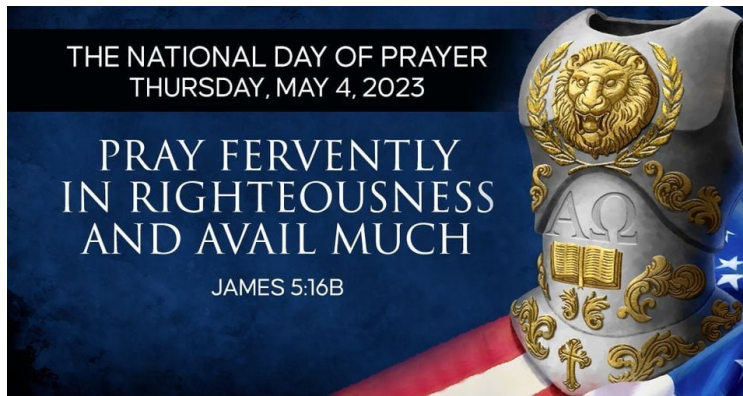


# THE MESSENGER

Believing, Behaving, Becoming Like Christ

April 27, 2023



## National Day of Prayer *“Blessed People”*

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.  
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are ye, when men revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

- Matthew 5:3-12

## *Sunday School Teacher Appreciation*

On Sunday, May 7, a Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast is being planned in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00 AM with gifts for the teachers. Please attend to express your appreciation.



## **MOONSHINE OUTING!**



The Membership Committee is hosting an FCC Family Outing to Moonshine on Saturday, May 13! The bus is filled, but you are welcome to drive and follow the bus there. We will be leaving from FCC at 10:30 AM that morning. Please indicate on the sign-up if you plan to drive. The only cost is your meal! Come enjoy the scenery, enjoy the food, and enjoy the company!

## **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Pentecost Sunday is May 28 where traditionally you have been invited to wear red as this is the color that signifies the work of the Holy Spirit. You are still welcome to do so!

## **FCC GRADUATES**

FCC graduates will to be recognized on Sunday, June 4. Be sure to let us know if you have an 8th grade, high school, or college graduate so that we can list them in the newsletter and congratulate them on June 4!



Paris Healthcare: Martha Stephen,  
Richard Melendez

Pleasant Meadows: Dorothy Waltz,  
Brandon Bell, Linda Driver

To Rehab: Dorothy McGee, Twin Lakes Rehab  
Home from Hospital: Randy Creech

Continue prayers for: Janice Nicholson and  
Louise Bridwell

Our sympathies to the families of Karen  
Newhart and Carolyn Lanker on their recent  
passing. Services were last week.



-- Jacob Thomas and Taylor  
Shewey for the Children's  
Sermons;

Cassie Boatman and Edna Creech  
for leading Children's Church;

-- the Joyful Ringers & Chandler Dorjahn for  
their Special Music;

-- all those who made God's Gang/Crossroads  
a success this semester! Thank you for all your  
hard work and dedication;

-- the Templeton family for flowers in memory of  
Bob Templeton and Dean & Coralie Smittkamp  
for the pulpit flowers in honor of their 62nd  
Wedding Anniversary!

### **BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

"...each person is tempted when he is lured and  
enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it  
has conceived gives birth to sin; and sin when it  
is full-grown brings forth death. Do not be  
deceived, my beloved brethren."

- James 1:14-16

### **MAY PRAYER**

Dear Father, Help us to be humble, to be  
truthful and admit when we fail. Help us to be  
sincerely repentant, not proud, in order to bring  
forgiveness and healing. Thank You for Your  
grace, which we don't deserve, but shows Your  
marvelous love. In Jesus' name, amen.

### **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

The Paris Ministerial Fellowship is sponsoring a  
breakfast and prayer service at Betty Jane's  
restaurant on Thursday, May 4, at 8:00 AM to  
provide the community an opportunity to gather  
and pray. A buffet of hot breakfast foods will be  
offered. The PMF will pay for the meal but  
request you let them know how many will be  
attending by May 1; call Kurt Speece at 822-  
5209. Donations will also be accepted.

### **CCIW ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES**

Voting representatives at the 2023 General  
Assembly have an important responsibility to  
respond to business related to the work of the  
church. FCC is able to send four representatives  
to the General Assembly on Sat., July 29,  
beginning at 9:00 AM in Louisville. If you are  
interested in going and representing FCC, see  
Jacob Thomas by Sunday, May 7. Thank you.

### **CHURCH YARD SIGNS**

The weather is getting nicer and yards are being  
manicured, so it's a great time to set out a  
Church Yard Sign and remind your neighbors  
and people around town that God is watching,  
listening, caring and loving them. There are two  
copies of each saying available, and a sign-up  
sheet to take them for 2-weeks and post them in  
your yard. At the end of the 2-weeks, bring them  
back in for the next person to take them. We  
heard great reports on how these signs touched  
people last fall, so let's do it again!

### **NEED/OPPORTUNITY/MONEY MAKER**

The Meals on Wheels program at the hospital  
needs help with meal deliveries. For each day an  
organization delivers meals, they are credited  
\$20. Deliveries are not made on major holidays.  
If a women's or men's group is willing to take this  
on as a money-maker, this is a way to help out  
your community and earn at the same time.  
Contact the hospital for more information. Rick  
Brinkerhoff from First Methodist called with this  
information and plea for help. Their church  
helped 250 days last year. They need the help!

- Mary K. Bradford

### **EASTER OFFERING TOTAL**

The goal for this year's Easter Offering was  
\$1,500. The total amount received was \$1,771.  
Thank you!

### **FENCE AROUND CHURCH YARD**

The fence around the back church yard needs  
replaced. The Trustees are moving forward with  
that project with donations. The estimate is  
approximately \$10,000. If you would like to help,  
please designate your gift "Church Fence".



### **LOST AND FOUND**

The "Lost & Found" box runneth over! There are  
several items, even coats, so check it out!

## MAY CIRCLES

CIRCLE OF LIGHT: meets Tuesday, May 2, at 5:00 PM at the home of Faye Eitel. She is the hostess, with a round-table discussion on being a Christian for the lesson.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, May 11, at 6:00 PM in the church parlor.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tues., May 16, at 2:00 PM in the church parlor.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, May 18, at 9:00 AM in the church kitchen.

## WOMEN'S BANQUET

The Women's Banquet is set for Thursday, June 1st, at 6:00 PM. Tickets are required prior to the event (none will be available at the door). Tickets will be sold by the Circle women for \$10, girls age 10 and under, \$5. The program, open to all, will be "Women of Talent on the Steinway" at 7:00 PM. Join us for a musical evening!

## DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Disciple Men's breakfast on Saturday, May 20, at 8:00 AM. Be sure to sign-up that you will be attending so that Theresa Emerson knows how much to prepare! Thank you!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

VBS will be July 10-14 this year, from 9:00-11:45 AM each day. The theme will be "Keepers of the Kingdom" and we are asking for volunteers to help as teachers, helpers, guides, etc. Please see Candi Milam for more info.

## CHURCH CAMPS!

It's time to check the church camp schedule - see it online or ask Faith - and work out camp weeks for your kids/youth! Church camp is a great place for kids to grow in their faith; it's life changing! FCC pays for 1/2 the camp fee for all members, so don't let the cost stop you. If additional help is needed, check with Faith.



## Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who sent a card for my birthday - it's so nice to be remembered!

- Shirley Ross

Thank you for the cards, flowers, emails, office visits and special greetings on the sign on Administrative Professionals Day. It was so kind and is wonderful to be appreciated!

- Cheryl Clark



Good day from 412 Youth!! We are back to the normal swing of things around here, at least at 412 Youth as I definitely feel the transition time that the rest of the church feels right now too. May we turn our anxiety and uncertainty into joyful anticipation and hoping through prayer for what and who the Lord will bring to FCC next.

The youth are learning about the Love Does series done by Bob Goff. The series includes a short film that we watch every week and then talk about how to put it into action in our own lives. It's very real and practical and the kids already seem to be enjoying it.

This Wednesday is the last week for God's Gang and we are celebrating the graduation of our one 5th grader, Keira Shaffer and her moving on to Crossroads next school year. This program is a blessing to me and I am sure to each of the families that we serve by having their kids join us every Wednesday.

As God's Gang and the school year ultimately come to a close, we will soon be looking for VBS volunteers.. please consider how you could be of help at this summer's Vacation Bible School and think of what kids you could invite, too.

Upcoming Events: Apr 30 - Youth group 6-8pm  
May 7 - No youth group due to spring band concert

May 14 - Youth group 6-8pm

May 21 - Youth group 6-8pm

Coffee Bar Workers:

May 7- Drew Templeton

May 14 - Sammy Milam

May 21 - Taylor Shewey

- Faith Milam, Youth Director

## NOTIFY: CHG OF ADDRESS/EMAIL/PHONE

Snowbirds, when you go south for the winter and then fly north in the spring, please let the office know so FCC doesn't have to pay for returned newsletters. Also, if you move and have a change of address, if you change your email, or change your phone number (drop your landline) please call, email, or send in a letter to let us know so we can keep in touch! Thank you!



# THE MESSENGER

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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Web page: www.fccparis.org • Facebook: FCCParis

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8 AM-12 NN, 1-5 PM

PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

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### COME WORSHIP WITH US

COFFEE BAR AT 8:00 AM • SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 8:15 AM • WORSHIP AT 9:00 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*

Apr. 16: 9:00 - 125 Nursery-2 Online-views 31/47\*

**TOTAL 174\* SS = 20**

Apr. 23: 9:00 - 113 Nursery-3 Online-views 43/65\*

**TOTAL 181\* SS = 30**

*\*Per CCIW Regional Office: to allow for additional people watching electronically, the formula is - view count x 1.5*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### SERVING SCHED: April 30, 2023

**8:00/8:15 AM: Coffee Bar & Sunday School**

**9:00 AM: GREETERS:** Vaughn Family

**WORSHIP ELDER:** Kim Woods

**BREAD ELDER:** Pete Templeton

**DEACONS:** Team 2, Kenny Milam, Capt.

**JR. DEACONS:** Team #2, Drew Templeton, Capt.

**DEACONESS:** Kathy Peel

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Jenny McMahan

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Cathy Melendez

**NURSERY ATTENDANT:** Cathy Clawson

**SCRIPTURE:** Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16

**SERMON:** "We Are Called"

by Rev. Dr. Alexander Ruth of CCIW

### SERVING SCHEDULE: May 7, 2023

**8:00/8:15 AM: Coffee Bar & Sunday School**

**9:00 AM: GREETERS:** TBD

**WORSHIP ELDER:** David Dick

**BREAD ELDER:** Ellen Webb

**DEACONS:** Team 3, Patty Waters, Capt.

**JR. DEACONS:** Team #3, Sammy Milam, Capt.

**DEACONESS:** Jenneane McDaniel

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Faith Milam

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Faith Milam

**PROJECTION/SOUND:** Tony Peel

**MAY USHERS:** Pam Lobb, Randy Creech, Nick Sanders

**MAY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR:** Kenny & Bev McCain

**NURSERY ATTENDANT:** Cathy Clawson

**SCRIPTURE:** John 20:19-23

**SERMON:** "Keepers of the Flame" by Pastor Jim Blue

**SHUT-IN COMMUNION:** Nels Kasey & Cody Vaughn

### OFFERING TOTAL

	<b>Apr. 16</b>	<b>Apr. 24 2023</b>
General Fund	\$2,459.25	\$2,465.25
Sunday School	12.00	17.00
God's Gang	50.00	
Food Pantry	25.00	
Choices Preg./Health	500.00	
Youth Fund		100.00
Baseball Reimb.	137.00	137.00
CWF Blessing Box	10.00	
Flower Fund	100.00	
PMF	500.00	
Disciples Missions	275.00	100.00
Easter Offering	325.00	
Life Center	220.00	170.00
Church Bus Fund	75.00	20.00
Church Fence	1,054.00	375.00
Memorial Fund	450.00	350.00
Building Fund	40.00	155.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,232.25</b>	<b>\$3,889.25</b>



**VBS - July 10-14**