



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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March 9, 2021



Women's Christian Fellowship

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, March 11

6:30 p.m.

All ladies are invited!!

****The annual Preschool Screening, sponsored by the Villa Grove Schools, will be held in our building on Thursday, March 18 and Friday, March 19.**

****The annual Easter Egg Hunt and Community Sunrise Service are cancelled for 2021.**



The spring time change will take place on Saturday night!! Don't forget to move your clocks UP ONE HOUR before you retire for the evening on Saturday. Don't want to be late for Sunday services!!

MARCH 7, 2021

Attendance: 74

Total Offering: \$4754.45

Spendable 4749.45

Benevolence 5.00

"If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."
John 14:14, NRSV

Michael Bird (son of Joe & Kristy Bird; nephew)- recovering from COVID-19 at home
Nancy Burkeen (Kate Shunk's aunt)- colon scan found a small tumor; starting treatment for the growth in her lungs and this new tumor in her colon
Janet Cassida- having cornea transplant surgery on Wednesday, March 10
Richard Coen (Cyndi Reeser's uncle, Neoga)- brain bleed, is at Carle Hospital for an MRI and therapy; prayers for healing and return of memory and normal brain function
Don Edwards (friend of Bob Dowler, Arcola)- was in Sarah Bush Hospital for tests; is now at home
Michael & Angie (Paula Webber's son & his girlfriend)- recovering from COVID-19
Joyce Montgomery (Glenda Case's daughter)- had mitral valve repair surgery on Tuesday at St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis
John Wax (Brenda Logan's dad)- still has health issues, but is now in Champaign (closer to home)



*Dear Church Family,
Thank you all for prayers, well wishes and cards while we were sick (with COVID-19). We are so blessed to be part of a wonderful and caring church family!*

*Sincerely,
BOB, JANA, BRANDON & NOAH KELLY*

CONGRATULATIONS!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO KATE EISENMENGER,
FEBRUARY 2021 VILLA GROVE HIGH SCHOOL
"SENIOR OF THE MONTH" !!!**



“Become Like Little Children”

3/9/2021

Jesus’ disciples wanted to know who would be “greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Jesus gave them this command. Matthew 18:3 ***Unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.***

This is serious. Most of us are like Nicodemus whom Jesus told to be born again. He posited that it was physically impossible. We use the same logic here. Once we are an adult, backtracking is impossible. D.A. Carson, in his commentary writes, *Clearly the consummated kingdom is in view. The child is held up as an ideal. Not of innocence, purity or faith, but of humility and unconcern for social status. Jesus is advocating humility of mind, not childish thoughts.*

Years ago, I read an online story that lays this truth out plainly.

One day we entered a restaurant for a quick meal. We ordered and began to wait. Suddenly, our two-year-old son, Erik, began pounding his fat, baby hands on the high-chair. He would crinkle his eyes in laughter and grin at something. We looked around and discovered that Erik was fixated on a disheveled, unwashed, unshaven, uncombed and obviously drunk man. His hands waved and flapped on loose wrists. “Hi there, baby; hi there, big boy.”

“What do we do?” I exchanged unspoken words to my husband. Erik continued to laugh and the old geezer was creating a nuisance with my beautiful baby. At one stage he shouted, “Do you know peek-a-boo?” And proceeded to loudly play the game. The restaurant’s patrons were not amused. Erik was ecstatic. We were mortified.

The meal over, we got up to leave. I headed for the parking lot only to find the man positioned between me and the door. As I attempted to side-step him, Erik leaned over and propelled himself from my arms to the man. Suddenly, a very old, smelly man and a very young baby consummated their love and kinship. Erik in an act of total trust, love and submission laid his tiny head upon the man’s ragged shoulder. The man’s eyes closed, and I saw tears hover beneath his lashes. His hands full of grime, pain, bad decisions and broken relationships, cradled my baby’s bottom and stroked his back. No two beings have ever loved so deeply for so short a time.

Prying Erik from his own chest, the man handed him back to me saying, “You take care of this baby. You have given me a priceless gift.” “I will.” I whispered from a constricted, dry throat.

With Erik in my arms, I ran for the car. “My God, my God, forgive me.” I wept. I had just witnessed Christ’s love shown through the innocence of a child who saw no sin, who made no judgment; a child who saw a soul and a mother who only saw external filth. I was a Christian who was blind, holding a child who saw clearly. The ragged man had reminded me of Jesus’ truth, “*To enter the kingdom of God, we must change and become as little children.*” Oh, that we can learn to trust and love as Jesus did.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website: www.fccvq.com

Church E-mail: fccvq@frontier.com

Minister: Mike Zylstra

Home Phone: 681-1034

Mike’s E-mail: fccvqmin@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 March 14, 9:30 a.m.

Greeter: JUDY ZYLSTRA

Wednesday (3/10) 7:30 p.m. Monthly Board Meeting

Elder-On-Call for March: JOE ROTHERMEL (834-3346)

Mission of the Week: MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Villa Grove & Camargo, Illinois

Villa Grove & Camargo Ministers

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Della Mae Frahm

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Tuscola, IL 61953

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