

THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

February 15, 2017

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

I found the following article, and wanted to share. Read it for yourself and then decide if you
- *Believe It Or Not* -

If Dracula were interested in drugstores, he'd shop at Sargent's in Chicago. In fact, store manager, Harvey Snitman, says he's more interested in selling leeches than pimple cream or mouthwash.

The leeches, which the store imports from Russia, Poland, and Hungary through a London broker, run about three to four inches long and retail for \$6.50. While the price may seem steep, Snitman is quick to point out that the little creatures can be used more than once. After gorging itself on a luscious shiner, for example, a leech needs time to digest its intake before being called on again for service.

Physicians prescribed leeches widely until the late 1800's, but their popularity has dropped off since. So, if you're in the market and can't find them at your corner drugstore, stop by Sargent's. Just say Dracula sent you.

I checked and there is a Sargent's Drug Store in Chicago. (It's in the Water Town Place.) However, I do not know if they still sell this kind of "medicine." (So the next time you go shopping in Chicago... just don't bring one back, unless your spouse gives you a black eye!)

Kind of hard to believe, isn't it? So is the gospel.

You mean... God became a human being? He died for us, for me? He did it because of my sin – to forgive and cleanse my soul? And then Jesus came back to life – to show that it's true – that He is God? And now all I have to do is accept Him and He accepts me? That's it?! C'mon man!! It's another

- *Believe It Or Not* -

But when you do, it makes a difference – now and forever. (And you don't even have to put a leech on your face!)

MCD



“Bella Notte Per Una Cura”

Call or come in to the office to get your tickets today for the FCC Relay For Life team's, “Bella Notte Per Una Cura” (Beautiful Night for a Cure), Italian dinner. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall this Saturday, February 18! Two different dinner times are available: 5:00 or 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$10 donation and proceeds will go to “Relay For Life.” Tickets are also available from Relay Team members, but need to be purchased by Thursday, February 16. Thank you!



Talent Show

It's not too late to sign up your act for our Talent/Variety Show coming up Sunday, February 26! The Membership Committee has planned a supper of sloppy joes to be served at 5:00 PM and the Talent/Variety Show will follow at 6:00 PM. Come share your talent - children/youth/adults/groups!



Hospitalized: Donna Moore, Indy

Home from the Hospital:
Dorothy Farnham

Rev. Mike Dixon is on vacation this week and will return Sunday.



-- Larry & Connie Bean for the donation of toys/rocking chairs to the church Nursery;

-- Troy Sanders & Mark Johnson for taking youth to the concert in Indy;

-- Denise Craig for her substitute work in the office;

-- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- John Chittick & Rev. Mike for the Children's sermons;

-- Monty & Peg Raley for the worship flowers in honor of their 55th anniversary!



BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

All Christians have the same boss.



FEBRUARY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Into Your hands I place my worries, cares, and troubles. Into Your wisdom I place my direction and my goal. Into Your love I place my life. Amen.

SEASON OF LENT

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1, when we will have our Ash Wednesday service. We will also invite you to participate in our Prayer Program and offer a video series entitled, "Follow" by Andy Stanley. More details will follow.

AMAZON SMILE

We have received notification of over \$25.00 received by FCC because some of you did (Christmas) shopping on AmazonSmile with FCC as your designated charity. Thank you! We invite you to continue, and remember, you can easily access it through our FCC website under the giving tab.

PASTOR'S CLASS

Pastor's Class for our 5th grade youth will begin on Friday, February 24. If you received a letter about the class, please RSVP and let us know you will be attending.

HAM LOAVES

Be sure to turn in your order form for ham loaves. A one-pound loaf is \$6 and a two-pound loaf is \$12. Orders will be taken until Wednesday, March 15.

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Bible Study resumes on the 21st at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room. We will be finishing up the book of Mark.

VALENTINE NOTES

The Valentine "notes of love" are still available to write to someone. Check the table at the back of the sanctuary or by the sign-up desk to pick up your own or let others know of their notes.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Worship Committee: Sun., Feb. 19, 11:30 AM
- Memorials Comm.: Thurs., Feb. 23, 1:30 PM
- Trustees: Thurs., Feb. 23, 6:00 PM

YEARBOOK REPORTS

Did you wear the title of chair, leader, or head of a group in 2016? If so, we probably need a yearbook report from you. If you're not sure - check out the 2015 yearbook to see if your group is in it. Feel free to get ideas for your report from it as well. Reports may be handwritten or typed, and emailed or delivered to the office. Thank you!

WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

This coming Sunday will be our Minute for Mission for Week of Compassion. This offering goes to help meet emergency needs in both immediate and long-term situations in the United States and around the globe. We invite you to be a part of it.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES

The new pictorial directories will be arriving soon. We expect them in early March and will let you know how they'll be distributed.

ADDITIONAL SOUP!

Thanks, the total is now 193 (& for the soap)?!



FEBRUARY CIRCLES

KOINONIA CIRCLE: will meet this Thursday, February 16th at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Sue Bennett and Audrey Stickler are the hostesses and the lesson will be provided by Donna Moody.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: will meet next Tuesday, February 21st at 1:30 PM at home of Priscilla Gilles as hostess. The lesson will be given by Patty Waters.



Volunteers are welcome to sign-up your help for Monday, February 20 at the Community Kitchen at 4:00 PM. Thank you!

DISCIPLES MEN

The Disciples Men will be going to the American Diner/Heartland Grill this Saturday, February 18th, at 8:00 AM for breakfast. All men are invited - sign up!

* * *

Note: Disciples Men will be making ham loaves on Saturday, March 18th - we will have a Bring Your Own Breakfast in the church kitchen and make the ham loaves afterward.



GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age Luncheon is Tuesday, February 28, at 12:00 NN. The meal is on a donation basis, be sure to sign-up so we have the number to turn in to our caterer. The program will follow with Carstan Stites sharing about "Space Camp."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

When you don't have the flu,
We definitely want you,
To come be with us –
In Sunday School. ☺



YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group for junior high & high school students meets each Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the youth room. Bring a friend!



MICE

This month's MICE event will be this Sunday, February 19, from 1:00-2:00 PM at Shewey's Ceramics in Paris. Meet there and join the fun!

* * *

Don't forget to bring in your aluminum cans for recycling on Sunday, February 26. Proceeds go to fund MICE events!



GOD'S GANG / CROSSROADS

The spring semester of God's Gang & Crossroads has begun, but you are still welcome to register. Grades Kindergarten - 5th will join God's Gang, and grades 6-8th will be part of Crossroads. We meet each Wednesday after school from 3:30-6:00 PM. Adult volunteers are also welcome and needed, see Angel Templeton or Saunny Preston.

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*Thank You!*

I'm glad we're friends... No matter how busy our lives get you'll always be friends who mean so much to me. I think of "you all" all the time. Such happy memories. I miss Bible Study so much - wish I could fly in! Happy Valentine's Day with much love to everyone on "Love Day." Give somebody a hug!  
- Monica Rollings



# THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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Michael C. Dixon, Senior Minister ~ Troy Sanders, Youth Director

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Paris, Illinois

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## COME WORSHIP WITH US

EARLY WORSHIP 8:00 AM ~ SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM ~ WORSHIP 10:00 AM

*MISSION STATEMENT* First Christian Church's mission is to grow disciples who are:

*"Believing in Christ,*

*Behaving as Christ,*

*Becoming like Christ"*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### ATTENDANCE

**We count because you count!**

**February 12: 8:00 - 53 10:00 - 121 Nursery - 5**  
**TOTAL WORSHIP = 179**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 4, Jr & Sr High - 4, New Disciples - 11, Open Door - 20, New Horizons - 8**

**TOTAL SS = 47**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**February 12, 2017**

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund + Pay Pal       | \$4,356.25        |
| Sunday School                | 22.00             |
| Envelopes                    | 2.00              |
| Choices Pregnancy & Health   | 100.00            |
| God's Gang                   | 141.00            |
| Food Pantry                  | 210.00            |
| Emergency                    | 30.00             |
| MICE                         | 10.00             |
| Community Kitchen            | 25.00             |
| Paris Ministerial Fellowship | 50.00             |
| Head, Hands, Heart           | 50.00             |
| Disciples Outreach-Missions  | 200.00            |
| Building Fund                | 350.00            |
| Memorial Fund                | 75.00             |
| Scholarship Fund             | 60.00             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$5,681.25</b> |

### SERVING SCHEDULE: February 19, 2017

**8:00 AM: ELDER:** Dan Lynch

DEACONESS: Cathy Clawson

PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Nels & Autumn Kasey

West: Ron Odle & Martha Stephen

ACOLYTES: Ava Huddleson, Sammy Milam

WORSHIP LEADER: John Chittick

BREAD ELDER: Tammy Terry

DEACONESS: Ellen Webb

DEACONS: Team #1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain; Rita

Haupt, Mark Johnson, Greg Kelly, Doc & Donna

Moody, Jacob Thomas, Margo Yeargin

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Brady Chittick, Mike Kirk,

Lainey Ogle, Macy Richards, Aubrey Sanders

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Rev. Mike Dixon

NURSERY HELPER: Candi & Sammy Milam

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Edna Creech

FEB. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Autumn Kasey

FEB. USHERS: Ken Dennison, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Brooklyn Ward

SCRIPTURE: John 5:2-9

SERMON: "On The Verge, At The Edge, or

In The Middle?" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon



*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*John 3:16*