



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
FAX: 832-9348

March 24, 2020

Women's Christian Fellowship will be collecting for the Shopping Cart at Pleasant Meadows Senior Living-- collections will be delivered on April 3. These are the needed items:

- Kleenex- lots! (no lotion)
- Snack-size potato chips
- Snack-size candy bars
- Rice Krispie treats
- Bite-size peppermint patties
- Little Debbie Snack Cakes (any kind)
- Crackers (4 pack/6 pack)
- Cookies (individually packed)
- (Bins for items are in the cloak room.)

Since the residents are confined to their rooms, PMSL has asked for coloring books, crayons and markers, to help them pass the time.

Please don't forget about our nursing home residents. Since most nursing care facilities are closed, they have no visitors. These items will help "make their day." Thank you for your help!!



**\*\*Worship Service, Sunday School, Youth Group and Bible Study have been cancelled (at the church building) on March 29 and April 6. Be watching your email for updates.**

**\*\*The VBS Planning Meeting (April 6) has been postponed.**

**\*\*The Annual Egg Hunt (April 6) has been cancelled.**

**\*\*The Community Easter cantata has been postponed and all rehearsals have been cancelled.**

**\*\*Celebration Choir rehearsals have been cancelled.**

<u>March 22, 2020</u>	
<b>OFFERING TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1542.00</b>
<b>Spendable</b>	<b>\$1467.00</b>
<b>Benevolence</b>	<b>75.00</b>

Please don't forget your tithes to the church. Kent Elam (our Financial Secretary) has said you can mail them to the church, mail them to him directly or save them up for the 3 or 4 weeks you haven't been able to get to church (a biblical practice) and bring them the next time we gather (hopefully on Easter Sunday).



Our prayers are with the family of JEAN DETHLOFF, who passed away at Clark-Lindsay Meadowbrook on March 21.

Given the current environment, a private family service will take place with plans for a celebration of Jean's life at a later date.

Please keep this family in your prayers.

*Deb Davis (Leslie Harris' mom)- improving some after her stroke, was able to squeeze Leslie's hand using her right hand; in rehab at OSF until at least April 6*

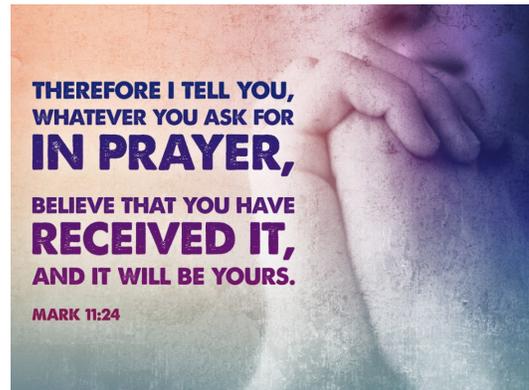
*Family of Jean Dethloff- Sandy Moses' aunt and Nina Boyer's sister-in-law*

*Family of Patty Ann Funk- Cindy Reno's aunt*

*Tom Lillard- has been struggling with the flu for the past week (or more)*

*Greg Watson- Stage 4 kidney disease; doctoring and may have to participate in dialysis*

*Be in prayer for each other as Worship services, Sunday School, Bible Study, youth group and other groups are cancelled during this time.*



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Website: [www.fccvg.com](http://www.fccvg.com)  
Church E-mail: [fccvg@frontier.com](mailto:fccvg@frontier.com)  
Minister: Mike Zylstra  
Home Phone: 681-1034  
Mike's E-mail: [fccvgmin@frontier.com](mailto:fccvgmin@frontier.com)  
Secretary: Brenda Elam  
Office Hours: 9:00-12:00/12:30-4:30 (Mon.-Fri.)

**Elders:**  
Elmer Decker  
John Dilliner  
Bob Dowler  
Steve Lacine  
Chad Reno  
Joe Rothermel

No services at the church building on March 29 & April 5.  
No Shut-in Communion (Assisted living facility is closed)  
Elder-On-Call for March: JOE ROTHERMEL (834-3346)

**REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**  
Della Mae Frahm  
811 Timmons Dr.  
Tuscola, IL 61953  
(217)208-8402

## ***Our God of Hopeless Situations***

***3/24/2020***

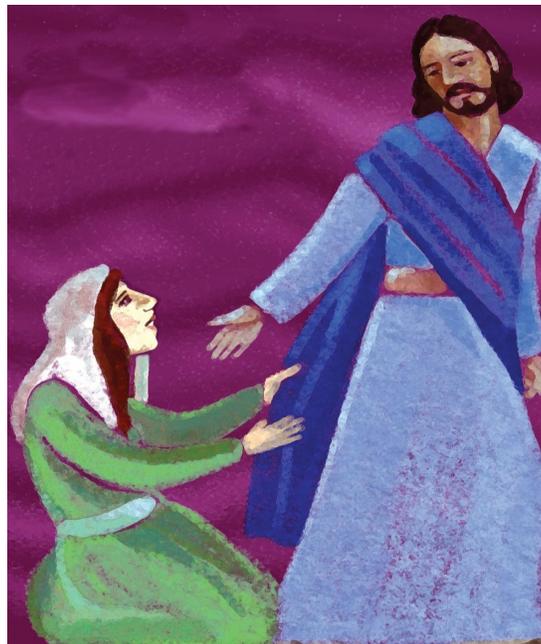
This COVID-19 situation is causing many people to be concerned. When will my life go back to normal? How can I pay my bills when I can't work? When will it be okay to hug my loved ones again? How long do I protect my compromised immune system? On and on the concerns go. As time passes, the feelings of hopelessness increase.

Life has a way of handing us hopeless circumstances. You can't plant your fields because the ground is too wet, and the rain keeps coming. Your already broken relationship is dealt a further blow of betrayal. Your bills are in arrears and your car just broke down. You are living in an endless cycle of fear, frustration, anger and depression. Your creativity is stifled because of unresolved guilt. You continue to do that bad habit no matter how many times you try to quit. You love on that person and they rebel against your efforts and your faith. The list is endless.

In Mark 5:25-28, a woman with a hemorrhage of blood, a medical condition she dealt with for 12 years, came to Jesus with one thing on her mind-- "He can help my hopeless situation." In faith, she approached Jesus. In faith, she reached out to Him, touched His cloak. And, in faith, she was healed. Jesus not only healed her hopeless physical malady (vs. 29) but the woman also felt healed (Jesus healed her emotions). To top it off, Jesus healed her socially (vss. 30-34). Now she would be accepted by her culture as clean. For 12 years (according to the Mosaic law – Lev. 15:25-33), she was shunned as unclean. Not anymore.

Just remember, we are never too damaged to come to Jesus in faith. Jesus is aware of our hopeless situation. He knows us, even in the crowd. And Jesus loves to heal those who walk by faith, not by sight. Plus, He heals the whole person. Even the parts we didn't know needed healing.

*Mike*



# Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

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colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

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E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y  
C L E U X B M T H B U C W B  
N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y  
A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B  
N G N L I S N L A I N E D X  
E W M P R V R D H B N R D F  
P S O G O L G O T H A B S C  
D L N R O C O N F E S S I K  
O T H T C P E K W U O U N D  
M N S H N P W E D R H F S K  
U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E  
H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M  
H V H N C X S O C C J R L O  
F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C  
C R U C I F I X I O N S R V

Answer in next week's SON TIMES.