

# THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

September 19, 2018

## WHO ARE YOU?

That's not just an adolescent issue that everyone tries to sort out at that stage of life. It's a matter of identity that is needed to help us through the ups and downs of our lives.

So, inspired by what I saw elsewhere, I wrote an answer for you as a Christian when you begin to question or doubt yourself, asking

### Who Am I?

“I am not my name, not my family,  
not even my past, nor my present,  
not how I feel, nor all I know, even what I do.  
And I am certainly not what other people think or say about me.  
For I am - connected to I AM\*,  
in the family of God,  
belonging to Jesus Christ.  
That means I don't have to doubt or hurry, wonder and worry;  
I can just live my life in Christ,  
knowing that I belong,  
I am accepted,  
I am loved for who I am.  
Since with Jesus, I am part of I AM.”

(\*Exodus 3:14, God's Name)

The world will tell you different, but never forget as a Christian who you are. When you doubt it, read it again; when you debate it, say it again. For it's true - it's you.

*MCD*

---

## RECONCILIATION OFFERING

This year our Reconciliation Offering will go to a new home for local teens-in-need right here in Paris called “Hope House”. Our goal is \$800 and we have already reached over half of that with \$412. Thank you!

## HONEYBEE

The Paris Honeybee Festival weekend is September 28-30. FCC takes part in several ways.

1) The FCC “Scarecrow Booth” will be on the Square and they need accessories: belts, necklaces, scarves, etc.

2) We join in the Parade with the FCC bus and we need walkers and freezer pops to hand out  
Also...

3) In the past we have participated in the Honeybee Community Service on Sunday. However, due to lack of participation and interest in planning, the community service has been cancelled and services will be held here as usual. SO... since they were not originally scheduled, that means we need volunteers for the 10:00 service on Sept. 30 for Elders, Deacons, Jr. Deacons, Deaconess, Sound/Projection, Nursery/Helper, Children's Church, and Children's Sermon. Let us know asap!

## LUNCH ON THE LAWN

“Lunch On the Lawn” for over 600 the students and staff will be held on Wednesday, October 3 - during their Homecoming week. We will need lots of help, lots of food donations, and your prayers. Please sign-up in the hallway to help with food items listed and to help serve! Thank you!



Congratulations to Nick and Nate Behrens & family on their baptisms Sunday!

Home from the Hospital: Erin Terry

Our sympathies go to:

- Larry Hornbrook & family in the loss of his mother;
- Mike Kirk & family in the passing of his grandmother this week.



-- Angel Templeton & all the leaders/helpers for getting God's Gang/Crossroads underway, especially at the park!

- Fellowship Circle & CWF for their workshop work last week;
- Sue Bennett, Donna Moody, & Koinonia Circle for catering the clergy training event;
- Corky Davidson & Carolyn Lanker for the Minutes for Mission;
- Mary Helen Hamilton for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- Kristin Chittick for directing the Chancel Choir;
- Pastor John for the two Children's Sermons;
- All those who helped at this week's Community Kitchen.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Earth has no sorrow  
Heaven cannot heal.

**SEPTEMBER PRAYER**

"Dear God, we pray that You guide us as we teach our children and grandchildren to be nice to their peers, to be careful what they say to others, and to show love to one another. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen"

**CCIW REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The regional church will meet in an inspirational-educational-relational assembly Oct. 19-20 in Bloomington. You are invited to attend and represent us. Check it out at: [cciwdisciples.org](http://cciwdisciples.org)

**SERMON SERIES**

We are sharing a sermon series in September-October on the pain and suffering of life. Entitled, "Faith and Fire," we'll explore the Experience, the Reasons, the Healing, the Value, the Response to suffering - and more.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Believe it or not, it's our 25th year! So, save the date of Sat., November 3. We'll have info and tickets available soon.

**BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room. Everyone is welcome. We are studying "The Most Misused Verses In The Bible."

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

All singers are invited to join our Chancel Choir. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 PM. We sing each Sunday morning at the 10:00 AM service from September-May.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- ◆ Worship Committee, Thurs., Sept. 20, 2 PM
- ◆ Trustees Thurs., Sept. 27, 6:00 PM

**DON'T LOSE THE NEWS!**

If you've ever lost your newsletter, or your spouse has thrown it away before you got to read it!... It's available online at our website at:

<http://fccparis.org/the-messenger/>

**MINISTRY**

Here's the plan and next steps: We are preparing for an interim (in-between) minister to come serve us next year. After we get some paperwork done, the Search Committee will be busy in Oct.-Nov. checking resumes, calling references, and hopefully, interviewing. If it all works out, we can extend a call in December and begin in January. Please pray for this process.

**MISSION MONIES**

We have been spending a lot of money and energy on our own building and desires. And it's good. To balance that, we want to focus and support other worthwhile ministries, to make sure we are not self-focused. A special committee recommended and the Board approved the following gifts from some accumulated funds: 1) Hope House - \$1200; 2) Bridges - \$1000; 3) Faith In Action - \$800, 4) Pleasant Hill Christian Church roof - \$1000, 5) Ms Holly's House - \$250 [these are from Local Project monies]... 6) Camp Walter Scott - \$1000; 7) Russian churches - \$1000; 8) African water well/VBS - \$1000 [from Mission Trip funds]. Copies are on the sign-up desk as well.

**CANS**

Since we are having regular services on the last Sunday of the month, bring in your aluminum cans for recycling! All proceeds go to support our children's ministry. Thank you!

## KOINONIA CIRCLE

KOINONIA CIRCLE: will meet Thursday, Sept. 20 in the church kitchen. Cindy Mathis will be the hostess and give the lesson.

## CWF WORKSHOP REPORT

The fall Women's Workshop was held Thursday, Sept. 13, at 9:00 AM. Twelve members prepared the donated items which included: 5 1/2 lbs. of pop tabs, 12 cell phones, 14 phone chargers, 7 cell phone cases, 15 pairs of glasses, 97 Box Tops for Education, 403 used stamps. A new item we will be collecting is old keys for the Lion's Club. So if you have any old keys that go to locks you no longer use: car, house, etc., bring them in for recycling! Following the workshop, Mary K. Bradford gave devotions from the book, "Sparkling Gems from the Greek" by Rick Renner. Thank you to all who donated and prepared the items. We will have another workshop in the spring, so keep collecting the above items as all go to worthwhile causes!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adults - see "u" in Sunday School - come join us!

## GOLDEN AGE

You are invited to join the Golden Age luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 12:00 NN. Sign-up for lunch. The program will be by Ellen (Faulk) Auten from the Human Resources Center.

## SCOUT MEETINGS

Just to make you aware, two groups of Scouts will be meeting on Sunday's from 2:00-4:00 PM, Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 PM and the third Tuesday of the month will be their Pack meeting.

## SECRET PLACE

The Secret Place devotional for the fall quarter is available at the entryways. Pick up a copy!

## *Thank You!*

What a blessing it has been to see the outpouring of prayers, cards & gifts for Erin! We really appreciate the kindness from everyone and especially the visits from Rev. Mike and Peggy. Erin is well on the way to recovery and doing quite well. We give thanks for the graciousness God has granted her.

- Greg & Tammy Terry



Youth Group Youth group is every Wednesday, from 6:30-8; 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. I've shared with you our main idea for this year, "Disciples on fire," but I also want to share with you our new purpose statement. Our purpose statement is this: Our youth ministry exists reach out to non-believing students, to invest in other Christians, and to train each other by God's word to serve those around us, in order to worship the Lord. There are 5 main purposes within our purpose statement that come together to make an acronym, so it's easier to remember. They are: Worship, Reach, Invest, Serve, Train. Together, it spells WRIST! This is in reference to Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (look it up!). Everything we do will revolve around these main ideas.

As many of you saw this past Sunday morning, we now have t-shirts! Available for students and adults who regularly attend. Free of charge, donations appreciated!

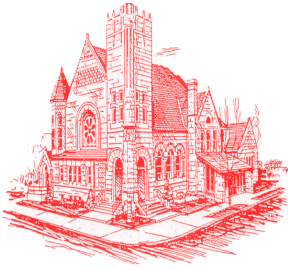
Upcoming Events God's Gang and Crossroads are happening! Registration is open and available, do that as soon as you can. If you would like to volunteer to help, talk to Angel Templeton or Saunny Preston.

See you at the Pole is September 26, 7:45 before school starts at Paris high, Mayo middle, and Crestwood school. If you're not aware, see you at the pole is an event all over the nation where Christian high school students gather around the flag pole in the morning to pray! It's not long, it doesn't take much out of your day, but it is a great way to praise God along with other believers.

Lunch on the Lawn, aka LOL, will be October 3<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 11am! This is when FCC prepares lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs, veggies, desserts, etc) for the high school and feeds them for homecoming week. It's just a way to serve the youth and get involved in the community. But we need your help! We need volunteers to donate different food items, to participate in the cooking and/or distribution of the food to the students, and other things. So give a floop and help out your youth!

- 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 ~ 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"*

### ATTENDANCE

**We count because you count!**

**Sept. 16: 8:00 - 47 10:00 - 89 Nursery - 3**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 136**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Nursery - ?; PreK-1st - ?, 2nd-5th - ?, Jr & Sr High - ?, New Disciples - ?, Open Door - ?, New Horizons - ?

**TOTAL SS = not reported**

### OFFERING TOTALS

**September 16, 2018**

General Fund	\$4,525.25
Sunday School	18.00
God's Gang	114.00
Food Pantry	125.00
Emergency Fund	60.00
Lunch On the Lawn	72.00
Community Kitchen	75.00
Bell Choir	10.00
Hope House	220.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	264.00
Reconciliation Offering	412.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Permanent Fund	12.00
Building Fund	249.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,206.25</b>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### SERVING SCHEDULE: September 23, 2018

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Daryl Bridwell

DEACONESS: Cynthia Faulk

PIANIST: Peg Dixon

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM:** GREETERS: East: Cody & Katie Vaughn  
West: Randy & Edna Creech

ACOLYTES: Mya Smittkamp, Taylor Shewey

WORSHIP LEADER: Nels Kasey

BREAD ELDER: Chris Milam

DEACONESS: Edna Creech

DEACONS: Team 2, Autumn Kasey, Captain; Jim Bellerud,  
Al & Nancy Englebright, Mark Johnson, JK Vilk, Patty Waters, Kevin Woods

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Lainey Ogle, Capt.; Aubrey Sanders, Alex Tapscott, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Cathy Melendez

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Claire Young

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Cindy Robinson

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

SEPTEMBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Steve Webb

SEPT. USHERS: Randy Creech, Steve Eitel, Lloyd Maggert

SCRIPTURE: James 5:13-18

SERMON: "Faith And Fire: The Healing Of Suffering"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon



# C.O.F.F.E.E.

Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere