



**Village of Downs**

211 S. Seminary, PO Box 18

Downs, IL 61736-0018

Voice/Fax: 309-378-3221

Email: [Info@VillageOfDowns.org](mailto:Info@VillageOfDowns.org)

Website: [www.VillageOfDowns.org](http://www.VillageOfDowns.org)

*Mayor, Village Board and Clerk*

<b>President/Mayor</b>	<b>Public Safety/Services/President Pro Tem</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>Streets</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Finance</b>	<b>Parks/Youth Center/Food Pantry</b>	<b>Clerk</b>
Mike James	Maureen Roach	Toby Twyford	Danny Lush	Mary Goveia	Sarah Gassaway	Margaret Keylin	Julie James

**From the Desk of the Mayor - September 2016**

We continued our September meeting to September 8, 5pm @ the Village Hall to hopefully wrap up what has been a long journey for Julie Bakewell. She has spent almost a year working on our books and getting them to where she feels comfortable and confident in them. The audit and other required reports have had to wait, and are late, but we anticipate this being completed this month. We also expect that we will complete our FY2016 audit and required reporting on time or within the allowed extensions. Basically, we will be back on track and in full compliance.

We hired a new part-time police officer to expand the hours of coverage for Downs. This officer, Brian Hempstead. Please see the report from the Chief in the flyer.

We will be starting and completing the north water main loop at Downs Crossing this month. A public hearing is set for October 6, 6 pm at the Village Hall for public comment and questions to the Board and developer on the Downs Crossing Fourth Addition Preliminary Plan. Storm Sewer engineering plans for this development, as well as, existing development have been completed and hopefully let out for bid next month. We hope to have that project rolling before winter.

The path for water to Downs Crossing is still being discussed. An additional option being considered is building a water plant.

Please feel free to contact me with any other questions, explanation or clarification. Please support your local businesses as they rely on YOUR support to stay in business. Thriving businesses will make Downs a more attractive place to live and invest.

In your service,  
 Mike James, Mayor  
 309-830-7374, [Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org](mailto:Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org)

# A Look Ahead

## QUICK GLANCE AT UPCOMING VILLAGE EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

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### September:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Village Market, 4-6 pm @ W. Franklin St.
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting - Continuance, 5 pm @ Village Hall
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Events Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Village Market, 4-6 pm @ W. Franklin St.
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Parks Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Dooley Park Pavilion
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Village Market, 4-6 pm @ W. Franklin St.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Village Market, 4-6 pm @ W. Franklin St.
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Garbage Collection

### October:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Dinner in the Park, Park Committee Fundraiser, 4-8 pm @ Dooley Park Pavilion
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Public Hearing: Downs Crossing 4<sup>th</sup> Addition Preliminary Plan, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Fright Fest Opening Night, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Fright Fest, 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Un-haunted House for Kids – Lights on, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

### November:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings Time (Set clocks back 1 hour)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Garbage Collection
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving (Village Hall closed)
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving (Village Hall closed)
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Garbage and Recycle Collection

**\*\* More information and registration forms are available on the Village website or at the Village Hall**

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# Door-to-Door Sales

## DID YOU KNOW THIS?

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As Spring arrives so do outside companies coming to your house to try and sell you something. All these companies must have a permit from the Clerk prior to knocking on your door. You should always ask them to show their permit to you before talking with them.

If they don't have one, please write down their name, description of what they are wearing, and try to get all the information you can on their vehicle (license plate, make, model, color). Please inform the Village Hall, Chief, Mayor or Clerk.

If they are acting suspicious in the neighborhood, please call MetCom (309-888-5030) and give them this information so we can track them down. Doing this is very important to keeping our community safe.

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# Facebook

## VILLAGE OF DOWNS EVENTS

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The Events Committee has put together a Facebook site for announcements, information and other social media interaction for the events within the Village. I hope you will find this useful and join ("Like") our Facebook group/site at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DownsEvents/>.

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# Public Hearing for Preliminary Plan at Downs Crossing

**6 PM, OCTOBER 6, 2016 @ VILLAGE HALL**

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Public Notice is hereby given by the Village of Downs Board of Trustees that on October 6, 2016, 6:00pm at the Village of Downs Hall, located at 211 S. Seminary St., a public hearing will be held regarding a petition for approval of the Preliminary Plan for Downs Crossing Fourth Addition.

All interested persons have the right to appear and present evidence on such Preliminary Plan. The petition, preliminary plan and other supporting documents can be inspected by the public at the Village of Downs Hall during regular office hours. The petitioner and developer is Roger Reynolds. The area is approximately 46.67 acres of frontage property, generally located along the south side of IL Rte. 150 and west side of Towanda-Barnes Rd.

**\*\* More information and registration forms are available on the Village website or at the Village Hall**

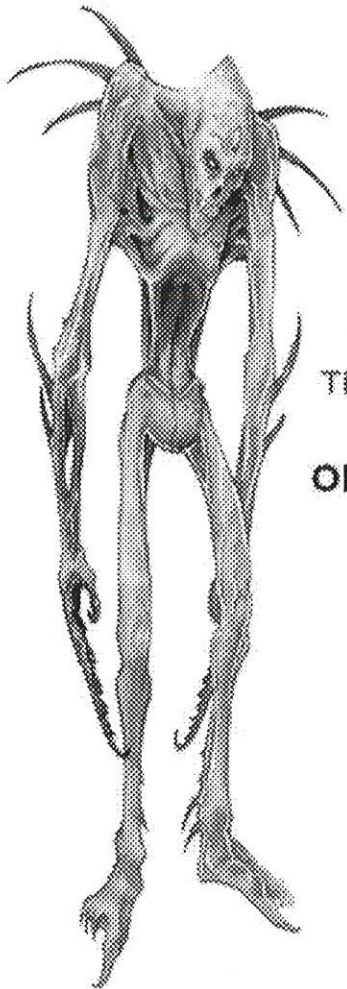


VILLAGE OF DOWNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING OVERVIEW  
September 1, 2016

Village Hall  
211 S. Seminary St,  
PO Box 18  
Downs, IL 61736

- 1) Mayor Mike James called the September 1, 2016 regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- 2) Roll call was taken with Trustees Roach, Goveia, Keylin, Lush, Gassaway, and Twyford all present. Also present were Clerk James, Attorney Dawn Wall and Treasurer Bakewell. A quorum was declared.
- 3) The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.
- 4) A motion to approve the agenda order was made and approved.
- 5) All reports can be found in the flyer.
- 6) There was no Public Comment.
- 7) A Motion to Approve Items Contained within the Consent Agenda was made and approved.
- 8) A Motion to Approve Consent Agenda was made and approved.
  - 1) Motions
    - a) Motion to Approve the August 4 & 18, 2016 Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
    - b) Motion to Approve Road Closures: Franklin St. from Seminary to Lincoln, Water St. from Franklin to Main, Dooley Park Road on October 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 and 29, 2016 from 5 - 11 pm
    - c) Motion to Approve Road Closures: Franklin St. from Seminary to Lincoln, Water St from Franklin to Main on October 30, 2016 from 12 - 4 pm
    - d) Motion to Approve the Extension of Dooley Park Hours on October 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 and 29, 2016 until 12 am
- 9) New Business
  - 1) Motions
    - a) A Motion to Approve Changes to the TIF Application was made.  
A motion to amend the motion was made and approved.  
A Motion was made to Approve Changes to the TIF Application As Amended was made and approved.
  - 2) Resolutions
    - a) A motion to approve Resolution 2016-R18 Authorizing and Approving the Amended Development Agreement Between the Village of Downs and RHA Holdings, LLC. for the Project Located at 212, 214 & 216 S. Seminary St., Downs, IL was made and approved.
- 10) A Motion to Approve Payment of Bills was made and approved.
- 11) A motion to enter Executive Session for personnel was made and approved.  
A break was taken at 9:04pm.
- 12) Mayor Mike James called the September 1, 2016 regular meeting to back to order at 10:09pm.
- 13) Roll call was taken with Trustees Roach, Goveia, Keylin, Lush, Gassaway, and Twyford all present. Also present were Clerk James, Attorney Dawn Wall and Treasurer Bakewell. A quorum was declared.
- 14) Action on Executive Session Items
  - 1) A Motion to Hire Levi Boward as a Seasonal Maintenance Worker for the Village of Downs at \$20/hr. was made and approved.
  - 2) A Motion to Hire Brian Hempstead as a Part-Time Police Officer for the Village of Downs at \$12/hr. was made and approved.
  - 3) A Motion to Approve Julie Bakewell as the Treasurer, Budget Officer and TIF Administrator in the Village of Downs at \$26/hr. for term to expire August 2017 was made and approved.
- 15) A motion to approve continuance of the Village of Downs Regular Board Meeting to September 8, 2016 at 5:00 pm. at the Village Hall was made at 10:17pm. and approved.

Julie James, Village of Downs Clerk



# Downs Haunted House

107 East Franklin Street

Downs, Illinois 61736

FREE Hayrack Rides

Bonfires for Roasting

Tickets Sold in Dooley Park

Hot Dogs & Marshmallows

**ONLY \$5.00** per  
person

**6:30 PM - 10:30 PM**

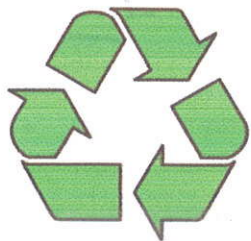
## 2016 DATES

10/8; 10/14; 10/15; 10/21; 10/22; 10/28; 10/29

*(Special Lights On version 10/30 1:00-3:00)*

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DOWNS.HAUNTEDHOUSE](https://www.facebook.com/downs.hauntedhouse)

**OCTOBER RECYCLE DATES** are not what is listed on the Area Disposal calendar. The correct recycle pick up dates are:



**October 14<sup>th</sup>**

**October 28th**



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Mike James	Maureen Roach	Toby Twyford	Danny Lush	Mary Goveia	Sarah Gassaway	Margaret Keylin	Julie James

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF DINGLER:

Hello everyone,

This month was a busy one, we were asked to respond to 14 calls ranging from disorderly conduct to burglary. There were 6 speeding citations issued and 1 ordinance violation to an outside vendor without a permit. The burglary was solved and dealt with and the disorderly conduct cases were swiftly dealt with. We have been dealing with nuisance violations within the town to help keep things looking great.

The village is reaching out to the few houses and owner's of lots that need attention. The junk and dead cars are an issue and it is time that it is taken care of. We realize that it is overwhelming but we want to help. I will be knocking on your doors and believe me when I say this, we are wanting to help you help yourselves. We will provide you with phone numbers for people that can help you get rid of cars. Scrappers that will eliminate metal junk in your yard. And the dates for the town clean up that will have our monthly schedule for pick ups as well as the days we bring in a dumpster. We want to help, and we have the means to make this easier for you. Please use this first contact. After we make contact there will be a time stamped on the issues. After 15 days, the second contact will be an official written warning. After 15 more days the Village will be issuing ordinance fines. Please deal with these things quickly, we do not want this to be an issue, but the Village has an appeal to outsiders wanting to come and live the good life and will do so as long as it is appealing to eyes. Junk and junk vehicles create a stigma that the town does not care and that is far from the truth. This has been coming for a while and now that the ordinances are set in place, they will be acted upon.

A reminder to get your vehicles in operable condition and tagged properly. Let's work on making a more beautiful place without the Ordinance Fines.

**This Month's Positive Highlights:**

We have hired Officer Brian Hempstead as one of our part time officers. We have begun his training and are very excited to have him abroad. He brings many skills from his tours abroad as well as his expertise he has acquired here. Please help us make him feel welcome. His training will be extensive and thorough. We are moving forward to providing the village with proper coverage and security, this is a work in progress and we are taking every step to be successful.

*Other Positions and Committee Chairs*

<u>Police Chief</u> Josh Dingler	<u>Public Works Superintendent</u> Kevin Whitehouse	<u>Treasurer/Budget Officer/TIF Administrator</u> Julie Bakewell	<u>Zoning Enforcement</u> Lyndall Cuba	<u>Zoning Board Chairperson</u> Linda Bowman
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The average iron concentration in the finished water was .34 PPM for the month. Monthly bacteriological testing on the raw, finished and distribution samples were all satisfactory. Fluoride concentration samples were at .621 mg/l, in the goal range of .6 to .8mg/l. Annual disinfection byproducts sampling occurred this month with the results well below the maximum contaminant level set by the EPA. The new Neptune meter reading equipment was used in August with little problems, additional experience is needed to become more familiar with the equipment. I met with Eagle Scout John Dewerff to discuss landscaping at the water plant for his Gold badge project.

Kevin Whitehouse  
Village of Downs  
Public Works Superintendent  
309-319-1010  
309-378-2137  
downswaterplant@hotmail.com

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## Senior News

Breakfast on September 1st was at Shannon's in Bloomington.

The August 17th meeting was at the Pizza Ranch. Everyone enjoyed their meal. There were no birthdays in August.

July birthdays were Blanche Sutton, Ken Bowman, Amber Virden and Pat Phelan. We wish them many more

September 1st was the date for the breakfast at Shannon's in Bloomington.

We travel to Ellsworth for the September 21st meeting which will be at the Ellsworth Legion Hall. Fried chicken will be furnished. 11:30 is the time for the meal with meeting conducted by Linda Bowman afterwards. The committee is Roger & Ruby Wilke, Polly Allison, Barb Folks, Dorothy Vaughan and Nancy Terven.

The last bake sale for the summer is Wednesday, September 7th at the Downs Village Market.

Scott Romine is celebrating his 90th birthday with an open house at the Downs Methodist Church on Sunday, Sept. 18th 2-4 pm.



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**Parks Committee Report**

At our last meeting committee members reported on the status of our present projects. Two new fans have been installed in the pavilion. Plans have been made with Corn Belt Electric and Downs Township to help with fencing in Dooley Park. Fencing behind basketball backstops will be installed as soon as JULIE marks utility lines. John Grant plans to install the Youth Center window when he has time off in the next few weeks. We are in the process of filling out the application for a habitat renewal grant for Kickapoo Park.

Put our upcoming **October 1<sup>st</sup> Dinner in the Park** fundraiser on your calendar for a quick, delicious meal on a Saturday night. The meal includes pulled pork sandwiches, homemade coleslaw, baked beans, desserts and drinks. We offer dine in and take out. Dinner is served between 4:00 and 8:00 PM in Dooley Park Pavilion. Suggested donation: \$8.00.

At present parks are open daily until 10:00 PM. If we complied with county and state curfew laws, parks would stay open until 10:00 PM Sunday through Thursday and until 11:00 PM Friday and Saturday. During warmer weather, many people make good use of the basketball courts often staying until 10:00 PM and occasionally staying beyond that time. We'd like to accommodate that use by extending the hours until 11:00 PM, however, it would mean park lights and sounds would also be extended. What do you think? Should park hours be extended to an 11:00 PM closing time on Fridays and Saturdays to comply with county and state curfew laws? Send comments and opinions to: [parks@villageofdowns.org](mailto:parks@villageofdowns.org). or answer the survey question on the Downs website at [villageofdowns.org](http://villageofdowns.org). Thanks for your input.

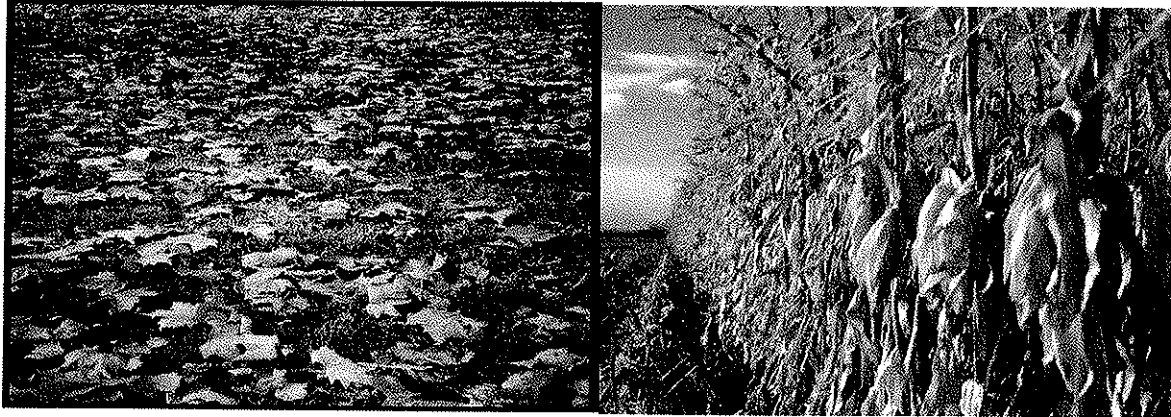
Thanks to all the individuals, families and groups who have rented the pavilion for events. If you'd like to rent the pavilion, you can see what dates are available by going to [villageofdowns.org](http://villageofdowns.org) and clicking on "view entire calendar." To make your reservation, email [info@villageofdowns.org](mailto:info@villageofdowns.org), call the Village Hall at 378-3221, or stop by the Village Hall Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and Noon. You'll need to fill out a Rental Agreement, and you'll be given a Rental Checklist to fill out after your event. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you make arrangements to **PICK UP THE KEY** during Village Hall hours. Saturday and Sunday rentals can pick the key up before noon on Friday. After your event, fill in the Rental Checklist, leave it on the pavilion kitchen counter, and slip the key in the drop box at the Village Hall.

The committee is reaching out to our various community groups who may want to initiate projects in the parks. Our goals are to keep abreast of possible projects, share in coordination of projects so none are repeats, and use resources efficiently. Any and all community groups are encouraged to contact us at [parks@villageofdowns.org](mailto:parks@villageofdowns.org) or come to Parks Committee meetings and share their project ideas.

Our next Parks Committee Meeting is on Monday, September 19, 2016 at 6:00 PM in Dooley Park Pavilion.



**Come hungry, leave happy!**



Join us for the Parks' Committee Fundraiser

## **DINNER IN DOOLEY PARK!**

Saturday, October 1, 2016

From 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

In Dooley Park Pavilion on Washington St., Downs, IL

Dine in or take out a delicious plate of pulled pork, homemade coleslaw, baked beans, desserts and drinks.

Let us do the cooking while you sit back and enjoy a great meal with family and friends.



**Suggested donation: \$8.00**

## **TRI-VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE:**

**The Tri-Valley Homecoming parade will be held on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The pep rally will immediately follow the parade starting with the battle of the bands in the high school commons.**

**Please contact Shari Riley ([sriley@trivalley3.org](mailto:sriley@trivalley3.org)) if you are interested in being in the parade. Parade entries may line up at Dooley Park starting at 5:30 pm. We are asking that hayracks line up on Lincoln Street, and all other entries line up in the park. We would like there to be two lines within the park. The TVHS Marching Band and Operation Cool car will lead the parade, so they will line up first on Lincoln by the park.**

**The parade will begin on Lincoln (and Washington), turn right on Garfield, then a right onto Cleveland and a left onto Washington. The parade will then proceed into the high school parking lot and continue on to the middle school. It creates a traffic jam if you unload in the high school parking lot or by the baseball field.**

**We are asking residents and participants to refrain from parking along the parade route from 5:30-6:30 pm. This includes the high school parking lot. Please, only park in actual parking spaces.**

**Shari Riley  
[sriley@tri-valley3.org](mailto:sriley@tri-valley3.org)**

*Rain or Shine, Hot or Cold!*

**The  
DOWNS VILLAGE MARKET**

**continues every Wednesday through  
September 28\***

*Mark your calendar. That's only FOUR more weeks, so don't forget!*

**We've still got**

*Corn, Tomatoes, Melons*

**plus**

*Fall Produce*

*Meat*

*Crafts*

*Bake Sales*

**And More!**



**\*Come join us on Sept. 28 for  
Free Snacks, Water & Pop  
to celebrate the last market of the season.**

# Faith @ Home

Practical ways to teach faith to your kids



Downs UMC is offering a new class that is open to the community. The 6 week class, called *Faith at Home*, will begin the Sunday after Labor Day (Sep 11th) at the church at 6 PM on Sunday nights, meeting in the Sanctuary. This class is open to all Parents, step-parents, grandparents, and guardians interested in faith-formation in the home.

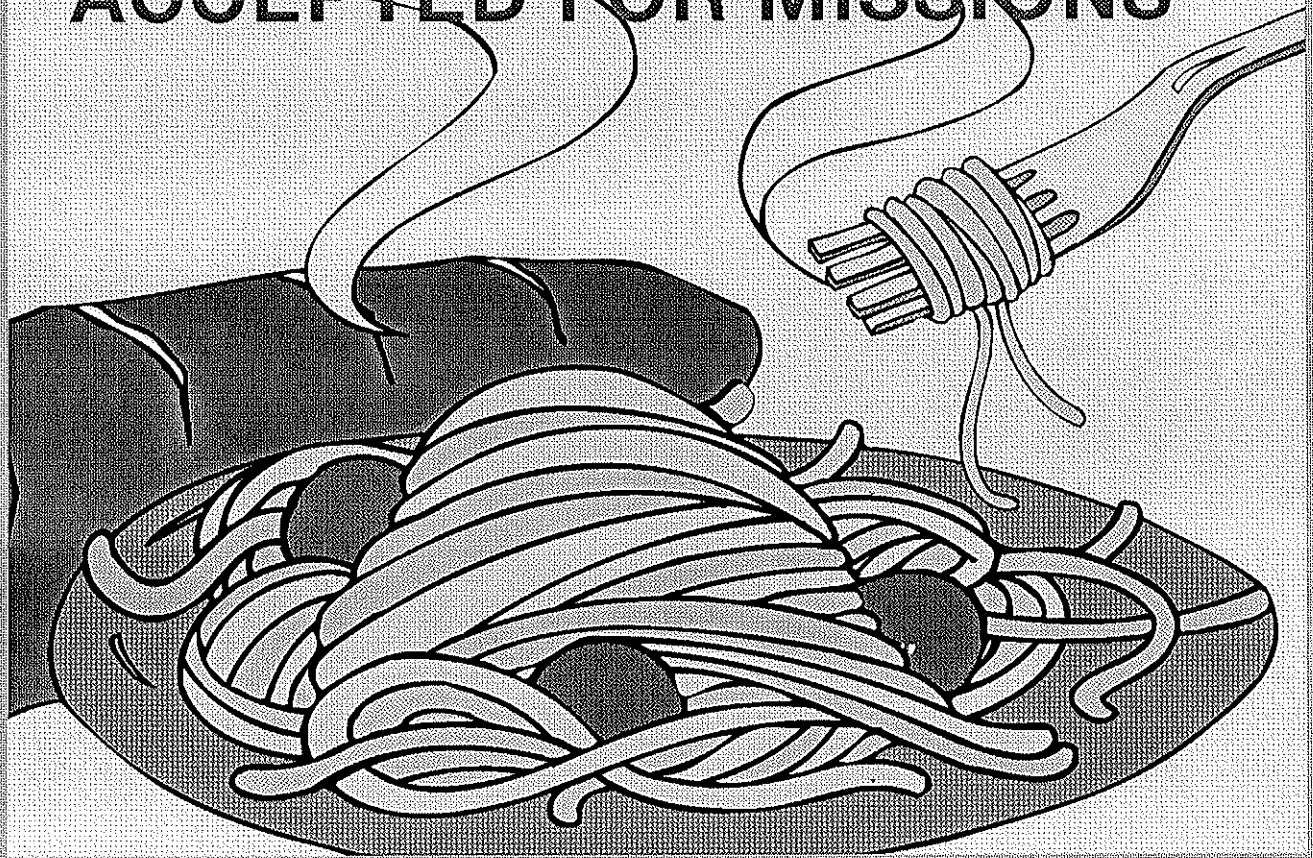
The class will cover a wide variety of topics with a practical how-to focus for sharing faith at home through: Family Bible Reading, Family Sabbath, Family service opportunities, How to pray *for* your kids, How to pray *with* your kids, Outings/excursions and ideas that can build faith together, Recommended reading for kids (including AR suggestions), Theology of sports/arts/and even video games

For questions about the class, or to register, please call the church office at 378-2651.

# SPAGHETTI SUPPER

DOWN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FREE WILL OFFERING  
ACCEPTED FOR MISSIONS



**SUNDAY,  
SEPT 25**  
4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**Downs**  
UMC

Your Home Town Self Storage Facility

# Downs Self Storage

119 Shaffer Drive

P.O. Box 84

Downs, IL 61736-0084

962-3137

Rental Unit sizes Available:

6' x 10' with 4' x 7' door

10' x 12' with 9' x 7' door

10' x 18' with 9' x 7' door

10' x 24' with 9' x 7' door

From \$45/month

Village of Downs  
 211 S. Seminary St.  
 PO Box 18  
 Downs, Illinois 61736

Current Resident  
 Downs, Illinois 61736

**Village of Downs Officials and Contacts**

Mayor	Mike James	309-830-7374	Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org	
Clerk	JulieJames	309-830-7373	Clerk@VillageOfDowns.org	
Trustee – Pro Tem	Maureen Roach	309-830-3606	PublicSafety@VillageOfDowns.org	Public Safety & Services
Trustee	Mary Goveia	309-212-0594	Building@VillageOfDowns.org	Building
Trustee	Dan Lush	309-838-6031	Streets@VillageOfDowns.org	Streets
Trustee	Toby Twyford	309-830-3448	PublicWorks@VillageOfDowns.org	Public Works
Trustee	Peggy Keylin	309-378-4098	Parks@VillageOfDowns.org	Parks
Trustee	Sarah Gassaway	309-261-2540	Finance@VillageOfDowns.org	Finance
Treasurer	Julie Bakewell	309-378-5677	Treasurer@VillageOfDowns.org	
Water Plant	Kevin Whitehouse	309-319-1010	DownsWaterPlant@hotmail.com	Public Works Superintendent
Police	Joshua Dinger	309-622-2207	Downs.Village.PD@gmail.com	Police Chief
Non-Emergency	MetCom	309-888-5030		
Emergency		911		
AREA Disposal	Customer Service	800-935-5652		
Village Hall		309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Park Pavilion Reservations
Zoning	Lyndall Cuba	309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Zoning Enforcement Officer
Zoning	Linda Bowman	309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Zoning Board of Appeals Chair
Committee	Paul Messamore	217-621-8127		Development Committee Chair
Committee	Mike James	309-830-7374	Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org	Events Committee Chair