

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

October 25, 2017

## REFORMATION

I'm not an expert, and I approach this with some hesitancy, because I know that I don't know all that I should know.

But we all need to know that 500 years ago a Reformation began, grew, exploded that eventually led to our existence as a Protestant church today.

In the centuries after Christ, there was only one church in the western world - the Roman Catholic Church. As has happened before and since, things got off-track; there were abuses and misuses of church power.

After 1500, there was a young monk named, Martin Luther, in Germany. He was studying the Scriptures to understand God, especially to find an answer to the issue of sin. He tried to pay for his own sin by working hard, living right, denying self, but it brought no peace. Then he read in Romans, "The just shall live by faith," and God showed him that His grace is what sets us free, provides our salvation, and brings us peace. Church leaders were not teaching that, but were promoting other practices, ie, selling indulgences. To start discussion - not as a rebellion - Martin Luther wrote out "95 Theses" - statements, not demands - and nailed/tacked them to the door - which was commonly used as a bulletin board - of the church. It not only started discussion, it started a flame that spread into more than a reform movement; it led to rebellion and upheavals and eventually a new church and churches.

On Sunday we'll share some of the biblical basis of the Protestant Reformation and the challenge to keep reforming the Church 500 years later.

*MCD*



## REFORMATION SUNDAY

This Sunday, October 29, we will recognize the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation during worship. We will use the occasion to highlight some of our early history and beliefs. Please join us!

### *“Thank You” Cards*

Thank You cards are available at the entryways for you to give to those who serve: wait-staff, clerks, mail carriers, etc. who deserve an encouraging “thank you” to make their day and give you a tangible way to say you noticed their good work.



“SOCK-IT-TO-ME”

Thank you for the new socks for boys and girls of pre-school age who go to Head Start here in Paris. There is room for more in the large white sock containers hung in the sanctuary. These socks will be delivered to Head Start after the 5th of November and distributed to the children.



We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of member, Margaret Phillips, in her passing. We shared services on Wednesday.

Hospitalized: Shirley Yeargin, Union

Home from the Hospital: Bill Clawson  
Sam Preston  
Howard Yeargin



- Peg Dixon for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- John Chittick & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;
- "The Joyful Ringers" for their anthem;
- All who received and are handing out FCC Thank You cards in the community;
- Tony Peel for driving and Peg Dixon for hosting the bus trip to The Ark in Kentucky;
- Marge Houghland for the program at Golden Age.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

When all is said and done,  
which did you?

**OCTOBER PRAYER**

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

**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.

**CHRISTMAS AROUND THE SQUARE**

Christmas Around the Square will be on Saturday, November 25. We'll have sign-ups available for food items and to help work.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- ★ Stewardship/Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 7, at 6:00 PM.
- ★ Elders will meet on Thursday, November 9, at 5:00 PM.
- ★ Board will meet on Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00 PM.
- ★ Congregational Meetings will take place on Sunday, November 19, following each service.



**FCC T-SHIRTS**

You still have time to turn in a t-shirt order. We will be sending it in soon. There are also a few left on the coat rack that can be purchased: 2 purple, szs. L & 2X; 2 green, szs. M & XL; 1 gray, sz. 2X; 1 pink, sz. L; and 1 yellow, sz. M. Cost is \$10 each, turn in a form whether you are ordering or purchasing "off the rack".

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

If you love to sing, the Chancel Choir invites you to join them each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

**YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH**

Thanks for your prayers! The Search Committee has interviewed two potential youth ministers recently, and called one to offer the job. We are awaiting his response. If "yes", we are calling for a special Board meeting and Congregational meeting this Sunday at 11:15 AM to vote on the call. (The same information will be shared after the 8:00 service.)

**BIBLE STUDY**

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

**NOMINATIONS for 2018**

Thank you to those who have said "yes" to their nomination for serving in 2018. We have just a few more to do to be complete.

**BUS DRIVERS**

We are using the church bus more and more, and it's been good for us. As we continue to grow and develop, we may need some additional drivers - which only requires an endorsement on your current license. Please pray and think about this service opportunity.

## 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 are \$5 each and are available from Janean Gilliland, Marge Houghland, Rev. Mike and in the church office. This will be the last Sunday before the event, so....



## HEAD, HANDS, HEART

It's time for our coat give-away project called "Head, Hands, Heart." Donations of children's coats from K-12 grades are welcome (please, no adult coats this year). We would also ask for volunteers to help distribute coats on the following days: Thursday, November 9 from 3:00-5:30 PM, Friday, November 10 also from 3:00-5:30 PM, and Saturday, November 11 from 10:00 AM-12:00 NN.

## REPORT FROM "THE ARK"

We sent a bus full down to the "Ark Encounter" and upon their return we have heard many good comments. From the learnings and the experience of the Bible's story, to the trip and the meals and the company, it was beneficial, appreciated, worthwhile - and recommended. A special thank you for the memorial monies set aside in our new Trip Fund to help subsidize such church trips.

## TIME CHANGE

Don't forget the "fall back" time change on Saturday, November 4!

## ALUMINUM CANS

Bring in your aluminum cans this 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

Youth Group is 6:00 PM every Wednesday. All junior high and high school students welcome!

➔ SUMMIT forms have been sent in for all who registered last Friday. We have 2 sponsors and 9 youth going. Please be praying for their experience this coming Nov. 17-19!

## 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 "Balloons."

## MICE OUTING

If you missed MICE last week - Don't Worry! - it was postponed to this Sunday, Oct. 29 - still at 1:00 PM. Meet at the church to take the bus to Southfork Homestead Farm. We will return about 4:00 PM.

## 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.

## SECOND TRIP TO "THE ARK"

We are considering a second outing to the "Ark Encounter" on Monday, Nov. 27 if we have a driver & at least 10 to go. If interested, sign-up!

## 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.



# 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!***

**October 22: 8:00 - 55 10:00 - 86 Nursery - 6  
TOTAL WORSHIP = 147**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 4, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 0, Open Door - 20, New Horizons - 0**

**TOTAL SS = 26**

### OFFERING TOTALS

	<b>October 22, 2017</b>
General Fund + E.G.*	\$4,591.25*
Sunday School	20.00
Food Pantry	40.00
Emergency Fund	20.00
Reimbursement	18.35
Organ Fund	50.00
Bell Choir	50.00
Disciples Outreach-Missions + E.G.*	375.00*
Week of Compassion + E.G.*	90.00*
Permanent Fund	40.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
Building Fund + E.G.*	535.00*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,859.60*</b>

### SERVING SCHEDULE: October 29, 2017

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Dennis Thiel  
DEACONESS: Amber Tegeler  
PIANIST: Faye Eitel

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Dorothy Farnham

West: James Brooks

ACOLYTES: Macie Thomas, Taylor Shewey

WORSHIP LEADER: Steve Webb

BREAD ELDER: Pete Templeton

DEACONESS: Carolyn Ray

DEACONS: Team #1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain; Rita Haupt, Mark Johnson, Greg Kelly, Doc & Donna Moody, Jacob Thomas, Margo Yeargin

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Montana Boatman, Greg Johnson, Jaydin Seeley, Brooklyn Ward, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Dan Smittkamp

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Cindy Robinson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jane Smittkamp

OCT. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Pat Hittle

OCT USHERS: Ken Dennison, Dean Smittkamp, Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Chris Milam

PROJECTION: Brooklyn Ward

SCRIPTURE: Luke 6:46-49

SERMON: The Questions Of Jesus: "Why Do You Call Me 'Lord, Lord' And Not Do What I Tell You?"  
by Rev. Michael C. Dixon



**Martin Luther**

**"95 Theses"**

