

THE MESSENGER

“MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH”

March 6, 2019

We are using this section as an introduction to what goes on behind the scenes from each of our Program Committees: Christian Education, Community Outreach, Disciples Outreach, Evangelism, Membership, Stewardship/Finance and Worship. As you read about what they do, if you are not already on a committee and want to be, let us know!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

So, you've seen all the previous committee articles and you're wondering what the Worship Committee does? That's simple - the next time you're sitting in the sanctuary at a worship service, just take a look around you!

◆ The projection and the sound systems are operated by volunteers who we secure and schedule.

◆ The items in the pew pockets, the Children's Packets at the back, the annual Theme Banner over the baptistry, the Church Life Banner at the front, the upkeep of the candles, the changing colors of the paraments, the flower arrangements - all handled by us!

◆ The mailing of "The Secret Place" devotionals are now handled by our committee.

How about the different people assisting with various parts of the service? The substitute ministers/speakers, Children's Sermons speakers, Acolytes, summer Special Music guests, 8:00 pianists, and hymn-sing leaders - all secured and scheduled by us!

We handle special services, and their respective "decorations" or "gifts", such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter and the Palm Sunday 24-Hour Prayer Chain, and of course, all that goes along with Christmas and the Advent season.

We're a busy bunch of people - just take a look around, and you'll see for yourself!

Coralie Smitkamp & Deena Hasler, Co-Chairs



ASH WEDNESDAY

Today is Ash Wednesday and this evening we will have our service at 6:00 PM led by our new interim minister, Pastor Mark Parkinson. The Lenten Prayer Packets will be available for all who wish to participate. The service is short and we invite God's Gang and Crossroad kids and families to stay and worship with us.



Meet & Greet for the Parkinson's

The Staff Relations Committee invites you to our "Meet and Greet" for Pastor Mark and Kendala Parkinson on Sunday, March 17 from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Let's show them a real "Midwest" welcome as we enjoy desserts together. Everyone is welcome!



New Addresses:

Ken Dennison,
Providence Healthcare
1 Providence Place
St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876

and

Dorothy Monroney
Lewis Memorial Christian Village
3400 W. Washington St., Room #309
Springfield, IL 62711



-- David & Barbara Dick and all those who helped move the Parkinson's in, and the Koinonia Circle for providing lunch for all the workers;

- to all the youth and helpers who attended the Lazer Tag outing;
- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 piano accompaniment;
- Nels Kasey for the Children's Sermon;
- Connie Houston for stuffing and mailing the Secret Place devotions to our shut-ins;
- Donna Garver for preparing the Lenten Prayer Packets;
- Jim Bennett for installing new lights at the Washington Street entry.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Anything that annoys you is teaching you patience.

MARCH PRAYER

"Lord, no matter what this year has in store for us, we know You are always working for our good. As we grow in strength and grace, let us keep our eyes on You, Amen."

LENTEN SERVICES

The Presbyterian Church of Paris will once again host a series of Wednesday noon services during the season of Lent. The services will begin on March 13 and continue through April 10. Each week's service will include special musical selections from Paris musicians and a brief message from a local pastor. The 30-minute service will begin at noon and end at 12:30. Afterwards a light lunch will be served in the downstairs Fellowship Hall for a small cost. All are invited to attend these unique services which are intended to provide a time of meditation and reflection. A freewill offering will be available to support the Paris Ministerial Fellowship.

CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

High school seniors and college students - the FCC Scholarships are now available on our website and in the church hallway. Those available to the community are also listed on the PHS website. Deadline for application and two references is April 15.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Elders - Thursday, March 7, 5:00 PM
- Board - Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 PM

LENTEN PRAYER PACKETS

Each year we devote the season of Lent to praying for one another. Our Lenten Prayer Paks will be offered beginning tonight and available until all the packets are taken. They contain names of members to pray for, an instruction letter, and a Lenten devotional booklet for you to use.

RAMP ENTRY

For the safety of our congregation, there will be a chain at the ramp entrance to the Prayer Room to close the ramp whenever the weather makes it too dangerous to use. Even though icemelt is distributed very early on Sunday mornings, there is not enough time for temperatures to rise so that the ice is melted in time for morning services. This means the ramp is still patchy. Therefore, we are asking you to use Washington Street entrance, and the elevator if needed, to enter the sanctuary. Elevator usage instructions are displayed inside or you can ask anyone for help. Thank you.

- The Trustees

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is each Tuesday at 10:30 AM in the Jerusalem Room. You're invited!

SECRET PLACE

Several "Secret Place" devotionals for March-April-May are still available. Look for them at the entryways.



TIME CHANGE!

Be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 9, before you go to bed. Daily Savings Time begins!



CIRCLES IN MARCH

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, Mar. 14, at 6:00 PM at the church.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday, Mar. 19, at 1:30 PM at the home of Corky Davidson. The study leader will be Mary Helen Hamilton.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, Mar. 21, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Co-hostesses will be Peggy Barath & Coralie Smittkamp, with Peggy Barath bringing the lesson.

CWF BLESSING BOX CALENDAR

Please continue to count your "Blessings" with the CWF calendar.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple's Men will meet for breakfast on Saturday, March 16, at 8:00 AM at the Main Street Café. All men are welcome.

HAM LOAVES

Check out this week's insert in the newsletter to order Ham Loaves from the Disciples Men! Orders are due in no later than Wednesday, April 3. We will be preparing them by hand on Saturday, April 6 and you can pick them up between 10:00 AM-12:00 NN that day, or after services on Sunday, April 7. This fundraiser goes to support their scholarship and other outreach ministries.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Community Kitchen is Monday, March 18. Sign-up to help serve or bring desserts!

WEEK OF COMPASSION

Our goal for this year's Week of Compassion offering is \$1,200. We have received a total of \$703 to this point. Thank you!

Thank You!

We wish to say a special thank you to all those who helped in any way with getting the Parkinson's settled - from the cleaning, to the moving, to the lunch provided by the ladies. We are thankful for the way everyone came together to help in this time of need.

- Staff Relations Committee



YG/CR/GG Youth group is every Sunday from 6:30-8; please join us!

Cross Roads and God's Gang has resumed! The theme this year is "Everyday Superheroes," we are learning about how people we know and love can be our heroes. This week our guest hero will be: firemen. Directly after God's Gang gets out will be the Ash Wednesday service, from 6-6:30. All children and their parents are invited to stay and participate!

Recently the youth group went to Terre Haute for a night of laser tag, it was not intended to be a big ordeal, just a fun time with the youth group regulars. However, God knew it was a bigger opportunity than I did because we had a much bigger turn out than I expected, had such a blast, and had a new student come with us! It was a great night, so glad God blessed our trip and thankful for everyone who came!

Upcoming Events Next Friday, March 15th, we will once again be making a delivery to our friends at Bridges. Thankfully, this month we have the opportunity to not only provide lunch for them but also eat lunch with them! We try to do this once every two or three months, so that we keep connected to their lives and remember just how fun they can be!

At the end of this month, March 29th, the youth group will experiment with a new event called "MTV Awards." Although the acronym may stand for something else, like the real MTV Awards, we will watch videos and give out awards! But instead of movies with big budgets, they will be homemade videos made by the youth, so you can expect some interesting outcomes. We will have a theme for the night of what to come dressed as and the theme is: duct tape! So come dressed as whatever you like, just be sure the costume is made of duct tape!

Summer camp may seem far away, but registration is not; I would highly suggest signing up for summer camp as soon as you can! This year, we will not be promoting Camp Walter Scott like we usually do. This year, we are encouraging the youth to sign at Camp Illiana. The dates are: Middle School 1 June 9-14; High School 1 May 28-June 1. Both camps cost \$269, but the church will pay for half to encourage attendance, so that's only \$135 for you! Plus we will be having fundraisers to help with that amount as well. If all goes according to plan I will be a counselor at both of these camps, so there will be at least one friendly face there!

MICE will be going by bus to the Children's Museum, Sunday, March 24 at 1:00 PM, returning at 4:00 PM.

- John Snidle, Youth Minister



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

201 S. Main St., Paris, Illinois 61944

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Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 AM-12 NN, 1-4 PM

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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!

March 3: 8:00 - 47 10:00 - 91 Nursery - 4

TOTAL: 142

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 2, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 10, Open Door - 21, New Horizons - 11

TOTAL SS = 44

OFFERING TOTALS

March 3, 2019

General Fund	\$4,531.00
Sunday School	19.00
Food Pantry	115.00
Choices Pregnancy & Health	50.00
MICE	10.00
Community Kitchen	.00
God's Gang	100.00
Youth Fund	121.56
Head, Hands, Heart	100.00
Disciples Outreach/Missions	352.00
Week of Compassion Offering	291.00
Church Bus Fund	50.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
Building Fund	437.00
TOTAL	\$6,206.56

SERVING SCHEDULE: March 10, 2019

8:00 AM: ELDER: Dan Lynch
DEACONESS: Cynthia Faulk
PIANIST: Evie Gill

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

EAST: Jim & Sue Bennett

WEST: Steve & Ellen Webb

ACOLYTES: Morgan Coombes, Sophie Young

WORSHIP LEADER: David Dick

BREAD ELDER: Nels Kasey

DEACONESS: Janean Gilliland

DEACONS: Team 3, Patty Waters, Captain; Jim & Sue Bennett, Sue Elliott, Mark Johnson, Mike Kirk, Jacob Thomas, Cody Vaughn

JR DEACONS: Team #3, Kaitlyn Coombes, Capt., Ava Huddleson, Ben & Claire Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Troy Sanders

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Will Templeton

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Nancy Englebright

SOUND SYSTEM: John Chittick

PROJECTION: Dan Smittkamp

MARCH FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King, James Brooks

MARCH USHERS: Randy Creech, Chris Milam, Dwight Robinson

SCRIPTURE: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

SERMON: "How Do You Worship?" by Rev. Mark Parkinson

SERMON SYNOPSIS

As a little precursor to Sunday, we'll try to give you a synopsis each week concerning the sermon. The following explains what you'll hear from the sermon entitled, "How Do You Worship?": Every church that ever came into being had to ponder this same question. So, what is the correct way to worship. It isn't often that we see in the scriptures, texts about how we should worship today and even less frequent that we see how the Jews worshiped back in the time before and during the ministry of Jesus. Nehemiah and Luke give us some insight into those aspects of worship.