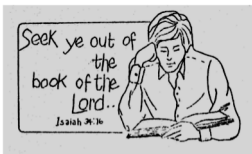




# Ridgeview

*Where the Love of Christ is Proclaimed, Shared & Felt*

**February 24, 2016**



## A Message from Pastor Mark...

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" (John 4:28-29)

In John 4 we read how Jesus introduced Himself to a Samaritan woman when she comes to the town's well to get water. He took the initiative and engaged her in conversation, talking about things as common as a drink of water. Eventually, that conversation led to her discovery that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah, or Christ.

What impresses me is her natural, easy, yet effective witness after that. She went back to where she came from and invited others to check Jesus out for themselves. And when we drop down to verse 39 we find that they did just that.

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." (John 4:39-42)

I appreciate this woman's witness because it seems easy enough that we all can do it. We are able to talk to people about any number of topics, some of them even a bit controversial. But when it comes to talking about Jesus, too many of us freeze up and think that it's too difficult or complicated a task for us.

Cris Rogers, an Anglican minister in London, makes six suggestions that I think are very helpful to more effectively share our faith.

- 1. Start with them.** Hearing their story gives you a route in. Whatever their story is, Jesus is always good news. That's the point; it's just working out how to connect the two. By starting with their story, you're showing them you genuinely care and want to interact rather than argue and talk.

- 2. Share Stories**

People love telling stories and talking about their lives. Everyone has a story to tell: stories of heartbreak, suffering, joy and wonder. People love to tell stories—that's why people love talking about their grandchildren or their last holiday. If you have time to listen, then people will talk and tell you so much of their lives.

- 3. Address Needs**

People can't see their sin, but they can see the consequences of sin around them. This is a great starting place. You could say people are happy to lie but don't like the consequences when caught lying. People like being self-centered until someone does it to them. Showing the consequences of sin in the world around and how it destroys people, friendships and families can help them as you slowly unravel how sin is silently prowling and damaging the world around.

- 4. Point, Don't Drag**

According to Rogers, evangelism is hearing stories and telling stories. Simply put, evangelism is pointing to Jesus in telling my story. It's not about trying to drag people kicking and screaming into the Jesus Camp. It's about pointing to the one we follow and inviting others to follow with you.

- 5. Positive Words**

Rather than criticizing, scolding or judging someone's behavior, we can simply point them to Good News. Jesus offers love, hope, purpose and satisfaction. Like the woman in John 4, we can encourage them to go check Jesus out for themselves. The good we have experienced in Jesus they can investigate and decide for themselves.

Don't get stressed out at the very thought of sharing your faith. You only need to be authentic. We don't need to be clever, but honest, truthful and real. We don't need more "evangelists"; we need more honest followers of Jesus pointing people to Him. What the world is looking for are people who are willing to tell stories that invite people closer into the place of God's presence. Surely we can all do that.

*Pastor Mark*

## Facebook Status Updates & Events

Do you want to make sure you're seeing all of our Facebook status updates and events? If you hover your mouse over the 'liked' tab at the top of our page and click on 'notifications' it will notify you every time something is posted. It's a great way to make sure you're aware of all the events and news we have going on at the church. Please feel free to share everything! The more you like, share, and comment, the more people see our posts.

## 2016 RBC Chili Cook-Off

Now that it's really "CHILLY" outside, it's a great time for some "CHILI" inside! March 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm is the date set for the fun "showdown" of all you chili-making experts to try your hand at becoming this year's 1st Place Winner! But remember, we also have 2nd and 3rd place runners-up to add to the excitement. If you're not into chili, we certainly welcome any soup recipe that may be your "specialty." We will also need desserts and any other "yummy" item you would like to bring to round out the menu. Sign up sheet is on the Welcome Center desk.



## COME AND JOIN IN ON THE FUN!!

**Attention All Senior High Graduates and College Students. Scholarship Packets Will Be Available In The Month of April.**  
Watch For Details in future bulletins.



### March Is America For Christ Offering Month

**For The Opportunity To Help The Cause Of Christ  
In America—Inserts In Our Sunday Bulletins  
During March Will Show You How**

## Wool Gathering

February 26<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm



**Invite someone to come along and hear stories, music,  
have fellowship with each other and yummy goodies.  
It is a fun way to spend your Friday night out.**



## Game Day

Our next game day is this Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 AM! We usually end 4-5 PM so come and go as you are able. Our game day in March will be the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Spring Break

I am starting to plan our spring break week of activities! So far we are planning a volleyball night March 18<sup>th</sup>, Winter Jam concert in Peoria March 20<sup>th</sup>, and a game day March 26<sup>th</sup>. Other activities are in the works including a service opportunity and going to see Batman vs. Superman! A full schedule will be ready by March 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact Pastor Joe.

## Volleyball

March 18<sup>th</sup> we will be having another volleyball night. This is open to all ages! We will meet at 6PM in the fellowship hall. I hope to see you there!

## Winter Jam

On March 20<sup>th</sup> Fuze will be going to Winter Jam. Winter Jam is a big Christian concert featuring David Crowder, Matthew West, For King and Country, Lauren Daigle and several other artists. For the full line up go to: [2016.JamTour.com/shows/peoria-il](http://2016.JamTour.com/shows/peoria-il)

We will be leaving shortly after Power Hour that Sunday and spending the day in Peoria. Tickets cost \$10 cash at the door. Students will also need money for lunch and dinner and any merchandise they want to purchase.

## THANK YOU...

Thanks to my church family for all your prayers, cards and phone calls for my most recent hospital stay, (two days after Christmas and out on New Year's Eve!).

Special thanks to Ken Hunter for all he did to help in my recovery! To Tony and Mark for their hospital visits, they meant so much to me.

Also to all who helped for the retirement reception, it was AWESOME!

*In Christ's Love, Harley Ervin*

## Thank You!

### Dear Ridgeview,

Thank you Paula Conder and Marilyn Cox for organizing the ladies to come help me and the for food brought to me, in the time of healing from my surgery. Thank you to those whom sent cards and for staying with me to keep me company as I heal. Thank you from my heart for the sacrifices of your time.

**May God Bless All of You, Mercedes Gonzalez-Santoni**

### Pastor Mark and Our Ridgeview Family,

Thank you, Mark for coming to Dean's visitation. It meant a lot to us. Also thank you to everyone for all of your prayers and cards.

**Love, Ken, Pam and family**

*Thank you to my Ridgeview family for all the years of love and support as I served alongside you in the work of the*



*Lord. I have had the privilege to praise alongside, pray with, cry with, laugh with, seek God's face with, the best congregation in the body of Christ.*

*Thank you to Becky for serving Christ with me in the office. Serving with me can be an adventure, ask all the staff, they would say the same, right Becky. You were willing to come beside me in our mission to serve God and His people through good times and hard times. When I was off, always knowing that the office work would be done and done well.*

*Thank you to all my volunteers over the years that were willing to come in and help put together the publications, mass mailings or doing special projects like Christmas boxes, etc.. To those who put together the retirement celebration, it was great. Over almost 13 years there have been too many to list, but thank you so much. God blessed me so!*

*To my Pastors, I have been blessed to be in the heart of the work of the Lord and serve you in His name. Satan has tried many times to defeat us all, but God prevails! I will miss the times of laughter in the office, usually me doing something silly, or goofing big time. I will miss those more serious times too, because that is where I have grown the most.*

*May the Lord bless Ridgeview, may He quicken our spirits to serve Him with all our hearts. He loves us beyond our ability to truly give Him the honor due Him. I look forward to continue in service for my best Friend and Savior, Jesus Christ at Ridgeview.*

**Serving with you till the Lord comes, may it be soon. Kathy Starkey**

**February Newsletter Published**

**Wednesday**

**March 23rd at 10:00am**

**In Welcome Center**



### Sympathy and Prayers for:

*Pastor Tony in the passing of his grandmother, Betty Clontz*

### Our military and their families throughout the world

### Recent Requests

Larry & Dianna Bryant  
Jacob Chase  
Toni Chase  
Emma Claypool  
Lydia Downing  
John Dugle  
Dale Ferrell  
Mandy Hartz  
Verna Hughes  
Kevin Johnson  
Bill & Wilma Powell  
Lela Faye Story  
Anna Thoma

### Continue To Pray For...

Harold Anderson  
Bob Bouton  
Jeff Brooks  
Mitzi Brown  
Jim Burke  
Roger Burton  
Bill & Genny Citizen  
Myrtle Cox  
Pat Dabrowski  
Beveline Danner  
Ken Decker  
Gail Doggett  
Amber Drullinger  
Rebecca Eldridge  
Harley Ervin  
Daniel Fairchild  
Mercedes Gonzalez Santoni  
Irma Goodwin  
Robert Greene  
Warren Greene  
Shirley Harris  
Lucille Hathaway  
Trino Hernandez  
Janet Hubbs  
Karen Jagers  
Mary Johnson  
Tony & Joanne Johnson  
Charlotte Jones  
Carl Jordan  
Mary Lappin  
Bobby Lewis  
Alexis Lewsader

### Continued...

Audrey Little  
Natasha MacDonald  
Claire Manning  
John & Carole Marshall  
Harvey & Shirley Miller  
Ken Moudy  
Clay & Mary Niehaus  
Glen Pabst  
Mary Pauley  
Eric Pierce  
Ward Peace  
Dorothea Perry  
Marjorie Rothwell  
Kevin Sherman  
Kyle Shipman  
Jim Strawser  
Carol Tabor  
Bobby Waddell  
Linda Walsh  
Chris Walter  
Darren Wheeler  
Amber Willis  
Judy Yocius  
Robert York

### Shut-Ins

Madeline Daily  
Gail Doggett  
Martha Powell

### Military Service

Justin Chase  
Tyler Brooks  
Travis Sentelle  
Eric Sheppard  
Chad & Meagan Tabler  
Dalton Trimble  
Adam Waddell  
Matthew Waltzer  
Ryan Williams  
Zach Wills  
Captain Jason Young

### Missionaries

Kim Brown  
John and Deb Coats  
Scott and Tan Coats  
Jeff and Annie Dieselberg  
Chuck and Ruth Fox  
Taku and Katie  
Longkumer  
Scott and Cindy Nelsen  
Sarah Komarabathuni  
Ruthe Simpson

Ridgeview Baptist Church  
3838 N Vermilion St  
Danville, IL 61832  
217-442-2210  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

February 24, 2016

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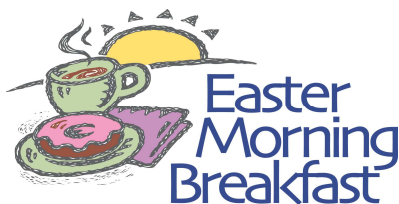
## Ridgeview's Easter Service Schedule



*Maundy Thursday Service*  
*Thursday 24th - 7:00 P.M.*



*Sonrise Service At The Cross*  
*(Weather Permitting At The Pavilion)*  
*Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 A.M.*



*Easter Morning Breakfast*  
*8:00 A.M.*  
*If you would like to bring a breakfast item or casserole,*  
*please contact Melody Riggs at 442-3324*



*Resurrection Celebration*  
*9:00 A.M.*  
*Power Hour Will Follow Worship*  
*At 10:45 A.M.*