




## BALL POINTS

With the inauguration of President Barak Obama, there were lots of festivities: concerts, a parade, official luncheons and formal balls. The news was full of talk about the balls, the ballrooms and the ballroom gowns.

We often think of a ball as a spherical object (preferably white with red stitching, thrown from a pitcher's mound to a waiting batter. [Pitchers and catchers report to Spring Training on February 14<sup>th</sup>, the rest of the players on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and the first exhibition game is February 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:05 p.m.!!]). Have you ever wondered why the term "ball" became associated with dancing?



 The word 'ball' derives from the Latin 'ballare' meaning 'to dance'. This is also the origin of the related words: ballet, ballerina, ballad, etc.

That being true, then how has the word "ball" come to denote a sphere? This derives from the Old Norse: 'bollr', meaning 'to inflate'. (One might presume that among the old Norsemen, the only way to create a sphere was to inflate something...quite likely an internal organ from some animal. Don't you wonder who had to blow that up? Yuck!!)

Anyway, the point is that a word can have widely different meanings. Take "love" as an example. Some people have defined love to mean that someone who loves them will never cause them pain. A song once said, "Love means you never have to say you're sorry."



Parents love their children but that does not mean they would never punish them. And punishment usually hurts.

Do not be misled into believing that because God loves you, He will not punish you. In fact, because He loves you, He will...when you need it. (Check out Proverbs 3:11-12.)

<b>Attendance</b>	
January 4	99
January 11	96
January 18	88
January 25	80

visit us on the web at [www.claycitychristian.com](http://www.claycitychristian.com)

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb 2-6 Meals on Wheels
- Feb 3 Willing Workers
- Feb 15 Elders' Meeting
- Feb 22 Board Meeting
- Feb 23 Kingdom Builders at Sailor Springs
- Feb 27-28 CIY for High School youth



### Sermon Titles

- February 1 The Silence of God  
Psalm 13:1-6
- February 8 The Silence In Heaven  
Revelation 8:1-6
- February 15 Where Are You?  
Genesis 3:9
- February 22 God Is Love  
I John 4:7-16



Darrel Brandon, Minister  
Linda Schnepfer, Music Director  
Caralyn Riley, Youth Director

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Clay City Christian Church  
907 S. Main  
Clay City, IL 62824

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Sunday: 9 AM Bible School for all ages  
10 AM Morning Worship Service  
6 PM Youth Program (age 3 - grade 3)  
7 PM Evening Service & Youth (grades 4-8)

Wednesday: 6 PM Youth Program (age 3 - grade 3)  
7 PM Adult Bible Study & Youth (grades 4-8)

Email address: [cdchurch@verizon.net](mailto:cdchurch@verizon.net)  
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Non Profit Org  
Permit No. 13  
Clay City, IL

**From Darrel's Desk**

I love dogs. If you know me at all, you probably know that.

Most breeds were developed so that dogs of that breed could perform specialized functions on behalf of man.



- Terriers were literally "earth dogs" that would go to "terra" or earth to dig out vermin.
- Herding breeds such as German Shepherd Dogs, Collies, Old English Sheep Dogs and Briards, were bred to have an instinct to gather and drive livestock.
- Sporting Dogs were to be functional partners for hunters.
- One group of canines is called "Working Dogs". Some of them pulled heavy loads. Others guarded property. A few were even developed for the purpose of water rescue.

Over the years, some breeders became more concerned about how a dog looked than about how it functioned. As a result, today, some breeds could not begin to fulfill the role for which they were bred. Within that terrier may lurk an urge to dig but his genetic memory may not know why. Your Corgi may nip at everyone's heels without ever realizing it is a latent desire to drive livestock. The neighbors may think their Doberman is just a barkaholic without understanding his instinct to defend and protect.

I love dogs but it is kind of sad to see these noble creatures, designed to work, sitting on a sofa or passive in a pen. They have gifts that should be used.

And it is sad to see Christians merely sitting on pews or passive in classes when they are uniquely gifted to work. Scripture says that God gave each Christian the gifts He wanted them to use. They are given so they can be used.

What are your God-given gifts? How are you using them for Him? Don't settle for being a lap dog for Satan when you could be working for the Lord.

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 Frances Harris
- 6 Jeff Cockerel
- 14 Linda Herdes
- 18 Jazmyn Rodriquez



- 20 Bill & Evelyn Pierce
- 27 Karl Herdes
- 28 Michelle Heinzmann
- 28 Mike & Karen Delonshaw



Dear Christian Friends,  
Thank you so much for your donation of \$249.00. We used the money to help purchase Christmas gifts for the residents. May God bless you for your kindness.

*Janet Gossett  
Wabash Christian Center*

Thank you for your gifts for presents for the children in Myanmar at Christmas time. The total amount sent from Clay City Christian Church was \$550. Thanks for your generosity.

I would like to thank you all each and everyone so much for all your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits and kindness for my Mother and myself. I have enjoyed Sunday School and church so very much. Thank you again so much.

*Marcia Emmerich*



February 13  
6 p.m.

a catered meal  
in the New Life Center

Menu:  
salad  
grilled chicken breast  
seasoned pork loin  
all the trimmings  
cherry delite

the cost will be \$10 and please  
buy your tickets from  
Karen Delonshaw ASAP

this will be an evening to relax  
with friends; an evening of  
fellowship and fun

In His Service for February				
	1	8	15	22
Pastoral Prayer	Bill Staser	Darrel Brandon	Gary Clark	Larry Brant
Reading at the Lord's Table	Darrel Brandon	Larry Brant	Wayne Harris	Bill Staser
Communion Preparation	Richard Herdes			