

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

February 14, 2018

HANDS AND MINDS

Sometimes things are together and two unrelated experiences combine in a reinforcement of truth.

During our worship “on ice” Sunday, Rev. Scott Woolridge spoke from Philippians 4:8, about thinking God’s best. It was very good, and I’m sorry more of you didn’t get to heart it. It stuck with me, because...

On Tuesday I went into the bathroom to wash my hands, using the liquid soap dispenser (I’ve told about it before) that reads, “Our family has... grateful hands, friendly hands, clean hands...”

Suddenly I saw it anew, in light of the message about what we think. So I give you my paraphrase for us:

“Our FCC Family Has:

Grateful Thoughts
Friendly Thoughts
Clean Thoughts
Willing Thoughts
Caring Thoughts
Praying Thoughts
Strong Thoughts
Helping Thoughts
Loving Thoughts
Giving Thoughts
Joyful Thoughts

We’re not completely there yet, neither as congregation, nor individuals. And while we may be better than some, that comparison is not the issue, for the standard is God’s expectation - comparing us to Him.

So check your thinking. Is it selfish - or Godly? Is it sinful - or Godly? Is it sad - or Godly?

I hope and pray that our hands are all those descriptions, and our minds and thoughts.

MCD

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Ash Wednesday is this evening at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary. We will include the invisible cross on the forehead as we introduce the theme of the Lenten season. Come join us.

LENTEN PRAYER PROGRAM

The Lenten Prayer packets are out and available for you to pick up. They contain a devotional, prayer, names of members to pray for and instructions. Extra children’s names are also available. We started with 80 packets and need all of them taken. If you have any questions, let us know.



LENTEN WORSHIP



Our Lenten Worship will feature the traditions as well as include the theme of light. Oil lamps are requested for decorating the sanctuary for this season. Please empty out any oil, label them so we know who it belongs to, and bring them to the office. Thank you!



Hospitalized: Pat Stark, Florida
 (Cards/notes would be appreciated,
 sent to: 4601 NW 53rd Ave., #149,
 Gainesville, FL 32635)

Home from Hospital: Jennifer Daugherty
 Karen Moore
 Nate Behrens



-- Trustees and volunteers for all the
 work moving pews/furniture to get
 the sanctuary ready!

-- Those who spread the ice melt on
 Sunday morning!

- Pat Hittle & Donna Garver & Andy who helped
 get our Prayer Paks ready;
- Evie Gill for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- John Chittick & Dan Lynch for their help with
 the installation;
- Barbara & David Dick and JC Foley &
 committee for the "cinnamon roll reception";
- Cathy Melendez & Rev. Mike for the Children's
 Sermons;
- Monty & Peg Raley for the anniversary flowers.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST



STOP Sinning -
 YEILD to Christ -
 DO NOT go to Hell!

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

The new study is on the New Testament book of
 Galatians. You are invited to join us on Tuesdays
 at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room at FCC.

TRIP TO "PASSION PLAY"

We have 5 tickets available for the "Passion
 Play" in Bloomington, IL on Saturday, March 17.
 Sign-up in the hallway to reserve your ticket.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the cards, letters, phone calls. I
 appreciate my church family very much. I'm on
 the mend & as soon as I can get back down home
 will be seeing everybody. - Love, Nancy Weger

LENTEN VIDEO SERIES

Beginning February 19 and going through March
 26, we will be offering a video series entitled,
 "Made For A Miracle". We will meet each
 Monday at 6:00 PM. Sign-up your participation
 and come share the experience.

DEVOTIONALS

We have the new edition of "The Secret Place"
 devotional and they will be available on Sunday.

INVITATION CARDS

We will have new invitation cards printed soon
 for you to share with others during Lent to
 Easter. It's a great time to invite!

TALENT-VARIETY SHOW

FCC Talent-Variety Show is Sunday evening,
 February 25, at 6:00 PM. The free supper of
 pulled pork will be served beforehand at
 5:00 PM. Sign-up your act please!

NEW CARPET

The new carpet in the sanctuary is currently
 being installed and looks beautiful. We want
 to keep it that way as long as possible, so
 we are asking that no food or drink be brought
 into the sanctuary. If communion (or other) is
 accidentally spilled on the carpet, we are asking
 that you please absorb it with a tissue or paper
 towel, let someone know and then leave a clean
 tissue or paper towel over the spot to mark it for
 the custodians to clean. Thank you. - Trustees

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ◆ Trustees: Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:00 PM
- ◆ Evangelism Comm: Sun., Feb. 25, 11:30 AM
- ◆ Elders: Thursday, Mar. 8, 5:00 PM

WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

We will introduce our Week of Compassion
 Offering this Sunday with a Minute for Mission.
 This offering goes to help those in emergency
 situations such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods
 and other natural disasters.

BUILDING UPDATE

The new carpeting in the sanctuary and entry
 and Prayer Room will be finished this week -
 and hopefully we get everything moved back.
 There have been questions about going on with
 the hallway, etc. The Trustees are checking into
 proceeding. If you would like to help, donations
 are welcome to the Building Fund.

FEBRUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

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, Feb. 20, at FCC, at 1:30 PM. Hostess is Janean Gilliland and the lesson is by Patty Waters.

FCC RELAY FOR LIFE

The theme for this year's Relay For Life is, "May the Cure Be With You - Fight Like a Jedi". If you have any Star Wars memorabilia and wouldn't mind if we borrowed it, please let Coralie Smittkamp or Tammy Terry know, ie., posters, costumes, props, etc. Thank you for your support!

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are welcome to join the Disciple Men's Breakfast at 8:00 AM this Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Paris Family Restaurant.



DISCIPLE MEN'S HAM LOAVES

Enclosed is an order form for the Disciple Men's Ham Loaves. They are offering the one pound at \$6, and the two pound at \$12 again this year. Fill out the form and turn it in to the office or give to Ken Hamilton. Payment can be made at time of order or when you pick it up.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

This month's Community Kitchen will be Monday, February 19. Volunteers are needed for serving and for desserts. Sign-up today!

GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age luncheon will be on Tues., Feb. 27, 12:00 NN. The program will be by Deena Hasler. Sign up, and you can bring your assessment.

PASTOR'S CLASS

We have begun, in our Pastor's Class for 5th graders, to address the question, "What do I do about Jesus & His Church?" This may be the time for others to consider it. Let us know.



Youth Group Hey everybody, Wednesday night youth group is here! Jr. High is from 6-7 PM and Sr. High is from 6:30-8 PM. Invite your friends!

* * *

Upcoming Trips For the Jr. High, we are attending a conference called "Believe." Believe is an overnigher, full of worship and chances to learn and grow closer to God. This will take place April 7-8 in Anderson, IN. The cost is \$60 + 2 meals per student, and the deadline is March 7. **For High School**, we are planning to attend a concert by the band, "Rend Collective," one of my personal favorites; they are a praise and worship band in folk-rock style. The concert is April 22 in Rock Island, IL. This will be a one-day trip, costing \$32 per student + 1 meal.

* * *

God's Gang/Crossroads God's Gang will officially begin today, Wed., Feb. 14! Get pumped. Even if you're late, you can still sign-up. Registration is open, so come and sign-up! Forms will be on a table in the hallway.

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SUMMER CAMP may seem far away, but it sneaks up fast! If you or your child is interested in signing up for summer camps at Camp Walter Scott, the registration deadline is April 20 with an early-bird discount until March 16. **(Scholarship money is available for those who need it.)** FCC is offering to pay half of your camp experience! We think camp is important! So don't miss out on this incredible opportunity. A letter of important information will be coming out soon, so be looking out for that.

CAMP 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

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SUNDAY INSTALLATION I would like to personally say thank you to everyone who came out, despite the weather, to support the church and me for my installation. I felt truly loved and appreciated! I would also like to thank all who helped in providing the delicious cinnamon rolls during Sunday School - feel free to do that again any Sunday you choose!

- John Snidle, FCC Youth Minister



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

PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID



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!

Feb. 11: 8:00 - 28 10:00 - 64 Nursery - 3

TOTAL WORSHIP = 95

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 5, Jr & Sr High - 4, New Disciples - 0, Open Door - 11, New Horizons - 7

TOTAL SS = 27

OFFERING TOTALS

February 11, 2018

General Fund	\$2,641.25
Sunday School	15.00
God's Gang	20.00
Emergency Fund	95.00
Food Pantry	125.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
Reimbursement	19.08
Head, Hands, Heart	100.00
Youth Fund	50.00
Disciples Out-Missions	90.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Building Fund	165.00
Memorials Fund	50.00
TOTAL	\$3,470.33

SERVING SCHEDULE: February 18, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Daryl Bridwell

DEACONESS: Pam Lobb

PIANIST: Peg Dixon

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Dorothy Farnham

West: John & Kristin Chittick

ACOLYTES: Ava Huddleson, Lily Smittkamp

WORSHIP LEADER: Steve Webb

BREAD ELDER: Chris Milam

DEACONESS: Ellen Webb

DEACONS: Team 3, Jacob Thomas, Captain; Cory Craig,

Barb Free, Mike Kirk, Doc & Donna Moody, Jerry

Thomas, Dan Thomey

JR DEACONS: Team #3, Jaydin Seeley, Capt.; Cheyenne

Miller, Cydney Miller, Carstan Stites

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Pastor John Snidle

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Aubrey Sanders

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jane Smittkamp

FEB. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King/Cody Vaughn

FEB USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SCRIPTURE: Luke 4:1-13

SERMON: "Live The Light: Resisting"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

NEW HORIZONS CLASS

The New Horizon's Class will be meeting in the Sunshine Room on the upper floor for the next two weeks as we finish the book of I Peter. That room is located next to the elevator and all are welcome to join us.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

6:00 PM:

WORSHIP LEADER: Nels Kasey

BREAD ELDER: Steve Webb

DEACONESS: Janean Gilliland

SOUND/PROJECTION: Tony Peel