

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

October 18, 2017

## DONE / NOT DONE

For weeks we had no rain. We enjoyed the ease and convenience of it, but fretted about it “forgetting how to rain.”

The result was that yards quit growing and the ground developed cracks. Flowers wilted and looked almost dead.

I thought I was done, at least with the mowing.

Then the rain came back. It “remembered” how and we got some of what we needed. (Not like Houston, fortunately.) And one day we looked out and saw green; last weekend I noticed the grass was growing; and then I saw flowers blooming.

So I had to get out the mower again and go to work. I guess I was not done.

Of course that’s the way it is in life, including our spiritual lives. Just because you are baptized doesn’t mean you’re done. Just because you invited someone doesn’t mean you’re done. Just because you gave some money, attended a class, completed a term, helped with God’s Gang, come to worship doesn’t mean you are done. That particular may be done, but you are not done.

And even if you feel dried out and dead, God’s Spirit can rain on your soul and you’ll know you are still not done.

*MCD*



## SUMMIT 2017

Summit 2017 for Jr. & Sr. High students will be Friday to Sunday, November 17-19, at Lake Williamson in Carlinville, IL. Cost is \$90 for FCC members. The plan is to leave late afternoon Friday and return early afternoon Sunday. Registration forms are available in the hallway and due with payment in the office by NOON THIS FRIDAY, October 20 - sorry, no exceptions!

## “SOCK-IT-TO-ME”

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.



## TRIP TO “THE ARK”

Those who have signed up for the “Ark Encounter” to Kentucky will be leaving at 6:30 AM next Monday, October 23. Meet at the church to ride the bus. Payments are now being accepted in the church office: \$25 Seniors, \$30 adults, \$10 children. We were thinking we could offer a second trip to “The Ark” on Friday, November 17, but that won’t work - the bus is needed to go to the SUMMIT youth event that day! Sorry. We are now trying to figure out a new alternative; any suggestions from those interested are welcome. Stay tuned....



Hospitalized:

Bill Clawson, Indy  
Howard Yeargin, Union

Home from the Hospital: Sam Preston  
Rick Ward  
Karen Moore



-- Staff Relations Committee for meeting with our employed staff last week;

-- Ellen Webb & the kitchen crew, servers, table hosts & contributors for our LOL with Bridges;

-- Bridges staff for the worship flowers;

-- Evie Gill for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- Susan King for the Children's Sermon;

-- Candi & Sammy Milam for substituting in the Nursery.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Jesus is life -  
the rest is details.

**OCTOBER PRAYER**

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

**REFORMATION SUNDAY**

This is the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, and we want to use the occasion to highlight some of our early history and beliefs. I will explain some next week, and on October 29 we will recognize it in worship. Please join us!

**FAITH IN ACTION**

Faith in Action is having a spaghetti supper and auction this 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 the Brick House in Charleston on Sunday, November 5. The buffet is \$12.99 plus tax & tip. Sign-up to let us know the number attending. The bus will be available while seats are open or you can drive/carpool.



**FCC T-SHIRTS**

Thank you to all those who have placed orders for the FCC t-shirts. We have turned in the initial order and will be turning in the next order soon. We will let you know when the shirts come in when we hear back! Meanwhile, there are a few shirts that can be purchased "off the rack." Check them out in the hallway. Cost is \$10.

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

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

**YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH**

Please continue to pray as we continue to interview candidates.

**BIBLE STUDY**

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



**WEEK OF COMPASSION**

FYI - our church's Week of Compassion has recently sent over \$100,000 to the Caribbean, ie. Puerto Rico, and over \$300,000 to Texas, Florida, and areas in between for hurricane relief/recovery. Thanks for your offerings to make it happen.

**NOMINATIONS for 2018**

We are still contacting individuals by mail to serve in 2018. If you receive a letter, please pray about it saying "yes".

**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 Hennes, 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**

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

*All Women are invited to any Circle!*

### **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

We are grateful for the new Circle of Prayer which has begun its life. We invite women to consider attending for the fellowship, devotion, support and prayer. We will also be asking for prayer concerns to lift up to God. You can be involved in this.

### **PLEASANT MEADOWS**

On October 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**

Thank you for your help this month. Our next date to serve is November 20

### **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, this Saturday, October 21, at 8:00 AM in the church kitchen. Joel Gleckler will be the cook - please sign-up!

### **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.

### **ALUMINUM CANS**

Bring in your aluminum cans on Sunday, October 29. Proceeds from recycling go to fund our Monthly Inspiring Children's Events = MICE! Donations are appreciated and can be dropped off in the basement boiler room.

### **YOUTH GROUP: Jr. / Sr. High**

This week the youth will be going on a hayride at Chittick's farm. 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 "Rainbows."

### **MICE: 2nd-5th Grade**

Our MICE group will kick-off their fall events this 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 to everyone who helped in any way with the "LOL" for the high school and Bridges. From the prayers, to the donations, to the help, all is greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful ministry and with everyone's help it will be able to continue for many years to come. Thanks again.

- Ellen Webb

### **LOL - BRIDGES**

We thanked you for your support of the Bridges School, and they have thanked you as well. We received the hand shakes; we read the comments; we saw the flowers. It is meaningful and God may use our simple lunch and friendliness to make a difference. Thank you.



# THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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

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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!**

**Oct. 15: 8:00 - 52 10:00 - 109 Nursery - 6**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 161**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 4, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 11, Open Door - 22, New Horizons - 13**

**TOTAL SS = 52**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**October 15, 2017**

General Fund	\$4,210.25
Sunday School	24.00
Food Pantry	50.00
God's Gang	50.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
Lunch On the Lawn	50.00
Disciples Outreach-Missions	173.50
Permanent Fund	12.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
Building Fund	361.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,011.25</b>

### SERVING SCHEDULE: October 22, 2017

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Dick James  
DEACONESS: Jenneane McDaniel  
PIANIST: Pete Templeton

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Carolyn Lanker

West: JC & Mary Alice Foley

ACOLYTES: Will & Drew Templeton

WORSHIP LEADER: Chris Milam

BREAD ELDER: John Chittick

DEACONESS: Karla Pierson

DEACONS: Team #3, Sue Bennett, Captain; Jim Bellerud, Jim Bennett, Cory Craig, Dena Dosch, Doug Smittkamp, Angel Templeton, AJ Waltz

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Mike Kirk, Lainey Ogle, Macy Richards, Aubrey Sanders

CHILDREN'S SERMON: John Chittick

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Brooklyn Ward

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Nancy Englebright

OCT. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Pat Hittle

OCT USHERS: Ken Dennison, Dean Smittkamp, Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: John Chittick

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-20

SERMON: The Questions Of Jesus: "Who Do You Say That I Am?" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

