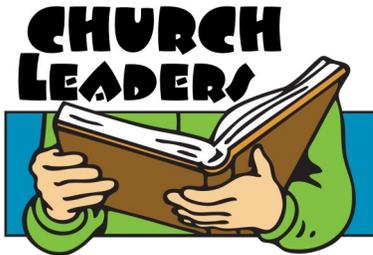




FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
FAX: 832-9348

November 22, 2021

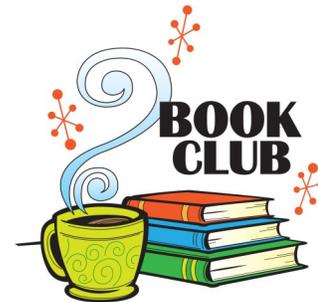


*If there is anyone you believe would be a good addition to our leadership team of elders, deacons and trustees, please submit their name for consideration to a member of the nominating committee (Mike Zylstra, John Dilliner, Joe Rothermel, Curt Cannon). Thank you!*

**JOHN DILLINER**

Sara Williamson will be leading a book club using the book, "The Bait of Satan." This club will meet once a week for approximately 6 weeks to read and discuss this book and its key points. Sara will provide snacks during the discussions.

"The Bait of Satan" exposes one of the most deceptive snares Satan uses to get believers out of the will of God-- offense. This trap restrains many Christians, severs relationships, and widens the gulfs between us. Although you will encounter offense, you can choose how you will react. Books have been ordered, and the study will begin on Thursday, December 2. If you have questions or would like further details on the book, please contact Sara at (217) 621-3037 (please leave a message) or email at [williamsonsara21@gmail.com](mailto:williamsonsara21@gmail.com)



*This is the last week to bring in your baby bottles for Choices Pregnancy & Health, and to donate to Operation G.I.F.T. in your Sunday School class.*

*When you bring in the bottles, please check your name off the list on the table next to the south door. Thanks so much for your generosity!!*

The newest issue of "Our Daily Bread" will be available this Sunday. The books will be located at both exit doors. The devotions will begin on December 1.



**NOVEMBER 14, 2021**

**Worship Service 75**

**Offering N/A**

**Sunday School 52**  
**Sunday Morning Celebration 4**  
**King's Kids 3**  
**Grades 6-8 3**  
**High School 5**  
**Blessed Believers 11**  
**The Fellowship Class 19**  
**Chosen Ones 7**

# IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Nancy Burkeen- has full-body scan on Dec. 1; will move forward from there  
Corey (friend of Maddie Shunk)- 25 yrs. old, diagnosed with cancer, with good prognosis  
Christine Clark- having a hysterectomy on Dec. 13  
Nancy Jackson- surgery on Friday, Nov. 26  
Maria (Toni Cassano's granddaughter)- recovering from COVID-19; blood clot is gone, is doing much better  
Connie Prosser- stage 4 pancreatic and liver cancer; not responding  
Ritter family- travel mercies  
John Waldrop- Tuscola Health Care Center for rehab  
John Wax- back in the hospital; more infection



Are you dreading the winter blahs? WCF would like to invite you to become a Secret Sister to another church lady from January 1 to February 28. Secret Sisters would give cards, small gifts, or kind deeds during January and February. Secret Sisters can reveal their identity with their last treat in late February.

If you would like to participate, there is a survey to be filled out and returned to the folder near a collection tray (at either door) by December 12. We will randomly choose a Secret Sister for you to spoil, and distribute your sister's information in a sealed envelope by January 2, 2022. We'd like to suggest you do one special thing for your Secret Sister each week. The emphasis is not on how much we spend, but the creative ways we can encourage each other. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact a WCF officer: Judi Lock, Karen Williamson, Sarah Cannon and Janice Thode.



*All ladies of the church are invited to attend a baby shower for Christine Herschberger. The shower will be held on Sunday, December 12, at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Herschberger's are expecting a boy and could use lots of diapers (both cloth and disposable), including overnight diapers. Questions? See Sarah Cannon or Judy Zylstra*

## Why Thankfulness is Important 11/22/2021

In a few days, Thanksgiving will be here. Many people have ample reasons to give thanks. And yet, some struggle with the idea of giving thanks. Maybe they believe that saying "Thank you" is a sign of weakness. Or, they believe that they are entitled to what they have. Maybe they just do not possess an attitude of gratitude.

Giving thanks to God is an important theme in the Bible. God made provisions for His people to give "Thank Offerings," along with the sacrifices designed to atone for their sin. There are ample illustrations of Kings, prophets, psalmists, and others calling for seasons of Thanksgiving to God in recognition for his power to free them from Egyptian slavery, provide for them, lead them, fight for them, give them His law, love them and simply be their God.

Thankfulness is still God's will for His children. 1 Thess. 5:18 says, "...give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Thankfulness just makes sense. People with a grateful demeanor have fewer struggles with depression and anxiety. They live a more positive life. They have fewer physical health issues than those who are unappreciative.

Thankfulness is a great tool to build our faith. Rather than having a victim's mentality or blaming others, we can remind ourselves of all the good God has done for us. Thankfulness is a great testimony of the joy we have in God's provisions. It forces us to focus on what we have, rather than obsess over what we do not have. It is also one of the best ways to encourage other people. This world beats us down regularly. Let someone know that you are grateful for them. It might be the boost they need to give God the glory. Thankfulness is very important.

Mike



In everything  
give thanks.

1 Thessalonians 5:18, NASB

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website: [www.fccvq.com](http://www.fccvq.com)  
Church E-mail: [fccvq@frontier.com](mailto:fccvq@frontier.com)  
Minister: Mike Zylstra  
Home Phone: 681-1034  
Mike's E-mail: [fccvqmin@frontier.com](mailto: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 November 28, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

**Greeters:** Judy Zylstra (West); D. & K. Williamson (South)  
**Serving:** P. Eisenmenger, J. Watson, T. Naddy, R. Duzan  
**Coffee Fix & Cleanup:** Bob Dowler

**Elder-On-Call for November:** BOB DOWLER (217-549-9791)

**Mission of the Week:** TCM INTERNATIONAL  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Tony Twist, President

#### **REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

Della Mae Frahm  
811 Timmons Dr.  
Tuscola, IL 61953