

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

October 11, 2017

## THE BIBLE - AND THE FUTURE

No one reminded me - and I almost forgot. Two weeks ago I wrote about the Bible (Beulah, remember?) and then referred to another passage saying, “We’ll come back to it.”

That is Isaiah 46:9-10 which has God “declaring the end from the beginning.” Think about that - knowing the end result and being able to tell it - from the beginning. Wow! Only God... and Peg.

When she was teaching music she would have three grade-level concerts a year. And hers were not packaged programs that were already done; she preferred to do it herself - from the basic theme to the songs, the decorations, the props, the choreography, the narration. It was a creation.

When we were talking about the scripture, she referred to her concerts and the fact that she knew how it would turn out when they began. She envisioned it each step of the way, including the end.

And on a much smaller scale, I thought of when I’ve met with the youth for our annual Youth Sunday. At the rehearsal I can tell all about the service and how it is going to go, including the ending. Although I never know who will end up sick or with a change of plans, and I can remember all the changes made to get us to the point.

But those are simplistic comparisons to God. We can understand knowing the end from the beginning on our level - like a big, family Thanksgiving get-together - but not from God’s perspective. His is eternal, universal, personal... more than I can even put into words.

Wow! That’s how big and how great God is. Again, Wow!

*MCD*

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## **LOL with Bridges**

This Friday, October 13, is our “Lunch On the Lawn” with Bridges students and staff beginning at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all those who signed-up to bring items. Please pray for our hosts and volunteers as we reach out with the love of Christ in this way.



## **FCC T-SHIRTS**

Thank you to those who have already placed orders for the FCC t-shirts. There are several available to purchase “off the rack” in the hallway: 2XL Sport Gray, XL Heather Irish Green, M Daisy (Yellow), M Irish Green, L Purple, L Azalea (Pink), XL Royal (Blue), XL Prairie Dust, 2XL Purple. If you would like one of these, fill out an order form, write at the top “OFF THE RACK” and turn in with your payment. We will continue to take orders until Sunday, October 15. Order forms are available in the hallway. T-shirts are \$10 each. Please make checks to “First Christian Church” and note “T-Shirt” in the memo area.

## **TRIP TO “THE ARK”**

We have four seats that have opened up for our trip to the “Ark Encounter” in Kentucky on Monday, October 23. We will leave at 6:30 AM and hope to return by 9:30-10:00 PM. Cost is \$25 Seniors, \$30 adults, \$10 children. We will let you know when to make payment. We are planning another trip in November on either Friday, the 17th, or Monday, the 27th. The extra spaces at the bottom of the sheet are to sign up for November.



Hospitalized: Karen Moore, Paris

Home from the Hospital: Lewis Thiel  
Kim Ward

Congratulations go to Shirley Ross & family on the birth of her new great-grandson, born September 23 to granddaughter, Alisha!

Our sympathies go to Jill Coombes & family on the passing of her grandmother.



-- Donna Garver and crew for providing the dinner served to the PHS Football Team & Coaches;

-- Mary Helen Hamilton for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- Evie Gill for the request for socks;

-- Tammy Terry for the Children's Sermon, as well as Rev. Mike.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Jumping to conclusions  
is poor exercise.

**OCTOBER PRAYER**

"Dear God, Help us to see Your goodness in our every day lives. Amen."

**RECONCILIATION OFFERING TOTAL**

The final total for our Reconciliation Offering is \$1106! We went way over our goal of \$800. Thank you!

**FAITH IN ACTION**

Faith in Action is having a spaghetti supper and auction on Friday, October 20, at the LRCC Family Life Center. The dinner begins at 5:30 with the auction following. Please RSVP to 466-6388.

**COMPASSIONATE CLOTHING CLOSET**

The local CCC is requesting blankets this month in preparation for winter. Donations may be brought to the CCC on Monday between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM or Tuesday from 1:00-3:00 PM.

**ALL-CHURCH DINNER OUTING**

The Membership Committee is sponsoring an All-Church Dinner outing to Charleston following the second service on Sunday, November 15. Sign-up to let us know the number attending.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

★ Trustees: Thurs., October 12, 6:00 PM.

★ Nominating Comm.: Tues., Oct. 17, 6:00 PM.

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

Chancel Choir rehearsals are each Wednesday at 6:30 PM. All singers welcome!

**YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH**

The search has been ongoing - and now we are ready to get personal again. A visit and interview is set up for next week, with hopefully another to follow soon after. Keep praying, stay tuned!

**BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study meets each Tuesday at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room.

**SERMON SERIES OUTLINE**

Outline of the fall sermon series, "The Questions of Jesus" are available in the hallway.

**BUDGETS FOR 2018**

2017 Committee chairpersons, please contact Rev. Mike this week to turn in your budget requests for 2018. Thank you!

**NOMINATIONS for 2018**

Initial letters have been sent asking some to serve in 2018. If you receive a letter, please pray about it and consider saying "yes" when called upon.

**TOWER PROJECT**

Last Wednesday a large crane lifted the tower cap into place! When the finish work is done, include new guttering/downspout and roof flashing, the project will be completed. Thanks to all involved!

**COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CONCERT**

The Presbyterian Church is hosting a Community Christian Concert on Saturday, October 28 at 7:00 PM. Musicians include: Kristin Chittick, Stuart/Lied Metcalf Family, Tanner Laughlin, Kim Henness, Paul Lynch, Sugar Grove Groovians, Jeanette/Kevin Levellie. No tickets necessary, but this is a FUNDRAISER. Donations go to support: Faith In Action, the Paris Ministerial Fund, HOPE against domestic violence, and PERK: people encouraging remarkable kids. There will be refreshments at the intermission.

## CIRCLES IN OCTOBER

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: is a new Circle, just beginning, with a meeting to set up a future schedule this Thursday, Oct. 12 at 6:00 PM in the Jerusalem Room. Check it out!

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: will meet Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 1:30 PM at the home of Corky Davidson as hostess. Janean Gilliland will bring the lesson.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: will meet Thursday, Oct. 19 at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Coralie Smittkamp & Peggy Barath are hostesses with Mary K. Bradford bringing the lesson.

*All Women are invited to any Circle!*

## PLEASANT MEADOWS

On October 15 and 22, Donna Moody and Audrey Stickler will be selling tickets for a basket raffle to be held October 26 at Pleasant Meadows, with proceeds to go to the Christmas Gift Fund for the residents. There will be 28 baskets altogether, but the FCC basket theme is "Brett Eldredge". Chances are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

## COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The Community Kitchen will be on Monday, Oct. 16. We are in need of desserts and volunteers! Please sign-up this Sunday!

## COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Community Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 4. at 8:00 AM at the KC Hall. Tickets will be available soon.

## DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are welcome to the Disciple Men's Breakfast, on Saturday, October 21, at 8:00 AM in the church kitchen. Joel Gleckler will be the cook - please sign-up to give him an estimate!

## GOLDEN AGE

Our next Golden Age luncheon will be on Tuesday, October 24, at 12:00 NN. Sign up for the luncheon. The program will be by Marge Houghland.

## "SOX-TOBER"

We are collecting new socks for boys and girls of pre-school age in the large white sock containers hung in the sanctuary. The socks will be delivered to Head Start after Nov. 5th.



## SUMMIT 2017

Summit 2017 for Jr. & Sr. High students will be November 17-19 at Lake Williamson in Carlinville, IL. Cost is \$90 for FCC members. Registration forms are available in the hallway and due with payment in the office by Friday, October 20 - sorry, no exceptions.

## YOUTH GROUP: Jr. / Sr. High

Weekly Youth Group is each Wednesday evening at 6:00 PM. All junior high and high school students welcome!

## GOD'S GANG: K-5 / CROSSROADS: 6-8 Grade

Come join us for the God's Gang-Crossroads each Wednesday for kids K-5 (God's Gang) & 6-8th grades (Crossroads) at 3:00 PM. This week's theme is "Dancing."

## MICE: 2nd-5th Grade

Our MICE group will kick-off their fall events on Sunday, October 22, at 1:00 PM. We will be taking the bus to Southfork Homestead Farm and will return at 4:00 PM. MICE events will be held on the fourth Sunday of each month through May.

## NURSERY - 1st GRADE

During the 10:00 service each Sunday morning, we offer a Nursery for babies and infants as well as Children's Church for kids ages 3,4,5 up to first grade.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes are available for all ages! Kids K-5th classes are upstairs, 6th-12th grades are in the Youth Room. The adult classes are studying the following: Disciples Class - Judges; New Horizon's Class - Hebrews; Open Door Class - Colossians. You are welcome each Sunday at 9:00 AM.



*Thank You!*

Thank you for all the cards and well-wishes for my 94th birthday!  
- Louise Bridwell



# 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](mailto:firstchristian@nwcable.net)

Web page: [www.fccparis.org](http://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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U.S. POSTAGE

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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!***

**October 8: 8:00 - 56 10:00 - 85 Nursery - 4**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 145**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 4, 2nd-5th - 3, Jr & Sr High - 2, New Disciples - 9, Open Door - 22, New Horizons - 8**

**TOTAL SS = 48**

### SERVING SCHEDULE: October 15, 2017

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

DEACONESS: Cathy Clawson

PIANIST: Evie Gill

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Marge Houghland

West: Ken & Mary Helen Hamilton

ACOLYTES: Kyle Tapscott & Jasmine Littlejohn

WORSHIP LEADER: Tammy Terry

BREAD ELDER: Kim Woods

DEACONESS: Megan Mathis

DEACONS: Team #2, Autumn Kasey, Captain; Barb Free,

Candi Milam, Dwight & Cindy Robinson, Cody Vaughn,

JK Vilks, Kevin Woods

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Montana Boatman, Greg

Johnson, Jaydin Seeley, Brooklyn Ward, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Susan King

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Claire Young

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Erica Garver

OCT. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Pat Hittle

OCT USHERS: Ken Dennison, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:25-34

SERMON: The Questions Of Jesus: "Which of You By Being Anxious Can Add One Hour To His Life?"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

THIRD SUN. COMMUNION: Dennis Thiel

### OFFERING TOTALS

**October 8, 2017**

General Fund \$4,530.25

Sunday School 24.00

Emergency Fund 20.00

Food Pantry 75.00

Community Outreach 25.00

Staff Search 350.00

Head, Hands, Heart 100.00

Lunch On the Lawn 10.00

Disciples Outreach-Missions 209.00

Wk./Comp: Hurricanes 100.00

Reconciliation Offering 175.00

Memorial Fund 100.00

Scholarship Fund 30.00

Building Fund 255.00

**TOTAL \$6,003.25**

