

# **THE MESSENGER**

Believing, Behaving, Becoming Like Christ

June 21, 2023



## **MEET OUR HISTORIAN CATHY CLAWSON**

Cathy has been Historian for FCC for nearly five years. She is the one who collects information such as pictures, newspaper articles, bulletins and any miscellaneous items about activities our members are involved with or any awards or recognition they may receive. She is always on the lookout for our member's involvement at the church, schools, and community. It is fun for her to "stay tuned" with the church family. It is a joy for her to put all the information together for FCC to have an annual record of the happenings of our members.

Coralie Smittkamp works with her, giving her pictures and articles from the bulletin board. After Cathy gathers the items, she arranges them in a binder which has the year labeled on it. These annual FCC History Books date from 1993 to 2022. That is 29 years of FCC history. And, we continue to make history each day.

Recently Greg and Tammy Terry donated new binders and went through all the past years and organized each year in a new binder. Actually, they had fun looking at and reading about the history of FCC through pictures and articles. The white binders are now on the bottom shelves of the bookcases in the library.

Everyone is invited to stop by the library, select a year (or two or three), sit in the comfort and browse through them. During the heat of the summer, come in, relax and cool down while enjoying looking through our history. Or this winter, when it is cold outside, come in, turn the fireplace on and enjoy viewing all our accomplishments. You might even see some people you know on the pages, maybe even yourself.

When you see Cathy, thank her for her historical work and if you have enjoyed looking through the years, tell how you enjoyed them. Thank you Cathy Clawson, Coralie Smittkamp, Greg and Tammy Terry and Emily Thomas, who is the Church Librarian. FCC is rich in history!

- Roseann Moss



## **Vacation Bible School**

VBS will be July 10-14 for age 4 through grade 5 at 9:00-11:45 AM each day, (except Friday when the picnic & special program will follow, dismissal will be at 12:30 PM). Registrations forms are in the hallway and on the web! If you can help, items needed for the daily snacks are listed on the posterboard in the hallway. Empty paper towel rolls are requested for crafts and are being collected in a basket under the sign-up desk. Volunteers are welcome for the week, please see Candi Milam for information. Set-up and decorating will be done on Sunday afternoon, July 9; removal of most decorations will be Friday of VBS, but the sanctuary decor will remain for VBS Sunday, July 16.



**PATRIOTIC SUNDAY**



Coming up Sunday, July 2, FCC will celebrate "Patriotic Sunday" with a patriotic focus and red, white, and blue decorations. You are invited to wear these colors too. We thank the Lord for the freedom we have to meet and worship together.



Paris Healthcare: Martha Stephen,  
Richard Melendez, Pat Schaich

Pleasant Meadows: Dorothy Waltz,  
Brandon Bell, Linda Driver

Hospitalized: Don Camp, Paris

At Rehab: Dorothy McGee, Twin Lakes

Continue prayers for: Janice Nicholson, Louise  
Bridwell, Carol Winemiller, Randy Creech, Linda  
Tucker, Pat Schaich



-- Steve Webb and Barbara Dick for  
the Children's Sermon;  
-- Cassie Boatman and Edna  
Creech for leading Children's

Church;

-- Cathy Melendez for presenting volunteers to  
the Compassionate Clothing Closet;

-- Cody Vaughn for guest speaking;

-- all those who donated & helped with the RFL  
yard sale and those who set-up, served at the  
sale, and cleaned up afterward;

-- Saunny Preston for all the preparation and  
the Evangelism Committee & walkers & riders in  
the Shrine Parade;

-- Kim Woods for the beautiful Nursery  
renovation;

-- David & Barbara Dick, with the help of Eric  
Hendrickson, for bringing in the repainted  
kitchen chairs;

-- also to David & Barbara Dick and the  
Membership Committee for representing FCC in  
the Edgar County Bicentennial Parade.

### **BECOMING LIKE CHRIST**

"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord  
and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your  
flesh and refreshment to your bones."

- Proverbs 3:7-8

### **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.

### **WE'RE HIRING**

Interested applicants for the Senior Minister  
position must apply through the online link.  
Go to: <https://www.vanderbloemen.com/job/first-christian-church-paris-senior-minister>

### **NURSERY RENOVATION**

The nursery renovation is complete and I would  
like to thank everyone who helped in any way  
with this undertaking! Thank you to the Trustees  
(Jim, Edna, Doc, Roseann, Dustin, Jacob) who  
trusted me with this project! A special thanks to  
four generations of the Jim Bennett family: Jim,  
Richard, Jeffrey, and Charlie, for their amazing  
work on pulling up the old flooring. Thank you to  
Cathy Clawson for her wisdom, joy and  
enthusiasm throughout the project. Thanks to our  
custodians, Betty and Linda, who tolerated my  
continual messes with a smile, and to everyone  
who just came by to encourage me. Lastly, thank  
you to Cheryl who pleasantly endured my  
numerous interruptions to her work when I  
needed an opinion.

- Kim Woods

\* \* \*

*The Trustees invite you to go through the  
renovated nursery when you are at the church  
and see the newly painted walls, new flooring,  
updated furnishings and toys that will serve  
families for years to come. (Side note: Kim was  
the one who decorated the nursery when  
Thomas and Claire were little. Some of their toys  
were still in the nursery when she started this  
renovation!) So this was a service of love: she  
was at the church every day, for longer than 8  
hours most days, and always excited and  
cheerful about the project. The Trustees wish to  
give a HUGE "THANK YOU!" to Kim for her  
vision, work, and design.*

### **THE SECRET PLACE**

There are still some summer editions of the  
Secret Place devotionals available. They are in  
the baskets set out at the entryways for you to  
pick one up.

### **BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS**

The Baby Bottle Blessings Campaign for Choices  
wrapped up on Father's Day. If you still have a  
bottle, please bring it in next week. Thank you for  
participating and helping the mothers and  
children of Edgar County.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

The Lost and Found basket is full of items and  
there are so many jackets and sweaters that they  
are hung on the coat rack above the lost and  
found basket. Please stop by and check for  
items that may belong to you or your child. Some  
of these items have been here since God's Gang  
last fall: there are keys, jewelry, sunglasses,  
readers, a belt, backpack, hat, a charging cord  
and more! Thank you!

## CIRCLE NEWS

The Circle of Prayer has made a new, redwood Prayer Requests box and it is located on the hallway table. Cards to submit prayer requests are located at the side of the box.

## WOMEN'S BANQUET REPORT

Thank you to the men for preparing and serving a delicious meal. The event was sold out and the program was outstanding. Special thanks to Peg Dixon, Evie Gill, Bethanny Lawson and Kathy Peel for their excellent performances!

## CCC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

It's that time of year again! The Compassionate Clothing Closet (CCC) has now been open for 10 years and is located at 211 N. Central (1 block north of the square), as many of you know. Rev. Mike and our church was a big part of helping establish this worthwhile endeavor. The CCC is open every Monday from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM for drop off & sorting of clothes, and every Tuesday from 11:45 AM until 2:00 PM for distribution of clothing. Anyone may stop by to find items they may have a need for. There are no restrictions as to income or needs. No proof of residency or income is needed, as we are open to not only the Paris community, but serve the surrounding communities as well. We have participated in this community service since its beginning and our church has sent volunteers every Monday and Tuesday for the month of July for every year. We are continuing this outreach and are now asking for volunteers for next month. Thank you to all the volunteers who have already signed up to help! We have Tuesdays covered. But we have no volunteers for Mondays! We need 1 or 2 people each Monday, July 3, 10, 17, and 24. You will be needed to receive and sort clothing. Masks are optional at this point, so you may do whatever is comfortable for you. Please sign up for as many days/hours as possible, but you may also give us part of a day.

- Cathy Melendez

## Thank You!

Dear FCC, Thank you so much for awarding me a scholarship! Your continued support for me and my academic goals does not go unnoticed! It is very much appreciated! Have an amazing summer!

- Sincerely, Max Moody

Thank you to everyone who brought in popsicles for the Shrine parade. The giving was wonderful! This year was the first time we did not run out!

- Saunny Preston, Evangelism Chair



Hello from 412 Youth! Last week, the youth gathered for a time of fellowship and we went to visit one of our youth's place of employment while they were working!! We went and experienced Rolled Wright Creamery. It was a great sweet treat and great time spent together. This past Sunday, we didn't have youth group as it was Father's Day.

We have lots of exciting events coming up for the remainder of the summer, including Vacation Bible School and Holiday World. Students who are going on the Holiday World trip need to have a signed permission slip form, so if you need an extra copy, let me know!!

### Upcoming Events:

June 25 - No youth group

July 2 - Youth group at the church - 4pm

July 7 - Holiday World trip - depart from the church at 7am

July 9 - Youth group at the church - 4pm

July 16 - Youth group at the church - 4pm

### Coffee Bar Workers:

June 25: Carlee Longest

July 2: Faith Milam

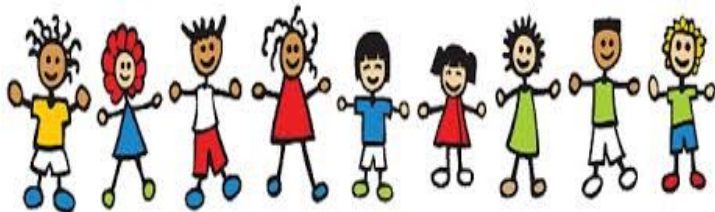
July 9: Faith Milam

July 16: Sammy Milam

July 23: Graham Templeton

July 30: Hannah Waltz

- Faith Milam, Youth Director



## MAN OF THE YEAR

Man of the Year ballots are available for you to turn in your nominee for this year. Forms can be picked up in the hallway.



## THE MESSENGER

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

201 S. Main St., Paris, Illinois 61944

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

PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

Non-Profit

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*

June 11: 9:00 - 102 Nursery-0 Online-views 30/45\*

**TOTAL 149\* SS = 24**

June 18: 9:00 - 127 Nursery-3 Online-views 31/47\*

**TOTAL 180\* SS = 27**

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### OFFERING TOTAL

|                    | June 11           | June 18, 2023     |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund       | \$3,121.25        | \$3,630.25        |
| Sunday School      | 18.00             | 13.00             |
| Food Pantry        |                   | 50.00             |
| Choices            | 250.00            |                   |
| Envelopes          | 10.00             |                   |
| VBS                | 50.00             | 25.00             |
| Admin. Postage     | 10.00             |                   |
| Reimb. Baseball    | 137.00            | 140.00            |
| Disciples Missions | 140.00            | 75.00             |
| Life Center        | 175.00            | 135.00            |
| Church Fence       | 520.00            |                   |
| Church Nursery     | 1,206.00          | 135.00            |
| Church Bus Fund    | 100.00            |                   |
| Scholarship Fund   | 500.00            |                   |
| Building Fund      | 285.00            | 120.00            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>\$6,522.25</b> | <b>\$4,323.25</b> |

### SERVING SCHED: June 25, 2023

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

**9:00 AM: GREETER:** Edna Creech

**WORSHIP ELDER:** Troy Sanders

**BREAD ELDER:** Pete Templeton

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

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

**DEACONESS:** Kathy Peel

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Jenny McMahan

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Kim Woods

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Ellen Webb

**SCRIPTURE:** Acts 22:17-21

**SERMON:** "God Has Something Better For You"

by Pastor Jim Blue

### SERVING SCHEDULE: July 2, 2023 Patriotic Sunday!

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

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

**WORSHIP ELDER:** Troy Sanders

**BREAD ELDER:** Daniel Smittkamp

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

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

**DEACONESS:** Cathy Clawson

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Faith Milam

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Nels Kasey

**PROJECTION/SOUND:** Tony Peel

**JULY USHERS:** Roger Faulk, Tammy Terry, Bill Young

**JULY FRIENDSHIP VISITOR:** Dustin Whitezel

**NURSERY ATTENDANT:** Cathy Clawson

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Paris Brass Quintet

**SCRIPTURE:** Acts 23:1-22

**SERMON:** "God Says I Have Plans For You"

by Pastor Jim Blue



Offices will be closed Mon.-Tues., July 3-4