sundays, 7th grade through adults will start in their classrooms, and the 3 year olds through 6th grade will start in Room 3 for opening fellowship before moving to their classrooms.

Our topics/teachers for 2026-27:

Pre-school/Kindergarten (Room 3): Show me Gods Truth (God does great things, God saves, God calls), taught by Carrie Pilon. *We still need a teacher to team up with Carrie.*
If interested, please contact Ruth Karales (815)791-6566

1-2nd grade (Room 26): The 10 Commandments (Honor the Lord, Love the Lord, Love thy neighbor), taught by Timothy & Jessica Karales, Jennifer Yaggie

3-4 grade (Room 18): The Apostles’ Creed (The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit), taught by Muriel Sucher, Kari Niles

5-6 grade (Room 17): Journey through the New Testament, taught by Brian Pilon, Kim Eisnaugle

7-8 grade (Room 16): Confirmation class, taught by Matt Greven

High School (Room 15): Book of ACTS/ Jonah- An Illustration of God’s Surprising Grace, taught by Jacob Mathre, Rich Niles

Adults (Lower Level): I AM/The Lord's Prayer/ Prayers of Old Testament/ Prayers of New Testament/ Fruits of the Spirit. Stan Osmond will begin with the I AM statements of Jesus.

Come ready to grow in the Lord and you will be blessed!

Life Groups

Life Groups begin the week of September 13th. Each group studies the Scripture passage for the upcoming Sunday sermon. The study for this fall will be in Ecclesiastes. Each week, study questions will be available as you leave the sanctuary, or online. The groups are as follows:

- Duane & Carol Christian: Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Newark
- Steve & Linda Gengler: Thursdays at 6:30pm in Yorkville
- *Host Needed*: Thursdays at 7pm in Yorkville (currently planning to meet in the Fireside Room)
- Brian & Carrie Pilon: Fridays at 7:30pm in Minooka (childcare available)

Bible Studies

- *September 2nd—The Men's Bible Study, led by Pastor Lombardo, will begin a new series in II Timothy on September 2nd. This is a great time to join with others in fellowship. We meet at Southern Bells restaurant in Yorkville on Wednesdays at 6:30 am. We usually finish in about an hour. All men are invited to have something to eat for the body, and also to feed on God's Word for the soul! Plan to join us! (*starts before Rally Sunday)
- Adult Bible Study, led by Mac & Patty McKenna, meets at 2pm on Wednesdays in the library. Resumes September 16th and will continue their study of II Samuel. (815) 953-5201.
- Ladies Bible Study, led by Angie Lombardo, will meet on Thursdays at 9:30am in the library beginning September 17th. They will be studying the book of Ruth. Signup sheets available at the Welcome Center.

Wednesday Children's Classes

Meets every week at 6:30pm. Begins September 16th and kicks off with an ice cream social.

Leaders needed! Contact Kristen Mathre for details. helmarkids@gmail.com (815) 762-5320

- BLAST (Bible Learning and Sharing Together) K5-5th grade
- JAM (Jesus and Me) 6th-8th grade
- High School

Please register BLAST students [HERE](#). Online only.

Helmar Quilters

The ladies quilting group at Helmar creates machine pieced comforters that are hand tied for people in need. A group of 12-14 women currently meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday monthly in the lower level of the church from 9 am to 2 pm for this community service of Doing What We Can (DWWC). If you can't come every week, or can't stay the whole time, that's okay! We'd love to have you join us when you can. Dates this year are Sept. 9, 23; Oct. 14, 28; Nov. 11; Dec. 9; Jan. 13, 27; Feb. 10, 24; March 10; April 14, 28; May 12, 26. We don't meet in the summer currently. Because of Holidays, we only meet once in November, December and March. Kim Eisnaugle will be coordinating the quilting group following Myrtle's retirement.

Library Notes

Like many of us, I am desperately trying to catalog the books I have at home to grow the church library. As I sit composing this, I see over 4 dozen books needing space on shelves. Because of tight quarters, I will be pulling books that have remained sleeping on the shelves to make room for more awake titles! There are both fiction and non-fiction, and I applaud those of you checking out the non-fiction titles!

As I said early on, I read mostly Christian fiction. But that changed a few years ago when a NF book was recommended to me. I read it simply because I felt I was not well versed on certain topics and how a Christian should view a host of cultural viewpoints. I have favorite authors in NF too! Take a look at these four: *Escape the Coming Night* by David Jeremiah; *The Cross and the Crescent* by Erwin Lutzer; *7 Women* by Eric Metaxas and *Saving Truth* by Abdu Murray.

Look for these and many other titles coming. Because so many fiction readers have requested some "cozy" mysteries, I was able to land a set of them, 10 new titles, that will be coming in as well. All of this is just in time for fall and winter reading!

Cindy

~All puzzles are now located at the Welcome Center, with off-season selections inside the cabinets.

Helmarpalooza Update

Once again, God blessed us with a day of perfect weather, no significant injuries or illnesses, and record-breaking attendance (somewhere between 5,000 and 100,000) for the 6th annual Helmarpalooza. We cannot begin to express our gratitude to all of the volunteers and their many hours of work making this event possible. Above all, we want to give all praise and glory to our Lord for the privilege of being a small part of expanding His Kingdom here on earth by sharing the good news of Jesus' love with our community!

Bulletin Update

The new format of the bulletin will begin on Rally Sunday. What can you expect?

- Moving forward, most announcements will be on the screen before the service, or on the monitor in the FLC. They will be posted on the website, and some will come through email. Bullet points of upcoming events will continue to be printed, with full details available elsewhere.
- The Spiritual Disciplines sheet will be included as an insert.
- Full color covers will only be used for Holidays and special events, and Communion Sundays (at least until we run out).

Birthday/Anniversary Calendar

There will be an update for the Church Birthday and Anniversary Calendar available on Rally Sunday. If you have a calendar, please see Stacy for the update sheet. If you would like a calendar, see Stacy. You must be in the directory or calendar to receive one.

Job Opening

After the January Congregational Meeting, I will be stepping down from the position of church secretary. There is nothing wrong, and we aren't going anywhere. I am simply following God's leading in a different direction. This does mean that the church is looking for someone to take on that role. If you are interested, please talk with one of the trustees (Dan Hanback, Glen Nelson, Stan Osmond, or Roger Peterson). Stacy

September 2026

Pickleball M-F 7-10am, Open Volleyball M 7-9pm, Open Basketball Th 7-9pm

1	Tu	
2	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study
3	Th	
4	F	
5	Sa	
6	Su	9:30am fellowship; 10am Worship Service-Communion/Baptism
7	M	2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning
8	Tu	6:30pm Deacons/Trustees Mtg; 7:30pm Council Mtg
9	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 9:30-2 Quilting
10	Th	
11	F	5-7pm Food Pantry
12	Sa	
13	Su	8:30am Fellowship; 9am SS; 10am Worship; Picnic to follow
14	M	9:30-1 Firm Foundations Co-op; 2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning
15	Tu	
16	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST/JAM/HS; 6:30 Christian Life Group
17	Th	9:30am Ladies Bible Study; 6:30pm Gengler Life Group; 7pm Fireside Life Group
18	F	7:30pm Pilon Life Group
19	Sa	
20	Su	8:30am Fellowship; 9am SS; 10am Worship
21	M	9:30-1 Firm Foundations Co-op; 2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning
22	Tu	
23	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 9:30-2 Quilting; 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST/JAM/HS; 6:30pm Christian Life Group
24	Th	9:30am Ladies Bible Study; 6:30pm Gengler Life Group; 7pm Fireside Life Group
25	F	7:30pm Pilon Life Group
26	Sa	
27	Su	8:30am Fellowship; 9am SS; 10am Worship
28	M	9:30-1pm Firm Foundations Co-op; 2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning; 3-5pm Food Pantry
29	Tu	
30	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST/JAM/HS; 6:30pm Christian Life group