



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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September 14, 2021



Wednesday night Bible Study will resume on this Wednesday, Sept. 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall at the church.

The group will be continuing the Ray Vander Laan series, "That the World May Know."

VILLA GROVE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, October 7
4:00-7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church Fellowship Hall

To schedule, please call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 or register online at www.bloodcenter.org
Donors get their choice of a retro t-shirt or a gift card!



SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Worship Attendance: 89

Offering: \$1,569.00

Sunday School:	55
Sunday Morning Celebration	5
King's Kids	7
Grades 6-8	1
High School	6
Blessed Believers	13
Chosen Ones	10
The Fellowship	13

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

Nancy Burkeen (Kate Shunk's aunt)- seeing oncologist to remove cancerous lumps from her head; returns to Cancer Center (Chicago) at the end of October

Clint & Cassie (Glenda Case's great-nephew & niece)- very ill with COVID-19; they have two young children

Kevin Earl (one of the men who painted the church auditorium)- recovering from congestive heart failure and A fib

Larry Ferguson (former mayor of Arcola)- hit by a car while riding his motorcycle, has a broken leg and has had surgery, very concerned about infection; also would like prayer for the young lady who hit him

Tami Rocke (friend of Sarah Cannon)- cancer has returned

Linda Shadwick- broken leg; will be off of it for 6-8 weeks

John Wax (Brenda Logan's dad)- back in Carle Hospital

LOVE PACKAGES

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. *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.

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 through October.

Monetary donations are being collected now—a special collection container is located in the church auditorium.

“The One Jesus Loved” **9/14/21**

You can find the words in John 13:23. They read, “*One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him.*” When we read the context, we discover that these words occur during the events of the upper room, where Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper. It is usually believed that the disciple referred to is John, which seems to be a bit self-serving, since John is the author of the gospel. I’ve puzzled about those words. Then I read an article by Christa Threlfall, where she describes that her 9-year-old, on hearing these words said, “He must not have been loved like that before.” Out of the mouth of babes...

Of all the ways we have been loved, none of us have been loved like Jesus loves us. God’s love is richer, deeper, more intimate, with more understanding and forgiveness than anyone else could possibly love us. Maybe, in that moment, John came to a full realization just how lavish God’s love really is. Maybe he finally figured out that Jesus’ love for him would encompass the cross and that his Rabbi would not only teach love and loving behaviors, but would BE love. Maybe John finally saw clearly that nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus. Maybe this truth so overwhelmed John that his narrative is not a self-serving revelation, but a gospel declaration.

Have you ever been in that place within your mind? Do you realize that “Jesus Loves Me!” is more than a Sunday school kids song? No one has ever loved us like Jesus does. No one can.

Oh that we, as disciples of Jesus, would live in the unprecedented love of Jesus. Knowing that we are loved like *that* deserves to be proclaimed loudly. Describing ourselves as, “*the one Jesus loves*” is a humble statement full of amazing truth.

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 (M, T, Th)

Elders:

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

Service at the church building on September 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Greeters: Janice Thode (West); Judy Zylstra (South)

Serving: S. Sinkes, K. Elam, D. Hughes, S. Shunk

Coffee Fix: B. Elam **Coffee Clean-up:** S. & B. Sinkes

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

Mission of the Week: CHRISTIAN CAMPUS HOUSE

Eastern Ill. University, Charleston, IL
Matthew Thomas, Lead Campus Minister

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Shunk
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