

# **THE MESSENGER**

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

March 7, 2018

## **“THE END”**

It can be sad when something comes to an end, even when it's time.  
And this is the time for the FCC Yearbook.

Each year for, I don't know how many, we have published a list of reports from groups, organizations, and ministries of the church. It's been a valuable source of records and history of the recent past.

I remember reading them when I was new and getting a sense of what was happening and needed. But, alas, times have changed and ministry has to change as well.

So, I've made the decision that we will not keep begging for reports, nor running previous with only a new name and date. It's time to say

“The End.”

We will try to communicate in other ways. My thought is that we will display the reports we have in the hallway (others are still invited) soon, and of course, we will continue to share information in the newsletter and on the website and in person.

Coming to “The End” of something long-running always contains some sadness, but it may also be the foundation of a New Beginning that will arrive in a new form.

So, while we say goodbye now, we are also getting ready to say hello later.

Thanks.

*MCD*

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## **TRIP TO “PASSION PLAY”**

A few tickets are still available for the “Passion Play” in Bloomington, IL on Saturday, March 17. Sign-up! If you have questions, see Candi Milam. If you want the buffet, you must let Candi know by this Friday. Those riding the bus will automatically be getting the buffet. Those driving on their own will need to let Candi know or make their own arrangements. We still have 5 tickets available!

## **WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING**

The Week of Compassion Offering goes to help those in emergency situations such as natural disasters. Our goal this year is \$1,600 and we are almost there with \$1,149. Thank you!

## **Lenten Music & Meditation Program**

Music and Meditation services are held at 12:00 NN each Wednesday at the Presbyterian Church with a light luncheon following. Wednesday, March 14, the speaker will be Laurie Williams with music by Kevin & Jeanette Levellie.

## **24-Hour Prayer Vigil**

Sign up for a 30 or 60 minute time slot in our Prayer Vigil. It will be held for the 24 hours from Saturday, March 24, at 8:00 AM through Sunday, March 25, 8:00 AM. The Prayer Vigil will take place in our FCC Prayer Room. You may pray in pairs with a spouse or friend.

## **DISCIPLE MEN'S HAM LOAVES**

Ham Loaves are \$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 by Wednesday, March 21. Payment can be made at time of order or when you pick it up on Saturday, March 24 from 10:00-12:00 NN or Sunday, March 25 after services. Make checks payable to “Disciples Men.”



Hospitalized: Ken Dennison, Carle

Home from Hospital:  
Richard Melendez



-- Rev. Mike for speaking at the Lenten service last week;

-- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- Rick Kennedy & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Those who have and will share the invitations to God and FCC.

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**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

God is always in concert,  
Are you listening?  
~~~~~

**MARCH PRAYER**

Dear God, When the outside world is roaring like a lion, help us to remember that we can find peace in the mercy of your Lamb. Amen.  
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**BIBLE STUDY**

You are invited to join us for Bible Study on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room at FCC.

**COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

The Community Good Friday Service will be held on March 30 at 12:00 NN with Cornerstone Baptist being the host church.

**RUSSIA \$**

No, it's not collusion, it's the mission trip of JC Foley and others to help finish construction of a church building in Russia. He will be leaving April 2 and we offer our prayers - and if you so choose donations toward tools and gifts; you can do so with a designated gift to FCC.

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Our Prayer Chain has been updated - and those involved will receive a copy, along with instructions, shortly.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

On Sunday we will explain that we are partnering with "Right Now Media" to make available an online source of Christian resources. You will be able to access it at home, as well as classes, groups, and worship at the church. After you receive the link, set your password, and try it out, we'll want to hear feedback.

**LENTEN VIDEO STUDY**

We offer our Lenten Video Study on Mondays through March 26 at 5:00 PM in the Jerusalem Room. You are still welcomed and will benefit. We are hearing and watching stories of those "Made For A Miracle." Come share the message, discussions, and prayers.

**LENTEN PRAYER PROGRAM**

Continue in your prayers for others through the Lenten season. If you have questions about your names, call the office.

**CANTATA REHEARSALS**

Cantata Rehearsals are underway, each Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. All singers are welcome. The Cantata service will be April 22. (Note: we had originally listed it on the 15th, so this will affect the Serving Schedule for some. Please adjust accordingly.)

**SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS**

The spring edition of "The Secret Place" devotional is located at the entryways.

**WORSHIP INVITATIONS**

Worship invitations are available to handout or send to others.

**MEMBERSHIP**

This is a time of year when some are considering/preparing for membership in FCC. If you would like to do so, let us know and we'll answer questions and help with the process.

**HOLY WEEK COMMUNION**

FCC will have a special service in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, March 29.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- ◆ Memorials Comm: Thurs, March 8, 10:30 AM
- ◆ Elders: Thursday, March 8, 5:00 PM
- ◆ Board: Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 PM
- ◆ Trustees: Thursday, March 22, 6:00 PM

**BUILDING UPDATE**

The work continues. The pew cushions have been cleaned this week. And painting is ongoing in the rest of the building - in preparation for new carpeting in the hallway and rooms.

**EMAILS APPRECIATED**

We'd like your email address! If it's changed, let us know - we need to keep current! Thank you!

## CWF - CIRCLE INFO.

- ♥ CWF Leadership Team meeting will be Thursday, March 8, at 3:30 PM.
- ♥ CIRCLE OF PRAYER will meet Thursday, March 8, at 6:00 PM.
- ♥ FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE meets Tuesday, March 20 at 1:30 PM at the home of Mary Helen Hamilton. Karen Newhart will give the lesson.
- ♥ KOINONIA CIRCLE meets Thursday, March 15 at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Hostess is Kay Bellerud, with Mary K. Bradford bringing the lesson.
- ♥ The "Blessing Box" giving continues through March. Ladies, count your blessings!

## COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The FCC night at Community Kitchen is Monday, March 19. Sign-up to help, please.

## YOUTH SUNDAY SERMON

Typed copies of the Youth Sunday sermon are available on the sign-up desk.

## NEW HORIZONS S.S. CLASS

The New Horizons class will be starting a series of lessons entitled, "Christians Get Depressed, Too" beginning this Sunday, March 11. This is something that affects many of us in one form or another but is often not given proper attention by Christians suffering from its symptoms. We will be using the book and have videos as we study this topic. Should you be interested in getting a book ahead of class time, please contact Greg Terry (251-6132). The New Horizons class is now meeting in the Sunshine room on the upper floor right next to the elevator.

## CHILDREN'S MOVIE

We will be - for the 3rd year - sponsoring a free children's movie at the Paris Theatre during Spring Break! It will be, "All Dogs Go To Heaven" at 10:00 AM, March 27, 28, 29. Pray for this outreach and spread the word!

## FCC T-SHIRTS

The ordered t-shirts have been received and distributed. (If you have not yet paid for yours, please do so.) In addition, we have others available on the coatrack for \$10 each.

## Thank You!

We wish to thank you and the ladies for the Valentine Fruit delivered. - Jim & Judy Hoge

Thank you for all the cards, calls, well wishes, and prayers on my behalf. I am getting along fine. - Dan Dayton



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

\* \* \*

Upcoming Trips For the Jr High we are attending a conference called Believe. Believe is an over-nighter 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 \$70 + 2 meals per student. You can still sign up!

For High School, we are planning to attend a concert for 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<sup>nd</sup> in Rock Island, IL. This will be a one day trip, costing \$32 per student + 1 meal.

\* \* \*

God's Gang & Crossroads God's Gang and Crossroads has OFFICIALLY began! Get pumped. You can still sign up, forms will be on the table in Fellowship Hall. This will be our fourth week and not only is everything going very well but we still have new kids coming in each week, so it is going very well. Thank you for your prayers for this ministry!

\* \* \*

MICE MICE will go to the Children's Museum in Terre Haute on Sunday, March 25. Meet at FCC to leave on the bus at 1:00 PM. We will return around 4:00 PM. Any 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders interested in going next month are more than welcome to come!

\* \* \*

Summer Camp It may seem far away, but it sneaks up very 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 the early bird discount date at March 16 (**Scholarship money is available for those who need it**). FCC is offering to pay for half of your camp experience! We think camp is important! So don't miss this incredible opportunity. One of the camps is *Beginners*. It is for Kindergarten through second grade students, on July 11-14 at Camp Walter Scott. It's only three days so it should be no problem for anyone to fit it into their schedule!

\* \* \*

Pastor's Class If you're unaware, we offer "Pastor's Class" which is a 7-week class primarily for fifth 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, 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

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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!**

**March 4: 8:00 - 53 10:00 - 81 Nursery - 9**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 140**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 4, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 3, New Disciples - 12, Open Door - 19, New Horizons - 7**

**TOTAL SS = 47**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**March 4, 2018**

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund               | \$4,163.25        |
| Sunday School              | 21.00             |
| Envelopes                  | 1.00              |
| God's Gang                 | 20.00             |
| Emergency Fund             | .00               |
| Food Pantry                | 65.00             |
| Head, Hands, Heart         | 100.00            |
| Faith In Action            | 10.00             |
| Reimbursements T-Shirts    | 20.00             |
| JC Foley Mission Trip Fund | 50.00             |
| Disciples Out-Missions     | 235.00            |
| Week of Compassion         | 90.00             |
| Building Fund              | 200.00            |
| Scholarship Fund           | 30.00             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>\$5,025.25</b> |

### SERVING SCHEDULE: March 11, 2018 - LENT

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Dan Lynch

DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman

PIANIST: Evie Gill

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM: GREETERS:**

East: Tony & Rita Haupt

West: Al & Nancy Englebright

ACOLYTES: Claire Young, Macie Thomas

WORSHIP LEADER: Chris Milam

BREAD ELDER: Nels Kasey

DEACONESS: Megan Mathis

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: Mary Griffin

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: TBA

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jenelle Adams

MAR. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Katie Vaughn

MAR. USHERS: Randy Creech, Ken Dennison,

Lloyd Maggert

SOUND SYSTEM: John Chittick

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

SCRIPTURE: Luke 9:28-36

SERMON: "Living The Light: Listening"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

### LIBRARY BOOK

Note the books by and about Billy Graham in the hallway from our library. You are invited to borrow and read!

