

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

October 10, 2018

BETTER THAN

We know there are things that are not the best - things people say, things people think, things people do. And it's not just other people, it's me and maybe even you.

We and our society need a good dose of

Better Than

Thinking is better than guessing.

Teaching is better than screeching.

Learning is better than yearning.

Trying is better than crying.

Caring is better than taunting.

Consoling is better than scolding.

Working is better than shirking.

Praising is better than scorning.

Helping is better than hindering.

Leading is better than shoving.

Doing is better than boasting.

Praying is better than wishing.

Staying is better than quitting.

Giving is better than getting.

Achieving is better than loafing.

Smiling is better than smirking and

Loving is better than hating.”

You can think of your own lines to add from words you know or from experiences you have. And if you read one of those lines and thought “yeah!”, note

“Forgiving is better than judging.”

And if you read a line and said, “ouch!”, remember

“Growing is better than coasting.”

Think about it; talk it over; pray over it; post it; share it; because

“Becoming like Christ is better than staying like you.”

MCD



“Meet the Mrs.” Reception

First Christian Church is having a “Meet the Mrs.” reception for John and Riley Snidle this Saturday, October 13, from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited. Cards are welcome - gift cards are also welcome from Hobby Lobby, Kohl's, Amazon.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST & OUTING

- The Disciples Men will have their regular Saturday morning breakfast at the new Parker's restaurant (across from Burger King) on October 20, at 8:00 AM.
- The annual Men's Outing will be Sunday, October 21, at the Beef House in Covington. We will be taking the bus from FCC at 4:00 PM. Sign-up!

All men are welcome to both!



Our sympathies go to Jim Bellerud and family in the death of his mother this week.

Home from the Hospital: Cindy Mathis

Welcome back to Pastor John & Riley Snidle!

Congratulations to our custodian, Betty Kelly, on the birth of her new great-grandson!



-- Ellen Webb, Mary K. Bradford, and the hundred other volunteers who made it possible for us to do "LOL" at PHS last week!!!

- Faye Eitel for the 8:00 accompaniment;
- Scott Woolridge, CCIW, for his visit and help;
- Tammy Terry & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;
- All those who helped with the communion readings on World Communion Sunday.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Church: A hospital for sinners, not a rest home for saints.



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

Pray for the upcoming Regional Assembly of our CCIW next weekend, October 19-20 in Bloomington, IL.

CCIW WORKSHOP

We are invited; you are invited to the upcoming event "Becoming A People of Welcome" in Decatur on Saturday, November 3. Let us know if you are interested and available.

RECONCILIATION OFFERING

We have continue to exceed the goal of \$800 for the Reconciliation Offering going to "Hope House." The total is \$2,236!! Thanks again!

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is "Pastor Appreciation Month" - it is hard to believe that Rev. Dixon and his wife, Peg, have pastored FCC for 27 years. During this time the congregation has watched their daughters, Martha, Beth, and Rebecca grow into beautiful young women with children of their own. Rev. Mike and Peg have ministered to us through times of joy and sorrow, continuously teaching about Christ, his love, grace and forgiveness for us all. Both Rev. Mike and Peg have maintained strong leadership roles, at FCC and in the Paris Community. This month is a great opportunity to say, "Thank you, Rev. Mike and Peg". We appreciate you both, not just in October, but all year long.

COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, November 3, at 8:00 AM the 25th annual Community Prayer Breakfast will be held at the KC Hall. Scottie Wilson, car racing chaplain with "Racers For Christ" will be this year's speaker. Tickets are \$5 each and available from: Pam Lobb, Cindy Robinson, Rev. Mike and the church office.

BRIDGES

Our Lunch On the Lawn with Bridges will be Friday, October 26, at 11:00 AM here at FCC. We'll let you know of details asap.

MEETINGS

- ▶ The Nominating Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 16, at 7:00 PM.
- ▶ Trustees will meet on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00 PM.

BIBLE STUDY

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

BUDGET REQUESTS

2018 Chairpersons, please turn in 2019 budget requests for your committee. See Rev. Dixon.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

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

NOMINATION REQUESTS

Pray and plan to say yes, if you are called!

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.

PHS FOOTBALL DINNER

We'll have the entire PHS football team and coaching staff here on Thursday, Oct. 18, at 5:00 PM. Pray for the outreach event, team and coaches.

GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age luncheon will be the 5th Tuesday, October 30, at 12:00 noon with Kim Macke of Horizon Health bringing the program on all the changes to the former PCH. Sign-up!

"MOONSHINE"

We are planning a trip to "Moonshine" on Saturday, November 3. We will be leaving from FCC at 10:00 AM and taking the bus for those who would like to ride. You are also free to drive on your own. Please sign up - either way - to let us know how many will be going

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adults, Youth, Children - we miss "u" in Sunday School. So come join us!

BLANKETS - SOCKS - CANDY

The Community Clothing Closet is seeking blankets this month, you are invited to help. We are "kicking off" our "Sock-It-To-Me" children's socks for Head Start preschool kids. And we will be participating in "Halloween Scare Around the Square" giving out candy. You can help with socks and/or candy donations. Thank you!

Thank You!

I'd like to say "thanks" to those that said a prayer, called or visited while I was in the hospital. It meant so much! - Edna Creech

Thank you for all the birthday cards, phone calls, and kind thoughts and prayers for my 95th birthday. It was a very nice celebration!

- Louise Bridwell



Youth Group is every Wednesday, from 6:30-8; 6th through 12th grade. We are very excited for this week because our very own Greg Johnson will be teaching the lesson! His topic is "Fire: Destroyer? Or Healer and Cleanser?", so be sure to keep him in your prayers!

Lunch on the Lawn, aka LOL, was October 3rd! This is when FCC prepares lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs, veggies, desserts, etc) for the high school and feeds them for homecoming week. If you didn't make it there last Wednesday you really missed out! And I can say that because I missed it myself, I was away on my honeymoon. I wish I could have made it, it sounded like an awesome day with a great turn out! I do apologize to all those who did go and expected to see me there (but like I said I was on my honeymoon and that takes precedence, so I'd say I had a valid excuse!), and we are all very grateful for those that could make it and help serve the youth.

As previously stated above, I just got married (WOOT) and returned from my honeymoon (Can I get an amen). For those that care, it all went over beautifully! The wedding day was perfect weather, wonderful turn out, and overall awesome Saturday; easily the best wedding I have ever had. And honeymoon was great too, a much needed vacation enjoying the mountains in Tennessee. If you have not yet had the pleasure of meeting my beautiful bride, you will have a chance to this Saturday October 13, 2:00-4:00 in the Fellowship Hall here at FCC for a "Meet the Mrs" meet and greet event. Cards are welcome, gifts cash or gift cards are optional (and much appreciated by the Mr).

Upcoming Events God's Gang and Crossroads are happening! If you didn't know, every week there is a different theme that goes along with either the message for the night or with events on the calendar. The theme for this week is SPACE because this is the anniversary Lance Armstrong first walked on the moon! [Just kidding that happened in July. I have no idea why the theme this week is space, that's not my department; but I'm sure it's important and relevant to something!]

We are having a new event called "HYP" or "Homeless Youth Project" for long. This is an event where the youth will walk around town in groups looking for sleeping arrangements. This does not mean sleeping on strangers couches, but simply digging through the garbage for cardboard boxes, pillows, and even a thrown out couch if they're lucky, to bring back to the church lot where we will sleep outside for the night, huddled around a small fire for warmth. We will also be fasting during the event. If this sounds harsh and a bit intense, that's the point. The purpose of this event is to learn first-hand what it's like to be homeless. If one night of discomfort and hunger is hard to bare, maybe they'll understand a bit more what it's like to live that way every night. The event is Saturday October 20 starting in the afternoon and going until after Church the next morning! Yes, we will all be attending church the next morning to share with you our sleepy, grumpy, stinkiness; I can't wait!

- 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

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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!

Oct. 7: 8:00 - 48 10:00 - 106 Nursery - 3

TOTAL WORSHIP = 157

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 2, 2nd-5th - 1, Jr & Sr High - 2, New Disciples - 7, Open Door - 19, New Horizons - 9

TOTAL SS = 40

OFFERING TOTALS

October 7, 2018

General Fund	\$5,056.35
Sunday School	25.00
God's Gang	25.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
Emergency Fund	50.00
Food Pantry	128.00
Faith In Action	10.00
Scarecrow Fund	330.00
Lunch On the Lawn	50.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	395.00
Reconciliation Offering-Hope House	125.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Memorial Fund	100.00
Building Fund	215.00
TOTAL	\$6,609.35

SERVING SCHEDULE: October 14, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dennis Thiel
DEACONESS: Pam Lobb
PIANIST: Pete Templeton

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Pat Hittle
West: Mike, Jennifer, Mike & Austin Kirk
ACOLYTES: Drew & Graham Templeton
WORSHIP LEADER: Steve Webb
BREAD ELDER: Rick Kennedy
DEACONESS: Karla Pierson
DEACONS: Team 1, Dan Smittkamp, Captain; Sue Elliott, Greg Kelly, Dwight Robinson, Angel Templeton, Cody Vaughn, Bruce Young

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Brooklyn Ward, Capt., Austin Kirk, Mike Kirk, Greg Johnson

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Steve Webb
NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Montana Boatman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Erica Garver

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

OCTOBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King

OCT. USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp, Ron Stickler

SCRIPTURES: 1 Corinthians 12:12-24; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

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

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

MOKE OWENS CONCERT

FCC was blessed to be represented by three of our own very talented pianists last Sunday afternoon at the Moke Owens Grand Piano Dedication Concert. Playing several musical genres were: Evie Gill, Kathy Peel, and Dennis Thiel. Thank you very much for giving the audience a glimpse of the music that Moke loved. Many in the community have wonderful memories of Moke; when he served as Minister of Music at FCC, taught piano privately, and was the music teacher at Mayo Middle School for many years. Moke would have loved to hear the beautiful music performed as well as the memories shared in his honor.