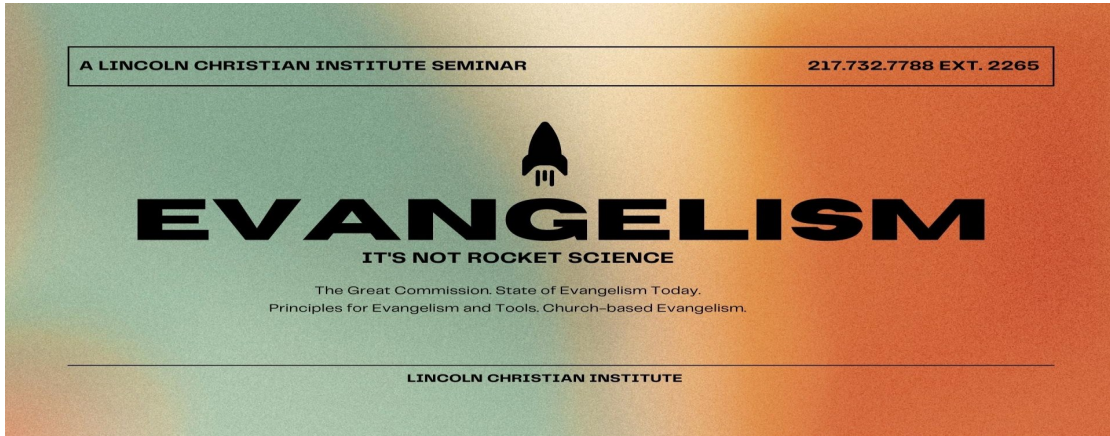




FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
FAX: 832-9348

July 11, 2023



## HOSTED BY

First Christian Church of Villa Grove

Saturday, August 5-- 9:00am-2:00pm

The seminar is free. \$5 will be asked to cover lunch.

RSVP by Sunday, July 30



Guest Instructor- Jim Estep  
Dean of Lincoln Christian Institute  
Professor at Lincoln Christian  
University  
Co-Founder of e2- Effective Elders  
Ministry

### BASIC OUTLINE

The Great Commission  
State of Evangelism Today  
Principles for Evangelism  
Evangelistic Tools  
Church-based Evangelism

#### JULY 2, 2023

Worship 77

Sunday School 47

Sunday Morning Celebration 0

King's Kids 0

Jr. High & High School 8

Blessed Believers 10

The Fellowship Class 22

Chosen Ones 7

**TOTAL OFFERING: \$4,259.00**

Spendable 4,111.00

Education (VBS) 115.00

Worship (coffee) 33.00

#### JULY 9, 2023

Worship 92

Sunday School 49

Sunday Morning Celebration 2

King's Kids 2

Jr. High & High School 7

Blessed Believers 12

The Fellowship Class 19

Chosen Ones 7

**TOTAL OFFERING: \$2,233.00**

Spendable 1,923.00

Education (VBS) 310.00

# IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Bill Akers- broken wrist

Abigail Bliss (Janet Cassida's daughter)- been in the hospital with Lemierre Syndrome, a rare infectious disease; may come home on Tuesday

Family of Dennis Cisna

Chris Clark- hip replacement surgery on August 2

Family of Ron Clodfelder (Florida)- friend of John Klucinkas

Della Mae Frahm - hospice

Casey (Aden) Long (daughter of former VGHS teacher)- hip replacement surgery July 13

Congratulations to Nick and Suzanna (Cassida) Jones, on the birth of twin boys, Charles and Clive! Janet Cassida is proud Grammie, and Cecile Eisenmenger is a proud aunt!

Deb Nussell (cousin of Joyce Ritter)- recovering from pulmonary embolism

Angela Percival (Jeretta Mabry's cousin)- will be having leukemia treatments

Kate Shunk- recovering from kidney stones

Theresa Smith (friend of Holly Wiggam)- infection in right knee (sepsis), in OSF Hospital

Jeff Watson- nasal surgery on July 13

Travel mercies for summer travelers and vacationers

*Dear Friends at Villa Grove 1st Christian,*

*Thank you for your participation in our Baby Bottle Blessings*

*fundraiser! We are grateful for your total donation of \$677.28!*

*Your support helps provide accurate information and caring*

*services to those who come for free and confidential help in*

*their unplanned pregnancy. You make a difference!*

*Blessings,*

**CALI RICE, CLIENT SERVICES DIRECTOR**



THANK  
you.



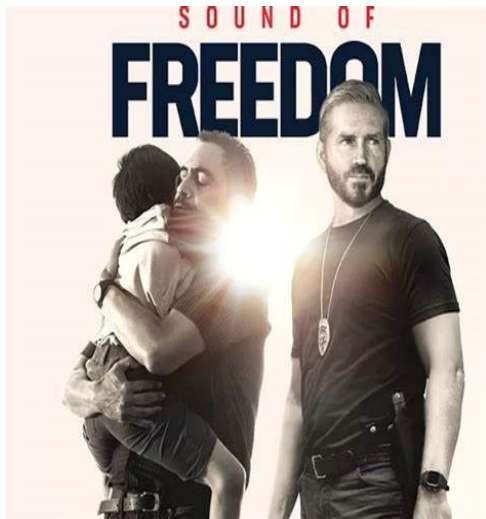
The 2023-24 school year will begin next month, so it's time to collect donations for the Back to School Project! The BTSP provides school supplies to any student and accepts donations, given to the Ministerial Alliance. We will have collection cans at both exit doors, and envelopes will be in the Sunday School classes through July. If you'd like to write a check, please make to "Back to School Project." Thank you in advance for helping VG students come prepared to learn. If you have questions, please contact Sarah Cannon.



COMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19-- Elders meeting 6:00pm Board meeting 7:30pm**

**THURSDAY, JULY 20-- Women's Christian Fellowship will meet at 6:30pm. This is the kick-off meeting to the new year. New ideas and new ways to serve will be discussed. Please come and join us-- the dessert sounds very good!!**



## “The Sound of Freedom” 7/11/2023

On July 4<sup>th</sup> Angel Studios released a movie titled *Sound of Freedom*. Judy and I saw it on July 8<sup>th</sup> and we highly recommend it. It is a difficult movie to watch because it elicits a wide range of emotions. It is based on the true story of Tim Ballard and his fight against child sex-trafficking. It is a story that needs to be told and listened to because the statistics are staggering. Currently there are 5 million children trapped in forced sexual exploitation globally. One phrase that is heard loud and clear in the movie is, “God’s children are not for sale.”

Jim Caviezel, who stars in the movie as Tim Ballard, also portrayed Jesus in the movie, *The Passion of Christ*, directed 19 years ago by Mel Gibson. Not only does Jim encourage strong social justice activity from the viewers, he bases that justice in a strong, biblical faith. That this issue is even present in our world speaks to the darkness and blindness Satan has cast over greedy, self-serving, self-absorbed, hedonistic, and sex-driven humans. Sadly, this evil is the fastest growing international crime network the world has ever seen. And it is consumer driven.

These powerless, innocent, children are intimidated, drugged, abused and sold over and over so that people with no moral compass can exploit them. Caviezel stated that Abraham Lincoln credited Harriet Beecher Stowe, with her story of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* published in 1852, as the springboard story which prompted people to rise up to end legal slavery in the USA. This story might just be the catalyst to help end child sex-trafficking.

If you can’t afford to go to the movie, go to the web site: [www.angel.com/tickets](http://www.angel.com/tickets) and you can receive a free ticket. This story must be told. Part of our purpose as Christians is to protect the weak and vulnerable.

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: Judi Lock (Front) Alexis Cassano (South)

Coffee Fix & Clean-up: John & Linda Dilliner

Serving: C. Cannon, K. Logan, D. Logan, D. Shunk

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

Mission of the Week: CHRISTIAN CAMPUS HOUSE

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

Matthew Thomas, Lead Campus Minister

#### REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

NINA BOYER

Brookstone Estates, Room 42

146 Brookstone E St.

Paris, Illinois 61944