

THE MESSENGER

“MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH”

January 3, 2019

HOW CHANGE IMPACTS MY LIFE

As I think about my life; and how in every day I must deal with some change, it becomes clear to me that change is just a part of life. Some days I deal with issues that are good, fun, and easy; some days changes are harder to deal with because they also affect the lives of others, and so require careful consideration for correct handling. That is real life, and who we become is part of our learning how to deal with these daily changes: big or little, hard or easy, just affecting me or many, every response to a change will make a difference of some kind to someone.

I have a wall-hanging in my family room that says, “Faith is not believing that God can - it is knowing that He will.” I read it every day as a reminder to me of just how true it is and believing THAT makes my daily changes easier to accept and deal with. I send this saying to all of you today with the hope that it may also help you deal with your daily changes.

Donna Garver

Prayer: Dear God, I come to You this day and every day thanking You for all the blessings You bestow on me and for the help that comes from You as I deal with daily changes in my life. I ask that this same grace be given to everyone today, as we all deal with our daily changes. I pray all this in the name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

This Sunday, January 6

We will have ONE - COMBINED WORSHIP at 9:00 AM this Sunday (with Sunday School classes dismissed until next week). The guest speaker will be Brother Karl Marshall, retired minister from the Lake Ridge Christian Church and current Chaplain to the Pleasant Meadows Senior Living. Since he is serving in that role each Sunday at Pleasant Meadows, we adjusted our services so that he could speak here and then head back to Chrisman in time to serve there. Rev. Scott Woolridge of CCIW will also be here. During worship, we will be dedicating our 2019 Church Leaders and ask that all Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses, Ushers, Trustees, Jr. Deacons, and Committee Chairpersons be in attendance. In addition, we will introduce the 2019 theme, “Moving Forward in Faith”. Come join us!

DIXON RETIREMENT DINNER & RECEPTION

The Dixon Retirement Dinner, for all those who are signed up, will be held at the KC Hall this Sunday, Jan. 6, at 11:30 AM. Parking assistance will be available at the main door for those who need it. Doors will open at 11:15 AM. * The reception, which is open to the community, will also be at the KC Hall later that afternoon from 2:00-4:00 PM. *

Christmas Offering

The goal for the Christmas Offering was \$2,000 and the total given was \$1,976. Thank you! The entire offering goes to the Christian Church in Illinois-Wisconsin for the regional ministries.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Youth Pastor John Snidle, who was ordained at his hometown church in Olney on Monday, December 31! Several from FCC were able to attend and share in the wonderful service. We offer our congratulations and prayers of blessing as he devotes his life to serving the Lord.



Happy New Year!





Hospitalized:

Karen Newhart, Union
Ken Dennison, Union
Shirley Edwards, Paris

Home from the Hospital: John Swanson
(Betty Burgess-Swanson's husband)

Rick & Kim Ward are trying to recover from their house fire. If you have items to contribute or a place they could live, contact Grace Ward at 264-4360.

Our sympathies go to Leslie Kennedy & family in the death of her brother last month.

Congratulations go to Saunny & Sam Preston on the birth of a new granddaughter in Minnesota recently!

And congratulations to the State Champion 8th Grade Girls Basketball Team and families!



-- Tony & Kathy Peel for the flowers the 23rd in memory of Aaron;

-- Rev. Mike & children for the bell-ringing;

-- God's Gang & adults, and youth for Christmas caroling;

-- JC Foley and Joel Gleckler for the Men's Breakfast;

-- Daryl & Lori Bridwell, John & Kristin Chittick, Roger & Cynthia Faulk, John & Riley Snidle, and Mark, Elisabeth, Greg, & Grant Johnson for the Advent candle meditations and candlelighting;

-- Karen Newhart & Nancy Englebright for the Minutes for Mission;

-- Cindy Mathis, Pastor John, & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Peg Dixon, Mary Helen Hamilton & Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniments;

-- Adrienne Haupt for the Special Music on Christmas Eve;

-- Rev. Mike & Peg Dixon for the worship flowers the 30th;

-- Trustees for the new entry floor mats!

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

God doesn't call the equipped,
He equips the called.

JANUARY PRAYER

"Dear Lord, we know that all things work together for the good of those who love You and are chosen to be part of Your plan. Help us to rely on You and remember You are in control. Amen."



In order to keep you "in the know" about events, plans, things that are happening with members, etc., I need to be "in the know". Seriously, let's talk. Communication will be vital as we move forward at FCC. This means that plans from any committee/group, sickness/hospitalizations/news, events, everything that we would normally report - needs to be relayed to the Church Office! It also means that we'll need patience. Last minute items may not be able to be done. There might be two ways communication can go: 1) we don't have any and no one knows what's going on - or - 2) there is too much and nothing gets done due to the overload. So, emails are great, please limit calls and visit times, or leave me a note in the Office Box is fine. We'll have to make adjustments and I'll try to communicate those as we go along. Let's keep working together as we "move forward in faith"!

- Cheryl

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Christian Education, Community Outreach, Disciples Outreach, Evangelism, Membership, Stewardship/Finance, and Worship Committees will be meeting on Sunday, Jan. 20, at 2:00 PM. All committee members need to attend in order to plan for the 2019 year.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2019 offering envelopes are out on the hallway table for those who currently use a number. If you don't have a number and would like offering envelopes, sign up on the sheet.

PRAY FOR PARIS DISPLAY

Remember to pray for - Wenz School - Students & Staff and your own personal Paris Prayer Focus.

2019 DESK CALENDARS

We have been informed that the desk calendars are coming... just a little later! We'll let you know when they are available!

BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
FCCParis

CIRCLES IN JANUARY

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: will meet Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 6:00 PM at the church.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: will meet Thursday, Jan. 10, at 6:00 PM.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: will meet Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 1:30 PM.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: will meet Thursday, Jan. 17, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen.

"YOU ARE INVITED"

You are invited to Marge Houghland's 85th Birthday Bash on Sunday, January 13, from 2:00-4:00 PM in the FCC Fellowship Hall. No gifts, please, but cards would be appreciated!

BELL RINGING / CAROLING

Thank you to all those who helped with ringing the bells for Salvation Army and/or going caroling to various homes and nursing homes. Your involvement was a gift!

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The Community Kitchen for January will be Monday, the 21. Please sign-up to help, we need volunteers for desserts and to serve.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple Men's breakfast will be Saturday, Jan. 19, at 8:00 AM at Main Street Café.

Thank You!

All the staff would like to say a great big THANK YOU for the Love Offering received at Christmas. Thank you so much for showing us your generous love! - Mike, Peg, Cheryl, John, Kathy, Connie, Jim, Betty & Evelyn

Upcoming Events Youth Sunday is eerily close, February 3rd! I have already asked several youth to participate and they have excitedly agreed, but there are still many more that need be asked! So if you are a youth, prepare to say yes. Youth Sunday will be only one service, as is the norm, at 9am, with no Sunday School.

Christmas has passed; it was very jolly indeed. I hope you all had a blessed Christmas and a happy new year! Only 356 days until next Christmas, approximately.

- John Snidle, Youth Minister



YG/CR/GG Youth Group, Cross Roads, and God's Gang are out for Christmas break! Youth Group will resume on January 16th, Cross Roads and God's Gang will resume early February.

Reports Frenzy was a success! For those that volunteered your time and energy and part of your souls to help lead the event, God bless you; I truly thank you, I most certainly could not do that by myself. If you missed it and had a regular night full of sleep, you missed an adventure. There was games, skating, food, more games, and fun had by all. Determining the level of success is measured by the quality, not the quantity. That being said, we had 42 youth in attendance and 9 adults; that's pretty darn awesome if I do say so myself!

If you hadn't heard, I was ordained this last Monday at my home church in Olney IL, along with 4 other friends of mine that are either currently involved in ministry or are in school to do so. It was a very humbling experience, but also very motivating. I was so encouraged and uplifted by those that came to support me and by the ceremony itself. I am committed to a life of service for God, there's no going back now! I would like to say thank you to everyone from FCC who drove down together to support me; it was an entire busload!

Upcoming events for high school and Jr. high include Ski Trip (Jan 18-21) and Mid-Winter (Jan 26-27). Our next event is Ski Trip! We will leave Friday morning towards Michigan and get back Monday evening. We are skiing at Timber Ridge Ski Resort in Gobles, and our lodging will be at a nearby church camp. This is not a closed event, we are one out of many youth groups heading to the same place, which means in-between skiing we will spend time with other youth groups from around the area. There will be food, games, worship, messages, and crazy dares while at the lodges. I went when I was in high school and trust me, it's a blast.

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THE MESSENGER

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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!

Dec. 23: 8:00 - 63 10:00 - 109 Nursery - 2 = 174

TOTAL SS = 50

Dec. 24: 7:00 PM - 195 + Nursery 3 = 198

Dec. 30: 8:00 - 61 10:00 - 139 Nursery - 2 = 202

OFFERING TOTALS	Dec. 23	Dec. 30, 2018
Gen'l Fund+E.G.*	\$4,676.50*	\$3,511.25
Envelopes	1.00	
Sunday School	28.00	
God's Gang	25.00	25.00
Choices Preg&Health	50.00	50.00
Food Pantry	80.00	50.00
Emer. Fund (Ward)	40.00	
Dixon Retirement Gift	25.00	200.00
Reimbursement: phone	39.60	
Community Kitchen	150.00	100.00
Paris Ministerial Fund	50.00	
Dis.Out./Missions+E.G.*	395.00*	304.00
Wk. of Compassion E.G.*	75.00	
Christmas Offering	606.00	984.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00	
Scholarship Fund		500.00
Permanent Fund		12.00
Building Fund+E.G.*	1,390.00*	449.00
TOTAL	\$7,681.10*	\$6,185.25

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SERVING SCHEDULE: January 6, 2019

~ ONE COMBINED SERVICE AT 9:00 AM ~

GREETERS:

E: Kevin, Kim, Thomas, Claire Woods

W: Nels, Autumn Kasey; John, Kiersten, John Luke Edgar

ACOLYTES: Drew & Graham Templeton

WORSHIP LEADER: Tammy Terry

BREAD ELDER: Rick Kennedy

DEACONESS: Carolyn Ray

DEACONS: Team 1, Doug Smittkamp, Captain; Cory Craig,

Candi Milam, Doc & Donna Moody, Kevin Woods, Margo

Yeargin, Bruce Young

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Greg Johnson, Capt., Gage

Johnson, Austin Kirk, Cydney Miller, Jaydin Seeley

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Tony Peel

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Montana Boatman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Edna Creech

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Peel

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

JANUARY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Autumn Kasey

JAN. USHERS: Randy Creech, Chris Milam, Dwight Robinson

SCRIPTURE: II Timothy 4:1-8

SERMON: "The Baton is Passed" by Karl Marshall

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: Kim Woods & Daryl Bridwell



- The first bi-monthly Board meeting for 2019 will be Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 7:00 PM.
- We plan to be back to our regular worship schedule on Sunday, January 13, with services at 8:00 and 10:00 AM. Sunday School will resume at 9:00 AM for all ages!