

# THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

October 3, 2018

## STEP UP - NOT BACK

It was not planned. Nor scripted. It was an inspiration that resulted from our need last week.

Because we normally participate in a community service during the Honeybee Festival, we did not schedule servers/leaders for 10:00. Thus, we asked for volunteers.

Barbara asked David if he was going to step up and serve as Elder. David then asked Barbara if she was going to step up and do the Children's Sermon. They did. (And we appreciate it.)

That's the birth of the reminder and challenge -

Step Up - Not Back

Sunday is over now. It's past and will soon be forgotten. But other needs exist, and more opportunities will arise. That's why we need to remember to -

Step Up - Not Back

We are facing a time of Ministerial transition next year. We do not know what it will be like and how rough it will be. There's probably a tendency to hesitate or pull away, because of potential changes. But, remember that this is God's church, God's work, and God's family, with you as part of that, connected to hundreds of others. You don't need them to back away, and they don't want you to back off. Neither does God. It's time to -

Step Up - Not Back

When it was needed most, God stepped up. He's not going anywhere. God is still God. So for God and His Church -

Step Up - Not Back.

*MCD*



**WORLD**

**COMMUNION**

**SUNDAY**



World Communion Sunday, October 7, is our connection to the world and with those who suffer as we share together our connection in Jesus Christ. We'll also have a special guest, Scott Woolridge of CCIW, here to tell about ministry transition. Come be part of it.

## **HONEYBEE REPORT**

SCARECROW BOOTH: As always, we want to thank our Straw Sponsor, Moss Farms, for the donation of the straw, as well as our church family for continuing to support us with your donations! We made approximately 70 scarecrows, with some traveling as far as Ridgefarm and Effingham to their new homes! This year we allowed the kids to put a small heart into the chest of their scarecrow - LOTS of love went out from FCC - THANKS TO YOU ALL!!! PARADE: We gave out hundreds of ice pops and invites to FCC. There was a big crowd for the parade and we had more than a dozen involved and representing FCC. THANK YOU!!!

## **LUNCH ON THE LAWN**

LOL was this morning at PHS. We are grateful for this opportunity to minister to the youth of Paris. We will have a report for you next week. In the meantime, thank you to all who helped make it happen - with your food and monetary donations, hands on help, and prayers!



Congratulations to M/M John and Riley (Sandberg) Snidle on their wedding and marriage! And welcome back next week from the honeymoon trip.

Home from the Hospital: Edna Creech

The 95th birthday of Louise Bridwell was recognized Sunday and is actually today, October 3. Cards are encouraged to: 2801 Robeson Park Dr., Champaign, IL 61822



-- All who prayed at and for the schools last Wednesday;  
 -- Coralie Smittkamp, Peggy Barath, Deena Hasler & crew for the Scarecrow Booth at Honeybee;  
 -- Cody & Katie Vaughn & committee, plus volunteers for the parade entry, including Daniel Smittkamp as driver and those who donated "icee-pops";  
 -- Those who represented FCC at the Snidle-Sandberg wedding;  
 -- Evie Gill for the 8:00 accompaniment;  
 -- Barbara Dick for the Children's Sermon;  
 -- Evie Gill for accompanying the choir anthem;  
 -- Dean Smittkamp and Randy Creech for stepping up and preparing communion;  
 -- And all the helpers, donat-ers, pray-ers for the "LOL" this week.

**BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

Does Life grind you down  
or polish you up?

**OCTOBER PRAYER**

"God, As we enter into the fall season, we pray that Your love falls upon us like the beauty of the falling leaves. May our blessings be as numerous as the leaves we rake in our yards. Amen."

**CCIW REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The regional church will meet in a business/inspirational fellowship gathering October 19-20 in Bloomington, IL.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Save the date of Saturday, Nov. 3, for the 25th annual Community Prayer Breakfast. Tickets are \$5 each and available from our representatives: Pam Lobb and Cindy Robinson, Rev. Mike and also the church office.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- ◆ Staff Relations, Wed., Oct. 3, 5:00 PM
- ◆ Search Committee, Sun., Oct. 7, 11:30 AM

**MINISTRY**

We are doing our preparation and getting ready for the Search Committee and their work. Please pray for the search process, and for the minister to serve us. (Note: There has been a rumor that the Dixon's are not allowed to return to FCC for a year. Not true; there is no such "rule". That is currently the Dixon's thought, but it is only that.)

**BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room with room for you!



**BUDGET REQUESTS**

2018 Chairpersons need to turn in their 2019 budget requests for their committee. Check with Rev. Mike.

**RECONCILIATION OFFERING**

We have far exceeded our goal of \$800 for the Reconciliation Offering which will go to "Hope House." The total is \$2,111!! Thank you, again!

**NEW FACEBOOK PAGE**

Check out our "NEW" Facebook page at FCCParis - @FCCParisIL. Like us and share it to other FCC members and friends!



**BRIDGES**

We include Bridges in our Lunch On the Lawn program. Their LOL will be Friday, Oct. 26, at 11:00 AM here at FCC. Please plan to help if you can.

**SERVING IN 2019**

The Nominating Committee met and will be making calls for the 2019 leaders. Please pray about your "yes" in answer!

## CIRCLES IN OCTOBER

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, Oct. 11, at 6:00 PM at the church.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 1:30 PM at the home of Shirley Yeargin, hostess. Dorothy Farnham will bring the lesson.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, Oct. 18 in the church kitchen at 9:00 AM. Mary K. Bradford will be the hostess and give the lesson.

## MEET THE "MRS"

FCC is having a "Meet the Mrs." reception for John and Riley Snidle on Saturday, October 13, from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Cards are welcome - gift cards are also welcome from Hobby Lobby, Kohl's, Amazon.

## PHS FOOTBALL DINNER

We'll have the entire PHS football team and staff here on Thursday, Oct. 18, at 5:00 PM. The Tigers football team is undefeated so far this year and we're happy to support them. Pray for this outreach.

## DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST & OUTING

- The Disciples Men will have their regular Saturday morning breakfast at the new Parker's restaurant on Oct. 20, at 8:00 AM.
- The Men's Outing will be Sunday, Oct. 21, to the Beef House. We'll be taking the bus from FCC at 4:00 PM. Sign-up!

*All men are welcome to both!*

## GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age luncheon has been moved to the 5th Tuesday, October 30, at 12:00 noon.

## "MOONSHINE"

We are planning a trip to "Moonshine" on Saturday, November 3. Note the date and stay tuned for more info....

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children - see "u" in Sunday School. Come join us!

## BLANKETS - CCC

The Compassionate Clothing Closet is collecting blankets during the month of October. They are accepting gently used and new blankets. Donations made be made at the CCC Mondays 11-2 PM or Tuesdays 1-3 PM.



Youth Group Youth group will meet at the Johnson's this Wednesday, at 6:30 pm, for a cookout. We'll be back to our regular schedule next week.

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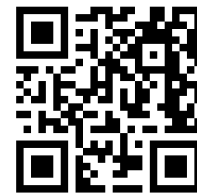
God's Gang and Crossroads are happening Wednesday evenings from 3:30-6:00 PM. Our theme for the evening is "Apples"!

\* \* \* \* \*

Lunch on the Lawn, aka LOL, was today, October 3<sup>rd</sup>! Thanks to all those who helped make it happen - from donating food, to helping at the high school, to praying for the weather. It's a great ministry to PHS, and a way to show God's love to our teenagers! We'll do a more thorough report next week.

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PHS Blog At the Lunch On the Lawn, FCC handed out cards to the students that had a QR code printed on them. The QR code, when scanned by their cell phone, takes the students to a blog, written just for them, on our FCC website. Below is the QR code for that blog, if you'd like to check it out yourself - or go online to our website and see it:



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Honeymoon I'm out of the office all this week on my honeymoon, but will be back next week.

- John Snidle, Youth Minister, incognito





# 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

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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!*

**Sept. 30: 8:00 - 49 10:00 - 105 Nursery - 4**

**TOTAL WORSHIP = 158**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 2, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 8, Open Door - 19, New Horizons - 10

**TOTAL SS = 41**

### OFFERING TOTALS

September 30, 2018

General Fund	\$2,991.00
Sunday School	31.00
God's Gang	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Lunch On the Lawn	100.00
Bell Choir	50.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	50.00
Week of Compassion	23.00
Reconciliation Offering	70.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
Permanent Fund	1,580.00
Building Fund	190.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,265.00</b>

### SERVING SCHEDULE: October 7, 2018

**8:00 AM:** ELDER: Dick James

DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman

PIANIST: Pete Templeton

**9:00 AM: Sunday School**

**10:00 AM:** GREETERS: East: Roy & Diana Rogers

West: Doc & Donna Moody

ACOLYTES: Steven West, Emma Kennedy

WORSHIP LEADER: Doug Hasler

BREAD ELDER: David Dick

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Tammy Terry

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Ava Huddleson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Deena Hasler

SOUND SYSTEM: Chris Milam

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

OCTOBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King

OCT. USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SCRIPTURES: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, I Peter 2:19-24

SERMON: "Faith And Fire: The Response To Suffering"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: Daryl Bridwell, Chris Milam

"I found it is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay... small acts of kindness and love."

—J.R.R. Tolkien