

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

October 24, 2018

NEW MINISTER?!

A certain church was searching for a new minister, and receiving profiles/resumes. They “received” the following letter:

Gentlemen: Understanding your pulpit is vacant, I should like to apply for the position. I have many qualifications. I've been a preacher with much success and also have had some successes as a writer. Some say I'm a good organizer. I've been a leader most places I've been. I'm over 50 years of age and have never preached in one place for more than three years. In some places, I have left town after my work caused riots and disturbances. I must admit I have been in jail three or four times, but not because of any real wrongdoing. My health is not too good, though I still accomplish a great deal. The churches I have preached in have been small, though located in several large cities. I've not gotten along well with religious leaders in the towns where I have preached. In fact, some have threatened me, and even attacked me physically. I am not too good at keeping records. I have been known to forget whom I have baptized. However, if you can use me, I promise to do my best for you.

The chair of the Search Committee read it, then waited for reactions. The others were appalled! They responded; “What? Consider a sickly, troublemaking, absent-minded, ex-jailbird? Are you crazy? Who signed the application? Who'd have that kind of nerve?” The chair smiled and replied, “It's signed, the Apostle Paul.”

It's a simple reminder that God may choose and use someone we may not. Our preferences - likes - dislikes are not the important thing, because it's not about us. It's all about God and His will, not ours. Remember - Remind - Pray.

MCD



Advent Devotional

It's time to prepare for our Advent Devotional. We have a sign-up sheet out for volunteers who would like to contribute a short devotion on the theme: “How Do We Move Forward In The Midst Of Change?” Samples of previous year's devotions can be made available for ideas on length, title, scripture by contacting the office. We will also be sending out some invitations to participate; please RSVP! Thank you!

Advent Choral Service

This year's Community Advent Service will be held at the First United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 2, at 3:00 PM. The first rehearsal for all interested singers will be at 7:00 PM, Monday, October 29 at FUMC.



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now - for Sunday, January 6, 2019 - when we will have the “Dixon Retirement Reception” at the Tingley Reception Center located at 504 E. Edgar St., Paris. FCC will be hosting a church dinner and program for Rev. Mike and Peg Dixon from 11:30-1:30 PM and the community reception will follow from 2:00-4:00 PM. A retirement gift is planned and donations are welcome. All those wishing to contribute should note: “Dixon Retirement Gift” on their check. More details will follow, but save the date!



Hospitalized:
Elsie Jane Jackson, Paris

Rev. Dixon is on vacation and will return later this week.



-- Tony Peel for his work moving pianos;

-- Roseann Moss & crew for the dinner provided to the PHS Football Team and Coaching Staff;

-- Pastor John & Youth for their "homeless" experience;

-- Dennis Thiel for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- Elders Dan Lynch, Dennis Thiel, David Dick, Nels Kasey for their extra leadership on Sunday;

-- JC Foley and Tony Peel for driving the bus for the Men's dinner outing;

-- Cathy Melendez for filling in this week.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Dream one size too big!

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."

NEW PIANO

We are very grateful for the gift of the Steinway Grand Piano in our sanctuary! The instrument was built in 1916, making it 102 years old. It is officially a "Drawing Room" Grand, based on size, and it is quite valuable. Thus, we have increased our insurance coverage. It is an anonymous gift, one we will certainly enjoy and appreciate for years to come!

CCIW WORKSHOP

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

RECONCILIATION OFFERING

The Reconciliation Offering going to "Hope House" total is now \$2,266!! Thank you!

TIME CHANGE!

Don't forget - Saturday, Nov. 3 - turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed!

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Thank a pastor this month for his/her hard work and dedication. Pray for them and their families.

COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST

Get your ticket to the 25th annual Community Prayer Breakfast at the KC Hall on Saturday, Nov. 3, at 8:00 AM. The speaker will be, Scottie Wilson, car racing chaplain with "Racers For Christ". Tickets are \$5, see: Pam Lobb, Cindy Robinson, Rev. Mike or the church office.

BRIDGES

We'll be hosting Bridges for the "Lunch On the Lawn" this Friday, October 26, at 11:00 AM. Pray for God to work through this "LOL".

UPCOMING MEETINGS

▶ Trustees will meet on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00 PM.

▶ Stewardship/Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 30, at 5:00 PM

▶ Elder's to meet Thursday, November 8, at 5:00 PM.

▶ Board to meet Tuesday, November 13, at 7:00 PM.

HEAD, HANDS, HEART

Our winterwear outreach will be held on November 8, 9, 10. We will be collecting coats until November 7 and specifically need girls sizes 10-12-14-16 and boy sizes 8-10-12-14 and 16. Hats, gloves, scarves, boots are also welcome, but specifically coats. We'll also need help distributing those days, so please sign-up.

BIBLE STUDY

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

BUDGET REQUESTS

Any 2018 Chairpersons who haven't met with Rev. Dixon to turn in their 2019 budget request, please do so soon!

NOMINATION REQUESTS

We are almost finished with the nomination process, we need a few more spots filled for 2019. Please consider saying yes!

CANS

Bring in aluminum cans in this Sunday, October 28, to be recycled. Thank you!

GOLDEN AGE

The Golden Age luncheon will be Tuesday, October 30, at 12:00 noon with Kim Macke of Horizon Health. Sign-up and come find out the changes happening at the Paris Hospital!

"MOONSHINE"

Our trip to "Moonshine" is on Saturday, November 3. We will be leaving from FCC at 10:00 AM and taking the bus. You may drive on your own. Please sign up to let us know the number going.



VETERANS DAY

We want to update our list of FCC Veterans, so please let us know your branch of service and dates served. We don't want to miss anyone on Sunday, November 11, when we plan to honor our veterans with recognition and a gift.

"SOCK-IT-TO-ME"

We are collecting new, pre-school size, socks for the local Head Start kids. Please put socks in the large white collection "socks" in the sanctuary. Thank you!



SCARE ON THE SQUARE

We are collecting individually wrapped candy for the "Scare Around the Square". See collection box in hallway for 600-1000 pieces needed! We'll be next to Pearman's on the square and also need helpers to distribute the candy and hand out papers next Wednesday, October 31, so please sign-up!

BLANKETS

The Compassionate Clothing Closet is collecting new and gently used blankets this month for distribution to those in need. Your donations are appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

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

INTERIM SEARCH

Please pray for our Search Committee, the minister God is preparing for us, and FCC as we go through this process of finding an interim minister.



This past Saturday night and Sunday morning we had our HYP (Homeless Youth Project) event! Hopefully some of you saw us Sunday morning at first service, which our dirty sleepy selves attended. We had a lot of fun going out hunting for our food and shelter, and sleeping outside in boxes (until it reached 20 degrees, then we gave up and slept in the youth room). We also learned a great deal about the struggle of what it's like to have to fight the cold and hunger; our boxes and tarps did little to protect us from the temperature, and we didn't receive any donations of food from the restaurants we asked. Being unprepared, having no resources to help you, only relying on the garbage and handouts of others, is a very humbling experience and an eye-opener to those who have to do it everyday.

YG/CR/GG Youth group is every Wednesday, from 6:30-8; 6th-12th grade. 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. 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 Pumpkins! Who knows why though, I can't think of any reason how pumpkins are relevant. Oh well; come on down and enjoy the pumpkins anyway!

WARNING There will be no Youth Group, God's Gang or Crossroads on October 31st. It's Halloween! Go spend time with your children by getting candy and racking up bills to the dentist.

Upcoming Events November 16-18 we will have an event this church has never gone to before, and it's called ICYC, or Indiana Christian Youth Conference. This is a high school only conference where students from all over Indiana and surrounding states will gather in Anderson IN for a weekend full of laughter, worship, relevant teaching from great communicators, service projects, and more! This is not just a fun trip with some Jesus thrown in, this is a weekend full of Jesus and learning and growth with some crazy fun times thrown in! so if you're serious about making Jesus number one in your life and want to learn how to do that better, this is for you. The cost is \$60 per person if we get our numbers in by October 31st, and \$70 if we don't. This may seem steep, but trust me, for this type of conference it is a good price! We'll leave Friday around 5pm and get back 2-3pm. Let me know ASAP if you are interested.

Next Sunday, October 28, I will be preaching again. So if you're free I would love to see everyone there to hear my ramblings about Jesus and the like!

- John Snidle, Youth Minister



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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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"

ATTENDANCE

We count because you count!

Oct. 21: 8:00 - 51 10:00 - 94 Nursery - 2

TOTAL WORSHIP = 147

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 2, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 8, Open Door - 18, New Horizons - 7

TOTAL SS = 37

OFFERING TOTALS

October 21, 2018

General Fund	\$6,419.25
Sunday School	26.00
God's Gang	136.00
Dixon Retirement Gift	25.00
Youth Fund	50.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	75.00
Reconciliation Offering-Hope House	10.00
Building Fund	250.00
TOTAL	\$6,991.25

EDGAR CO. RELAY FOR LIFE

Plan now to attend the Edgar County Relay For Life benefit concert at the Paris American Legion on Sat., November 17, at 7:00 PM. Mark Allen and the Rail Brothers Band will be playing. Cost is \$10 at the door with proceeds going to RFL.

PLEASANT MEADOWS CHRISTMAS FUND

Audrey Stickler and Donna Moody are selling tickets on 21 baskets, with proceeds to go to the Christmas Gift Fund for Pleasant Meadows residents. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. A list of available baskets and contents is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SERVING SCHEDULE: October 28, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dan Lynch
DEACONESS: Carla Keltz
PIANIST: Evie Gill

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Cody, Katie, Colten, EJ Vaughn

West: Carolyn Lanker

ACOLYTES: Mya Smittkamp, Myli Tapscott

WORSHIP LEADER: David Dick

BREAD ELDER: Kim Woods

DEACONESS: Lisa Smittkamp

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: Cody Vaughn

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Sammy Milam

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Tammy Terry

SOUND SYSTEM: John Chittick

PROJECTION: Chris Milam

OCTOBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King

OCT. USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp,

Ron Stickler

SCRIPTURES: TBA

SERMON: TBA by Pastor John Snidle

