

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

October 31, 2018

VACATION, HISTORY, FREEDOM

Several have asked about our vacation last week. I never want to go overboard on personal things, so I trust this is appropriate.

No, we were not at home. No, we were not with the girls. We went on a trip to Williamsburg, VA - to rest, to explore, and to get “historical”.

We spent a couple of days touring and seeing how the early colonists lived and what happened to them. The highlight was hearing and interacting with “Thomas Jefferson” on religion! We also went to Jamestown where it all began and Yorktown where the war finally ended - all in a 15-20 mile triangle. The museums were excellent, also the recreated army encampment, Indian Village, fort, and sailing ships!

We were reminded of things we had forgotten; we learned some we never knew, and we developed a deeper appreciation of the struggles and sacrifices made - so we could have freedom - in this country of ours. It is a privilege, not a right, and also a responsibility that we need to guard, cherish, and use.

Just as early settlers sacrificed for our national freedoms, we have spiritual freedom because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. That higher freedom is also one we must guard, cherish, and use.

Let us live in our freedoms.

MCD



“Scare on the Square”



Tonight we are handing out candy next to Pearman’s on the Square downtown. We have bags with a variety of candies, labels to let them know it was from FCC, Paris and handouts for the parents on Halloween and God. Pray for this outreach.



25th Community Prayer Breakfast

The 25th annual Community Prayer Breakfast will be held at the KC Hall this Saturday, Nov. 3, beginning at 8:00 AM. Tickets are available at the door for \$5 each. The speaker will be, Scottie Wilson, car racing chaplain with “Racers For Christ”. Come share it with us.

Advent Devotional

Please RSVP to the office (asap) if you are willing to do an Advent devotional (or not). The theme is: “How Do We Move Forward In The Midst Of Change?” The devotion only needs to be a short, half page length thought that goes with the theme or whatever God places on your heart. Add a title and scripture, if one goes well with it and turn it in by Monday, November 19. Thank you!

Advent Choir Rehearsals

The Community Advent Choir rehearsals are underway, but you still have time to join. The schedule for the upcoming practices is as follows: Thursday, Nov. 8; Monday, Nov. 19; Monday, Nov. 26; and Thursday, Nov. 29. All practices are at 7:00 PM and at the First United Methodist Church. The Community Advent Choir Program will be held at FUMC on Sunday, December 2 at 3:00 PM.



Hospitalized:
Elsie Jane Jackson, Paris
Home from the Hospital:
Aubrey Sanders

Congratulations to PHS football on their playoff win! Go Tigers!

Congratulations also to Cheryl Clark & family on the birth of her new grandson last week.

Rev. Mike Dixon is back from vacation.



-- Pastor John & all the cooks/ helpers and table hosts for our LOL with Bridges school;

-- Evie Gill for the 8:00 piano accompaniment;

-- Elders for their extra leadership on Sunday;

-- Cody Vaughn for the Children's Sermon;

-- Barbara Dick for directing the choir;

-- Mary Helen Hamilton for the Golden Age devotion;

-- All those who donated candy for the "Square" outreach, & the Evangelism Committee for the service.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Have a soft heart in a cruel world.

NOVEMBER PRAYER

"Father, during this month of shorter daylight hours, let us remember You are Light; in You there is no darkness at all. So as we stumble through trials of darkness, may we remember You are always with us. Amen."

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.

RETIREMENT RECEPTION

The "Dixon Retirement Reception" will be held on Sunday, January 6, 2019 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.

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

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

BIBLE STUDY

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

NOMINATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

We are working to have these ready for the November board meeting. If you are asked, please consider saying, "yes".

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ▶ Elder's to meet Thurs., November 8, at 5:00 PM.
- ▶ Board to meet Tues., November 13, at 7:00 PM.
- ▶ Our annual congregational meetings will be on Sun., November 18, following each service.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We have a plan for a children's Christmas program entitled, "Stars, Angels, Shepherds, Kings". Currently, God's Gang is working on the songs and Crossroads youth are practicing bells. This fun and inspirational evening is planned for Sunday, Dec. 9. More details to follow, but save the date!

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.

OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

We are seeking families and individuals to hosts international guests from Chicago educational institutions during the Thanksgiving weekend. The visitors arrive on Wednesday eve (Nov. 21) and depart early Sunday afternoon (Nov. 25). If you are going to be traveling, consider taking a guest with you. If you can't host the entire weekend, share-guest with another host. The Thanksgiving Fellowship accommodates all situations. "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by doing so some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2) Interested? Contact Barbara Dick at (217) 822-9997



ELECTION

Remember to vote next Tuesday! You can make a difference with your vote.

CIRCLES IN NOVEMBER

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: will meet Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 6:00 PM at the church. Hostess is Edna Creech, with Cindy Robinson bringing the lesson.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: will meet Thursday, Nov. 8, at 6:00 PM.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: will meet Thursday, Nov. 15, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Hostess is Donna Moody; lesson by Coralie Smittkamp.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: will meet Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 1:30 PM at the home of Berniece Hayes, hostess, with lesson by Carolyn Lanker.

“MOONSHINE”

Our trip to “Moonshine” is this Saturday, November 3. We will be leaving from FCC at 10:00 AM. The bus capacity is full, so anyone else who would like to go, please sign-up that you’ll drive on your own. Thank you!

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!

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!

FACEBOOK

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

INTERIM SEARCH

Our Search Committee has done their homework and is now ready to start reviewing ministerial profiles to follow up with contacts. Please continue to pray for God’s guidance with the committee and the ministers.



BRIDGES We had another LOL event this past Friday, if you weren’t aware. Since Rev. Mike was gone, I was tasked with leading it, so to those who were present, I’m sorry. However, if you went as a Table Host, we thank you! Your service to this church and to the youth that were present is more significant than words can express. I could see the value and appreciation in the eyes of the students. They may not always express it clearly, but this simple lunch program we’ve developed means a lot to them. Thank you also to all those who helped with donations of food, making the lunch, and setting up! We couldn’t do it without our volunteers!

YG/CR/GG There will be no Youth Group or 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. FCC will be in front of Pearman’s on the Square, so stop by and say, “hi”!

Upcoming Events November 16-18 we will have an event this church has never gone to before, and it is 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 do not. This may seem steep, but trust me, for this type of conference it is a good price! We will leave Friday around 5 pm and get back Sunday around 2-3 pm. Let me know ASAP if you are interested.

- 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"

ATTENDANCE

We count because you count!

Oct. 28: 8:00 - 41 10:00 - 79 Nursery - 3

TOTAL WORSHIP = 123

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 3, Jr & Sr High - 1, New Disciples - 8, Open Door - 16, New Horizons - 9

TOTAL SS = 37

OFFERING TOTALS

October 28, 2018

General Fund+E.G.*	\$4,007.25*
Sunday School	13.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Dixon Retirement Gift	222.00
Bell Choir	50.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions+E.G.*	374.00*
Reconciliation Offering-Hope House	20.00
Week of Compassion E.G.*	75.00*
Scholarship Fund	130.00
Permanent Fund	12.00
Building Fund+E.G.*	559.00*
TOTAL	\$5,562.25

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple Men's breakfast will be Saturday, November 17, at 8:00 AM. Location TBA.

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.

TIME CHANGE!

Don't forget THIS Saturday, November 3, to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed so you won't be late for church!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SERVING SCHEDULE: November 4, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dennis Thiel
DEACONESS: Cassie Boatman
PIANIST: Peg Dixon

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Dan Thomey
West: Cody, Katie, Colten, EJ Vaughn

ACOLYTES: Juan Gomez, Jake Perry

WORSHIP LEADER: Rick Kennedy

BREAD ELDER: Doug Hasler

DEACONESS: Janean Gilliland

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: Allen Englebright

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Claire Young

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jane Smittkamp

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Brooklyn Ward

NOVEMBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Katie Vaughn

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

SCRIPTURES: Ephesians 4:17-32

SERMON: "Tender Tenderizers" by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

SHUT-IN ELDERS: Dennis Thiel, Steve Webb