



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

March 30, 2021



HOLY WEEK COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday, April 1

7:00 p.m., at the church

RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, April 4

9:30 a.m.



*Nancy Burkeen (Kate Shunk's aunt)- colon & lung cancer
Jamie Chandler (Janice Thode's granddaughter)- shingles
Tom & Karen Felkner- Tom still suffering from fatigue; Karen is in
the "down" unit at the hospital, doing much better
Melvin Greeley (Judy Zylstra's dad)- successful hip surgery*

Patti Groves- C-diff infection; has new meds that are working

Family of Todd "Happy" Hanneken- co-worker with Tracy Lillard, killed in auto accident

Norma Johnson (Maryanna Smith's sister)- eyes healing, still no sight

Lisa Kauffman (Amish neighbor of John & Linda Dilliner)- battling breast cancer; has a 1-mo. old baby

Sunnyside Mennonite Church in Chesterville- struck by lightening & burned to the ground on Friday

John & Shirley Waldrop- Shirley is in Carle Hospital and John is struggling with his strength & ability to walk

MARCH 28, 2021

Attendance: 70

Total Offering: \$6782.50

Spendable 6111.50

Benevolence 671.00



You Don't Know What You Had Until its Gone

3/30/2021

In the aftermath of a tornado, fire, flood, lost job, pandemic, or a death in the family, the words of this article's title are often spoken. It is so easy to take circumstances, lifestyles, occupations, possessions, health, friends and family for granted. Some even say, "If I had known (about the loss), I would have been prepared." It's a nice sentiment, but not very likely. Even when we know in advance, we aren't ready when circumstances, stuff, and people are taken from us.

Jesus knew that his time on earth was coming to an end. He wanted his disciples to be prepared. So, he predicted the circumstances surrounding his death. He told them of the beatings, the mocking, the betrayal, the crucifixion on the cross, the three days and the resurrection before they happened. The disciples knew in their head, but they still didn't understand. Jesus told them not to fear. They did anyway. He encouraged them that he would not leave them as orphans, but would give them the Holy Spirit. They still hid and felt alone as though Jesus were permanently gone.

What more could Jesus have done to prepare them? What more can he do for Christians today? The words, "Do not be afraid" flood the pages of scripture. The words, "I am with you always." Are equally obvious. The phrase, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" are truth-filled and should calm us. Yet, we struggle to believe that Jesus has risen, conquered death and the grave, hasn't abandoned us, walks with us, guides us and helps us deal with the temporariness of this world. We, like the disciples, know Jesus' presence, power and promises. He isn't gone. He will return to honor and reward his good and faithful servants. Live on earth like you are prepared for eternity.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website: www.fccvg.com

Church E-mail: fccvg@frontier.com

Minister: Mike Zylstra

Home Phone: 681-1034

Mike's E-mail: fccvgmin@frontier.com

Secretary: Brenda Elam

Office Hours: 10:00-12:00/12:00-4:30 (T, Th, F)

Elders:

Elmer Decker

Jerry Hughes

John Dilliner

Steve Lacine

Bob Dowler

Joe Rothermel

Service at the church building on April 4, 2021

Greeter: BRENDA ELAM

Wednesday (3/31) 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Elder-On-Call for April: ELMER DECKER (832-8589)

**Mission of the Week: LITTLE GALILEE CHRISTIAN CAMP
Clinton, Illinois
Rob Shoaff, Executive Director**

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Nina Boyer

146 Brookstone E St., Room 42

Paris, IL 61944