

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

November 7, 2018

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

When you went to vote this week, or earlier (and I hope you did) - you were given a little sticker to wear that proclaimed, “I voted today”. I saw several on Tuesday. It’s a good thing to do.

But what’s even better is that when you go to donate blood, they give you a sticker that proclaims, “I Make A Difference,” with the Red Cross name and logo to identify how. It’s a good thing.

And that’s what we are to do as God’s people - not just vote, not only to give blood, but to make a difference. You, your life - is to make a difference.

Let’s be straight - you are not here for just you. Sure, you have to take care of you and your business, but that’s not all; you are also here for God and thus, for others as well.

You and your life are to make a difference. God uses other people to make a difference to you; He wants to use you to do that for others and beyond.

We have created a little trifold brochure that highlights our community activities as FCC that we’ve handed out to others. We also have an insert that puts it into perspective by saying, “We are making a difference. We hope you are, too.”

Are you?

If we had stickers at worship that read, “I Am Making A Difference” in the community, in my church, in other people, would you wear it?

Are you?

MCD



VETERANS DAY

This Sunday, November 11, we will recognize and honor our veterans with the reading of their names and a gift. Join us as we thank our vets for serving and defending our freedoms.

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.

Advent Devotional

Please RSVP to the office (asap) to let us know if you will write an Advent devotion. 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 can go 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 12. Thank you!

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). Take on your family trip, share-a-guest with another host - we 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.



Home from the Hospital: Jamie Peel

New Address: Elsie Jane Jackson, Pleasant Meadows, Chrisman

Congratulations to the PHS football team and program on their very successful season!



-- Dan Dayton for painting our parking lines;

-- Dan Smittkamp for the gazebo tent used downtown;

-- Evangelism Committee and volunteers for representing FCC with candy and papers on the square;

-- Pam Lobb and Cindy Robinson for being FCC representatives to the Community Prayer Breakfast;

-- Roseann Moss for the "harvest scene" in the sanctuary;

-- Peg Dixon for the 8:00 accompaniment;

-- Allen Englebright for the Children's Sermon.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

The wishbone will never replace the backbone.

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."

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE SQUARE

We'll have a "booth" there as we serve S'mores again this year. Sign-up to help out on Saturday, November 24.

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. You must sign-up to attend the church dinner due to limited seating - only one name per line on the sign-up sheet.

HEAD, HANDS, HEART

The "Head, Hands, Heart" program for giving school children coats will be held this week, November 8, 9, and 10. Helpers are needed with distribution Thursday and Friday from 3-5:30 PM and Saturday 10-12:00 NN. Please sign-up.

BIBLE STUDY

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ▶ Elder's to meet Thurs., Nov. 8, at 5:00 PM.
- ▶ Evangelism Comm. Moved to Sun., Nov. 11, At 11:30 AM
- ▶ Board to meet Tues., Nov. 13, at 7:00 PM.
- ▶ Our annual congregational meetings will be on Sun., Nov. 18, following each service.

APPOINTMENTS

It is time to get ready for 2019. We are pleased that Steve Webb will serve as Chairperson next year. It is now time to make the appointments for next year and beyond. Please consider answering "yes," if asked - and thank you to those who have already!

"ADVENT CELEBRATION"

Join us Sunday, Dec. 9, for our Advent Celebration with a children's Christmas program entitled, "Stars, Angels, Shepherds, Kings" by our God's Gang and Crossroads youth. We will also share the new Chrismon and the Congregational Christmas Card will be available to sign.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

FCC will be ringing the Salvation Army bells at Walmart on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM. Rev. Mike will also be ringing with the children on Wednesday, Dec. 19, from 3:00-5:00 PM at Walmart. Sign-up to participate!



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at Nevins Christian Church on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 7:00 PM. Refreshments will follow.



CIRCLES IN NOVEMBER

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.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple Men's breakfast will be Saturday, November 17, at 8:00 AM at the newly opened "On The Tracks" Café (former Track Shack). Sign-up in the hallway.

REPORT ON "SCARE ON THE SQUARE"

The committee put together over 700 bags of candy to give out - and they were all gone in less than 2 hours! What a busy time and great turnout. We also gave out papers to the parents/adults, as well as represented Christ with smiles, joy, and love.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

We need volunteers to help serve and make desserts for the Community Kitchen on Monday, November 19. Please sign-up.

"SOCK-IT-TO-ME"

We will be collecting new, pre-school size, socks for the local Head Start kids for one more week. 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!



YG/CR/GG Youth group, Crossroads, and God's Gang will resume this week! Aren't you so glad? I am. Youth group is every Wednesday, from 6:30-8; 6th through 12th grade; all are welcome to participate.

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 "Honoring Veterans" which I think is a pretty great theme. Not certain what all is planned for this week, but it is sure to be an ineffable evening! As always of course.

WARNING There will be no Youth Group or God's Gang or Crossroads on November 21st. It's Thanksgiving time! Go get fat and happy.

Upcoming Events Attention all, we will no longer be attending the event ICYC that I have written about previously. The reason being is that nobody signed up in time, therefore we cannot attend. Do not fret, we have plenty more events planned! Upcoming include Frenzy, Ski Trip, and Mid-Winter. Our next event is Frenzy (our yearly overnigher in between Christmas and New Year's), so ready yourselves for one of our most popular events! If you are a parent and would like to help chaperone, please let me know ahead of time.

MOST IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

I would like to bring this to everyone's attention because it is very important: less than 50 days until Christmas!! I hope you are ready and have started decorating! I know I have. Merry Christmas!

- John Snidle, Youth Minister



INTERIM SEARCH

Please continue to pray for Chair Elisabeth Johnson, Dick James, Kristin Chittick, Tammy Terry, John Snidle as our Search Committee, and for the minister we will find and call to come serve us. Pray for God's guidance and involvement.



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!

Nov. 4: 8:00 - 55 10:00 - 108 Nursery - 3

TOTAL WORSHIP = 166

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 2, 2nd-5th - 1, Jr & Sr High - 4, New Disciples - 7, Open Door - 20, New Horizons - 0

TOTAL SS = 34

OFFERING TOTALS

November 4, 2018

General Fund	\$6,744.50
Sunday School	26.00
God's Gang	50.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	100.00
Food Pantry	150.00
Dixon Retirement Gift	365.00
MICE	10.00
Faith In Action	10.00
Head, Hands, Heart	48.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	640.00
Reconciliation Offering-Hope House	50.00
Thanksgiving Offering	25.00
Church Bus Fund	25.00
Building Fund	541.00
TOTAL	\$8,784.50

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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SERVING SCHEDULE: November 11, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Daryl Bridwell
DEACONESS: Pam Lobb
PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Cassandra & Montana Boatman

West: Sam & Saunny Preston

ACOLYTES: Steven West, Jasmine Littlejohn

WORSHIP LEADER: Tammy Terry

BREAD ELDER: Chris Milam

DEACONESS: Ellen Webb

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

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Lainey Ogle, Capt., Aubrey

Sanders, Alex Tapscott, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Mark Johnson

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Brooklyn Ward

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Edna Creech

SOUND SYSTEM: Chris Milam

PROJECTION: Chris Milam

NOVEMBER FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Katie Vaughn

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

SCRIPTURES: Philemon 1-21

SERMON: "It's Useful to be Useful!"



by Rev. Michael C. Dixon