

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

March 8, 2017

## WHAT WE DO

Some jobs are the same every day. Others ebb and flow with the seasons. And then there are some when every day can be different.

Ministry is all three of those - in one.

Some days are routine (actually, very few) - much of the work is seasonal - and occasionally there are the emergencies that take precedence and disrupt the regular routine. I've learned to adjust and flow with it all.

But as we've moved into this Lenten season, I've realized something - how much I'm teaching. I don't mean preaching and those extras, but actual classes/groups. I think I have five currently:

- Sunday School, in which we are reading/discussing/sharing a Psalm each week;
- Bible Study on Tuesday morning, where we will finish the gospel of Mark next week and then move on;
- “God's Gang” on Wednesdays, for whom I prepare/lead a lesson and worship time, currently on biblical characters and their “bad days;”

And now we add for the season,

- “Pastor's Class” on Fridays with some of our young people about being a Christian and church membership
- Video Study on Mondays in which we are thinking/learning about “Follow”ing Jesus.

I don't share that to brag, nor to complain, not even to promote them, but to express my amazement at it. I do not consider myself to be a gifted teacher, but I do my job - which at times means teaching and more teaching. I pray God can use it. Colossians 3:17,

*MCD*



## **HAM LOAVES**

Orders for ham loaves, made from scratch by the FCC Disciples Men, are due in the office by next Wednesday, March 15. Order forms are available at the sign-up desk, or you may call in your order. Ham loaves will be made on Saturday, March 18, and will be ready for pick-up in the church kitchen between 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon that day. Payment is due at that time. You may also pick them up the following Sunday, March 19, after worship services. Please be sure to make checks payable to “Disciples Men” and give to Ken Hamilton if you pick up your order on Sunday. Thank you!

(DISCIPLES MEN: We will have our monthly Saturday morning breakfast on March 18, but it will be a BYOB - bring your own breakfast! Then we'll put the assembly line together for making ham loaves.)

## **24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL**

Each year we have a 24-hour Prayer Vigil which is held in our Prayer Room the Saturday before Palm Sunday. This year it will be Saturday, April 8, beginning at 8:00 AM and go through 8:00 AM Sunday, April 9. A sign-up sheet will be in the hallway for all those who would like to participate. Half-hour time slots are available and instructions will be provided.



Congratulations to Brad & Margo Yeargin & all the family on the birth of a new grandson!

Hospitalized: Barbara Walker, Union  
Rick Kennedy, Indy

Home from Hospital: Patty Waters, Rick Ward,  
Donna Moore

Our sympathies go to the family & friends of member, Joel Osborne, in his passing. Arrangements are in process.

Also, sympathies go to Berniece Hayes in the recent death of her son-in-law.

Congratulations also go to our administrative assistant, Cheryl Clark & family, as her daughter, Morgan, gave birth to baby, Merida, last Friday! Congratulations, Grandma.



-- Will Moody for snacks for Pastor's Class;  
-- Denise Craig and Cathy Melendez for their fill-in work in the office;

-- Peg Dixon for the 8:00 accompaniment - and Children's Sermon;  
-- Peggy Barath & Coralie Smittkamp for the decorations throughout the building;  
-- Jenneane McDaniel for her help "untangling" crosses;  
-- All those who are praying for others in our Prayer Program!

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

God brings you to it –  
then through it.

**MARCH PRAYER**

God in Heaven, we know life is short. Teach us to be swift to love and make haste to be kind. Amen.

**WEEK OF COMPASSION UPDATE**

We have received \$1195 toward our goal of \$1600 for the Week of Compassion Offering. There is still time to add your donation. Thanks!

**♥ LOVE NOTES ♥**

Check out the table by the sign-up desk to see if you or a friend has a love note. We have them out for one more week, so pick yours up or deliver others this Sunday.

**LENTEN VIDEO SERIES**

There is still time and still room to attend the Lenten Video Series held on Monday evenings at 5:00 pm in the Jerusalem Room.

**LENTEN MUSIC & MEDITATION**

Music and Meditation services are at the Presbyterian Church each Wednesday through April 5. Rev. Mike Dixon will be the speaker on March 22.

**LENTEN PRAYER PROGRAM**

Thank you to all those who are praying. We still need 2 packets "adopted!" If you do not know the people in your packet, please ask us.

**BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is each Tuesday at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room. You are welcome to join us!

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Elders - Thursday, Mar. 9, 5:00 PM
- Board - Tuesday, Mar. 14, 7:00 PM

**CANTATA REHEARSALS**

Rehearsals for the FCC Cantata Choir are Sunday evenings at 5:00 PM. It's not too late to join. All singers welcome!



**SCHOLARSHIPS**

FCC Scholarships are available in the office for graduating seniors and college students. They are also available on the church website:

<http://fccparis.org/scholarships/>

**YEAR BOOK REPORTS**

If you have not turned in your report for the 2016 Yearbook, please do so ASAP.

**2017 PRAYER CHAIN**

The Prayer Chain for 2017 has been updated and the information has been mailed out to all participants.

**SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS**

There are still a few of "The Secret Place" devotionals for spring available. Pick up a copy at the entryways.



### **CIRCLES IN MARCH**

KOINONIA CIRCLE: is Thursday, March 16, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Hostesses are Peggy Barath & Coralie Smittkamp, study leader is Audrey Stickler.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: is Tuesday, March 21 at 1:30 PM at the home of Carolyn Lanker, hostess. Lesson will be by Linda Chittick.

### **CHILDREN'S MOVIE**

We are in the process of sponsoring a children's movie at the Paris Theatre during spring break. We'll keep you posted on details!

### **COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

Volunteers are welcome on Monday, March 20 to help serve and bring desserts. Please sign-up to help!

### **GOLDEN AGE**

The next Golden Age Program will be Tuesday, March 28, with missionaries from Honduras.

### **MEN'S BANQUET**

The Men's Banquet will be Monday, March 27 at 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$8 for men/\$5 for boys and are available from Dan Thomey, Ken Hamilton, Joel Gleckler, Daniel Smittkamp, or Rev. Mike! The program will be at 7:00 PM by Paul Slifer. (Many will remember him from filling the pulpit earlier this year in January.)

### **FOOD PANTRY**

Several said last Sunday, "I forgot to bring my food items today," so we will leave the containers out again this week. Thanks for your donations!

### **NOTE / POST CARDS**

Some of you noticed the extras on the table with the new directories - some pictorial postcards and notecards. We will offer packages of each - for a cost - at a later date.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*When you go to the zoo,  
You expect to find poo -  
But you don't have to worry about that  
in Sunday School!*



### **YOUTH GROUP**

Youth Group will meet in the Youth Room each Wednesday at 6:00 PM - bring a friend!



### **GOD'S GANG / CROSSROADS**

Join us for God's Gang/Crossroads each Wednesday from 3:30-6:00 PM. This week's theme is "Oceans" and next week's will be "Rain and Clouds."

### **PASTOR'S CLASS**

Pastor's Class for our 5th grade youth is each Friday after school.

### **MICE**

MICE will be heading to the Children's Museum in Terre Haute on Sunday, March 25. We will leave from the church at 1:00 PM and return around 4:30 PM.

### **CHURCH CAMP**

Camp dates are available for you to plan ahead for this summer. Forms are available in the office or online at:

<http://cciwdisciples.org/camp-program/register/>

### **PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES**

Don't forget to pick up your copy of the pictorial directory. If you did not take a picture but would like a directory, they are available for \$4.00 each.

### **GIFT OF A CROSS**

To go along with our theme of, "The Way Of The Cross" for Lent, we gave out small crosses on Sunday. (We have a few remaining if you did not get one.) We invite you to wear it or display it where it will remind you that you, too, are to live, "The Way Of The Cross."



### **YOU ARE INVITED!**

You are invited to the 80th birthday celebration for Don McGee to be held Saturday, March 11, from 1:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. No gifts, please.



# THE MESSENGER

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

201 S. Main St., Paris, Illinois 61944

Phone 217-466-3255

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 AM-12 NN, 1-4 PM

E-mail: firstchristian@nwcable.net

Web page: www.fccparis.org ~ We're also on Facebook: FCC Paris

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

**PERMIT #147**

Paris, Illinois

Non-Profit

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID



## **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!**

**March 5: 8:00 - 59 10:00 - 96 Nursery - 5**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 160**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 5, Jr & Sr High - 3, New Disciples - 0, Open Door - 19, New Horizons - 11**

**TOTAL SS = 38**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**March 5, 2017**

General Fund	\$4,162.25
Sunday School	23.00
God's Gang	100.00
Food Pantry	160.00
Emergency Fund	20.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	100.00
Reimbursement	20.09
Talent Show Supper (Membership)	15.00
Backpack Lunch Program	100.00
Disciples Outreach-Missions	305.00
Week of Compassion	373.00
Building Fund	470.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,877.34</b>

### SERVING SCHEDULE: March 12, 2017

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Joel Gleckler  
DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman  
PIANIST: Evie Gill

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

West: Carol Marlowe

ACOLYTES: Will Templeton, Jasmine Littlejohn

WORSHIP LEADER: Chris Milam

BREAD ELDER: John Chittick

DEACONESS: Megan Mathis

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

Haupt, Mark Johnson, Greg Kelly, Doc & Donna

Moody, Jacob Thomas, Margo Yeargin

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Montana Boatman, Greg

Johnson, Jaydin Seeley, Brooklyn Ward, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Steve Webb

NURSERY HELPER: Macy Richards

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Deena Hasler

MAR.FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

MARCH USHERS: Randy Creech, Jerry Thomas, &

Dan Thomey

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

SCRIPTURE: Mark 4:35-41

SERMON: "The Way Of The Cross: Cross - Wind"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon



### TIME CHANGE!

Don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead this Saturday night, March 11, before you go to bed!