

THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

June 28, 2017

SOMETHING NEW

Summer is not the time to try something new, so goes the traditional wisdom of the church. But that may not always be true.

Like now.

We are embarking on a new attempt in Sunday School and I'm excited to see it and be part of it. The combined experience in the Fellowship Hall was good; and we'll do that again in August.

But for the next six weeks we are inviting everyone to come and choose one of three video study series:

- “If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat” led by Mary K. Bradford, Main Floor classroom,
- “Surprised By Hope” (in death and loss) led by Greg Terry, basement classroom, and
- “Half-Truths” (sayings people think are Scripture) led by Rev. Mike Dixon, kitchen.

We asked for signups for the teacher's benefit, but now we are not worried about that. Just come and make your choice; go one of three ways to experience the learning, the joy, the relationships of a Sunday School group.

I'm proud of our Education Committee for coming up with a new idea and approach. And then saying, go do it, and making it happen.

It reflects our faith in God and our trust in each other. Instead of, “we've never done it that way before,” now we're more, “let's try it and see what happens.”

So come be part of it.

MCD



PATRIOTIC SUNDAY

This coming Sunday, July 2, we will celebrate Patriotic Sunday. Worship will include a tribute, special music, prayer, and pledge. Feel free to wear red, white, and blue!

FAMILY SUNDAY

July 9 will be “Family Sunday” with Peg Dixon, Dan Lynch, and Susan King as our speakers. Come support them and experience the inspiration!

CLOTHING CLOSET

During the month of July FCC is responsible for staffing the Compassionate Clothing Closet on Mondays and Tuesdays. We **NEED** volunteers to sign up for Mondays from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM and Tuesdays from 12:30-3:00 PM. About 4-5 ladies are needed each day. The sheet is on the sign-up desk in the hallway. (Note, the CCC will not be open Tuesday, July 4.)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

See page 3 of this newsletter for more VBS details... but we wanted to let you know there are a few things needed for our VBS décor, if you can let us borrow them: an old sled (not plastic kind), ice skates, snow shoes, lots of artificial evergreen trees. (The theme is arctic!) ☺



Congratulations go to Joe & Jenny McMahan on the births of twin boys last Monday, the 19th - Jordan and Ryan! Grandparents are Jim & Kay Bellerud.

Hospitalized: Marcella Johnson, Union
Cassie Boatman, Indy

Home from the Hospital: Gage Johnson
Ken Hamilton
Rick Ward

Welcome back to Ben Young, Gabbie Waltz, Mike Kirk, and Sarah Littlejohn from Camp Walter Scott!

Sympathies go to:

- Brenda Gosnell in the loss of her aunt,
- Barbara Dick in the passing of her aunt.



-- Worship Committee for the Father's Day gifts;

-- Peg Dixon & Pete Templeton for the 8:00 music;

-- Megan Mathis, Mary K. Bradford, & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Mary Carriere & Mary K. Bradford for the summer food project promotion;

-- Zara Kasey & Dillan Dorjahn for their Special Music;

-- Mr. Bob Miller for coming to speak on Sunday, and Elders Joel Gleckler, Dick James, Chris Milam, Nels Kasey for their extra leadership;

-- Bill & Donna Moss for sharing anniversary flowers;

-- Trustees for their work in and with the building.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Making a living is not
making a life.



JULY PRAYER

"Dear God, Thank You for the freedom we enjoy everyday because of the men and women who serve our country. God, bless our troops and America! Let freedom ring! Amen."

FOOD PROJECT

Here's a way to help others - through the Compassionate Food Ministries - we are donating instant mashed potatoes, saltine crackers and snack-size raisins. Donation containers are located at the entryways.



MAN OF THE YEAR

Turn in your "2017 Man of the Year" nomination forms asap.

YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH & PRAYER

Our search has continued with two interviews by the committee, and more coming. Now we need to continue our prayers!

The unified prayer is: "Dear God, we thank You for the young people in our church and in the community. We want to care and teach and include them in ministry, so we seek a pastor to do that. Guide the committee in the process; bless the individual You are preparing; connect us, so we can then work together to serve You and love Your people. We pray this in Jesus' Name, Amen."

Also - we are interested in available housing; if you have a house or apartment that might be a possibility, let us know.

CHANCEL/BELL CHOIR MEMBERS

Chancel Choir & Joyful Ringers members, please remember to get your robes laundered during the summer break! Thank you.

HIGH SCHOOL BLESSING BOOKS

Don't forget to sign the "Blessing Books" for our graduating seniors.

PENTECOST OFFERING TOTAL

The final total for the FCC giving to the Pentecost Offering was \$1,244.25! We went over our \$1200 goal! Thank you! Now we'll wait to hear from the other churches in the Cluster to get the grand total.

"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" FOCUS

You'll hear more next month, but as a preview - we are going to gather the items needed to assemble "clean-up buckets" to be sent to flood and other areas in need. Our goal is 20-25 buckets - wow! - as we work through Church World Service. So stay tuned....

CWF ORGANIZATION

The Circles have designated representatives, and an initial meeting held. A follow-up is scheduled for next month. This will allow for the schedule to be filled out, responsibilities assigned, and booklets made before September. More to follow later.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The RFL "Wining for a Cure" fundraiser at CastleFinn Winery will be Friday, July 7, from 6:00-8:00 PM featuring wine-tasting, food, and musical entertainment. Tickets are \$15, and are available from team members or in the church office. Come join the fun, food, and fellowship for a good cause! Another way to support the RFL is by purchasing raffle tickets for the afghan that can be seen on Sunday's. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

BABY BOTTLES

If you haven't already, please turn in the baby bottles with your donations for the Choices Pregnancy & Health. Thank you.



EDGAR CO. FAIR HOSPITALITY TENT

Once again the County Fair Board has asked local churches to help out at their Hospitality Tent - where many come to sit and eat. We are scheduled for Monday, July 24, to clean the tables and serve anyone who comes. A sign-up sheet will be out soon.

FUMC PROJECT

The ladies of the First United Methodist Church of Paris are collecting old or new bicycles for the Midwest Distribution Center to send to third world countries where bicycles are the main mode of transportation. They will fix up the old bikes and put them back to use where they will do the most good. Help us collect bikes not being used by their current owners. We will pick them up or you can bring them to FUMC between July 10 and 14. If you have any questions, call 466-4215.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Newsletters are mailed every other week in the summer, so the next newsletter will be July 28th.

VBS - "OPERATION ARCTIC"

Vacation Bible School at FCC will be July 31 through August 4 for children ages 3 to 5th grade. VBS will be from 9:00-11:30 AM each day with a picnic and games on Friday till 12:30 PM. Pre-register now and get more information in the hallway. Volunteers - see Cindy Mathis or Mary K. Bradford. Invite others and come explore the "coolest book on the planet"!

CHURCH CAMP IN JULY

We will have four additional campers going to Camp Walter Scott in July. Chi Rho Camp will be July 16-22 and JYF Camp will be July 23-29. Please keep these campers in your prayers as they learn more about Jesus at summer camp!



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth and adults, sign-up for one of the three video series being offered for the next 6 weeks during Summer Sunday School. The choices are: (1) "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat" with Mary K. Bradford in the Youth Office next to the Nursery; (2) "Surprised by Hope" with Greg Terry in the back basement classroom; or (3) "Half-Truths of the Faith" by Rev. Mike Dixon in the kitchen.



MICE CANS

Thank you to those who brought in aluminum cans last Sunday for our MICE group. The monies collected for recycling goes to fund our children's activities.

Thank You!

Thanks to all my Christian friends for their cards, phone calls, and most of all, prayers for me during my recent hip replacement surgery. My post-op therapy is going well and looking at a speedy recovery.

God Bless you all,
- Ken Hamilton

FCC, Thank you for selecting me to receive the John Z. & Ruth W. Frazier Memorial Scholarship. I had a successful first year at Bradley Univ. and intend to use this financial award to continue my studies into my sophomore year.

Love, Claire Woods



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!

June 18: 8:00 - 59 10:00 - 97 Nursery - 1

TOTAL WORSHIP = 157

TOTAL SS = 30

June 25: 8:00 - 41 10:00 - 77 Nursery - 1

TOTAL WORSHIP = 119

TOTAL SS = 28

SERVING SCHED. continued for July 2...

DEACONS: Team #3, Sue Bennett, Captain

JR DEACONS: Team #1

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Rev. Mike Dixon

NURSERY HELPER: Montana Boatman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Linda West

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SPECIAL MUSIC: Barbara Dick & Joyce Benton

SCRIPTURES: Romans 8:35, 37-39; Ephesians 6:10-17

SERMON: A Singing Faith: "The Battle Hymn of

The Republic" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: Nels Kasey, Steve Webb

SERVING SCHEDULE: July 9, 2017 "Family Sunday"

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dennis Thiel

DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman

PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

9:00 AM: "Summer Sunday School"

10:00 AM: GREETERS: East: Tony & Rita Haupt

West: Jim & Carolyn Ray

ACOLYTES: Gage Johnson, Emmalyn Kennedy

WORSHIP LEADER: Nels Kasey

BREAD ELDER: Tammy Terry

DEACONESS: Carolyn Ray

DEACONS: Team #1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain

JR DEACONS: Team #2

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Dan Smittkamp

NURSERY HELPER: Cindy Robinson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Peg Dixon

JULY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

JULY USHERS: Randy Creech, Jerry Thomas, Dan Thomey

SOUND SYSTEM/PROJECTION: Chris Milam

SPECIAL MUSIC: Kristin & Brady Chittick

SERMON: "Family Sunday" - Live Life, Peg Dixon;

Clean House, Dan Lynch; Help Others, Susan King

OFFERING TOTALS

	June 18	June 25, 2017
Gen'l Fund+E.G.&P.P.*	\$4,784.25*	\$3,385.35
Sunday School	3.00	9.00
Food Pantry		90.00
Emergency Fund		120.00
Choices		50.00
God's Gang		80.00
MICE		10.00
Head, Hands, Heart		100.00
Lunch On the Lawn		50.00
Reimbursement	20.15	
Bell Choir Fund	50.00	
Dis. Out.-Missions+E.G.*	379.00*	332.50
Week of Compassion E.G.*	70.00*	
Pentecost Offering	24.00	
Christmas in July		250.00
Scholarship Fund		50.00
Memorial Fund	2,700.00	
Permanent Fund		40.00
Building Fund+E.G.*	595.00*	912.50
TOTAL	\$8,625.40*	\$5,479.35

SERVING SCHED.: July 2, 2017 "Patriotic Sun."

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dick James

DEACONESS: Amber Tegeler

PIANIST: Dennis Thiel

9:00 AM: "Summer Sunday School"

10:00 AM: GREETERS - West: Mary Griffin

East: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

ACOLYTES: Ava Huddleson, Sammy Milam

WORSHIP LEADER: Steve Webb

BREAD ELDER: Pete Templeton

DEACONESS: Karla Pierson