



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 AM-2 PM

Pastor Isaac Mahler, Senior Minister • Faith Milam, Youth Director

PERMIT #147

Paris, Illinois

Non-Profit

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID



COME WORSHIP WITH US

COFFEE BAR AT 8:00 AM • WORSHIP AT 9:00 AM • SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:15 AM

First Christian Church's mission is to grow disciples who are:

***“Believing in Christ,
Behaving as Christ,
Becoming like Christ”***

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Splinters from the Board – May & June Highlights

- The regular board meeting was held on May 15 with 14 board members, along with Pastor Isaac and Faith, for a total of 16 in attendance.
- The Evangelism Committee celebrated the success of the Spring Break movie sponsorship and received approval to sponsor a teen movie night later this summer
- The Investment Committee renewed CDs with Wells Fargo and moved long-term investments to better-performing, lower-fee option through our denomination.
- The Trustees continues to stay on top of needed repairs and is coordinating preparations for the upcoming roof project.
- The roof replacement has been moved up to summer 2024 due to worsening conditions. Thanks to a very generous donation from the Hasler family, most of the cost of the project has already been covered!
- A new security measure was approved: church doors will be locked during worship and monitored to ensure the safety of all attendees
- The Staff Relations Committee continues to work hard to care for all of the staff while also working diligently to fill the vacant Office administrator position – see more on that below!
- The Fellowship Committee is planning several fun summer events, including bowling, a picnic, and a pool party/card night to encourage connection across generations.
- Pastor Isaac noted the church's strong Holy Week and Easter participation and shared enthusiasm for the new Summer Playlist sermon series that launched in June.
- He expressed his gratitude for the great staff here at FCC and his hopes and dreams for continued fruitful ministry as we look to the future!
- He also expressed how impressed he is with the way the church loves and cares for its own members dealing with health and other issues, from the cards to the prayers, to the meals, this is a truly caring congregation!

Splinters from the Board Continued

- Also, as Pastor Isaac noted during a recent time of joys and concerns, all of our committees are incredibly active, and doing wonderful ministry. This truly is a remarkable church, blessing our community, caring for one another, and doing great things for the kingdom of God. It is humbling and inspiring to be part of such a faithful and dedicated congregation.
- A special called board meeting took place on Sunday, June 8 after worship. During that meeting, the board voted unanimously to hire Sammy Milam as the church's new Part-Time Office Administrator. Sammy's first day in the office will be June 16.
- The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8 at 7:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

- June 13: Relay for Life Yard Sale
- June 14: Shrine Parade & Yard Sale
- June 15: Fathers Day
- June 19: Koinonia to Randall Manor
- July 6: Patriotic Sunday
- July 13: Annual Church Picnic @ Twin Lakes
- July 24: Staff the Hospitality Tent @ the Fair
- July 28: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK!
- Aug 10: Pool Party for the kids @ the Bennetts
- Aug 10: Card Tournament 4 the adults 11-2PM
- Sept 7: Tailgate Party and Fall Relaunch!

THE MESSENGER

Believing, Behaving, Becoming Like Christ

June 12 2025

PASTORS CORNER

“The Soundtrack of Our Faith”

Greetings FCC!

Do you ever find yourself enjoying a song that surprises you? Maybe you're usually drawn to classical music—something structured and serene—but suddenly a jazz tune or a country ballad grabs your attention and gets stuck in your head. Or maybe, like me, you've spent years joking about how you don't like a certain style of music, only to find yourself humming along when the right lyrics hit you in just the right way.

Music has that kind of power. It crosses boundaries. It softens hearts. It opens us up. The Bible is filled with music—from the songs of Moses and Miriam after the Red Sea (Exodus 15), to David's harp that calmed Saul's troubled spirit (1 Samuel 16), to the powerful praise of the early church (Acts 16:25). We're even commanded to worship with music! *“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!”* (Psalm 100:1–2). And Psalm 150 reminds us that everything from trumpets to cymbals to dancing can be used to praise the Lord.

Why? Because music speaks to our hearts in a different way than words alone.

If you've ever watched a movie without the soundtrack, you know what I mean. A tense scene loses its edge. A romantic moment falls flat. But add the right music, and suddenly everything feels richer, deeper, more alive. Music is the melody that carries our emotions—it draws us in, holds us there, and helps us feel the weight or wonder of the moment. That's not accidental. That's by design.

This summer, we're leaning into that design.

Our sermon series is called **Summer Playlist**, and each week we'll take one worship song or hymn—old or new—and use it as a launching point. We'll explore the scripture behind the lyrics, the story that inspired the song, and how it helps us connect with God. Some of these songs might be old favorites. Others might be new discoveries. But each one has the potential to stir something within us—if we let it.

So, let's open our ears, our minds, and our hearts. Let's let the music move us. And maybe—just maybe—we'll fall in love with a new song... or renew our love for a classic hymn we had begun to take for granted.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Isaac

P.S. On Sunday, June 22, we're kicking off the service with a good old-fashioned **hymn sing!** There won't be any opening hymns listed in the bulletin that day—instead, we'll take your requests right from the pews and sing through some of our favorite classics together. It'll be fun, lighthearted, and full of joy. We're planning to do this a few times throughout the summer, so come ready to call out your favorite hymn and sing loud! And don't forget—**this Sunday, June 15, is Father's Day**. We've got a meaningful service planned, and I hope to see you there!

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Paris Healthcare: Martha Stephen, Ron Odle
Pleasant Meadows: Linda Driver
Twin Lakes: Irma Julian, Brandon Bell

Continued Prayers for: Janice Nicholson, Paula Shepherd, Carol Winemiller, Linda Chittick, Rev. Mike Dixon, Dorothy Farnham, Brad Farnham, Marge Houghland, Roy Rogers, Dustin Whitzel, Sue Bennett and Barb Free and Russ Adams.

BELIEVING LIKE CHRIST

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31

JUNE PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father,
As we move into the months of summer activities, please help us to remember to be grateful for the season of freedom and fun. Please watch over us and keep us safe in all of our summer activities. Help us to make wise choices and to make wonderful memories.
In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

COMPASSIONATE CLOTHING CLOSET

July is our church's month to volunteer to work each Monday and Tuesday at the CCC. The hours are Mondays 9:30-1:00 & Tuesday 11:30-2:00. Please check your calendars and sign up so our church can show our support of this worthy cause.

SAVE THE DATES

Annual Church Picnic is on Sunday, July 13th, from 11am to 2pm at Twin Lakes park. The membership committee will provide lunch, drinks & desserts.
Pool Party & Card Tournament at the Bennett's Sunday, August 10th, 11-2pm. Membership Committee will provide finger foods/snacks, drinks & popsicles!
Tailgate Sunday Sunday, September 7th, - our Fall Ministry Kickoff Event, following the worship service. More information will follow... but mark your calendars now!

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

ATTENDANCE

We count because YOU count!
May 18th: 121/ Nursery:3/ Online:57/86*/ SS: 16
TOTAL 226*
May 25th: 107/ Nursery:1/ Online:63/95*/ SS: 14
TOTAL 217*
June 1st: 119/ Nursery:1/ Online: 38/57*/ SS:15
TOTAL: 192*
June 8th: 106/ Nursery:1/ Online: 42/63*/ SS:18
TOTAL: 188*

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

GIVING

OFFERING	June*	YTD*
General Fund	\$ 8,428.24	\$100,322.23
Missions Fund	\$ 741.00	\$ 7,828.00
Building Fund	\$ 2,070.00	\$121,425.00
Memorial/Scholarship	\$ 250.00	\$ 11,947.00
Permanent Fund	0	\$ 750.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,489.24	\$ 242,272.33

**Month to Date, As of Date of Publication*

THANK YOUS

Dear Church Family and Friends,
I would like to thank everyone who brought me food, sent me cards, visited me and prayed for me during my recent surgery and hospital stay as well as my convalescing at home. I am improving more each day and hope to be back with everyone soon.
With God's love, Carol Winemiller

Dear Church Family
Thank you so much for all the wonderful things you have done for me during my recent shoulder surgery. I appreciate all the texts, calls, prayers and support I have received as well as the WONDERFUL meals that were brought to the house. You all sure know how to take care of each other. Words cannot express how blessed I feel to be a part of an amazing congregation. FCC is a wonderful place to be.
Barb Free

REMINDER:

The best way to stay up to date with all of the information for FCC events is to check the back page of the weekly bulletins. These bulletins are available on the church website for those who can't attend services in person.

Date	Worship Elder	Bread Elder	Deacons	Deaconess	Jr. Deacons	Ushers
June 15, 2025	Troy Sanders	Kim Woods	Team #2	Faye Eitel	Team #2	Team #3
June 22, 2025	Pete Templeton	Chris Milam	Team #3	Jill Coombs	Team #1	Team #3
June 29, 2025	Nels Kasey	Angel Templeton	Team #1	Faye Eitel	Team #2	Team #3
July 6, 2025	Barb Free	Daniel Smittkamp	Team #2	Connie R.	Team #1	Team #1

CIRCLE NEWS

Circle of Light, Koinonia and Circle of Prayer will all be off for the summer. Meetings will begin again in September.

The C.W.F. continues their ongoing projects of collecting cancelled postage stamps, pop tabs, plastic lids, cell phones and eye glasses. Egg cartons (12 count only) are also needed for the Food Pantry. Please save these items and bring them to church & place them in the cabinet beside the fireplace in the Parlor. **WE ARE NO LONGER SAVING PLASTIC BAGS!**

POP CANS

Don't forget! We will once again begun collecting pop cans. Please bring in your **saved cans** on the **4th Sunday of each month.** Thank you.

WANTED



VBS VOLUNTEERS!

JULY 28TH - AUGUST 1ST

NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____

☆ GREETER

☆ BIBLE LESSON

☆ GAMES

☆ CREW LEADER

☆ MUSIC

☆ PHOTOGRAPHY

☆ SNACKS

☆ FLOATER

☆ CRAFTS

☆ SET UP/TEAR DOWN

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM - DROP IT OFF AT THE CHURCH OFFICE & PLAN ON JOINING US FOR OUR VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING ON:

SUNDAY, JUNE 22ND @ 10:15AM

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT KIM WOODS, DEENA HASLER OR MEGAN MAHLER



SCARECROW PROJECT

As summer approaches and you begin to clean out your closets and drawers please remember to bring any long pants, shirts or accessories to the church for our Scarecrow Project that takes place during Honey Bee weekend in September. See Coralie Smittkamp for further information if needed.



Hello from 412 Youth!
Summer is here and we have so much to be grateful for! We recognized many deserving and outstanding youth members of our church who received scholarships and recognition for their accomplishments of graduation a few Sundays ago and that always reminds me of how positive the future of our church is. 412 Youth continues to meet weekly for youth group on Sunday evenings at 6pm. Our annual Holiday World trip is tentatively set for Monday, August 4th. Please sign up with Faith if you are interested in going! All 6th graders-graduated seniors are welcome!
Upcoming Events:
June 15 - no youth, Happy Father's Day
June 22 - youth group 6pm
June 29 - youth group 6pm
July 6 - youth group 6pm
~ Faith Milam, Youth Director

VBS 2025

Kids from PreK through 5th Grade - Join us Monday, July 28th through Friday, August 1st: 9 -11:45am for WONDER JUNCTION VBS!



Dust off your boots, grab your bandana & get ready for a rootin' tootin' time at Wonder Junction!

Join us as we gallop through the wonder-filled West, where we will learn about the greatest wonder of all — the love of Jesus! Wonder Junction will be an adventure filled with excitement, so sign up today! You can click this QR code to register online or pick up a form at the Church Office! Questions Contact Kim Woods Deena Hasler or Megan Mahler

DISCIPLES MEN

- ♦ The Disciples Men will meet this Saturday, June 21st at 8:00AM at the Paris Family Restaurant.
- ♦ On Thursday, June 26th the Disciples Men will meet at 8:15AM at the church to go to St. Louis to the Cardinals vs. Cubs game. At this time there is still one ticket available. Contact Tony Peel if you would like that ticket.

EDGAR COUNTY FAIR HOSPITALITY TENT

We will be manning the Hospitality Tent on Thursday evening, July 24th. Look for a sign up sheet soon.