



CELEBRATE Our Graduates

FCC has traditionally honored all of our graduates one Sunday each year. The past two COVID years has made this difficult. But, we want to bring this tradition back for 2022. On Sunday, May 22, during our worship service, we will present our graduates with a card and show them our love.

Following the worship service and prior to Sunday School, we will have a brief reception with cupcakes and coffee. Please join us as we celebrate our grads!

VGHS Baccalaureate- Sunday, May 22, 7:00 p.m., VG High School gym
VG Jr. High Promotion- Thursday, May 26, 7:00 p.m., VG High School gym
VGHS Graduation Ceremony- Sunday, May 29, 2:00 p.m. VGHS

Volunteers are needed to work at the Rural Grace Food Pantry on Friday, May 20, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. If you need information, please contact Sarah Cannon. Our congregation works at the Food Pantry five Fridays during the year.



2022 Community Vacation Bible School

July 10-14 6:30-8:30 p.m.
VG United Methodist Church

**Our VBS directors are looking for 6-8 people to help guide students to the various stations each evening. Couples and High School students are encouraged to help out. See Mike Zylstra or Karen Williamson, if you would like to help out.

**Helpers are needed for VBS decorations-- see Karen Williamson.

**You can still register your children for VBS by using the QR code that is on the VBS bulletin board in the south hallway of the church.

MAY 8, 2022

Worship 69
Sunday School 44

Offering \$2,905.00

Sunday Morning Celebration 1
King's Kids 3
Jr. High/Sr. High 6
Blessed Believers 14
The Fellowship 16
Chosen Ones 4



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Nancy Burkeen (Kate Shunk's aunt)- cancer

Glenda Case- has CT scan on Tuesday afternoon

Brenda Elam- has transesophageal echocardiogram and heart catheterization on May 27; may be in the hospital for a few days

Family of Mary Ellis- memorial service will be May 23, 11:00 a.m., at the church

Vicki Gentry- infection causing nausea and health issues; is on the mend, still very weak

Beverley Harvey (friend of Garland Hubert & the Rothermel's)- chemo; not doing well

Family of Dana McKeown- Deanne Rothermel's sister

Kenny Monke (neighbor of Bob & Frances Dowler)- cancer; is now at home, dealing with pain

Praise! Brad Smith transferred his membership to our congregation last Sunday! We welcome him into our fellowship!

Janice Thode- doing better; has doctor appointments this week

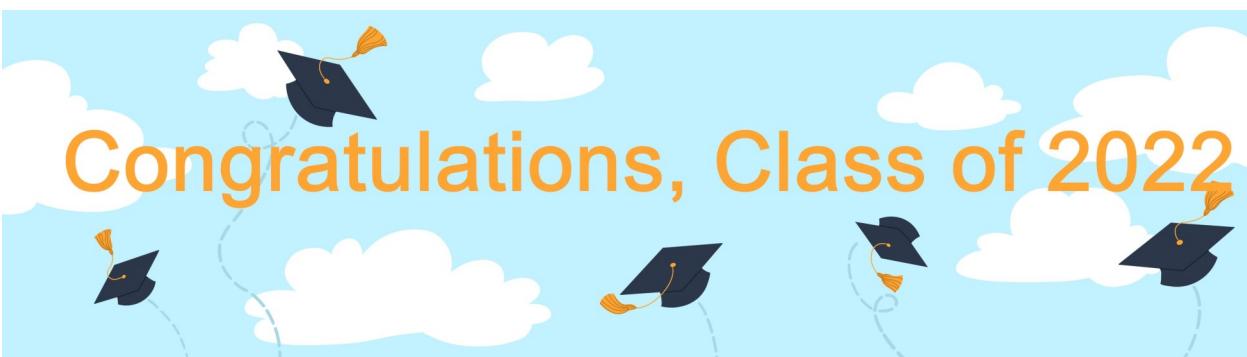
Joe Waldrop- new treatments for cancer on his face



*"We shall always remember with deep gratitude your comforting expression of sympathy."
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the prayers, cards and memorials sent to St Jude's, in honor of our mom.*

Love,
THE FAMILY OF DEB DAVIS

The Youth Group is collecting cans to turn in for cash. If you have cans you would like to recycle, and would like to help out our youth, bring them into the Fellowship Hall.
THANKS!



"Breaking Home Ties"

5/17/2022

I am a fan of Norman Rockwell paintings. Each one is so detailed and tells a beautiful story. Graduation always brings to my mind a 1954 painting, done for the cover of the September 25th edition of *The Saturday Evening Post*. It is called "Breaking Home Ties". Depicted are a young man and his father sitting on the running board of the family's old ranch truck. There is a ticket peeking out of the boy's pocket. His suitcase and trunk are waiting on the boardwalk. They are at a whistle stop, waiting for a train. The son's eager gaze is looking over his father's head, presumably toward his future. His face shows anticipation, hope and opportunity. His suitcase proudly proclaims, "State U". His suit is neatly pressed. He is ready for his new life at college.

The father, not so much. He sits slumped over. His gaze is in the opposite direction. He is wearing worn work clothes. A red flag and lantern are ready to signal the train to stop. His face wears the lessons of a hard life. He is clutching both his work hat and his son's hat, as if to hold on to his son just a bit longer. They sit close to each other, and the dog's chin hugs the boy's knee, as if to demonstrate that family ties are strong. Children grow up. As much as it pains parents, our responsibility is to let them spread their wings.

There is a spiritual parallel here. One day, Jesus told His disciples that they would have to spread the gospel message without Him physically walking the journey with them. He knew they were facing spiritual wolves and hypocrites. Yet there is hope. The Holy Spirit will be there to keep the ties to our heavenly home strong.



Mike

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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, Th, F)
Elders:
John Dilliner Jerry Hughes
Bob Dowler Joe Rothermel

Wednesday, May 18-
Elders meeting-- 6:00 p.m.
Board meeting-- 7:30 p.m.

Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Greeters: Sara Williamson (West); Judi Lock (South)
Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Brenda Elam
Serving: J. Watson, M. Hughes, S. Shunk, R. Duzan
No Bible Study this week
Elder-On-Call for May: JERRY HUGHES (217)369-5495
Mission of the Week: COLEGIO BIBLICO
Eagle Pass, Texas
Gonzalo Flores, President
REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS
Beverly Heflin
Tuscola Health Care Center
1203 Egyptian Trail
Tuscola, IL 61953