

# THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

January 31, 2018

## OVERWHELMED!

How awful to have nothing to do. That's one of my fears for the future - sitting around with nothing to do. (Although right now, it sounds like a dream come true.) Because I'm far from nothing-to-do. I'm in too-much-to-do! In fact, I'm

Overwhelmed!

Right now it's the final Youth Sunday prep. With the new year and theme, new leaders and plans, new staff and ideas, I feel pulled in multiple directions. With a new Bible Study and new Sunday School lessons, I see extra preparations. Facing Lent, there's our Prayer Program, sermon series, and all that coordinates. And I need to set up Pastor's Class, a new Video Study, and more. Then there's the Dr. appointment, my Dad's birthday celebration, things at home and Aaargh! I'm

Overwhelmed!

You know the feeling, because you've "been there, had things to do, felt that pressure". You may have woken up at night with your mind whirling and worrying about all the work you have facing you!?! So what do you do when you have all that to do and feel

Overwhelmed?

I'm not the best at it, but I try to

- Pray, acknowledging my feelings/need to God and inviting Him to help,
- Make a list, so I know what's what,
- Tackle one thing at a time, hopefully the most urgent,
- Work on a thing/project, ie., notes rough draft, then move on, letting that preparation grow in the background until needed,
- Pray, for perspective on issues/decisions that are still cloudy,
- Take a break, for renewal.

Whatever you do, I hope it leads you from

Overwhelmed to Over.

*MCD*

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## TRIP TO "PASSION PLAY"

Yes, we are going to the "Passion Play" in Bloomington, IL on Saturday, March 17. However TODAY - Jan. 31 - is the very last day you can sign up or you won't be able to go. We have to return for refund (or order more tickets as needed) by today - their deadline, not ours. CALL IN TODAY to either ride the FCC bus (which will include the buffet lunch beforehand - cost \$40) or, sign up to drive on your own (cost \$25 ticket and either the buffet at \$15, or your own arrangements).

## Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday will be February 4 with one-combined service at 10:00 AM. We will have Sunday School at 9:00 AM, but no 8:00 AM service. Senior speakers this year are Montana Boatman and Kyle Daugherty. Music will be provided by "Frantic Utopia" with approximately 30 youth involved. There will also be a special presentation during the service, so come join us for this special worship and support our youth! \*REHEARSAL is Saturday at 1:00 PM\*

## soup Luncheon

The Circle of Light "Soup Luncheon" will be this Sunday, February 4, following the second service at 11:30 AM. There will be at least 10 different kinds of soups to choose from. Free-will donations will go to fund Circle of Light ministry projects throughout the year. All are invited and welcome.



Hospitalized: Nancy Weger

She will be having knee surgery tomorrow, February 1. Cards and calls will be welcomed at home: 109 S. Williamsburg Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704 or hospital: St. Joseph's Hospital, 2200 Washington St., Bloomington, IL 61704. Call: (217) 712-9614.

Home from Hospital: Tom King  
Karen Moore

Our sympathies go to the family & friends of Gene Pittman, in his passing. We are currently awaiting arrangements.

Because some have asked, Rev. Mike's dad, Cecil, will be 90 on Feb. 7. Cards/notes/jokes may go to: 330 Floyd St., Elkhart, IN 46514.



-- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniment;  
-- Nels Kasey & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Marge Houghland & Dana Stites for the invitations to Lunch - Soup!;  
-- Carla Keltz for the new Church Life Banner;  
-- Trustees for all the sanctuary preparations this week.

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**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**  
Wisdom - having a lot to say,  
and not saying it.  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
**FEBRUARY PRAYER**  
"Heavenly Father, as many of us will be giving and receiving flowers of affection this month, let us not forget the flower Jesus gave to us when he ROSE from the grave as our Savior. Amen.  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
You are welcome to Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM.

**BLANKET SUNDAY OFFERING**  
Thank you for your gifts toward the Blanket Sunday Offering. A total of \$1,062 was given which means over 100 blankets provided to those in need!

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year. We will have our service at 6:00 PM. Come join us for this special service that begins our season of Lent through Easter.

**"WELCOME TO THE FAMILY"**

We are pleased to welcome Debbie McGilvrey into the Christian faith and our FCC family as she came forward Sunday to confess her faith & was baptized. So, "Welcome To The Family!"

**"GEOGRAPHY OF GRACE" EVENT**

Our regional CCIW is offering an event for personal spiritual renewal - and you are invited. The "Geography of Grace" event will be Saturday, Feb. 24, in Illiopolis. If you are interested, pick up a description on the sign-up desk and see Rev. Dixon.

**PAYPAL**

We are grateful for all the donations to FCC, including those by electronic means - PayPal. The Board wants all to know there is a fee of almost 3% for each donation made this way. Each can decide if the convenience is worth the extra cost. Thank you.

**VALENTINE BOXES**

We were recently given a large quantity of boxed Valentines, suitable for children's giving to friends and classes. So families, pick up a box for your kids to use. There are various boxes at the doors. Thanks for the donation.

**INVITATION CARDS**

Invitation cards are out and available. Look for them and hand them out.

**TALENT-VARIETY SHOW**

FCC Talent-Variety Show is coming up Sunday evening, February 25. There will be a supper served at 5:00 PM, with the show following at 6:00 PM. We need you to sign-up sheet your act, song, talent!

**DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST**

All men are always welcome to the Disciple Men's Breakfast held the third Saturday of the month; February 20, at 8:00 AM. Plan on it!

**BUILDING UPDATE / VOLUNTEERS**

To keep you in the know: 1) the flooring in the Fellowship Hall is to be repaired only where needed during the first-half of next week, so we'll stay out and off of it; 2) this Sunday afternoon we'll empty the sanctuary, so we need several strong volunteers to help move furniture, pews, old carpeting; 3) new carpeting is to be installed starting Monday, we'll move the pews as needed; 4) all may not be ready in a week, so we are preparing to worship in the Fellowship Hall on the 11th. Plan to be part of it.

## FEBRUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: meets Tuesday, February 6 at 6:00 PM, at the church. Edna Creech is hostess. Dana Stites will give the lesson.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, February 15, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Hostesses are Sue Bennett and Audrey Stickler. The lesson will be given by Donna Moody.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, February 15, at 6:00 PM at the church. Hostesses are Megan Mathis and Tammy Terry. The lesson is also by Tammy Terry.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday of the month, February 20, at FCC, at 1:30 PM. Hostess is Patty Waters and the lesson is by Janean Gilliland.

## FCC RELAY FOR LIFE

Most of us have been touched in one way or another by cancer. The First Christian Church Relay For Life Team is forming for 2018. If you would be interested in joining, an organizational meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, at 7:00 PM at the church. If you can't make the meeting, but would like to be on the team, please call Tammy Terry or Coralie Smittkamp.

## COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The next Community Kitchen is Monday, February 19. Volunteers are needed for serving and for desserts.

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!

During Youth Sunday, February 4, the youth group will collect monies for the local Food Pantry following worship as part of the "Souper Bowl of Caring."

## 2017 SCRAPBOOK

The Scrapbook for 2017 is out in the hallway on the stand next to the elevator. Check out the highlights of church ministry from last year!

## *Thank You!*

A huge "Thank you!" to the Trustees for installing switches on the projection receivers (TVs) in the sanctuary! No more climbing the ladder before 8:00 service to turn them on and off when they are "acting up". I often thought of the song, "Stairway to Heaven" when I was doing this not-so-fun task... in this case, I like figuratively better than literally! ☺ Thanks, fellas, I truly appreciate it!! - J.C. Foley



Youth Group is Wednesday night, Jr. High 6-7 PM and Sr. High 6:30-8 PM. Invite your friends! Next week, Feb. 7, there are renovations being done downstairs, so we will leave the church together and go bowling! The church will buy the first game for everyone. Bring your own money for additional games, food, drinks, and arcade games.

\* \* \*

God's Gang/Crossroads God's Gang will officially start Wednesday, Feb. 14. Registration is open now, so sign-up! Forms are on the table in the hallway.

\* \* \*

SUMMER CAMP may seem far away, but it sneaks up fast - registration deadline for Camp Walter Scott is April 20 - early bird discount is March 16. FCC pays half for members, so check out these dates:

CYF (9-12) - June 10-16

Grandparents-n-Me (K-5/Adult) - July 8-11

Beginners (K-2) - July 11-14

Chi-Rho (6-8) - July 15-21

JYF (3-5) - July 22-28

\* \* \*

MICE went to Terre Haute to the Bouncy Barn last Sunday. It was a good time for all and well attended.

\* \* \*

YOUTH SUNDAY Youth Sunday is fast approaching! Feb. 4, one service, at 10:00 AM, come support our youth! We have Montana Boatman and Kyle Daugherty speaking on, "Things That Don't Last vs Things That Do Last." Other assignments are made and rehearsal for youth will be this Saturday, Feb. 3 at 1:00 PM. I would like to personally say that I love Youth Sunday, it is a wonderful opportunity for students to take a leadership role in the church and be able to put their faith into action!

\* \* \*

RIGHT NOW MEDIA PRESENTATION The meeting went very well and the members now have a better understanding of options and workings of RN Media. We will be talking to the Board before making anything official, so keep you ears to the ground!

\* \* \*

CHURCH VAN Just recently, I got my J02 License, which means I can drive the church van while it is full of students. While we have several people who also have their license and constantly help with van driving needs, we could use more who are equipped and ready to serve in this capacity. It is a very easy and painless permit to get. If you would like to serve in this area, contact Tony Peel or me.

## INSTALLATION SERVICE

The installation of Pastor John Snidle will be held during the services on Sunday, February 11, with Rev. Scott Woolridge of the Christian Church in Illinois Wisconsin as our guest.



# 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 ~ John Snidle, Youth & Family Minister

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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!**

**Jan. 28: 8:00 - 48 10:00 - 100 Nursery - 6**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 154**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 3, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 12, Open Door - 24, New Horizons - 13**

**TOTAL SS = 54**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**January 28, 2018**

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund                | \$3,769.27        |
| Envelopes                   | 3.00              |
| Sunday School               | 24.00             |
| God's Gang                  | 50.00             |
| Choices Pregnancy & Health  | 50.00             |
| Emergency Fund              | 20.00             |
| Food Pantry                 | 50.00             |
| MICE                        | 100.00            |
| Faith In Action             | 10.00             |
| Directory Postcards         | 113.00            |
| Youth Mid-Winter Retreat    | 40.00             |
| Head, Hands, Heart          | 100.00            |
| Youth Fund                  | 50.00             |
| Disciples Outreach-Missions | 314.00            |
| Blanket Sunday              | 273.00            |
| Building Fund               | 399.00            |
| Church Bus Fund             | 50.00             |
| Scholarship Fund            | 30.00             |
| Permanent Fund              | 12.00             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>\$5,457.27</b> |

### SERVING SCHEDULE: February 4, 2018

~ NO 8:00 AM SERVICE ~

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Youth / Doug & Cassie Boatman

West: Youth / Ken & Mary Helen Hamilton

ACOLYTES: Youth

WHY WE HAVE YOUTH SUN: Katt Waltz

THANKS FOR YOUTH SUN: Ava Huddleson

COMMUNION: Aubrey Sanders

OFFERING: Macy Richards

DEACONESS: Carolyn Ray

DEACONS: Youth

JR DEACONS: Youth

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Jaydin Seeley

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Ava Huddleson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Erica Garver

FEB. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King

FEB. USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM & PROJECTION: Joe & Evie Gill

SERMON: "Things That Don't Last vs Things That Do Last"

by Montana Boatman & Kyle Daugherty



### LENTEN PRAYER PROGRAM

We plan to have our Lenten Prayer packets ready by February 11 for our Lenten Prayer program. Everyone is invited to take a packet and pray for those members whose names are inside throughout the season of Lent.