

THE MESSENGER

Believing, Behaving, Becoming Like Christ

May 24, 2023



WE HONOR YOU TODAY

To all of our veterans
Far and near.
We thank you for your service
For all those years.

You sacrificed your time,
And some gave their life.
You preserved our freedom
By willingly paying the price.

Many of you
Were sent overseas.
You were wounded in battle
With scars and disease.

But courageous and brave,
You weathered the storm.
You faced every battle
With faith and beyond.

We honor you with joy
For all you have done.

You stood strong for our country,
For our daughters and sons.

So no one stands alone,
We walk hand in hand.
Remember, we are with you.
Together we shall stand.

We salute you today.
Hear what we say.
Let our words speak eloquently
In this special way.

On this day,
Let us express our love and thanks
For the sacrifice you paid.
You served in honor
For many years and days,
And we will never forget
How you were strong and brave.

- by Susan R. Smith

PENTECOST & MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Pentecost & Memorial Sunday both fall on May 28th this year. It is traditional to wear red on this day as this is the color that signifies the work of the Holy Spirit, and you are invited to do so. A part of the service will also be dedicated to remembering church members who have passed away in the year since last Memorial Day. Families of members who have passed are invited to attend and will be given the ribbon, flower, and candle used in their loved one's service to take home.

FCC Memory Books & Graduates

The Memory Books for our FCC high school seniors are out and available for you to write in your good wishes for their future. Look for them on the table by the sign-up desk. FCC graduates will be recognized on Sunday, June 4. They include: 8th Grade - Morgan Coombes, Myli Tapscott, Steven West, and Sophie Young; High School - Kaitlyn Coombes, Taylor Cooper, Ava Huddleson, Lily Smittkamp, Kyle Tapscott, Mason Tegeler, Will Templeton, Macie Thomas, Ethan Vice, and Claire Young. Congratulations to each of you!



Paris Healthcare: Martha Stephen,
Richard Melendez

Pleasant Meadows: Dorothy Waltz,
Brandon Bell, Linda Driver

Hospitalized: Marge Houghland, Regional

Home from the Hospital: Reigan Kennedy

To Rehab: Dorothy McGee, Twin Lakes Rehab

Continue prayers for: Janice Nicholson and
Louise Bridwell, Paul Ricketts



-- Angel Templeton and Steve Webb for the Children's Sermon;

-- Candi Milam and Sammy Milam for leading Children's Church;

-- Candi Milam and the Christian Education Committee for the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast;

-- Troy Sanders for the Minute for Mission;

-- the Fellowship Circle for flowers in memory of Carolyn Lanker and Sam & Saunny Preston for flowers in honor of their 20th Wedding Anniversary and Sam's 85th Birthday!

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

- Romans 15:13

JUNE PRAYER

Dear Lord, Since You have the power to make all things new, please renew our strength and hope for the future, Father. Today and every day, Lord, may we draw comfort and courage from Your promises and unending love. Amen.

FCC LENDING LIBRARY

We are starting a "Lending Library" for First Christian Church. You can take a book to keep; and, if possible, leave a book. Books can be devotionals or any other form of Christian literature. The Share Library book cart will be located outside the Jerusalem room. There will be a box to collect books donated to the library next to the cart. Please see Emily Thomas with any questions.

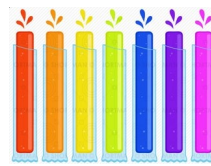
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Open Door meets at 8:15 AM and New Horizons meets at 10:15 AM throughout the summer. Children and youth Sunday school classes are on hiatus for the summer.



THANK YOU & WELCOME NEW ORGANIST

Bethanny Lawson will be leaving for Florida for a new position after May. We thank her for her service for this last year and a half. A new organist has been hired in her place. Amy Horton will begin on Sunday, June 4. We welcome her to FCC.



FCC IN THE SHRINE PARADE

The Shrine Parade will be Saturday, June 10, beginning at 2:00 PM. A sign-up is out for those who would be willing to walk in the parade and handout popsicles and small flyers. We also need a few to ride the bus and fill tote bags with popsicles and flyers as the walkers run out. If you can help, please meet at the FCC bus on that day, at the American Legion, at 1:30 PM.

We also need donations of lots of popsicles. We ran out in the first few blocks last year, so your donations are greatly appreciated! A basket to collect the popsicles is under the sign-up desk.

THE SECRET PLACE

The new Secret Place devotionals for the summer quarter are available and set out at the entryways for you to pick up.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Evangelism Committee in the church parlor immediately following the services this Sunday, May 28. All committee members please attend.



OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29, in honor of the Memorial Day holiday.



JUNE CIRCLES

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: plans to go to Savoia's on Tuesday, June 6, at 5:00 PM.

KOINONIA CIRCLE: plans to meet at FCC at 10:30 AM to take the bus to Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola, on Thursday, June 15.

WOMEN'S BANQUET

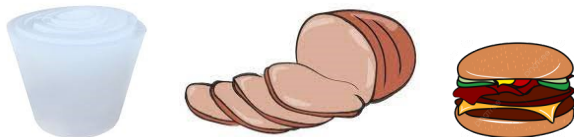
The Women's Banquet is Thursday, June 1st, at 6:00 PM. Tickets are required prior to the event (none will be available at the door). Tickets are sold by the Circle women for \$10, girls age 10 and under, \$5. The program, open to all, will be "Women of Talent on the Steinway" at 7:00 PM.

RELAY FOR LIFE YARD SALE

As you are cleaning out your garages and closets this season, keep in mind to save items to donate to the Relay For Life Yard Sale coming up on June 9-10. Items may be placed in the upstairs classroom

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Disciple Men's breakfast on Saturday, June 17, at 8:00 AM. A sign-up sheet is out on the sign-up desk!



HAM LOAF "FIRE SALE"!

There are a few extra ham loaves available, so they are being offered at a discounted price until they are sold out: 1 lb. loaves are \$5, 2 lb. loaves are \$10. Call Ken Hamilton or the church office to check availability.



BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS

The Baby Bottle Blessings Campaign continues to Father's Day. Fill the bottle with spare change and return it on June 18. Bottles are available at the entryways.

CHURCH YARD SIGNS

There are still Church Yard Signs available to post in your yard. Please sign one out, then return it in two weeks. Thank you!



Faith Milam, Youth Director

Thank You!

I would like to thank those who sent cards, prayed and brought me food.
- Carol Winemiller



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID



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

May 14: 9:00 - 155 Nursery-5 Online-views 27/41*

TOTAL 201* SS = 20

May 21: 9:00 - 125 Nursery-2 Online-views 25/38*

TOTAL 165* SS = 26

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFERING TOTAL	May 14	May 21, 2023
General Fund	\$4,070.30	\$4,625.35
Sunday School	19.00	21.00
Food Pantry	50.00	
Emergency Fund		10.00
Designated	500.00	
VBS		50.00
Baby Bottle Blessings		20.00
Youth Fund		100.00
Disciples Missions	65.00	100.00
Pentecost Offering		304.00
Life Center	165.00	315.00
Church Fence	495.00	220.00
Memorial Fund	235.00	40.00
Scholarship Fund	500.00	
Building Fund	245.00	240.00
TOTAL	\$6,344.30	\$6,045.35

SERVING SCHED: May 28, 2023

8:00/8:15&10:15 AM: Coffee Bar & Sunday School

9:00 AM: GREETERS: TBD

WORSHIP ELDER: Kim Woods

BREAD ELDER: Cody Vaughn

DEACONS: Team 2, Kenny Milam, Capt.

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

DEACONESS: Cathy Clawson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Candi Milam

CHILDREN'S SERMON: TBA

SCRIPTURE: Acts 1:1-8

SERMON: "Be My Witnesses" by Pastor Jim Blue

SERVING SCHEDULE: June 4, 2023

8:00/8:15&10:15 AM: Coffee Bar & Sunday School

9:00 AM: GREETERS: TBD

WORSHIP ELDER: Dennis Thiel

BREAD ELDER: Cody Vaughn

DEACONS: Team 3, Patty Waters, Capt.

JR. DEACONS: Team #1, Ethan Smittkamp, Capt.

DEACONESS: Katie Vaughn

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Emily Thomas

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Chris Milam

PROJECTION/SOUND: Tony Peel

JUNE USHERS: Steve Cochran, Dan Smittkamp, and Dean Smittkamp

JUNE FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Cindy Robinson

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Cathy Clawson

SPECIAL MUSIC: Scholarship Recipients

SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:1-20

SERMON: "Listening When God Speaks - I Want You" by Pastor Jim Blue



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

VBS is early this year - July 10-14 - from 9:00-11:45 AM each day. The theme will be "Keepers of the Kingdom" If you can volunteer to help as a teacher, helper, guide, etc., please see Candi Milam for more information.