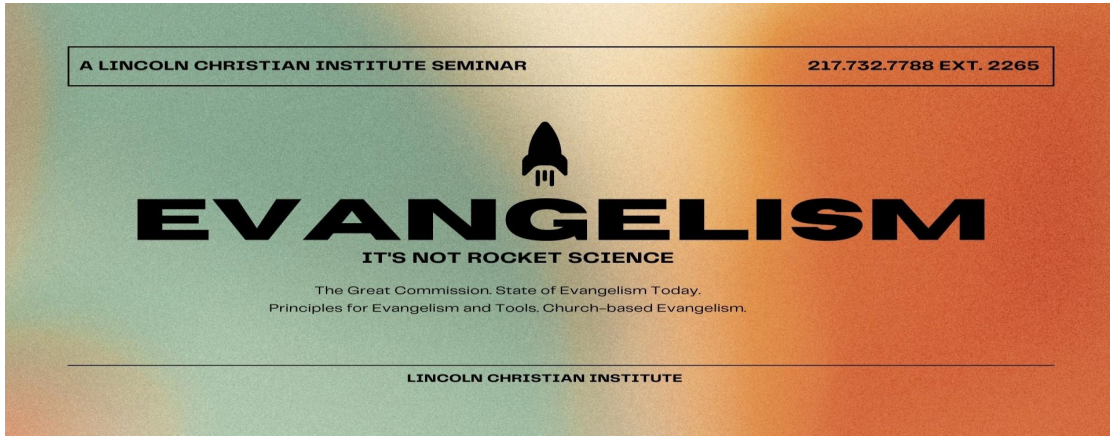




FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

July 25, 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 23, 2023

Worship 75
Sunday School 47

Sunday Morning Celebration 0
King's Kids 3
Jr. High & High School 7
Blessed Believers 10
The Fellowship Class 21
Chosen Ones 6

TOTAL OFFERING: \$3,915.00
Spendable 3,428.00
Missions (VBS) 100.00
Benevolence 387.00



Sunday is the last day to collect donations for the Back to School Project. The collection cans are still at both exit doors, and envelopes are in the adult Sunday School classes. If you'd like to write a check, please make it to "Back to School Project."

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Cynthia Baer (neighbor of Patti Groves)- breast cancer; surgery on July 28
Linda (Waldrop) Burkholder (cousin of Joyce Ritter, niece of Edna Waldrop & Joe & Fran Waldrop)- cancer has returned after 11 years; it is in her bones and blood
Jeri Cardiff- doctoring for a nodule and inflammation on her vocal chords
Chris Clark- hip replacement surgery on August 2
Dan Corbin (Marsha Green's brother)- in Madison, WI hospital; heart issues, surgery soon
Leeann Frick- had knee replacement surgery on Tuesday at Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital; will come home on Wednesday
Marsha Green- cataract surgery on July 25 and August 1
John Klucinkas- doctoring in Chicago for 2-3 more weeks
Angela Percival (Jeretta Mabry's cousin)- having leukemia treatments
Madeline Shunk- on work trip to Camp Pendleton in California
Toni Vee (friend of Lois Naddy, Paris, IL)- heart issues
Jeff Watson- nasal surgery later this month



SOMETHING TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR...



Choices will be having their 35th Benefit Dinner on Saturday, September 30. Dinner and program will be from 6:30-8:30pm, and seating will begin at 6:00pm. The dinner will take place at the Mckenna-Yost Center at the Hilton Garden Inn, 100 Coles Centre Parkway, Mattoon.
If you would be interested in attending, be sure to talk with Maryanna Smith.



UPCOMING EVENTS!

Sunday, July 30-- This is a Fifth Sunday and we will be having Fifth Sunday Family Worship. Judy Zylstra has put together a wonderful service with and lot of music and scriptures, and several people will have testimonies. Please join us!

Sunday, August 6-- Mike will be combining Chapters 29 & 30 from the Quest 52 book, so we will keep on schedule.

Thursday, August 17-- Sara Williamson will be presenting her Panama and Togo mission trips. You will be able to learn about the trips, see opportunities for you to engage in missions, and ask questions. The presentation will begin at 6:30pm, and treats will be served. If you are interested, you can sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, or e-mail Sara at williamsonsara21@gmail.com or call (217)621-3037. Please do this by AUGUST 14.

Saturday, September 9-- Please join to complete a Seedsower training and be able to experience what is being presented to women on the mission field. The session will be from 9:00am-2:00pm in the FCC fellowship hall. Cost is \$5 per person, which includes lunch. Please RSVP by September 4 to Sara Williamson- call (217)621-3037, e-mail at williamsonsara21@gmail.com, or just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

QUESTIONS? Contact Sara, or call the church office!

"See what love the Father has given us,



that we should be called children of God."

1 John 3:1

The Root Is Still There **7/25/2023**

Any serious landscaper, gardener or person who loves their flower beds, knows that it is a lot of work keeping ahead of the weeds. At the parsonage, we have a small flower bed with a few varieties of perennials which faithfully come up and bloom every year. Mixed in with one of the ground cover flowers is another plant that also comes up every year. It is a dandelion. It is located in a place where I think I would damage the flowers if I were to try to dig deep enough to get the weed's whole root. And putting weed killer on it will likely kill the flowers, too. So, I keep pulling off the leaves and dandelion buds, knowing full well the root is still there, and the weed will sprout up again in no time.

This exercise led me to a spiritual reality. Paul prayed that the believers in Ephesus would have power, together with the saints, to grasp the 3-Dimensional love of Christ. To do that, the faithful needed to be "rooted and established in love" (Ephesians 4:14-19). Of course, Satan despises anyone wanting to be rooted in God's love. So, he tries to uproot that flower. For those whose roots in God's love go deep, it doesn't matter what leaves or buds Satan snatches from the surface, the root is still there. God's love will sprout up again in no time.

Satan never stops trying to destroy God's love being displayed by God's children. Like he did with Job, he isn't shy about taking everything away from us. BUT, if the root of God's love is still there, we have hope. A Christian's hope isn't in the dreams and wishes of the world. Our hope is in the promises of our eternally faithful God. Stay rooted in His love.



Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website: www.fccvg.com

Church E-mail: fccvg@frontier.com

Minister: Mike Zylstra

Home Phone: 681-1034

Mike's E-mail: 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: Dennis & Karen Williamson (Front)

Miles Swigart (South)

Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Hughes/Sara Williamson

Serving: S. Shunk, P. Eisenmenger, S. Sinkes, D. Hughes

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

Mission of the Week: CHOICES PREGNANCY & HEALTH

Charleston, Illinois

Chris Bugle, Executive Director

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

DELLA MAE FRAHM

Eberhardt Village, Room 44

431 W. Palmer

Arthur, IL 61911