

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

February 21, 2018

UNDER THE CARPET

I want you to know what we did last week. Before the carpeting was laid on the platform last Thursday-Friday, we wrote scripture verses on the floor to remind us of what we do there and what it means.

I put Romans 10:17 under the pulpit - “faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ.” Where the communion table sits is I Corinthians 11:23-26, the words used to institute the Lord’s Supper.

On the steps we wrote Matthew 19:14 - “let the children come to me, and do not hinder them,” as well as Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - “these words which I command you shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children.” For good measure, we also put down Proverbs 22:6 - “Train up a child in the way he should go....”

And, of course, we included music. Over by the piano/organ is Psalm 12:1-3 - “It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises... to the music of the (instruments).” And we wrote Psalm 96:1-2 - “O sing to the Lord a new song; ...sing to the Lord, bless His name...” under the choir.

We also wrote Psalm 127:1 - “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.”

And to all of us is Colossians 3:16 - “Let the word of Christ dwell in your richly, admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing... with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

MCD

PS: Now I need to confess it’s not actually there. We waited until Wednesday night and were too tired, but that was the plan. Yet the truths are a real reminder.

WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

The Week of Compassion Offering goes to help those in emergency situations such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and other natural disasters. Our goal this year is \$1,600. We just introduced this special offering last Sunday and so far the total is \$176.

LENTEN PRAYER PROGRAM

There are 14 Lenten Prayer packets still available. They contain a devotional, prayer, names of members to pray for and instructions. Extra children’s names are on cards in the basket (next to the packets) for you to include with those in your packet, if you wish.



LENTEN SEASON & PROGRAMS

Our Lenten Worship will feature the traditions as well as include the theme of light represented by the oil lamps displayed. Thank you to all who have provided those (and more are welcome). Also during the Lenten season, Music and Meditation services are held at 12:00 NN each Wednesday at the Presbyterian Church. A light luncheon follows with enough time for those who have to return to work. Coming up next Wednesday, Feb. 28, Rev. Mike will be giving the message on, “Living the Light: Holding” from Luke 8:4-15.



Hospitalized: Dan Dayton, Paris
Karen Moore, Union

Home from Hospital:
Ken Dennison
Jennifer Osborne

Sympathies go to Sue Bennett & family in the recent passing of her aunt.



-- All those who helped move furnishings back into the sanctuary;
-- Rev. Mike for the Pastor's Class lunch;

-- Peg Dixon for the 8:00 accompaniment;
-- Cathy Clawson & Dorothy McGee for the Minutes for Mission;
-- Pastor John for the Children's Sermon;
-- All those who are praying for others this season!

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Christians aren't perfect – just forgiven.

FEBRUARY PRAYER

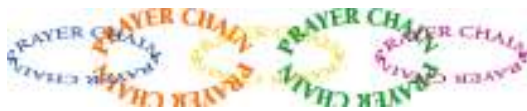
"Heavenly Father, as many of us will be giving and receiving flowers of affection this month, let us not forget the flower Jesus gave to us when he ROSE from the grave as our Savior. Amen.

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"

Tickets are still available for the "Passion Play" in Bloomington, IL on Saturday, March 17. Sign-up in the hallway to reserve your ticket. Space is also available on the bus and includes the buffet. See Candi Milam if you have any questions.



PRAYER CHAIN

We need to update our Prayer Chain to pray for urgent and emergency needs. If you would like to be included - either on the telephone chain, or the email list - let us know. Contact the office or Dorothy Farnham, coordinator.

LENTEN VIDEO STUDY

You are invited - to be part of our Lenten Video Study on Mondays through March 26 at 5:00 PM in the Jerusalem Room. Even if you missed the first week, you are still welcomed and will benefit. We are hearing and watching stories of those who were "Made For A Miracle." Come share the message, discussions, and prayers.

SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS

We have the new edition of "The Secret Place" devotional located at the entryways.

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 will be Sunday evening, February 25, at 6:00 PM if we have enough participants sign-up. A pulled-pork is planned for 5:00 PM.

FCC T-SHIRTS

We have picked up the order for FCC T-shirts - and as soon as we correct the omissions and mistakes - we'll have them ready for pickup. Hopefully, that will be Sunday in the Jerusalem Room. (That means we will cash the checks given and await payment from those who have not yet done so.) We apologize for the delay.

EMAILS APPRECIATED

Please provide us with your email address. It's a quick, easy way to send and receive information and we want to keep the email addresses current. Thank you!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ◆ Trustees: Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:00 PM
- ◆ Evangelism Comm: Sun., Feb. 25, 11:30 AM
- ◆ CWF Leadership: Thurs., Marc. 8, 3:30 PM
- ◆ Elders: Thursday, Mar. 8, 5:00 PM

SANCTUARY UPDATE

We are almost finished with the renovation project. Someone mentioned missing the gold stripe accents, and that will be replaced. Stay tuned - for that completion and then the next steps in the other parts of the building. Thank you for your support.

CWF BLESSINGS CALENDAR

Enclosed is the annual CWF "Blessings" Calendar for our CWF women (and any who wish to participate) to use during the month of March as they "count" their blessings.

Note: CWF Leadership Team meeting will be Thursday, March 8, at 3:30 PM.

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 HAM LOAVES

The Disciples Men are once again offering Ham Loaves at \$6 for the one pound loaf and \$12 for the two pound. Fill out an order 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. Make checks to "Disciples Men".

CANS FOR MICE

This Sunday is the day to bring in the aluminum cans. We collect the last Sunday of the month and proceeds go to our MICE group.

GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age luncheon will be next Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 12:00 noon. The program will be by Deena Hasler. Sign up to join the luncheon and bring your property tax info (assessment) with you, if you have questions.

YOUTH SUNDAY SERMON

We plan to have the Youth Sunday sermon typed and available by this Sunday.

Thank You!

A big THANK YOU for the Valentine bag - it was amazing to receive it and in such bad weather for you to get out in!
- Edna McDaniel

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the "Love in a Bag." It reminds me that I am loved by a loving family and God. Happy Valentine's Day to all of you!
- Barbara Walker

We'd like to thank the church for our Valentine treats. It made a special day for us. Thanks to those who delivered them. Also, thanks for the prayers for John and me.
- John & Pat Hittle



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 overnighter, 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.

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God's Gang/Crossroads God's Gang has official began! 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.

* * *

MICE will meet at Shewey's Arts here in town this Sunday afternoon, Feb. 25 at 2:00 PM. Pick-up will be at 3:00 PM. Don't miss it!

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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. One of the camps is CYF, which stands for Christian Youth Fellowship. It is for high school students only on June 10-16 at Camp Walter Scott. I, Pastor John, will be attending as a counselor! Which not only means that I'll get to have fun with all our students, but I'll also know if they don't come! And later yell at them for skipping!

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PASTOR'S CLASS If you are unaware, we offer "Pastor's Class" which is a 7-week class primarily for 5th graders. They are taught the basics of Church, Jesus, baptism, etc. The class ends around Palm Sunday and the children are encouraged to commit themselves to baptism, Which then happens on Easter Sunday. While it is too late to join this class, if your child is older and has questions (adults, too!), we are more than happy to meet individually to discuss these important dogmas of the Christian faith. So, come talk!

- 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

Non-Profit

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. 18: 8:00 - 39 10:00 - 118 Nursery - 5

TOTAL WORSHIP = 162

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 2, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 3, New Disciples - 10, Open Door - 20, New Horizons - 11

TOTAL SS = 48

OFFERING TOTALS

February 18, 2018

General Fund	\$3,274.25
Sunday School	11.00
Envelopes	6.00
God's Gang	56.00
Emergency Fund	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
MICE	23.00
Faith In Action	10.00
Bell Choir	100.00
Disciples Out-Missions	159.00
Week of Compassion	106.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Building Fund	274.00
Scholarship Fund	90.00
Permanent Fund	12.00
TOTAL	\$4,324.25

SERVING SCHEDULE: February 25, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Daryl Bridwell

DEACONESS: Pam Lobb

PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Stuart, Lied, Ari & Calhoun Metcalf

West: Sam & Saunny Preston

ACOLYTES: Drew & Graham Templeton

WORSHIP LEADER: Doug Hasler

BREAD ELDER: David Dick

DEACONESS: Karla Pierson

DEACONS: Team 1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain; Sue Elliott,

Greg Kelly, Dwight & Cindy Robinson, Angel Templeton,

Cody Vaughn, Bruce Young

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Brooklyn Ward, Capt.; Austin

Kirk, Mike Kirk, Greg Johnson

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Daniel Smittkamp

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Claire Young

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Peg Dixon

FEB. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King/Cody Vaughn

FEB USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Brooklyn Ward

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11

SERMON: "Living The Light: Realizing"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

NEW CARPET

The new carpet in the sanctuary looks beautiful and we want to keep it that way, 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: Dan Dayton, Tony Peel, Jim Bennett,
Roseann Moss, JC Foley, Bill Moss