

THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

April 12, 2017

WDYWMTDFY

You have said it to me. I have hopefully said it to you. But maybe we need to do more with it.
The letters

WDYWMTDFY

come from the account in Mark, chapter 10 (also in Matthew and Luke) when Jesus asks the blind man, “What Do You Want Me To Do For You?” In preparing for that message, I was surprised (I have to confess I never realized) to find those exact words only 15 verses earlier when Jesus asked that pointblank question of the disciples.

And the same is true for us. He asks us to ask Him for what we need and what we think is right. We do that in our prayers and in worship.

But I invite you to do more. Now this is radical, even dangerous, but what if you took that question, “What Do You Want Me To Do For You?” and asked it of God? He asks and offers to do for you; can you ask and offer to Him? In light of this Holy Week and what we know He’s already done for it’s appropriate and timely.

Do you dare? Can you turn His question around and sincerely say/ask/offer, “Jesus -
WDYWMTDFY?”

MCD

PS: Thank you for the leadership on Sunday when I was sick! And thanks for all the birthday messages as well.



EASTER SUNDAY!

This Sunday, April 16, is Easter Sunday when we celebrate the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus! We will have worship at 8:00 & 10:00 AM that will include baptisms. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall with Sunday School classes restarting the following week. Give out the printed invitations, bring family and friends, join us for worship!

Easter Offering

Our Easter Offering goal is \$3,000. This special offering goes to help the ministries of the CCIW and the Disciples of Christ. We have already received \$1046 so far. Easter offering boxes are available for children or adults to use.

CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Senior and college students - scholarship applications and references are due in the office, as soon as possible, for all the church scholarships. Since April 15 falls on the weekend and the offices will be closed Monday (in lieu of Good Friday holiday) we will accept scholarships through Tuesday, April 18.

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 4. The Paris Ministerial Fellowship is hosting the breakfast at Tuscany's at 8:00 AM. All are invited.



Happy 95th birthday to Esther Blanford on Easter Sunday! Cards would be appreciated...

Hospitalized: Esther Blanford, PCH Room 127

Home from Hospital: Rick Ward
Marcella Johnson
and Bea Mae Camp from the nursing home

Our sympathies go to the Bridwell family in the recent loss of Ken's sister.



-- Candi Milam and Worship Committee for sponsoring the Prayer Vigil - and all who came and prayed!

- CWF volunteers for the funeral dinner;
- "The Joyful Ringers" for the Community Concert and Special Music;
- Peg Dixon for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- Mary Griffin and Peg Dixon for the Children's Sermons;
- Elders, and especially David Dick, for their last-minute preparation and worship leadership!
- Family of Bob Templeton for the memorial flowers;
- Edna Creech, Erica Buntain, Emily Thomas, Cindy Robinson, Saunny Preston, Ava Huddleson, and Rev. Mike for helping at the movie.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Don't just wear the cross,
bear the cross.

APRIL PRAYER

Dear God, In this Lenten season, help us to understand the love it took for Christ's suffering and humiliation, the ultimate sacrifice for all of us as sinners. But let us focus on the blessing and power that was shown when He rose again so we who believe will live forever. Amen.

"WELCOME TO THE FAMILY"

We were pleased to be able to receive five young persons, from this year's Pastor's Class, who decided they are ready to commit to Christ and then join the church. We welcome Morgan Gann, Emmalyn Kennedy, Sammy Milam, Will Moody and Ethan Smittkamp into the Christian faith - and into the church with their baptisms on Easter Sunday! "Welcome to the Family!"

PRAYER VIGIL

Thank you to all those who came and participated in the 24 Hour Prayer Vigil.

PRAYER PROGRAM

This is the week to send out Prayer Notes to those you've been praying for through Lent. Let them know you had them covered in prayer!

LENTEN VIDEO STUDY

The final video study will be next Monday, April 17, at 5:00 PM. You are welcome to join us.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

We are offering a Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7:00 PM tomorrow, April 13. If you have one of the crosses we gave out a few Sundays ago, bring it with you. If you do not, that is okay.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

The Community Good Friday Service will be held Friday, April 14, at the Otterbein UMC at 12:00 NN. Rev. Mike Dixon will be preaching.

CANTATA WORSHIP

Our FCC Cantata, "The Letter," will be presented on Sunday, April 30, at the combined worship at 10:00 AM. Sunday School will meet at 9:00 AM.

EARTH SUNDAY

Earth Day is this Saturday, April 22 and we have a special Sunday service planned, due to schedule conflicts it has been postponed to Sunday, May 7.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Tuesday morning at 10:30 AM we gather for Bible Study in the Jerusalem Room. We are currently finishing up Esther and will continue to Ruth before the summer break.

POSTCARDS / NOTECARDS

We have FCC notecards and postcards for sale:
- 10 Notecards for \$5 (two different designs)
- 20 Postcards for \$5 (two different designs)
See Barbara Dick to purchase packets.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Here's another report of spiritual growth from last spring: I had the goal of finishing the chronological Bible for several years. There were several scriptures and events that I had forgotten and needed to be reintroduced. Also, I have begun to sing praise songs for about 15 minutes each day. It is good for the soul! Are you growing in your Christian life? We are ready to help each other to walk closer to God...get your Bible and walking shoes ready.



CIRCLES IN APRIL

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday, April 18, at 1:30 PM. Hostess is Corky Davidson and lesson will be by Mary Helen Hamilton.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, April 20, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Mary K. Bradford will be the hostess with Cindy Mathis bringing the lesson.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The VFW is sponsoring a RFL Benefit Dinner on Sunday, April 23, from 11 AM-3 PM. They will be serving beef-n-noodles or chicken-n-noodles with mashed potatoes, green beans and roll for \$8 adult / \$5 children 5 & under. Tickets are available from Relay members or in the church office.

WOMEN'S WORKSHOP

The Women's Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, May 6 at 9:00 AM. Please bring in these items: Box Tops for Education, pop tabs, used glasses & hearing aids, used cell phones & chargers, used stamps, and Campbell's labels. Collection containers are located by the sign-up desk.



CHURCH CAMP

NOTE: All camp registration forms must be completed with payment and turned in to the office no later than NOON Friday, April 28 to be mailed at the Post Office by 4:00 PM. The following are the dates of each camp at Camp Walter Scott:

- High School - June 11-17
- Kindergarten-2nd Grade - June 21-24
- 3rd-5th Grade - June 23-29
- Jr. High - July 16-22
- K-5th with Grandparent - June 18-21

Check the date on the registration form for early bird discount! After that, the cost goes up \$25. The church will pay 1/2 the camp fee of the early bird discount for those who are members. If you need scholarship assistance, please see Rev. Dixon.

YOUTH GROUP

No Youth Group tonight due to spring break, see you next Wednesday at 6:00 PM.

GOD'S GANG / CROSSROADS

No God's Gang tonight since there is no school, next week the theme will be "Air We Breathe."

MICE

Sunday, April 30, the MICE will meet at the Paris Bowling Alley from 2:00-4:00 PM for their outing.



CHILDREN'S MOVIE REPORT

We are very pleased to be able to sponsor the children's movie, "The Secret Life of Pets" at the Paris Theatre during this spring break week. It's been a good outreach with a total of 263 in attendance! We gave away "pet" prizes each day, and handed out church information as well. Thanks to the Evangelism Committee for sponsoring/providing this community service.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciples Men will be having their breakfast get-together on Saturday, April 15 at 8:00 AM at the Lincoln Trail Restaurant. If you would like to carpool, meet at FCC at 7:30 AM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

On Sunday, May 7, we will have our Sunday School Teachers Appreciation Dinner following second service at 11:30 AM. All classes are invited to attend. More details TBA.



FCC GRADUATES

Please give us the names of your 8th grade, high school, and college graduates to be sure we don't miss anyone!

OFFICES TO BE CLOSED

The church offices will be closed on Monday, April 17, in lieu of the Good Friday holiday. We will open again on Tuesday, April 18.



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

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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!

April 9: 8:00 - 65 10:00 - 143 Nursery - 12

TOTAL WORSHIP = 208

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 5, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 10, Open Door - 23, New Horizons - 0

TOTAL SS = 38

OFFERING TOTALS

General Fund	\$3,583.25
Sunday School	21.00
God's Gang	20.00
Food Pantry	125.00
MICE	10.00
"Shop w/a Cop"	588.00
Bell Choir	10.00
Disciples Outreach-Missions	90.00
Easter Offering	893.00
Building Fund	405.00
Memorial Fund	25.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
TOTAL	\$5,800.25

April 9, 2017

SERVING SCHEDULE: April 16, 2017 † EASTER! †

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dan Lynch
DEACONESS: Cathy Clawson
PIANIST: Evie Gill

9:00 AM: Breakfast

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Pam Lobb

West: Pat Hittle

ACOLYTES: Kaitlyn Coombes, Sammy Milam

WORSHIP LEADER: Chris Milam

BREAD ELDER: Nels Kasey

DEACONESS: Edna Creech

DEACONS: Team #3, Sue Bennett, Capt.; Jim Bennett, Dena Dosch, Tim & Lori Hough, Doug Smittkamp, Angel Templeton, AJ Waltz

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

Lainey Ogle, Macy Richards, Aubrey Sanders

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Chris Milam

NURSERY HELPER: Montana Boatman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Peg Dixon

APRIL FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Pat Hittle

APRIL USHERS: Ken Dennison, Dean Smittkamp & Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: John Chittick

PROJECTION: Brady Chittick

SCRIPTURE: Mark 16:1-8

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

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

3rd SUN. COMMUNION: Pete Templeton

