

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

June 27, 2018

CAUGHT!

For several years I've been victimized by

a thief
and
a vandal.

It's happened each spring.

I have some flower bulbs that I plant each year in containers and around the yard. It's a lot of work, but rewarding when you see the growth and eventually the blossoms.

But after I do so, I'll find a place, usually in a pot, where there's been some digging, and a bulb laying there! It's almost as if, "Nuts! I thought there was a nut buried there."

Then later when the shoots come up, and the leaves unfold, I'll find some laying on the ground - bitten off, but not eaten. It's as if "Yuck! It looked so good, but it's not that yummy."

I've not known who was doing it - until one Sunday morning. I was leaving for the church at 7:40 AM and I saw two squirrels in among the leaves, one with his mouth full of green! I quickly pulled over, started to lay on the horn - until I realized what time it was! One squirrel ran to a tree, the other went 10 feet away, turned and looked at me - still with a leaf in his mouth.

Arrrrgh! But now I knew. They had been caught! in the act. So now what?

I may try some of your home remedies next spring. But this is a reminder that things happen in life - so-called "bad" things - that we can't control and have to deal with the best we can. So I'll keep track and care for the growing flowers and enjoy the red blooms - in spite of....

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PATRIOTIC SUNDAY

"Patriotic Sunday" is coming up this Sunday, July 1. The decorations, tribute, and songs will reflect America and you are invited to wear red, white, and blue. Join us as we thank God for our freedom and His blessing over us.

"Christmas in July"

This year's summer mission focus will be Camp Walter Scott - and we have invited Camp Manager, Laura Williams, to come tell us about their ministry, especially the changes that are planned. She will do so in words and pictures on Sunday, July 8 at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will also have a list of needed "Christmas gifts" to give.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Time Lab" VBS is fast approaching and registration forms are already available. You may sign-up using the forms in the church hallway, or online at: <http://fccparis.org/vacation-bible-school/> Vacation Bible School will be July 30-August 3 from 9:00-11:30 AM each day, with Friday going until 12:15 PM for the picnic and finale. Kids from age 3 through 5th grade are welcome! We also need volunteers for snack items and craft items. A sign-up for the snacks will be out soon. Craft items needed are cleaned/unlabeled tin cans (soup/veggie/fruit) and cardboard paper towel/toilet paper tubes. A collection box will be out for these items. Spread the word! Invite others! Pray!



Our sympathies go to Dan Dayton & family on the passing of his sister, Liz. Services are next week.

Hospitalized: Ken Dennison, Providence

Home from Hospital:

Cindy Robinson	Tobi Sanders
Brenda Gordon	Dale Fudge
Corky Davidson	Ron Barath

Congratulations to Erin Terry on her gold medal/State Championship in Special Olympics!

Grant Johnson & Pastor John are at camp this week; Graham & Drew Templeton will be going next week.

Welcome back to Rev. Dixon from vacation.



-- Elders Daryl Bridwell & Dan Lynch, Steve Webb & Nels Kasey for their leadership;

-- Paul Slifer for filling our pulpit;

-- Dennis Thiel & Evie Gill for the 8:00 accompaniments;

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

-- Zara Kasey & Braden Chittick for their Special Music;

-- Worship Committee for the "Father's Day" gifts;

-- All those who brought back "Baby Bottle" donations;

-- JC Foley for the baseball game outing with the men, & Tony Peel for driving the bus;

-- JC Foley for the program at Golden Age.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Let your haters
be your motivators.

JULY PRAYER

"Heavenly Father, we pray for peace. Peace of mind, peace from broken pieces, peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen."

EDGAR COUNTY FAIR TENT

Once again we have been asked to host the Hospitality Tent at the Edgar County Fair on Monday, July 23 - which means keeping the tables clean and ready. We'll need some volunteers to work shifts. A sign-up sheet will be out soon.

MAN OF THE YEAR

Turn in your nomination for Man of the Year. Forms are available in the hallway.

COMPASSIONATE CLOTHING CLOSET

July is FCC's month to staff the local Clothing Closet. Sign-ups are needed for volunteers on Mondays and Tuesdays.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

The Circle of Prayer will continue prayers in the summer months, so you are welcome to continue turning in prayer requests.

CHANCEL / BELL CHOIR MEMBERS

Please take your stole/robe home to wash or get dry cleaned. See Peggy Barath if you need instructions on home cleaning or have any other questions.

BLESSING BOOKS

Don't forget 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.



CAMP PRAYER PARTNERS

Camp Prayer Partners are needed for 5 more campers! Please sign-up in the hallway.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ◆ The Elders are scheduled to meet on Thursday, July 5, at 5:00 PM.
- ◆ The Board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, July 10, at 7:00 PM.

T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE

There are some t-shirts that were remaining from previous years that we want to make available for a donation and new ones from the fall offered for \$10 each. Check them out!



AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS

Thank you for shopping online and using AmazonSmile. We have received the next donation as a percentage of your purchases. Thanks again and keep it up!



RFL "Wine-ing for a Cure"

Our next event is the "Wine-ing for a Cure" fundraiser at Castle Finn on July 20. Tickets will be available, as well as raffle tickets for two lovely hand-made blankets.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Sign-up to help serve or bring desserts to the Community Kitchen on Monday, July 16.

BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS

If you have not already done so, please return the baby bottles with your donation for the Choices Pregnancy & Health's "Baby Bottle Blessing" campaign. Thank you to all those who have already given!

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple Men's breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 21, at 8:00 AM. Place TBA.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for the summer Sunday School video series of your choice. Options include: "What On Earth Am I Here For?" with Mary K. Bradford in the Jerusalem Room; "Acts of God - Why Does God Allow Pain?" with Greg Terry in the upstairs classroom; "Ridiculous - Living Like Christ In A Love-Starved World" with Pastor John Snidle in the Youth Room; and "Faith Commander - Learning Family Values from the Parables of Jesus" with Rev. Mike in the kitchen. You are welcome to come any Sunday at 9:00 AM. Next Sunday, July 8, we will take a break from the video lessons to have a presentation on Camp Walter Scott for our "Christmas in July" emphasis. All adult/youth classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank You!

I want to thank those people who for the last 6 months volunteered their time to do the 10 AM Children's Sermon.

- God bless you, Mary Alice Foley

First Christian Church, Thank you so much for awarding me with a scholarship! This will help with my studies as I continue my education!

- Montana Boatman



Summer Plans I have lots of ideas and hopes for this summer, different events and outings that I would love to schedule. Some of those include: Turkey Run trips, Holiday World, kickball slip-n-slide, Spikeball tournament, Food Smash, and miscellaneous fun times. I am of course welcome to new ideas so if you have something in mind you know would be fun and/or a good learning experience, I'm all ears!

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 still need FIVE people to sign up. The volunteer list is on the sign up desk.

Summer Camp The high school week at Camp Walter Scott (CYF) was a blast! Everyone really grew closer to each other and in their relationship with Jesus. This week, however, Grant Johnson and I are in Missouri for wilderness camp! So please pray for us this week.

Upcoming Events We will be heading to Holiday World in the morning on July 10th and arriving back home later that night. If you're interested, cost will be \$52.16, meals included, extra snacks or souvenirs are not. Those attending needed to let me know by Thursday, June 21st!

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'm starting to get fat so keep up the good work!

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 is less than 2 months away, so be praying for the success of the event and the sanity of all the volunteers, it is desperately needed!

- John Snidle, 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!

June 17: 8:00 - 54 10:00 - 85 Nursery - 3
TOTAL WORSHIP = 142 SS Total: 30

June 24: 8:00 - 50 10:00 - 108 Nursery - 2
TOTAL WORSHIP = 160 SS Total: 39

OFFERING TOTALS	June 17	June 24, 2018
Gen'l Fund/+E.G.*	\$8,792.25	\$4,078.25*
Sunday School		12.00
Emergency Fund	30.00	200.00
Food Pantry		10.00
VBS / Baby Bottles	20.00	222.29
God's Gang / MICE	51.00	10.00
Bell Choir	10.00	50.00
Organ Fund		50.00
D.O.Missions/+E.G.*	255.00	340.00*
Wk. of Compassion E.G.*		75.00*
Christmas in July		13.00
Building Fund/+E.G.*	275.00	710.00*
Scholarship Fund		60.00
Memorials	25.00	100.00
TOTAL	\$9,458.25	\$5,930.54*

*E.G. = Electronic Giving

July 1, 2018 continued...

CHILDRENS CHURCH: Tammy Terry

SPECIAL MUSIC: Kay Bellerud & Jenny McMahan

JULY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Daniel Smittkamp

SOUND SYSTEM: Chris Milam

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

JULY USHERS: Randy Creech, Lloyd Maggert

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:16-23

SERMON: "Overcoming The Obstacle of Persecution"

By Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: Kim Woods, Rick Kennedy

SERVING SCHEDULE: July 8, 2018 Christmas in July

8:00 AM: ELDER: Daryl Bridwell

DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman

PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

EAST: TBA

WEST: TBA

ACOLYTES: Ethan Smittkamp, Sammy Milam

WORSHIP LEADER: Tammy Terry

BREAD ELDER: Doug Hasler

DEACONESS: Lisa Smittkamp

DEACONS: Team 3, Jacob Thomas, Captain

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Peg Dixon

NURSERY HELPER: Brooklyn Ward

CHILDRENS CHURCH: Edna Creech

SPECIAL MUSIC: Jim Mathis

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:1-11

SERMON: "Words of Christmas" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SERVING SCHED.: July 1, 2018 Patriotic Sun.

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dennis Thiel

DEACONESS: Carla Keltz

PIANIST: Peg Dixon

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

EAST: TBA

WEST: TBA

ACOLYTES: Morgan Coombes, Jasmine Littlejohn

WORSHIP LEADER: David Dick

BREAD ELDER: Steve Webb

DEACONESS: Carolyn Ray

DEACONS: Team 2, Autumn Kasey, Captain

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Steve Webb

NURSERY HELPER: Sammy Milam