



'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'



THE SILVERSMITH

A group of church ladies were on tour visiting a community of shops when one of the ladies proposed to visit a silversmith. While watching the craftsman, another of the ladies asked the silversmith to please tell her about the process of refining silver.

After he had fully described it to her, she asked, "But Sir, do you sit while the work of refining is going on?"

"Oh, yes madam," replied the silversmith; "I must sit with my eyes steadily fixed on the furnace, for if the time necessary for refining be exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured."

The lady at once saw the beauty and comfort too, of what is said of God in the Bible: "And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." (Malachi 3:3)

God sees it needful to put His children into the "furnace" of life's challenges; His eye is steadily intent on the work of purifying and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for us. Our trials don't come at random, and He'll not let us be tested beyond what we can endure.

Before she left the lady asked one final question, "Sir, when do you know the process is complete?"

"Why, that's quite simple," replied the silversmith. "The refining process is finished when I can see my own image in the silver."

For all of us, there are times when we wince at the challenging fires of life's "furnace". May we trust that even during these trying times we are being carefully watched over by our caring Lord. He will not subject us to more than we can bear, for we are precious to Him.

Life's challenges are necessary; but they will not last. And eventually, all things will work unto good, and we will shine brightly, as a precious treasure, bearing the image of our Lord.

May we ever seek to bear His image and keep it shining bright.

Together with you in the love of Christ,

Pastor Jeff G. Gavin

**IT HAS TAKEN 175 YEARS...
AND NOW IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR....**

THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

**SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 A.M.**

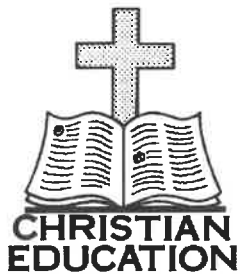
(Jim Vyhanek Guest Organist...and a...
Surprise Guest who will speak to us...
plus...a Souvenir Gift)

**FOLLOWED BY A
COMPLEMENTARY CATERED LUNCHEON**
(Lower level of the school building)

VIEW THE HISTORY ROOM
(Pictures, Maps, Video, Artifacts)

AND...

A NEW, COMPLETE HISTORY BOOK
(One will be given to every active, supporting St. John Family.
It will also be available to others at a cost of \$10.00)



Beginning Sunday, September 24 . . . we hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . ***open question forum.***

Beginning Wednesday, September 27 . . . please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

PASTOR . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS . . .

DUE TO NEW FLOWER PRICES...ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, (**or confirm your "standing order"**) please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE** at **(847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**

Please Note: When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.

NOTICE . . . REVISED WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Labor Day Sunday September 3 - 9:15 AM

Sunday September 10 - 9:15 AM

Anniversary Sunday September 17 - 10:30 AM

Sunday September 24 - 8:00 & 10:30 AM
Bible Class - 9:15 AM

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Along with "Birthday Greetings", we also wish a "Happy Anniversary" to those couples who were married during each month by printing their marriage date.

If you are unsure if we might have a record of your wedding date . . . please contact the church office (847-593-7670, ext 1) with this information. We would like to include all of our married couples and wish to them . . . ***"Happy Anniversary"***:



Bill & Marnie Franz
Joseph & Karon Ordower
Jon & Joanne Tertel
Marius & Carmen Hetrea

September 1
September 1
September 12
September 30

September

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Martha Hengels | September 3 | Jennifer Franz | September 17 |
| Henny Neggens | September 4 | Erich Franz | September 17 |
| Robbie Fiorito | September 4 | Tayler Petersen | September 18 |
| Kathleen Graves | September 4 | Sydney Klatka | September 23 |
| Logan Schoo | September 10 | Laurel Marin | September 24 |
| Dorothy Halvorsen | September 11 | Jon Tertel | September 24 |
| Tracy Galla | September 16 | Kevin Petersen | September 25 |

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!

May God Bless You on Your Birthday