

THE MESSENGER

Believing, Behaving, Becoming Like Christ

December 20, 2023

★DECEMBER:

- 24 - Christmas Eve Sunday: morning worship at 9:00 AM and evening service at 6:00 PM
- 31 - Worship service at 9:00 AM with Recognition of New Members

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 🌿 Please sign the Congregational Christmas Card!
- 🌿 Outgoing Chairs, please turn in your church key!
- 🌿 2024 Offering Envelopes are available
- 🌿 Pick up a 2024 Desk Calendar at the entry.
- 🌿 Please fill out 2024 Volunteer & Plan of Giving forms and turn them in
- 🌿 2024 Schedules will be sent by mail and email as they are received. Contact your chair for info.

*JANUARY:

- 2 - Circle of Light, 5:00 PM, in church kitchen
- 4 - Elder's meeting, 5:00 PM
 - Trustee meeting, 6:00 PM
- 7 - Worship with guest speaker, 9:00 AM
- 9 - Board meeting 7:00 PM
- 10 - God's Gang Planning meeting, 4:30 PM
- 14 - Worship 9 AM, Dedication of Leaders
 - Marge Houghland's 90th Birthday Party, 2-4 PM

THANK YOU'S

- ♥The Staff of FCC would like to thank everyone for the Love Offering gifts - you are a blessing!
- ♥Thank you to all those who participated in the Giving Tree - the residents were excited & grateful!
- ♥Thank you everyone for the prayers, concerns, visits, phone calls, and cards; very much appreciated and I certainly felt them!

- Carol Marlowe
(She is now home from rehab!)

†WELCOME NEW MEMBERS IN 2023: Joshua Morgan, Zoey Morgan, Connie Rhoads, Brady Sanders, Colten Vaughn.

†THATS OFF TO: our Sunday School teachers; all the God's Gang helpers & those who helped with "Fancy Night" - Chefs: Chris "Bubba" Milam and Roseann Moss, Dishwashers: Daniel Smittkamp and Dan Dayton, Pianist: Peg Dixon, Wait Staff: Dean & Coralie Smittkamp, Ellen Webb, Doug & Deena Hasler; Cody Vaughn for Children's Sermon; Sammy Milam for Children's Church; all the Advent Candlelighters; Worship Flowers from the Melendez family in memory of Richard Melendez, and from the Peel family in memory of loved ones.

†PERSONALS: Please remember those on our prayer list.

♦YOUTH

412 Youth will be on a break until Jan. 7th so students can enjoy time with their loved ones. I can't wait to start off a new year with the kids in 2024!!

God's Gang has come to a close and the semester went wonderfully. The kiddos always enjoy the fancy night and I heard it went over with all the bells and whistles involved (thanks to the stomach bug for not letting me enjoy it with everyone.. boo!!) I am praying for more students to be involved next semester so our church can bless and reach even more families.

Thank you to all of those who believe in the youth programs of this church and continue to generously give to make them be able to continue to run smoothly and effectively. It truly means more to me than you know!!

Upcoming Events:

Jan 4 - money due for SpringHill winter retreat

Jan 7 - youth group at the church 6-8pm

- Faith Milam, Youth Director

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from your Church Staff





January 2024



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year! ~ Offices Closed ~	2 5 PM Circle of Light	3 6:30 PM Chancel Choir	4 Newsletter 9 AM PMF Mtg. 5 PM Elder Mtg. 6 PM Trustee Mtg.	5	6
7 8/8:15 Coffee Bar/S.S. 9 AM Worship with Guest Speaker 6 PM Youth Group	8	9 7 PM Board Mtg.	10 4:30 PM God's Gang Planning Mtg. 6:30 PM Chancel Choir	11 6 PM Circle of Prayer	12	13 9 AM Worship Committee "undecorating"
14 Dedicate Leaders 8/8:15 Coffee Bar/S.S. 9 AM Worship 2-4 PM Marge Houghland Birthday Party 6 PM Youth Group	15	16 2 PM Fellowship Circle	17 Newsletter 6:30 PM Chancel Choir	18 9 AM Koinonia Circle	19	20 8 AM Disciple Men's Bkfst.
21 Blanket Sunday 8/8:15 Coffee Bar/S.S. 9 AM Worship 6 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 6:30 PM Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28 8/8:15 Coffee Bar/S.S. 9 AM Worship 2 PM Program Committee Mtgs. 6 PM Youth Group	29	30	31 Newsletter 2 PM God's Gang/Xrds to begin 6:30 PM Chancel Choir			



JANUARY 2024



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 Jo Furgeson A-Pete & Corby Dayton	2 Linda Driver A-Greg & Tammy Terry	3	4 Sue Elliott	5 Dick McFarland Graham Templeton	6
7 Elizabeth Kennedy Aubrey Sanders	8	9 Cathy Clawson Mya Smittkamp	10	11 A-Roger & Cynthia Faulk	12 Candi Milam Pete Templeton	13 Ryne Donaldson Dean Smittkamp
14 Marge Houghland * Bernita Moore	15	16	17	18	19	20 Susan Bell Pam Lobb
21	22	23 Elsie Vaughn	24 A-Doug & Cassie Boatman	25 Nick Sanders	26	27 A-Chris & Candi Milam
28	29 Jaci Tapscott	30	31 Sue Bennett Grace Spencer	 <p><i>Congratulations Milestone Celebrants!</i></p>		



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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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Phone: (217) 466-3255 • E-mail: office@fccparis.org

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

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

Pastor Jim Blue, Interim Minister • Faith Milam, Youth Director

PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

Non-Profit

U.S. POSTAGE



COME WORSHIP WITH US

COFFEE BAR AT 8:00 AM • SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 8:15/10:15 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

Dec. 10: 9:00-121 Online-views 31/47*

Nursery-2 = **TOTAL WORSHIP: 170***

TOTAL SS = 23

Dec. 17: 9:00- 132 Online-views 36/54*

Nursery-3 = **TOTAL WORSHIP: 189***

TOTAL SS = 25

OFFERING TOTALS

	Dec. 10	Dec. 17, 2023
General Fund	\$4,515.25	\$4,042.25
Sunday School	6.00	5.00
Food Pantry	200.00	
Love Offering	3,005.00	1,980.00
Choices	150.00	
Salvation Army	512.00	
Youth Fund	25.00	100.00
Disciples Outreach Missions	100.00	350.00
Christmas Offering	150.00	427.00
Life Center	115.00	450.00
Heated Sidewalk	2,120.00	2,470.00
Church Bus Fund	25.00	5.00
Memorial Fund	500.00	515.00
Permanent Fund	500.00	
Building Fund	615.00	980.00
TOTAL	\$12,538.25	\$11,374.25

SERVING SCHEDULE: Dec. 24, 2023 - AM

8:00 AM: Sunday School & Coffee Bar

9:00 AM: ADVENT CANDLE: Kevin & Kim Woods

WORSHIP ELDER: Troy Sanders

BREAD ELDER: Steve Webb

DEACONS: Team 1, Dustin Whitezel, Capt.

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

DEACONESS: Bev McCain

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Cathy Clawson

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Cathy Melendez

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Barbara Dick

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Cathy Clawson

PROJECTION/SOUND: Tony Peel

DEC. USHERS: Steve Cochran, Dean & Daniel Smittkamp

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

SERMON: "Joy of Every Longing Heart: PEACE"

by Pastor Blue

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Merry Christmas &

HAPPY NEW YEAR

~ Offices are closed Dec. 25-Jan. 1 ~

SERVING SCHED: December 24, 2023 - PM

6:00 PM:

CHRIST CANDLE: Steve & Ellen Webb

READER: Barb Free

ELDERS: Cody Vaughn, Candi Milam

DEACONS: Jim Bennett, Dustin Whitezel

DEACONESS: Haley Sanders

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-38

SERMON: "Don't Be Afraid" by Pastor Blue

SERVING SCHEDULE: December 31, 2023

9:00 AM:

WORSHIP ELDER: Kim Woods

BREAD ELDER: Daniel Smittkamp

DEACONS: Team 2, Kenny Milam, Capt.

DEACONESS: Jenneane McDaniel

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 4:1-7

SERMON: "Celebrating the Fullness of Time in 2024"

by Pastor Blue

SERVING SCHEDULE: January 7, 2023

9:00 AM:

WORSHIP ELDER: Cody Vaughn

BREAD ELDER: Kim Woods

DEACONS: Team 1, Dustin Whitezel, Capt.

JR DEACONS: Team #1, Morgan Coombes, Capt.

DEACONESS: Lisa Young

JAN. USHERS: Mary Carriere, Tammy Terry

JAN. FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Jacob & Emily Thomas

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 13:5-8; 15-16

SERMON: "New Year Same God" by Pastor Isaac Mahler

SHUT-IN COMMUNION: Peg Dixon, Kim Woods