

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

July 12, 2017

## GOING... COMING... STAYING

Last week at this time I was getting ready to go out of town for the denominational convention of the Christian church. It takes a lot of work to go....

But it's fun to anticipate; it feels good to prepare - and it is good to see friends and share ministry. One of the highlights for me is seeing those I know and meeting some I don't. Among the first, the second question asked is usually, "Is Peg here? Where is that wife of yours?" (with some it is the immediate.) The other is, "What's happening? What are you doing these days?" So I tell them. And I'll tell you that there are now "Q-Tip"s all over the country with the word to "Quit Taking It Personally."

One of the serendipities was the worship workshops I attended. Excellent! I took lots of notes, have some new ideas, and want to try some in the near future.

I also did extra that was not on the schedule. I met with two potential youth pastors, and took a quick trip up to visit and check on my dad.

As you know, it's fun to go... but it's good to come back. I'm glad to be home and ready to be together with you. I told people about FCC and our love and our ministries - and made myself homesick!

So it's fun to go... good to come back... best to be able to stay - for a while. And I'll be content to stay home until the next trip, when I'll be ready to Go - then Come - and Stay.

*MCD*



This year's "Christmas in July" will be presented in more detail this coming Sunday, July 16. We do this for four specific reasons: 1) To learn more about what is being done in Christ's Name; 2) To discover how our dollars are needed and used; 3) To remind ourselves that we are not the only ones in the Church; and 4) To give us the opportunity to be involved with our gifts, prayers, and visits. Our emphasis this year will be putting together Emergency Cleanup Buckets for Church World Service to distribute where needed. Items to fill each bucket include: 4 scouring pads, 7 sponges (incl. 1 lg.), 18 Easy Wipes, 1-50 oz. (or 2-25 oz.) bottles of liquid laundry detergent, 1 12-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap, 1 12-16 oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles), 1 pkg. of 48-50 clothespins, 2-50' or 1-100' clothesline, 5 dust masks, 2 pairs of non-surgical latex gloves, 1 pr. work gloves (cotton w/leather or all leather), 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gal. trash bags on a roll, 1 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent. Please bring your donations to the church and put under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

## "OPERATION ARCTIC" VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School at FCC will be July 31 through August 4 for children ages 3 to 5th grade. VBS will be held each day from 9:00-11:30 AM - 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. Take a look at the food items needed and sign-up if you can donate. We are also needing evergreen tree decorations, ice skates, snow shoes, skis for our "arctic" theme. Invite others and come explore the "coolest book on the planet"!



Apologies go to the Bellerud Family for the mix-up of the twins' family - born to Ben (not to Jenny).

Hospitalized: Lewis Thiel, Paris

Home from the Hospital: Cassie Boatman, Bill Clawson, Marcella Johnson, Autumn Kasey, Mallore Shewey

Sympathies go to:

- Danny Simpson in the loss of his sister-in-law
- Lori Bridwell & family in the passing of her uncle



-- Susan King, Dan Lynch, Peg Dixon for speaking on Family Sunday;

-- Elders Dennis Thiel & Joel Gleckler, Nels Kasey & Pete Templeton for their extra leadership;

-- Mary Helen Hamilton & Dennis Thiel for the 8:00 accompaniments;

-- Barbara Dick & Joyce Benton, Kristin Chittick for their Special Music;

-- Joel Gleckler & Karen Newhart for the "Christmas in July" invitation;

-- Brad & Margo Yeargin for their anniversary flowers;

-- Daniel Smittkamp & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Daniel Smittkamp for the devotion at Board meeting.

### **BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

The first 6 letters -  
The most important part of Christmas.

### **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."

### **YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH**

The Search Committee has been at work researching, contacting, interviewing potential Youth Pastors. After 5 interviews, the Committee is ready to invite at least 2 to FCC to visit, see, and learn more. Stay tuned for next steps, please keep praying.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

2017 scholarship checks will be ready to be picked up in the office next week for recipients.

### **"SPLINTERS" FROM THE BOARD**

At its July meeting, the Executive Board:

- gathered around items of Disciple of Christ ministries and Ephesians 4:12-16 to represent the wider ministry we're a part of in the Christian Church;
- offered continuing prayers for the new leader of the denomination, and one of our own leaders;
- was thanked for the food items given in the Summer Food Project;
- heard a report on our participation in the Shrine parade;
- and noted an ad had been purchased on t-shirts to be distributed at PHS football games this fall;
- was told that the Youth Pastor Search Committee has done 5 interviews and is ready to invite potentials to come visit;
- heard that the Tower roof is in process - by next month; the trees in the yard have to come out; the carillon is not working and is not repairable?!;
- noted the reorganization of our CWF that is ongoing.

### **CARILLON BELL MUSIC**

We discovered last week that the carillon was not playing our bell music. When checking it out, the company said it's not repairable. So... we will have to look at new options.

### **MAN OF THE YEAR**

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

### **RELAY FOR LIFE REPORT**

Thank you to all who helped with the "Wine-ing for a Cure" event. It raised a total of \$1,910! The afghan raffle will be held the day of the Relay on August 5, so you can still buy tickets up to the day of the event. On Friday/Saturday, July 21 & 22, we will be collecting additional donations at the intersections of Jasper/Main & Jasper/Central Streets. We appreciate your support - all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

### **FUMC PROJECT**

The FUMC ladies are collecting new or used bicycles for the Midwest Distribution Center to send to third-world countries. They are taking the bikes until this Friday, July 14. If you have questions, call 466-4215.

## **CFW ORGANIZATION**

The Women's Leadership will meet on Friday, July 14, at 1:30 PM in the Jerusalem Room.



## **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 is out on the sign-up desk.

## **HOW MUCH?**

The devil, according to legend, once advertised his tools for sale at public auction. When the prospective buyers assembled, there was one oddly shaped tool which was labeled, "Not for sale." Asked to explain why this was, the devil answered, "I can spare my other tools, but I cannot spare this one. It is the most useful implement that I have. It is called 'Discouragement', and I can work my way into hearts otherwise inaccessible. When I get this tool into man's heart, the way is open to plant anything there I may desire."

The legend embodies sober truth. Discouragement is a dangerous state of mind, because it leaves one open to the assault of the enemies of the soul.

## **CLOTHING CLOSET**

We need volunteers this month to sign up for Mondays from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM and Tuesdays from 12:30-3:00 PM to work at the Compassionate Clothing Closet. The sheet is on the sign-up desk in the hallway.

This is also the month they are accepting new underwear & socks; donations welcome!

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Thank you to all those who helped with or participated in Patriotic Sunday and Family Sunday. Also thank you to those who donated items to our Summer Food Project.

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## **SUMMER NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE**

Newsletters are mailed every other week in the summer, so the next newsletter will be July 26th.

## **CHURCH CAMPS 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 are welcome to attend one of the three video series being offered for the next 4 weeks of 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.

## **DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The Disciples Men will have breakfast at the Twisted Piston this Saturday at 8:00 AM. Meet at the church at 7:45 AM to carpool.

## **COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

Next Monday, July 17, is our day to help at the Community Kitchen. Volunteers are welcome!



## **CHURCH YARD TREES**

As the Trustees plan the removal of the 2 white oak trees on the south lawn, I want everyone in the congregation to know that they will be removing them at my recommendation. As the person who planted both trees, I've since learned that the soil in the lawn is full of prior construction rubble, making it non-supportive of tree growth. As you drive by the church, please notice the yellow leaves and dead branches on both trees. As a true lover of trees, it pains me to make this removal recommendation, but it is in the best long-term interest of the church's property.

## **MICE ALUMINUM CANS**

We are still collecting aluminum cans through the summer months. Collection days are the last Sunday of each month. Proceeds from recycling go to fund our Monthly Inspiring Children's Events (MICE) through the fall/winter/spring.



# THE MESSENGER

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

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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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## **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!***

**July 2: 8:00 - 65 10:00 - 115 Nursery - 5**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 185**

**TOTAL SS = 50**

**July 9: 8:00 - 51 10:00 - 98 Nursery - 4**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 153**

**TOTAL SS = 43**

<u>OFFERING TOTALS</u>	<u>July 2</u>	<u>July 9, 2017</u>
General Fund+P.P*	\$3,983.30	\$4,874.30*
Sunday School	7.00	11.00
Food Pantry	140.00	10.00
Choices "Baby Bottles"		258.50
MICE		10.00
VBS		55.00
Camp Fees		660.00
Disciples Out.-Missions	233.00	137.50
Permanent Fund		40.00
Building Fund	495.00	381.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,853.30</b>	<b>\$6,397.80*</b>

### SERVING SCHED. continued for July 16...

SCRIPTURES: Matthew 1:18-25; 2:1-12

SERMON: A Singing Faith: "O Holy Night" by Rev. Dixon

3rd SUNDAY SHUT-IN COMMUNION: John Chittick

### SERVING SCHEDULE: July 23, 2017

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Joel Gleckler

DEACONESS: Jenneane McDaniel

PIANIST: Peg Dixon

**9:00 AM: "Summer Sunday School"**

**10:00 AM:** GREETERS: East: Carol Marlowe

West: Nels & Autumn Kasey

ACOLYTES: Kyle Tapscott, Graham Templeton

WORSHIP LEADER: John Chittick

BREAD ELDER: Doug Hasler

DEACONESS: Ellen Webb

DEACONS: Team #3, Sue Bennett, Captain

JR DEACONS: Team #2

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Rick Kennedy

NURSERY HELPER: Candi & Sammy Milam

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Brooke Bartley & Lainey Ogle

JULY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

JULY USHERS: Randy Creech, Jerry Thomas, Dan Thomey

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SPECIAL MUSIC: Jane & Mary Hunter Smittkamp

SCRIPTURES: John 11:17-44

SERMON: A Singing Faith: "Blessed Assurance"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

### SERVING SCHED.: July 16, 2017 "Xmas in July"

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

DEACONESS: Cathy Clawson

PIANIST: Evie Gill

**9:00 AM: "Summer Sunday School"**

**10:00 AM:** GREETERS: West: Sam & Saunny Preston

East: Ken & Mary Helen Hamilton

ACOLYTES: Lily Smittkamp, Morgan Gann

WORSHIP LEADER: Kim Woods

BREAD ELDER: Doug Hasler

DEACONESS: Lisa Smittkamp

DEACONS: Team #2, Autumn Kasey, Captain

JR DEACONS: Team #1

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Edna Creech

NURSERY HELPER: Haley Fudge

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jenelle Adams

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

SPECIAL MUSIC: TBA