



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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August 3, 2021

LOVE PACKAGES

Our annual In Thanks-Giving project...

Steven Schmidt founded *Love Packages* in 1975 when God showed him the abundance of Christian literature he had, and the lack of the same in 3rd world nations. Located in Butler, IL with a second location in Decatur, AL, "*Love Packages* collects Bible donations- as well as donations of Christian books, Sunday school materials, and more – from people and publishers across the US and ships it to a network of distributors all over the world. They ship more than 1,000 tons of recycled literature on the mission field every year. www.lovepackages.org

WHAT THEY CAN USE:

Bibles – New or used, any translation, New Testaments, portions, gospel booklets

Reference materials – any

Books – Christian adult/children, Non-fiction

Magazines, Daily devotionals, tracts – Any from Christian publishers

Sunday school materials – Adult quarterlies, Teacher’s manuals, full student materials

CD, DVD, Blu-Ray – Music, movies, teachings from well known speakers (Billy Graham, Swindoll ...)

Puppets, nativity sets, etc. – Bible games, puzzles, anything to help teach the gospel

ITEMS THEY CANNOT USE:

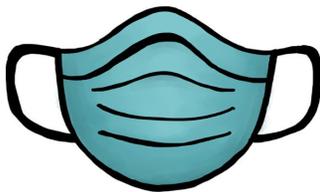
VHS/Tapes/records/8-tracks

Guideposts

Handiwork or busy papers from Sunday school

Secular books (other than dictionaries)

Donations can be dropped off in the containers in the coat room at FCC June – October 2021. Monetary donations will be collected in September – October 2021



Given the influx of COVID-19 cases in the area, we are not going to be having the "Greeting Time" during the worship service, and would like for people to know that they are encouraged to wear a mask, if their conscience so leads them.

THE ELDERS

AUGUST 1, 2021

Worship Attendance: 78	Offering: \$3,369.00
Sunday School: 56	Spendable: 3,269.00
Sun. Morn. Celebration 4	Benevolence: 100.00
King's Kids 5	
Gr. 6-8 2	
High School 7	
Blessed Believers 13	
The Fellowship 15	
Chosen Ones 10	

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Nancy Burkeen (Kate Shunk's aunt)- cancer

Glenda Case's daughters- coming to Illinois for visit Aug. 7-21, from North Carolina and Colorado

Chris Clark- had procedure at Carle on Monday

Daisah (Holly Wiggam's granddaughter)- 7-years old, shot in the leg

Family of Wendy Despain (past VFW Auxiliary President)- memorial was Sunday at the VFW

Bob Dowler- has a back epidural on August 9

Derek Duzan- coming home from hospital to Rex and Jan's; difficult transition, prayers for peace, strength, courage and grace for the family

Nancy Jackson- home, having a rough time

Darrell McCumber- had triple by-pass surgery last Wednesday in Springfield; doing better

Emma Ray (5-year old acquaintance of Sarah Cannon)- leg injury, is in a wheelchair; will be seeing a specialist

Tami Rocke (friend of Sarah Cannon)- surgery for brain cancer on Wednesday

Greg Watson- had tests on Monday; lung problems



Friday, August 6, 3:00-6:00 p.m.-- First Christian Church helps at Rural Grace Food Pantry in Murdock

Monday, August 9, 5:00-7:00 p.m.-- "Back-to-School" supplies distribution at VG School

Monday, August 9, 7:00 p.m.-- VG Community VBS workers are invited to a short (one-hour) Follow-up meeting in the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate our *Mystery Island VBS* and discuss how we want to plan for next year's VBS! Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, August 11, 6:30 p.m. Elders meeting 7:30 p.m. Board meeting

Thursday, August 12, 6:30 p.m.-- Women's Christian Fellowship meets at the church

Tuesday, August 17, 7:30 a.m.-- The Villa Grove School District #302 community is invited to a prayer circle in front of the school. We plan to surround our school personnel & students with prayers for a safe and successful year. All are welcome.



My dear church family,

Thank you so much for the birthday wishes, cards and gifts as I passed the big "6-0" milestone on July 17th. Your generosity and expressions of love mean so much to me.

MIKE ZYLSTRA



Hypocrisy is Serious **8/3/2021**

It is an old story. A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman. He stopped at a yellow light. The tailgater was furious. They could have both made it through. She leaned on her horn, screamed and shook her fist at the man. She was in mid-rant when she heard a tap on her car window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit the vehicle, stand at the rear of the car and put her hands on the trunk. He took her license and paperwork and began processing it.

After many humiliating minutes the officer returned. "I'm very sorry for the mistake." He said, "You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn and cussing a blue streak. I noticed the *What Would Jesus Do* bumper sticker, *Choose Life* license plate holder, *Follow Me to Sunday-School* window cling and chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally,... I assumed you had stolen the car."

Our frustrations can easily spill into our Christian witness and testimony, too often with negative results. Scripture calls this behavior "hypocrisy." Matthew uses "hypocrite" 13 times to describe people who fake pray, fake fast, show fake concern and tried to entrap Jesus. Jesus uses "hypocrite" a dozen times to describe fake religious people, generally the Pharisees. The most horrible use of the word is Matthew 24:51 where Jesus is speaking of the judgement that awaits a wicked servant at the end times. Jesus says the Master will, "...cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Apparently, hell is the home of hypocrites. Pay attention to hypocrisy. God asks us to do all we can to stay true to our commitment to being Christ-like in our actions and attitudes.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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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 (M, T, W, Th)

Elders:

Elmer Decker	Jerry Hughes
John Dilliner	Steve Lacine
Bob Dowler	Joe Rothermel

Service at the church building on August 8, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Greeters: C. Cannon (West); M. Hughes (South)
Serving: S. Shunk, Duzan, Akers, Sinkes

Elder-On-Call for August: JERRY HUGHES (217-369-5495)

Mission of the Week: COLEGIO BIBLICO
Eagle Pass, Texas
Gonzales Flores, President

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Beverly Heflin
Tuscola Health Care Center
1203 Egyptian Trail
Tuscola, IL 61953