

2024 1st Quarter Church/Community Calendar

The Linn Mennonite Christian School is having its annual soup and pie supper on Saturday, January 20th from 4:30-7pm. The meal will be dine-in or carry out and will be served on a donation basis. The school is located at 1594 County Rd 1700 N in Roanoke. For more information, call Rosie at 434-665-7086.

Pure Desire Ministries is starting a new Seven Pillars of Freedom for Men group at the end of January. This group is a 10 month, weekly study designed to bring healing and freedom from unwanted and destructive sexual behaviors. The group will address many topics including: understanding the nature of sex addiction & the healing process, establishing sobriety and a relapse prevention plan, and much more. The group will meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm beginning on January 31st at Northwoods Community Church in Peoria. For more details and to get signed up, contact Kurt Smith at 309-243-1550.

Did you know that a hidden aspect of homelessness that many in our community experience is living in their cars? Imagine your only shelter was your car. How would you survive? Home Sweet Home Ministries challenges you to find out during their 8th annual “Night in a Car” on Friday, February 2nd. They are encouraging individuals, families, youth groups, and more to participate in this unique homelessness simulation. Participants will “live” out of their cars during the overnight hours from 7pm to 7am. You have the option to drive-in and join others at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bloomington or you can choose to zoom-in and join online from the convenience of your own driveway. To find out more about the challenge and to sign up to participate, visit nightinacar.org.

Mark your calendars for Grace Presbyterian’s Valentine’s Banquet on February 10th. Invest in your marriage and enjoy a wonderful, romantic evening with Bob & Karen Smart as the guest speakers. Tickets are \$80 per couple or tables of 10 may be purchased for \$400 for pre-arranged seating. The banquet will be held at the Hotel Pere Marquette in Peoria and will begin at 6pm. Registration closes January 28th or when all tickets have sold, so make sure to purchase your tickets soon! For more information and to register, visit www.gracepres.org/valentine.

Dream Center Peoria's annual Soup & Soul event is coming up on February 20th! Soup and Soul is an incredibly fun evening filled with 20-25 local restaurants bringing their best soups, desserts, and bread for 500-600 Dream Center Peoria friends. They will be offering tours of the building, and it's a great way to raise awareness of the poverty and growing needs in our community. The event will be from 5-8pm at the Dream Center and cost \$10 per person. To find out more and to purchase your ticket, visit dreamcenterpeoria.org/soupandsoul.

The Linn Mennonite School will be hosting a Haystack Supper on February 24th from 4:30-7pm. The meal will be dine-in or carry out & on a donation basis. The school is located at 1594 County Rd 1700 N in Roanoke. For more information, call 309-923-5641.

The Iron Men Prayer Lunch will take place on February 27th at 11:30am. This lunch is for men who are new to the idea of Jesus as well as those who have walked with Him for many years. The purpose of the lunch is to create an inviting, intimate, Bible-centered environment for Christian men to evangelize, educate, and edify each other. The speaker for February is Michael Ritchason, the Senior Pastor of Riverside Community Church. The lunch will be held at The Warehouse on State, located at 736 SW Washington St. in Peoria. If you have any questions please call 309-208-8669.

Join Bethany Community Church for their annual Discipleship and Biblical Counseling Conference on March 2nd & 3rd! Pastors and speakers from Bethany Community Church and other area churches will share how the church equips us to minister the word, commit to one another, counsel and disciple, serve, pray for one another, and proclaim the Gospel. Whether you're a new believer or have been doing ministry for a lifetime, this conference will help you grow in confidence to fulfill the work God has prepared for you, and to do it joyfully as you realize your role as an essential member of the body of Christ. For a breakdown of the schedule and to get registered, visit bethanycommunitychurch.org or call 309-508-1755.

Adelphos-USA, a missionary agency headquartered here in Central IL, is hosting its annual Missionary Youth Rally on Saturday, March 2 at 1pm at Pekin Bible Church. They will have missionary challenges, games, snacks and fellowship. The special speaker this year is Patricio Oliva, president of Adelphos-Chile, the parent organization of Adelphos-USA. All church youth groups 6th through 12th grade are invited. There is no cost for this event, but a free will offering will be taken. All proceeds, after expenses, will go to the HOPE AND FUTURE fund of Adelphos-USA which helps both humanitarian aid as well as leadership development. You can reserve your spot by texting to 309-620-2217.

It's the season for a hearty bowl of chili or potato soup, prepared lovingly by those sweet ladies at Downs United Methodist Church. The Downs UMC Annual Soup Supper will be held on March 3rd from 4:30-7:30pm. Free-will donations will be accepted with 100% of donations going to their Good Samaritan Fund. The church is located at 205 S Highway Ave. in Downs, across from Tri-Valley Middle School. For more information, call 309-378-2651.

Winter Jam, Christian music's largest annual tour, is coming back to the Peoria Civic Center! This year's line-up includes Crowder, CAIN, Katy Nichole, Newsong and more! The concert will take place on Thursday, March 14th at 7pm. No tickets are needed, but a donation of \$15 at the door is requested. To find out more, visit jamtour.com.

The 2024 PAACH Homeschool Convention will be held at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Groveland on March 14th-16th. Online and walk-in pricing is \$60 for subscribers and \$100 for non-subscribers. Thursday night is the "New to Homeschool" Night and Friday there will be pizza and entertainment with the Anderson family. Rachael Carman will be the keynote speaker for Friday and Kelly Crawford will be the keynote speaker for Saturday. Come check out all of the vendors that will be setup in the Vendor Hall! For more information and to register, visit paach.org/convention.

Longtime pro-life activist Karen Black Mercer will be the keynote speaker at the Life & Freedom Rally at 7pm on March 25th at Redeemer Presbyterian Church. Karen Black Mercer has worked in the pro-life movement since the 1960s, earning her national recognition as "The Billy Graham of Sidewalk Counseling." The church is located at 2025 N Kickapoo Creek Rd in Peoria. For more information about the rally, call 309-645-8000.

Cedar Hills Baptist Church invites you to join them for the area's largest Easter Epic Egg-spllosion event on March 30th at 11am! Come watch as over 16,000 treat-filled eggs are launched from 8 candy cannons, followed by an epic egg hunt! When you're finished, you can join in the fun with games and activities at the parking lot party for even more candy and prizes! This event is for kids ages birth through 6th grade! Everyone is invited and the event is completely free, but we ask that you registration is requested to make sure there are enough eggs to hunt. The church is located at 12716 N Allen Rd in Dunlap. You can find more information and register by visiting cedarhillsdunlap.com.

During the entire month of March, Calvary Baptist Academy is offering an early enrollment discount! Calvary Baptist is a private Christian school in Chillicothe for K-3 through 12th grade. Their mission is to come alongside parents and provide a quality education in a quality environment. To learn more about the school & take advantage of the enrollment discount, call 309-274-4343.

The Linn Mennonite Christian School is having its annual Fish Fry Fundraiser Supper on April 6th from 4:30-7pm. This meal will be available for dine-in or carry out and will be served on a donation basis. The school is located at 1594 County Rd. 1700 N in Roanoke. Find more information by contacting Rosie Kropf at 434-665-7086.

Camp Good News is hosting an open house on April 13th from 2-8pm. This is a great time to see the camp & learn more about their summer camp & programs. Refreshments and activities will be included in the open house & there is no rsvp required. Camp Good News is located at 26010 Liberty Lane in Washington. For more details call 309-444-3255.

Join Danvers Baptist Church on April 19th for a night of worship with the musical group, The Perrys! The concert will begin at 7pm and admission is free. Danvers Baptist Church is located at 104 W Columbia St. in Danvers. To find out more, call 309-963-4627.

Singer, songwriter, and storyteller Daryl Mosley will perform at 6pm on Sunday, April 28th at Eureka United Methodist Church. One of his best-known songs “(Ask the Blind Man) He Saw It All” was named one of the top Southern Gospel songs of all time. Daryl’s concert is an intimate opportunity to hear his songs of life and faith as well as the entertaining stories of the people and events that inspired them. The concert is free, but a love offering will be taken. The church is located at 208 N Callendar St in Eureka. Call 309-467-3026 for more information.

The ICC Philharmonic Chorale will present its spring concert, A Festival of Song, on Sunday, May 12th, at 2:30pm in the ICC Performing Arts Center. A variety of choral numbers and multiple, 4-hand piano, accompanied songs will be performed. Tickets are \$10 can be purchased at the door, from a Chorale member, or online at icc.edu/arts.