



For information regarding Senior Ministries events or trips, or if a loved one is moving to a care facility, please contact Terri Hempstead at thempstead@springfieldfirst.org or 217-793-9760 x111.

**“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16**

Quarterly Communion Service at Concordia

On the fifth Tuesdays of March, June, September, and December, Springfield First shares a communion service with residents of Concordia Village. Pastors, staff, and volunteers prepare and lead this quarterly devotional service.

Representatives from Springfield First on March 31 included Pastor Mike Keppler, Pastor Cindy Rettig, Terri Hempstead, Eleanor Mack, Laura Drennan, Sue & Rick Brown, and Susan & Rick Carlson.



Senior Fellowship

May 14, 9:30-12:30 and
June 11, 9:30-12:30

Coffee and breakfast treats and a brief devotional, followed by a morning of table games. We play Hand and Foot, Golf, Mexican Train, L-C-R, and whatever you bring. Dorothy is planning “Brunch for Lunch” on May 14 and a “Picnic Lunch” on June 11.

Reservations are needed for purposes of food preparation and room set-up. To register:

- Leave a message at 217-793-9760 x111
- Email thempstead@springfieldfirst.org
- Register at springfieldfirst.org/seniors and click on **Senior Fellowship**.

Want to learn to play Hand and Foot? We’re planning a lesson Aug. 6. See the July/August newsletter for details.

Senior Speaker Series

Free HomeCare Benefits for Veterans

Monday, May 4, 2pm
Choir Room

Synergy HomeCare of Central Illinois will present an educational program about caregiving services available at no cost to veterans. Homecare, also known as caregiving, assists participants with the activities of daily living (ADLs).

Cremation: An Affordable and Convenient Option

Monday, June 29, 1pm
Atrium 4

Brett Zerfowski from Central Cremation Center will present information on cremation services, including special programs available for veterans, first responders, and pets.

In the Community

Senior Celebration

Wednesday, May 20, 9am-1pm
Orr Building, State Fairgrounds
Free admission with the donation of a canned food item.

Senior Community Educational

Thursday, June 23, 9am-12pm
Illinois Assistive Technology Program
701 N. Walnut St.
Free. RSVP 217-303-8555.

Topics:

- Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia
- Scams & Frauds
- Elder Law
- the three H's (Homecare, Home Healthcare, Hospice)

Caregiver Conference

Saturday, June 27, 8am-1pm
Crowne Plaza
Your \$20 check in advance reserves your seat and your lunch. Your check will be returned to you when you attend. <https://agelinc.org/event/2026-caregiver-conference/>

Monthly Church History Class

Topic: TBD
Thursday, May 14 & June 11
1pm
Choir Room

A Jillion Silver Maples!

Monique and I are blessed to have a few mature trees on our property. There is a beautiful, tall, and stately pin oak tree and an equally sized and healthy silver maple that defines the backyard. During spring, the oak produces catkins or tassels that collect on the driveway like manna during the time of Moses! These are messy, quite fragile, and crumbly pollen structures that fertilize the female flowers.

The silver maple produces the entertaining "helicopters" or "whirlybirds." These seeds, with fin-like wings, take flight in the wind and scatter into the yard becoming a food source for squirrels that are waiting for more substantial seeds and nuts later in the fall. The scattering destinations that sprout "jillions" of saplings include the flower beds, box garden area, gutters, and rock landscaping.



I wish we could win people to Christ and get them into a church experience as quickly as it takes a silver maple seedling to take root! Wouldn't it be a blessing to see a gospel saturation in our lifetime as believers scatter and share their faith by word and deed as often as they have opportunity?

Jesus told a parable about the Sower that scattered seed on the good soil of those who received God's Word. The result was a miraculously abundant crop "yielding a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown. (Matthew 13:23).

Are you "seeding the gospel" and sharing the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ before your family and friends? Do you desire to see "jillions" of lost persons come to the faith and spend eternity in heaven? If so, then...scatter some seed!

- Mike Keppler, Care Pastor
Follow Mike's weekly blog called "Serve by Design" at mjkministries.com.



Springfield First
A UNITED METHODIST FAITH COMMUNITY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2941 South Koke Mill Road · Springfield, IL 62711

WEEKEND WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

Sunday 9:00am & 10:30am Contemporary (CLC) 10:30am Traditional (Sanctuary)