



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
FAX: 832-9348

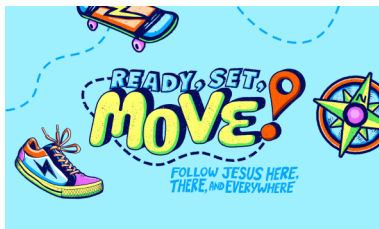
June 27, 2023

*Do you have an experience that demonstrates God providing for you or caring for you? You just knew He was there, taking care of you, comforting you or guiding you? Judy Zylstra would like to hear about that from you. Please talk with, email or text your story to her before July 1. Thanks!*



IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

- Della Mae Frahm - hospice
- Dennis & Susan Cisna (Villa Grove)- Dennis is on life support at Carle
- Deb Nussell (cousin of Joyce Ritter)- pulmonary embolism; is in the hospital
- Mike Nussell (cousin of Joyce Ritter)- home, holding his own
- Maryanna Smith- not feeling well; having tests to figure out the problem
- Travel mercies for summer travelers and vacationers



*A light dinner will be provided for the workers during VBS. If you would like to help out, there is a food sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have questions, be sure to see Deanne Rothermel.*

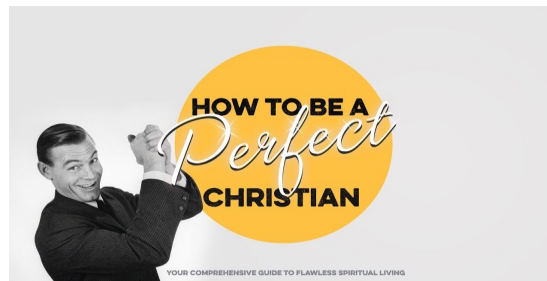
<b>JUNE 25, 2023</b>	
Worship	91
Sunday School	52
Sunday Morning Celebration	2
King's Kids	4
Jr. High & High School	7
Blessed Believers	11
The Fellowship Class	19
Chosen Ones	9
<b>TOTAL OFFERING: \$2,877.00</b>	
Spendable	1,974.00
Benevolence	895.00



**Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for all the prayers, flowers, cards, food, texts and calls. It was all very much appreciated.**

**JOE, DEANNE, RIANNA, & TORIE**

***A Figment of Our Imagination***  
**6/27/2023**



John 3:16 is so familiar that most of us can quote the words: *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.* Those words describe God's character and the hope He offers to everyone. Except, many do not believe they deserve God's love or hope. We are fully aware of the many ways we have not lived up to God's standards.

In fact, most of us have an image of who the perfect Christian is. They are super-spiritual. Read the Bible for hours. Express thoughtful and insightful prayers. Worship inspirationally. Understand and use their spiritual gifts willingly. Effectively share faith with everyone. Have a family who loves the Lord completely. Tithe willingly. Love their spouse and children. And, have never rebelled, doubted or questioned God.

Rationally, we know this "Phantom Christian" doesn't exist. Yet, we measure ourselves against this figment of our imagination and fall short. The by-product is that we live in a constant state of guilt, believing we are being judged by this enigma of our own design.

Which is why we need passages of scripture like **Romans 15:7 – Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.**

We are not acceptable to God because of what we do, but by faith in who He is and what Jesus completed on the cross for us. I must believe in His work to cleanse us from sin, free us from guilt and remove the need to live up to an impossible standard. Jesus has accepted us and transforms us into someone acceptable to God. We are then free to bring anyone to Jesus, where He will do the same work in their life to the glory of God.

*Mike*

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Website: [www.fccvg.com](http://www.fccvg.com)

Church E-mail: [fccvg@frontier.com](mailto:fccvg@frontier.com)

Minister: Mike Zylstra

Home Phone: 681-1034

Mike's E-mail: [fccvgmin@frontier.com](mailto:fccvgmin@frontier.com)

Secretary: Brenda Elam

Office Hours: 10:00-4:30 (M, T, Th, F)

**Elders:**

John Dilliner

Jerry Hughes

Bob Dowler

Joe Rothermel

**Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.**

**Greeters: Curt & Sarah Cannon (Front)**

**Allison Eisenmenger (South)**

**Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Brenda Elam/Hal & Holly Wiggam**

**Serving: P. Eisenmenger, R. Graham, S. Shunk, D. Hughes**

**Elder-On-Call for July: JOE ROTHERMEL (217)369-5285**

**Mission of the Week: TCM INTERNATIONAL**

**Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Tony Twist, President**

**REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

**KEN & AWANDA HEYEN**

**The Villas of Holly Brook, Apt. 9**

**68 E. Airport Road**

**Savoy, IL 61874**



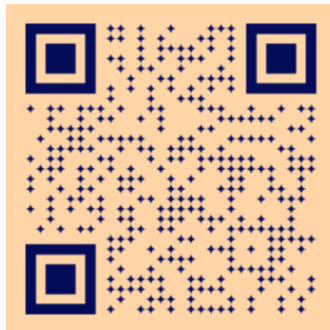
**Where: Villa Grove First Christian Church  
701 N Sycamore St, Villa Grove**

**When: July 9-13, 2023 ~ 6:00-8:00 PM**

**Ages: Age 4 by September through entering 8th grade**

**Hosted by: Villa Grove First Christian Church,  
Villa Grove UMC, Camargo UMC and Living Hope Fellowship**

**To register: Scan the QR code, go online, call 217-832-5231 <https://vbsmate.com/events/VGVBS/27275>**



# Daily Prayer Opportunity

Use this guide to pray in specifics. Repeat this calendar every month for a year.

***Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Day 1	Pray a prayer of praise for the character and nature of God.
Day 2	Pray a prayer of confession, acknowledging both your sin and God's goodness
Day 3	Pray a prayer of repentance as you intentionally turn your life to God
Day 4	Pray a prayer asking God for forgiveness and seek to forgive those who hurt you
Day 5	Pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5-15)
Day 6	Pray for the body of Christ worldwide, especially those persecuted for their faith
Day 7	Pray for the local church and the mission God has given her
Day 8	Pray for ways that God will use your gifts to further His kingdom
Day 9	Pray for the ability to see people groups in town who do not know Christ
Day 10	Pray that people of the area will look favorably on the ministry of FCC
Day 11	Pray for Unity within the body, even when opinions differ
Day 12	Pray for the Elders, by name
Day 13	Pray for the Deacons, by name
Day 14	Pray for the Minister and his family
Day 15	Pray for the Christian Education teachers and Bible study leaders by name
Day 16	Pray for the Youth Leaders by name
Day 17	Pray for the youth and all the children who are growing in their faith
Day 18	Pray for the Missions this congregations supports by name
Day 19	Pray that this congregation be good stewards of the resources God grants us to use
Day 20	Pray that this congregation will know the direction and commission He gives us
Day 21	Pray for the community you live in. Its businesses, schools and leadership
Day 22	Praise God for his love, goodness and kindness shown to you
Day 23	Pray for dedication to read God's word every day
Day 24	Pray for those who are dealing with a disease or physical ailment
Day 25	Pray for peace to come upon those dealing with fear, worry and depression
Day 26	Pray for God to lead new personnel or staff to this ministry
Day 27	Pray for the issues facing our country
Day 28	Pray for those dealing with financial turmoil
Day 29	Pray that you may know God intimately and do what His word says
Day 30/31	Thank God for the salvation he has given you through Jesus' death on the cross