

# THE MESSENGER

“CHOOSE LIFE AND LOVE GOD”

November 15, 2017

## THANKSGIVING LIST

I was challenged to get specific about Thanksgiving by making a list, ie, the for each day of a month. Such an effort is fraught with danger, but - her's my attempt at giving thanks for:

- God and His grace
- My wife who adds and overlooks so much in my life
- Laughter and joy
- Memories
- Our daughters who are what I dreamed of
- Our son-in-laws who are what we prayed for
- Our grandchildren who are more than I could hope for
- M&M's
- Louis L'Amour books
- College & Seminary
- Church Camps
- Baseball, both real and fantasy and imagined
- Flower bulbs !\*?#!
- Parents who have loved no-matter-what
- Holy Spirit and His work
- Friend who is always a friend
- Friend who gives more than I expect
- Ministry in Ada, OH and Pittsfield, IL
- Ongoing Ministry in FCC, Paris, IL
- Vacations
- People who seek out my help
- People who offer their help/say "yes"
- Our house that is home
- CCIW & other ministries that remind me it is also beyond us
- Chocolate chip cookies
- Mysteries to read and share
- The opportunity to try old things in new ways
- People who help make things happen
- Jesus Christ and what He did for me - and you.

(And if the month has an extra day, it would be whatever or whoever I missed.)

Can you get specific - giving thanks for 30 blessings to God?!

*MCD*

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### *Thanksgiving Offering*

This Sunday we will present the Minute for Mission for our Thanksgiving Offering. This offering goes to benefit Disciples' colleges and universities who teach and encourage workers for ministry. This year's offering goal is \$1,350.

### **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**

This Sunday, November 19, will be Thanksgiving worship, with our 2017 FCC blessings list. Come join us as we thank God for all His wonderful blessings.

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS**

Congregational Meetings will take place this Sunday, November 19, following each service. The purpose is to vote on the nominations, budget and appointments for 2018. Please stay after to vote.

### *COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE*

The Community Thanksgiving Service will also be held this Sunday, November 19, at 2:30 PM at the Lake Ridge Christian Church. All are invited and welcome.

### **ADVENT CHOIR REHEARSALS**

The Community Advent Choir rehearsals will be: Thursday, Nov. 16; Monday, Nov. 27; Thursday, Nov. 30 - all at 7:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church. The Advent Choir Service will be Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3:00 PM.



Thank you to all our veterans who served!

Home from the Hospital:  
Heather Berlin

Welcome back to David & Barbara Dick from the Holy Land!



-- Karla Pierson, Cathy Melendez & crew of volunteers who made our "Head, Hands, Heart" project happen;

- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- Dan Lynch & Rick Kennedy for helping sing, "Bring Back My Money To Me" on Sunday;
- Kim Woods for the Children's Sermon;
- All those who agreed to write Advent devotions (enough to meet the need);
- Monty Raley for the devotion at Board meeting.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Our best attitude  
Is gratitude.

**OCTOBER PRAYER**

"Dear God, Confessing Your Word out loud will have a profound positive effect on our lives. Please encourage us. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

**CHRISTMAS AROUND THE SQUARE**

We will be having a S'more's booth at the Chamber of Commerce this year during the Christmas Around the Square. It will be on Saturday, November 25 from 4:00-7:00 PM. Please sign-up to provide marshmallows, chocolate or graham crackers and/or volunteer to help out at our "booth". Thank you!

**TRIP TO "THE ARK"**

We may not make it on November 27, not because of weather, but not enough to go. So if it works for you, sign-up or call in - otherwise, we'll have to postpone it.

**PAPERS TO TEXAS**

Thanks to all who signed and wrote messages to the church in Texas. You may still do so this week.

**YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH**

No, we do not have one, nor do we have any immediate candidates. This is the time for us to pray and wait on God. Keep the faith and continue to pray.



**"SPLINTERS" FROM THE BOARD**

At the November meeting of the Executive Board:

- gathered around the worship setting of scripture and words to remind us to give thanks "to" God "for" His love and blessings;
- prayed for one person in church and one in our lives;
- agreed to support the Paris Police Dept. with support for their "shooter" training;
- noted that our youth will be attending the SUMMIT '17 event this weekend;
- approved the proposed budget for 2018;
- heard that the roofing project will be completed hopefully next week;
- learned of new carpeting and more in the sanctuary to be in Jan/Feb;
- was told of upcoming floor repair in the Fellowship Hall, as well as a TV to be mounted there;
- knows that a new carillon is ordered and will be installed as soon as possible;
- was reminded of our Salvation Army bell-ringing on Dec. 2;
- heard that the Disciples Men made a donation to the PMF for assistance work;
- planned for the congregational business meetings on Sunday;
- voted to approve the list of nominations for the future;
- thanked Ron Stickler for his work as Chair!

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL**

Thank you to all those who signed up last Sunday to do an Advent Devotion. All the needed days were filled (& maybe a few extra? I don't know where those will go?) Thank you, again and remember to turn them in as soon as possible, no later than Wednesday, Nov. 22.

**PLAN OF GIVING FORMS**

You received it on Sunday and in the mail. Please turn it in, bring it in, or send it in to the office. Thanks!

**VOLUNTEER FORMS**

The 2018 volunteer forms are available for you to complete and indicate the ministries in which you would like to be involved.



### **CIRCLES IN NOVEMBER**

**KOINONIA CIRCLE:** meets Thursday, Nov. 16, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen, hostess is Peg Dixon and the lesson will be led by Coralie Smittkamp.

**FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE:** meets Tues., Nov. 21, at 1:30 PM at the home of Shirley Yeargin as hostess. The lesson will be by Janean Gilliland.

### **COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

Our next Community Kitchen date is Monday, November 20. Volunteers are needed & wanted!

### **FCC T-SHIRTS**

Our first order of t-shirts has been finished and will be ready for pick-up this week. The second order will also go in this week and we'll let you know when they are ready.

### **GOLDEN AGE**

Out Thanksgiving/Christmas Golden Age will be on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 12:00 NN. Sign-up for the luncheon. David & Barbara Dick will be speaking on the Holy Lands.

### **SALVATION ARMY BELL-RINGING**

The FCC Salvation Army Bell-Ringing time will be on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Walmart, sponsored by the Disciples Men. We've had some cancellations, so we need new volunteers! Sign-up for an hour time slot in the hallway.

### **"THANK YOU" CARDS**

This would be a perfect time to give out the Thank You cards. Pick up some at the entryways.

### **"SOCK-IT-TO-ME" REPORT**

We received and donated to Head Start 225 pairs of socks! Thank you to all who helped!

### **HEAD, HANDS, HEART REPORT**

A big THANK YOU to all who helped make this year's H,H,H a great success! We gave 189 children and a few adults new or almost new coats, along with 174 other winter items (hats/gloves/scarves). Thanks to Rev. Mike, Cheryl, and the Community Outreach Committee for their work, and all who saved coats for this ongoing project. Let us know of coats on sale!

Karla Pierson & Cathy Melendez, Co-Chairs



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

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

➔ We have a total of 11 youth and sponsors leaving for SUMMIT this Friday and will be gone through Sunday. Please be praying for their experience and safe travels.

### **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 "Laughing/Being Silly."

### **MICE**

For the November MICE event, we will be going to "Red's Fun Zone". We'll meet there on Sunday, Nov. 26, at 2:00 PM. Pick up will be at 3:30 PM.

\* \* \*

Aluminum cans may be brought in on the last Sunday of the month, November 26.

### **CHILDREN'S BELL-RINGING**

On Wednesday, December 13 - the week after God's Gang ends, our FCC kids are invited to ring Salvation Army bells with Rev. Mike at 3:30, 4:00, 4:30 PM at Walmart. Sign-up!

### **CAROLING**

On December 13, the children are invited to go caroling at 5:00 PM. The youth will go later at 6:00 PM. Meet at the church. Adults welcome!

### **NURSERY - 1st GRADE**

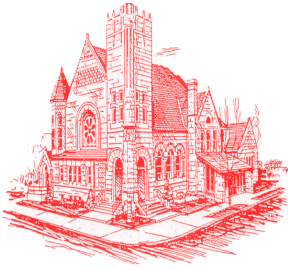
During the 10:00 service each Sunday morning, we offer a Nursery for babies and infants as well as Children's Church for kids ages 3,4,5 up to first grade.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School Classes are at 9:00 AM and attendance has been good - keep it up - you are always welcome!

### **DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The Disciple's Men will meet for breakfast this Saturday, Nov. 18, at 8:00 AM in the church kitchen with Rev. Mike cooking. Sign-up.



# 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

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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!***

**Nov. 12: 8:00 - 52 10:00 - 101 Nursery - 3**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 156**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 5, 2nd-5th - 3, Jr & Sr High - 4, New Disciples - 12, Open Door - 18, New Horizons - 11**

**TOTAL SS = 53**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**November 12, 2017**

General Fund	\$4,096.76
Sunday School	8.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Emergency Fund	50.00
God's Gang	50.00
MICE	10.20
SUMMIT Registration	45.00
Head, Hands, Heart	50.00
Bell Choir	50.00
Disciples Outreach-Missions	110.00
Thanksgiving Offering	25.00
Memorial Fund	295.00
Permanent Fund	1,500.00
Building Fund	380.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,719.96</b>

### SERVING SCHEDULE: November 19, 2017

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Dick James

DEACONESS: Jenneane Gilliland

PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Cory, Denise, Ava Huddleson, Parker, Cecilee Craig

West: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

ACOLYTES: Myli Tapscott & Christopher Gann

WORSHIP LEADER: John Chittick

BREAD ELDER: Steve Webb

DEACONESS: Mary Griffin

DEACONS: Team #1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain; Mark

Johnson, Greg Kelly, Doc & Donna Moody, Jacob

Thomas, Margo Yeargin

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

Richards, Aubrey Sanders

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Ren. Mike Dixon

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Candi Milam

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jenelle Adams

NOV. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Dwight & Cindy Robinson

NOV. USHERS: Randy Creech, Jerry Thomas, Dan Thomey

SOUND SYSTEM & PROJECTION: Joe & Evie Gill

SCRIPTURE: Luke 17:11-19

SERMON: The Questions Of Jesus: "Was No One Found

To Return And Praise God?" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

THIRD SUN. COMMUNION: Steve Webb

# Advent

## **FCC ADVENT CELEBRATION**

On Sunday, December 23, we will have our "Hanging of the Greens" program with the God's Gang kids and choir. NOTE: the youth leaders will be unable to do the Soup Supper that night (at 5:00 PM) so, could anyone else? Let us know.