



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

April 11, 2023



****The April meeting of Women's Christian Fellowship will be on Thursday, April 13, 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.
Hostess: Judi Lock Devotions: Karen Williamson
Missions: Sarah Cannon**

****Ladies-- mark your calendars! Ladies Salad Supper is coming up on May 11, 6:00 p.m. More details to come!!**

****Thank you so much to everyone who helped WCF support MATTHEW 25. We took a loaded SUV to Charleston on April 6. Todd took us over to see the facility and explained the rules and some of his plans for the future. THANK YOU!
WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Friday, April 21-- 6:30 p.m.
Sarah Hughes Piano Studio will present a musical- "Kidnapped on I-land," by Ron Hamilton. The performance will be at the church. Everyone is invited!!



APRIL 9, 2023

Worship 115

Sunday School

Sunday Morning Celebration

King's Kids

Jr. High & High School

Blessed Believers

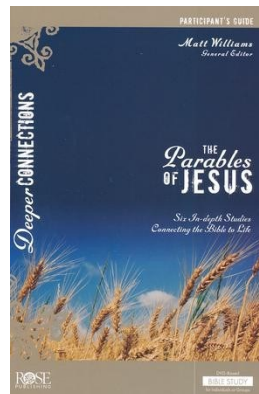
The Fellowship Class

Chosen Ones

TOTAL OFFERING: \$3,035.00

Spendable 2,210.00

Memorial 825.00



**Bible Study
Wednesday, April 12
6:15 p.m.
Fellowship Hall**

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Ariel (Paula Webber's 15-mo. old "bonus" great-granddaughter)- home, recovering from rhinovirus
Dan Crawford- suffering from Sundown dementia and neural dysfunction
Kelly Dalton (Brad & Maryanna Smith's daughter)- home, recovering from surgery
Frances Dowler- revision surgery on left knee April 20 at Sarah Bush Hospital
Brenda Elam- knee replacement surgery on April 17 at Carle Hospital
Angela Graham- surgery on April 12
Jeannie (friend of Herschberger's)- in hospital, starting chemo soon
Kelly (Ray Weaver's daughter)- recovering from COVID-19 and strep
Sheryl Mulvaney- recovering from surgery
Family of Dorothy Otto- friend of Greg Ritter
Bob & Dorothy Rothermel (Joe's parents)- moving to assisted living on Tuesday; Bob is having immunotherapy infusions due to melanoma
Family of Lea Schmidt - Paula Webber's cousin
Steven Shumaker (friend of Holly Wiggam)- heart surgery April 20
Ray Shunk- infection; in Carle Hospital
Joe Waldrop- in Champaign Rehab Center
Family of Myron Warfel- Mary Gen Frick's brother-in-law
Those affected by the strike at Eastern Illinois University

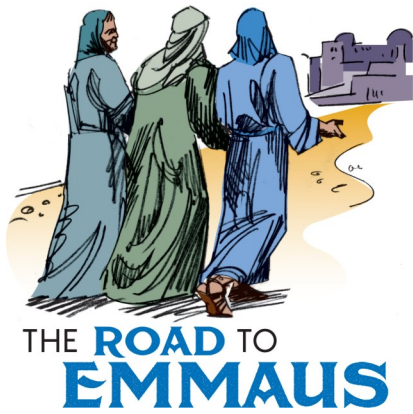
*Joe & Fran Waldrop
1901 Lakeside Drive
Unit B
Champaign, IL 61821*

*Be sure to make this change in
your church directory!*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS



**YOUTH GROUP
MEETS THIS SUNDAY,
APRIL 16
6:00 P.M.**



“We had hoped...”
4/11/2023

Years ago, a person sat in my office, head hung down, completely deflated and exhausted. “Pastor, I just see no hope for my marriage. I have prayed for God to perform a miracle, but... nothing.” Hopelessness. We are all too familiar with it. We would like God to heal, transform, convert, guide, comfort, direct, lead, renew, etc. Yet, our expectations seem unfulfilled. It is easy for us to feel what the men on the road to Emmaus felt. I urge you to read Luke 24:13-35 carefully.

These men were not joyful in their return from Jerusalem to their hometown after Passover. Scripture says their faces were “downcast.” They were despondent. Cleopas confessed to their mysterious, new traveler (Jesus) that (vs 21), “We had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.” Things hadn’t seemed to work out as they hoped. In their mind, the facts were irrefutable. Jesus was crucified, he had died, they had put him in a tomb, and no one knew where his body was. Some women said they saw a vision of angels proclaiming that Jesus was alive. But... no one has seen him. To them, death was irreversible. All hope was gone.

Except, it wasn’t. Though the men remained convinced that Jesus was dead and the women’s testimony bordering on crazy, Jesus was among them. Hope was in the midst of hopelessness. It took some teaching, some scripture and some communion with Jesus to dispel their spiritual blindness. But that is the power of light. It dispels darkness.

During your times of hopelessness, when God doesn’t seem to be working. Take time to commune with Jesus. Through His broken body and shed blood your eyes will be opened to hope and you will see the risen Jesus clearly.

Mike

<p>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, F)</p> <p>Elders: John Dilliner Jerry Hughes Bob Dowler Joe Rothermel</p> <p>NEXT VBS MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, AT 6:30 P.M., AT THE CHURCH.</p>	<p>Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Greeters: Shunk Family (Front) Margaret Black (South) Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Weaver & Dowler Serving: D. Shunk, D. Logan, S. Shunk, D. Hughes</p> <p>Elder-On-Call for April: BOB DOWLER (217)549-9791</p> <p>Mission of the Week: OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME Oblong, Illinois Amy Kemp, Exec. Director of Operations</p> <p>REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS Nina Boyer Brookstone Estates, Rm. 42 146 Brookstone E St. Paris, Illinois 61944</p>
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