

A few thoughts ... on an ordinary day ... in an un-ordinary world ...  
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END OF MAY, 2010

Dear Friends,

It's usually the barbeque ... maybe the opening of the pool ... an extra day off ---- MEMORIAL DAY.  
This morning I walked out back ... the usual "hi" to my mom ... a smile for my brother ... a few memories with my dad.  
Then cutting across the lawn to our new area ---- in honor of our service men and women.

Everyday ... Jude and I get up ... we make coffee, feed the dog and fish ... make sure our "little man" gets safely onto the bus. I open the door to a humble place on LaGrange Road ... make sure the church – coffee is strong for another day.  
Sandburg students walk across our property ... the sun rises above the traffic ...  
The flag waves ... just like it did yesterday ... just like it will tomorrow.

I hear the sound of silence.  
A young Marine walks the streets of Afghanistan.  
A soldier returns to Iraq for the third time.  
Chicago police officers and veterans gather today to pay tribute to TOM WORTHAM ----- who survived two tours of duty in Iraq ... but was gunned down in his parents' neighborhood in Chicago.  
A World War II vet wonders if he'll ever see the World War II MEMORIAL in Washington, D.C.  
Tourists and families gather this weekend at the Vietnam Wall and Korean War memorials in our capital.

*Men and women of the military ... from all corners of the world ...  
those of you living at the Illinois Veteran's Home in Manteno ... those of you in V.A. hospitals across our nation ...  
the 1000's of you whose names are proudly engraved on head-stones ----- in places like Normandy, Arlington, and  
Elwood, IL ... and all of you serving today.*

**You symbolize the very best of the human spirit.**

You remind us ----- freedom is a gift ... but it so often comes with a price.  
Many of you have paid the ultimate price. Yet every time we salute the flag ... every time we pause and allow the wind to speak ..... we see your face, we hear your voice ... and we know our destiny is forever shared.

Each of us in this humble church has a unique and sacred journey.  
Our mission is to affirm that journey ... give you strength to help you get through it ... and to celebrate the gifts and "goodness of spirit" God gives to us everyday.  
I walk out back ... I see the names of all those "who have gone before." ... we do this modest newsletter once a month, and I see the names on the mailing labels and think of all of you who haven't been here for a while, and I hope you're well.

This weekend ... I know you will be in lots of different places ----- family, friends, graduations,, play-off games, a little cottage by the lake. We are connected. Say a "little prayer" ... for our country, our world.  
Extend your hand to a vet ... say "thanks" when you see the uniform.  
And to those of you who receive this letter and are currently serving or have served in the military ...

**THANK YOU.**

Joy to all ...

"rev"

**THIS SUNDAY, MAY 30 ... we begin our summer schedule ... worship at 8:30 & 10.**

*After the 2<sup>nd</sup> service Sunday ... we will share in a brief blessing and dedication of our new outdoor area ---- in honor of our service men and women.*

**There are several community observances of MEMORIAL DAY.**

In Orland Park ... our local VFW chapter is having a service on Monday, 10:00 at the Orland Memorial Cemetery on 153<sup>rd</sup> and West Avenue. I'll be sharing the service with the gentlemen of the Reber-Tesmond Post.

### **AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM OUR SENIOR YOUNG AT HEARTS**

We are looking for more seniors who are interested in friendship, entertainment, and good food.

We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month ....with a social time at 11:30, and lunch at noon. Our entertainment/activity begins about 1:15.

\*June 23: a catered lunch ... and a marimba band from the southwest side of Chiago.

\*July 28: "we cook for you" ... beanbag baseball and celebrating birthdays.

\*August 25: catered lunch and paid entertainment

CALL ELINOR LALICK (403-6730) OR DORIS KUNZ (403-3076) with any questions or ideas.

THANK-YOU ... WE ARE A FUN GROUP!!

**BRICK ORDERS ----- WE JUST PUT ONE IN ... BUT WE'LL PUT IN ANOTHER ORDER IN ABOUT A MONTH.**

Order forms are always available. If you have any questions, call the office or check with a staff person.

### **FUN-FESTS FOR ST. COLETTA'S**

These weekly barbeques for our developmentally disabled adult friends have been part of our landscape for over 20 years. We have them every Tuesday during the summer ---- beginning June 15 .... 5:30 – 7:30. We provide burgers, chips, and drinks. If you'd like to bring dessert or side dishes ... our guests love it!@!!

**WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO HAVE AS MANY OF OUR THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICES OUTSIDE.**

If not outside ---- then inside ... every Thursday evening, 7:30 ... with the sharing of the Lord's Supper.

### **CONFIRMATION CAMP**

The last "requirement" of our confirmation students ... is going to "church camp" at Carthage College ... we've been doing this for 35 years!! Our goal is to keep the cost as reasonable as possible ... and to help those for whom the cost is a burden.

So, for the next couple Sundays ... our LOVE BUCKET is dedicated to our camp's scholarship fund.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

We have a scholarship for graduating seniors who are Going to college or trade school this fall.

The only requirement? ----- fill out the form and be moderately active in our church. The scholarship at for \$300.

Forms are available beginning this Sunday

### **PRAYER KEEPING US CONNECTED**

*Sharon Griswold is under-going chemotherapy for her lymphoma. Jude Boling continues her chemotherapy. Sam Ruiter is recovering at home from his major leg surgery. Dar Dronzek died this week ---- good friend of the Diericks and Earhart families ... her funeral is here on Saturday. Greg Burns had surgery this week. Gaylord Nelson's business partner's wife died last week ---- Joni Rosebraugh. Larry Krell is recovering from a heart attack.*

*Sharol Marciniak's brother-in-law died last week ---- Ron Jurgovan. Mary Yant is recovering at Manor Care. Mackenzie Lynne Whitlow Houston --- daughter of Ken and Brandi – was born last week. Marion Berglund is doing well ... she was in church last week. Frank Kuzel is home from the hospital. Our hearts to out to the Huston and extended family ... 11-year old Connor died last week, after a long illness. Keith Rinehart's daughter Jen and her fiancé --- their home was flooded in Nashville.*

Blessings to all ... hope to see you in church!!