

THE MESSENGER

“MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH”

March 27, 2019

PLANS FOR THANKSGIVING

It might be several months away – OK, eight months away – but it will be here before you know it. We’ve all been through the process. What’s your tradition for gathering as family to enjoy the one day of the year that we are permitted to eat so much that you are almost ready to bust; but remember to stop short of busting?

Maybe you always meet at Grandma’s house and maybe you eat your holiday feast at the same time every year. That makes it easy and requires no additional planning but I know that the ‘best laid plans...’ seem to reach a breaking point and adjustments need to be made. So, how do you handle such obstacles?

Maybe some of your family can make it to a new location for that Turkey Day dinner but only if you sit down to eat by 11:00 a.m. because the ‘other side of their family’ is planning a meal for 2:00 p.m. Then, there are those who just can’t imagine eating that early in the day because there are way too many preparations to be completed in being ready to eat. They request that you gather at 1:00 p.m., or later.

The important thing to remember is that you are supposed to get together to be ‘Thankful.’ No matter when you get together or when you eat, you can be thankful. The intent of our combined worship service for this week is to come together around Christ’s Table to partake in communion; as family.

It is NOT an attempt to migrate to a single weekly worship service and no matter what time we pick, there will be some who will find it to be inconvenient. So be it; but please give God the opportunity to bless each of us in whatever we decide on for a time of worship – worship of our Creator God. I am confident that we will leave completely satisfied with however God fills us with His love.

In Christ’s Love, *Pastor Parky*

PRAYER VIGIL

24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Thank you to those who have already signed up for our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil. There are still several time slots open and the dates/times range from 8:00 AM Saturday, April 13 through 8:00 AM Sunday, April 14. Check out availability on the sheet located by the sign-up desk. Several have shared what a special time it has been for them to participate; see for yourself!

5th Sunday - Combined Worship

This coming Sunday, March 31, is a 5th Sunday when we will come together for worship at 9:00 AM. We will also have special music by “The Joyful Ringers” and Pastor Mark’s brother, Phil, will be visiting with us. Sunday School will meet at 8:00 AM (the New Horizon’s class plans to meet after worship at 10:00). The format will be a combination of early and late worship. So, let’s join together in worshipping God.

Lenten Services

During Lent the Presbyterian Church is hosting noon Music & Meditation services each Wednesday through April 10. Rev. Mark Parkinson will be speaking at the April 3 service, for those who would like to especially attend that day. A light lunch follows in the Fellowship Hall for a small cost.



Home from the Hospital:
Susan King
Martha Stephen

New Address: Bea Mae Camp, 300 Lincoln Highway Rd., #41, Charleston, IL 61920-3884



-- Kim Woods for speaking at both the 8:00 & 10:00 AM worship services;

-- Pete Templeton for the 8:00 piano accompaniment;

-- Cody Vaughn for the Children's Sermon;

-- Cathy Melendez for the devotion at the Golden Age luncheon;

-- Pastor Mark & Kendala Parkinson for sharing their story for the Golden Age program.

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

Better saved than sorry.



APRIL PRAYER

"Each spring the earth responds to the cycle of growth You established from the beginning. Father, may we respond to Your call for our growth in the same obedience, giving our all to You, in Jesus name, Amen."

LENTEN PRAYERS

Thank you to all those who picked up a Prayer Packet to pray for others during Lent. Please continue to pray to Palm Sunday and then you are asked to send a note to those you've been praying for during Holy Week.



"UNPLANNED"

The movie, "Unplanned", a true story of Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood clinical director and spokesman who was changed by what she saw, will be at the Paris Theatre this Thursday, March 28, at 6:45 PM. It is free, sponsored by "40 Days for Life", but you must contact Mary Ann Sullivan for tickets at 463-2435.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- CWF Leadership on Thursday, March 28, at 1:00 PM.
- Trustees will meet Thursday, March 28, at 6:00 PM
- Membership Committee will meet on Sunday, March 31, at 1:00 PM
- Elders will meet Tuesday, April 4, at 5:00 PM

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study continues on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM. Everyone welcome!

CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

College bound students, be sure to fill out & turn in your scholarships! Deadline is April 15.

SECRET PLACE

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

PASTOR TROY FUNDRAISER

Pastor Troy Warner, of the First Baptist Church here in Paris, had to undergo heart surgery back in February. FBC will be having a "Turkey & Noodle Dinner" on Sunday, Mar. 31, in order to raise funds to offset the medical expenses. Dinner also includes: mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert and drink. They are asking for at least an \$8 donation, \$5 for children 10 and under. There will be a drive-thru from the back east-west alley out to Central St.



STAFF CONVERSATIONS

Each week on Monday mornings from 10:30 to 11:00 AM the staff will gather in Pastor Mark's office for a time of prayer and organizational, sharing conversations. There will be signs posted to let you know should you come into the building during that time.

STOVE FOR SALE

We have a white stove, formerly in the church kitchen, available for sale. See Jim Bennett with questions.

APRIL CIRCLES

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: will meet the second Tuesday of April, 9th, at 6:00 PM at the church. Susan King will bring the lesson and Cathy Melendez will be hostess.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, April 11, at 6:00 PM at the home of Angel Templeton.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday, April 16, at 1:30 PM at the home of Carolyn Lanker. Lesson will be by Karen Newhart.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, April 18, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen. Hostess is Pam Lobb with lesson by Cindy Mathis.

CWF BLESSING BOX CALENDAR

This is the final week to count your "Blessings" in March. Thank you for participating! Please turn in Blessing Box Donations this Sunday, March 31.

GOLDEN AGE

This month's Golden Age luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 26, at 12:00 NN. The program will be by Rev. Mark & Kendala Parkinson, so sign-up to join us!

HAM LOAVES

You still have time to turn in your order for Ham Loaves from our Disciples Men! Orders will be accepted through Wednesday, April 3 at noon. Ham loaves will be ready from 10-12 NN, Saturday, April 6. (MEN: Bring your own breakfast to start at 8:00 AM on the 6th.)

FREE CHILDREN'S MOVIE

During school's "spring break" our Evangelism Committee sponsors a free children's movie at the Paris Theatre. This year it will be "Balto" and the showings will be April 15, 16, & 17 at 10:00 AM each day. They will be giving away prizes and puppy chow (however, the theatre will be charging for popcorn, drinks, etc.).

MICE

In April the MICE will be going to Aikman's Wildlife Adventure on Sunday, the 14th. Meet at FCC to ride the bus at 1:00 PM.

MEN'S BANQUET

The Men's Banquet will be Tuesday, April 30 at 6:00 PM, with the program by Trent Meacham, former Illini basketball player. Tickets will be available Sunday, April 7, for \$8 each.



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: Ministers. We will hear from our very own Mr. Marky Parky!

We all love coffee right? Lucky for you, our youth will henceforth be running a coffee bar on Sunday mornings as a fundraiser for their trips! It will be every week during Sunday School (9-10), with snacks, only donations accepted for payment. Since young people aren't usually known for their culinary skills, we are asking that every week an adult will volunteer to bring in snacks for everyone to enjoy; a sign-up sheet will be posted so you can schedule ahead of time!

Upcoming Events April 7th at regular youth group time (6:30), the youth group will be trying out a new event that I stole from my youth group days called "MTV Awards." Although the acronym may commonly be known for something else, like the real MTV Awards, we have made it into our own! We will watch videos and give out awards just like the official 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. Instead, 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. Registration ends June 10th, but I highly suggest you not wait, these camps fill up quickly! Also, if you have been bearing any ill will towards the youth minister for leaving Walter Scott this year, have no fear; you are still more than welcome to attend Walter Scott and not go to Illiana, it's just that I will not be there.

- 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: FCCParis

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"

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ATTENDANCE

We count because you count!

March 24: 8:00 - 46 10:00 - 111 Nursery - 2

TOTAL: 159

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 0, 2nd-5th - 4, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 9, Open Door - 18, New Horizons - 9

TOTAL SS = 40

OFFERING TOTALS

March 24, 2019

General Fund+E.G.*	\$4,846.25*
Envelopes	2.00
Sunday School	25.00
Food Pantry	62.00
Emergency Fund	20.00
MICE	10.00
God's Gang	130.00
Community Kitchen	50.00
Camp Scholarship Fund	15.00
Lunch On the Lawn	50.00
Dis. Outreach/Missions+E.G.*	299.00*
Week of Compassion E.G.*	25.00*
Church Bus Fund	10.00
Scholarship Fund	30.00
Permanent Fund	37.00
Building Fund+E.G.*	559.00*
TOTAL	\$6,170.25*

**includes Electronic Giving*

SERVING SCHEDULE: March 31, 2019 LENT

8:00 AM: Sunday School (New Horizons @ 10)

9:00 AM COMBINED SERVICE

GREETERS:

EAST: Doug & Deena Hasler

WEST: Cindy Mathis, Mallorie & Taylor Shewey

ACOLYTES: Myli Tapscott, Jake Perry

WORSHIP LEADER: Kristin Chittick

BREAD ELDER: Mary Carriere

DEACONESS: Penny Ogle

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: Tony Peel

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Jenny McMahan

NURSERY HELPER: Sammy Milam

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Kenny Milam & Sydney Mason

SOUND SYSTEM: Joe Gill

PROJECTION: Evie Gill

MARCH FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Susan King, James Brooks

MARCH USHERS: Randy Creech, Chris Milam,

Dwight Robinson

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

SERMON: "Human Point of View" by Rev. Mark Parkinson

SERMON SYNOPSIS

Jesus came to earth as a tiny baby; a human. As He learned from His earthly father, Joseph, He grew in His wisdom and knowledge of His heavenly Father. Eventually, being the obedient Son that He was, He was baptized by John in the River Jordan. God filled Him with the power of the Holy Spirit and instilled in Him divine wisdom and knowledge. As we prepare for Christ, moving toward the cross following this season of Lent, do we consider Jesus to be human or divine? Do we base our following of this Savior on that consideration?