

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

May 30, 2018

CONVERSATIONS

You know how conversations go...

Or maybe you've never paid attention - or if you're a man, you probably got so lost at all the changes of direction that you couldn't keep it straight - and if you're a woman, you're already three steps ahead and you've got something to add at each step.

But here's a conversation that took place last week when I went to a business seminar. We registered online with all our personal information. I got there early (for me) and the presenter was greeting people. She said, "You must be our pastor." I smiled and acknowledged it as she added, I noticed your necklace."

That reminded her of another and she said, "Your info said you are 'emergency opera.' I can't imagine that." The gal laughed and said, "No, it's 'emergency operations' (the computer cut off the end); I work at a 911 center."

That prompted another to add, "I just heard on the radio that some convenience stores are playing opera music outside to get rid of loiterers." (I can't wait to tell my son-in-law....)

Then came, "Do you know why some fast food places paint orange on their stores? Because it repels people; it keeps them moving."

Whew! My head was spinning....

Conversations are like that; what about your prayers? Do you come to God with this, then that, then her, then him, then one more thing, and also...?!

Think about it - are your prayers like conversations?

MO

Indoor / Outdoor Sunday

This Sunday, June 3, will be our annual "Indoor/Outdoor Day"! Services at 8:00 AM are in the sanctuary and the 10:00 service at the West Lake Pavilion. We will recognize graduates (see below) and scholarship recipients and will follow the lake service with a potluck picnic. Meat and drinks will be provided, bring your own table service, a side-dish to share, and a lawn chair if you prefer. Dress is casual and in case of inclement weather, we will worship in the sanctuary. *(No Sunday School.)*

GRADUATES

The following graduates will be recognized at our Outdoor service: 8th Grade: Logan Bartley, Elizabeth Kennedy, Austin Kirk, Alex Tapscott, Katarina Waltz; High School: Angus Beabout, Montana Boatman, Kyle Daugherty, Alec Smith; College: Pete Dayton, Adrienne Haupt, Zara Kasey, Kenny Milam, Ali Wood, and Thomas Woods. Congratulations to all.

Women's Banquet

The Women's Banquet is Thursday, June 7 at 6:00 PM, with the program at 7:00 PM by the "Sugar-Groovians", Christian musicians from Sugar Grove. The menu is: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mini Bakers, Green Beans, Salad & Dessert. Tickets are \$8 and are available from Circles or the church office.

≈ Dinner provided by Jenneane McDaniel & the Disciples Men - guys are needed to help cook, serve, & clean-up, so please sign-up to volunteer! ≈

Pentecost Offering

The Pentecost Offering goes to support new Disciples churches. The FCC individual church goal is \$1,200 and we have surpassed that goal with a total of \$1,649. We will join that with other churches in the Cluster to reach a total goal of \$2,900. Thank you!



Congratulations to all our graduates! (We will recognize those on Sunday.)

Hospitalized: Ken Dennison, Carle
Martha Steven, Carle

Our love and sympathies are extended to the family & friends of Helen Payne, who will be memorialized in a service Saturday, 11:00 AM, at FCC.



-- Brad Cash for speaking at Golden Age, and Dwight Robinson for the devotion;

- Candi Milam and Sammy for hosting the MICE outing at the park;
- Marge Houghland, Saunny Preston, & others for the Memorial Observance;
- Mary Helen Hamilton for the 8:00 AM piano accompaniment;
- Daniel Smittkamp for the Children's Sermon;
- Matt Moss for coming to conduct the Youth Auction. Well-done!

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**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Don't judge folk  
by their relatives.

~~~~~  
JUNE PRAYER

"Lord, we pray that we may feel your grace and strength. Knowing that if we should lose our strength, You will be there for us. If we feel lost and alone, You are there. With this knowledge, we will praise You and glorify Your name at all times. Amen."

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Come to Sunday School on Sunday, June 10 - just not to class. All will meet in the Fellowship Hall for the Appreciation Breakfast with food and visiting - reports from each class on what they have been doing - and sign-ups for the summer video series with options to choose & attend the one of interest to you for 6 weeks. Details TBA.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- *June 3 - no S.S. classes, Indoor/Outdoor Day
- *June 10 - S.S. Appreciation Breakfast
- *June 17 - Summer Video Series options begin
- *July 29 - 5 week special presentations begin

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Be sure to turn in your nomination for Woman of the Year. Forms are available in the hallway on the sign-up desk.

COMMUNITY CLOTHING CLOSET

July is FCC's month to staff the local Clothing Closet. A sign-up sheet is out for volunteers needed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS

Please continue to collect change to Father's Day for the Choices Pregnancy Center.

BLESSING BOOKS

Be sure to sign the graduate "Blessing Books" for our active high school graduates: Montana Boatman and Kyle Daugherty. The books are out in the hallway next to the office.

MEMORIAL ITEMS

For the family members of those remembered last Sunday we have available the candle, ribbon and flower used during the service. You may pick them up in the office.

SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS

Copies of the summer "Secret Place" devotionals are available at the entryways.

HELP WANTED

You can help us out... with lights. If you are the last one upstairs on Sunday - usually Children's Church - or - if you are the last one downstairs - usually Deaconess - when you are finished and leaving, please turn off all the lights! Your help is wanted - and appreciated.

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

We have found some (old) t-shirts that we want to make available. They will be on the table in the hallway - for a donation. New ones are also available for \$10 each.

NEW CHURCHES

Since the Pentecost Offering is to help new churches, we can report there are 3 new efforts in Chicagoland being helped and receiving support; 3 inquiries about new ethnic churches also in Chicago; and some interest in growing areas downstate. We are glad to be part of this CCIW effort.

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, June 5, at 10:30 AM will be our finale! A luncheon will follow.

CIRCLES IN JUNE

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: will be going to the Clabber Girl Restaurant, Museum & Gift Shop on Friday, June 1. Meet at FCC to leave at 4:30 PM.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: will be heading to the Lincoln Trail Restaurant at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, June 19.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: plans to take the church bus to the Fujiyama Restaurant in Mattoon on Thursday, June 21, leaving from FCC at 10:30 AM. The bus can hold 14 + the driver.

RELAY FOR LIFE YARD SALE

The FCC Relay For Life Team will have their annual yard sale in the churchyard during the Shrine weekend. Helpers are needed & wear FCC shirt. Items brought in must be put in the back classroom due to the Banquet that week.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Sign-up to help serve or bring desserts to the Community Kitchen on Monday, June 18.

BASEBALL OUTING

Coming up on June 23, we have tickets for the Indy Indians vs Durham Bulls baseball game. The tickets are \$14 each, plus bus/meal costs. Sign-up in the hallway if you'd like to ride the bus or go on your own.

SHRINE PARADE FLOAT

FCC will have a float in the Edgar County Shrine Parade on June 9. We are asking for walkers (people, not the metal ones with wheels, lol) and freezer pops. See Cody Vaughn for additional information.

SURPRISE CELEBRATION

Join us for a surprise celebration for Mallore's 35th birthday and 10 years with Taylor on Wednesday, June 6, in the Fellowship Hall from 4:00-6:00 PM. Cards are welcome, but shhhh - don't tell!
- Jim, Cindy & Megan Mathis

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who came to my surprise birthday party, and thank you for all the birthday cards. It was a wonderful day!

- Sam Preston

Thank you so much for the cards, messages, texts, and Big Hugs. Please continue with your prayers as I have a long way to go yet to get things done. Thank you with all my heart.

- Pam Lobb



Upcoming Events We are planning an end of the year get-together-party-hooplah for any and all youth! It will be June 1st, starting around 6. Those invited to attend include high school, middle school, member of this church or not, all are welcome; so tell your friends! Will be held at the Johnson's house and if you don't know where that is, meet at the church and we will head there together; also wienies will be eaten.

The Youth Auction went so well! We had 11 youth participate and raised over \$200 for Relay For Life. A special thanks goes out to Matt Moss for being our auctioneer, he made it quite the enjoyable time!

Lunch with John As you all know, we've been doing lunch with John and it's going really well. I've met with several families so far having lunch after Sunday Services, and there are more scheduled; but something I should have stressed sooner is that I'm hungry all the time! So if you're preoccupied during Sunday lunch, would rather share a meal through the week or for supper instead, that's just fine with me! The sign-up list is in front of the sanctuary doors at the sign-up desk; I expect to eat with the entire church eventually!

VBS This years Vacation Bible School will be July 30th through August 3rd from 9am to 11:30 everyday except for Friday, which will let out a little later at 12:30. The Directors will be Kim Woods and Deena Hasler. It may be several months away still, but pray for the success of the event and the sanity of all the volunteers, it is desperately needed!

Summer Camp This is the last call for Camp Walter Scott sign ups. If your child is interested (in the slightest) in attending a week of camp, make sure they are signed up! Again, if you are in need of aid, contact the church and we will find a way to get them their.

Prayer Partners

We need your help! We need people to sign up to be prayer partners for campers this summer. You will pray for your camper during his/her week of camp; we need about 8-10 people to sign up. The volunteer list is on the sign up desk.

Summer Plans

I have lots of ideas and hopes for this summer, different events and outings that I would love to schedule; only problem is, I don't have everything mapped out yet! So as I work toward these goals, I will keep you all as informed as possible so keep your eyes open and be ready for anything!

- John Snidle, Youth Minister



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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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!

May 27: 8:00 - 46 10:00 - 122 Nursery - 5

TOTAL WORSHIP = 173

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 5, 2nd-5th - 4, Jr & Sr High - 4, New Disciples - 11, Open Door - 25, New Horizons - 14

TOTAL SS = 63

OFFERING TOTALS

May 27, 2018

General Fund+E.G.*	\$4,198.25*
Sunday School	29.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Emergency Fund	25.00
Lunch On the Lawn	50.00
Community Kitchen	100.00
Bell Choir	50.00
Dis.Out.-Missions+E.G.*	254.00*
Week of Compassion E.G.*	75.00*
Pentecost Offering	109.00
Building Fund+E.G.*	394.00*
Permanent Fund	12.00
TOTAL	\$5,346.25*

**denotes Electronic Giving included*

June 3, 2018 continued...

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:15-24

SERMON: "Excuses, Alibis, and Rationalizations"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: David Dick, Dick James

SERVING SCHEDULE: June 10, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dan Lynch

DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman

PIANIST: Faye Eitel

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS: TBA

ACOLYTES: Sammy Milam, Ethan Smittkamp

WORSHIP LEADER: Doug Hasler

BREAD ELDER: David Dick

DEACONESS: Susan King

DEACONS: Team 3, Jacob Thomas, Captain

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Peg Dixon

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Montana Boatman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Erica Garver

JUNE FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Chris/Candi Milam

JUNE USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,
Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SERMON by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SERVING SCHEDULE: June 3, 2018

INDOOR 8:00 AM:

ELDER: Dick James

DEACONESS: Carla Keltz

PIANIST: Pete Templeton

~ No Sunday School ~

OUTDOOR 10:00 AM:

WORSHIP LEADER: Kim Woods

BREAD ELDER: Chris Milam

DEACONESS: Edna Creech

DEACONS: Team 2, Autumn Kasey, Captain

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Lainey Ogle, Capt.

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Kim Woods