



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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September 26, 2023



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1
6:00 P.M.
FOR ALL OUR YOUTH,
GRADES 6-12

SOUP SUPPER!

Hosted by the ladies of Women's Christian Fellowship
Thursday, October 10-- 6:00 p.m.
See the sign-up sheet in this Sunday's bulletin.
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!

Soup
Supper



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS!
If you are not attending Sunday School now, please consider joining the Fellowship Class. We are going to start a new study in FIRST TIMOTHY on Sunday, October 1.
Here are a few of the topics we will cover:
+Teach sound doctrine +Instruction for women
+General instructions concerning the church
+The practice of prayer +Qualifications for church officers
+Instructions concerning members in the church
Hope to see you there! BOB THOMAS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

Worship 102
Sunday School 64
Sunday Morning Celebration 4
King's Kids 6
High School 9
Blessed Believers 17
The Fellowship Class 23
Chosen Ones 5

TOTAL OFFERING \$3,682.99
Spendable 3,100.00
Benevolence 582.99



This year's In Thanks-Giving project is LITTLE GALILEE CHRISTIAN CAMP. We will be collecting up to \$3000 for updating the dean's quarters for the main camp. They hope to add new flooring and bedding before next summer. "Our deans are in charge of our weeks of camp and are invaluable. We want them to feel valued and special by the accommodations we give them." Mike can attest that updating is needed. We will be collecting donations from October 1-November 26. Thank you!

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Ed Adams (friend of Paula Webber)- successful triple bypass surgery on Monday
Chris Clark- had surgery to repair portion of hip incisions (from hip replacement surgery)
Family of Kenny Clodfelder
Roy Dable (friend of Mabry's)- repair of new heart valve this week at Barnes Hospital
Kim Fincham (Ray Weaver's daughter)- not feeling well
Melvin Greeley (Judy Zylstra's dad)- having a defibrillator and pacemaker put in on Thursday
Mary Gen Frick- had kidney stone surgery on Monday; may need second surgery in Springfield
Christine, Nadia & Raylan Herschberger- all are fine and at home after car accident
Family of John Redden
Sara Williamson- upcoming Seed Sower mission trip to Benin, October 6-14

**2023 CHURCH PICNIC- SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
HENSON PARK, VILLA GROVE**



Welcome to Autumn 9/26/2023

The farmers are harvesting their grain. The air has a brisk feel to it. People are wearing sweatshirts. Homecoming football games are happening. Garden produce has yielded its last tomato. There is less daylight. The trees are showing their brilliant colors. The wooly worms are crossing the roads. The birds are flying south. And, of course, anything that can be “pumpkin-spiced” has been. I draw the line at pumpkin spice communion bread.

Autumn is at our door. And the natural world is predictably welcoming it. God’s creation never wavers. It is faithful, dedicated and constant. You can always count on it. Oh, the seasons have their surprises. A storm might blow some birds out of their migratory path. But the natural world is 100% consistent to God’s design and His natural laws.

What does that mean for us spiritually? While reading the prophet Jeremiah, I ran across this verse, Jeremiah 8:7 – *Even the stork in the sky knows her appointed seasons, and the dove, the swift and the thrush observe the time of their migration. But my people do not know the requirements of the Lord.*

What an indicting declaration. The natural world knows what God intends and does it. BUT, the pinnacle of God’s creation, the ones he made in His own image, the human beings He designed so that we could enjoy a sweet relationship with our ever-present God, balk at God’s law, commands, and requirements. We are not 100% constant, faithful or dedicated. Oh, we have our moments. But, unlike the seasons, we often reject God’s design and will.

Maybe we need to be more like the stork, dove, swift and thrush, who know what God’s will is and simply do it faithfully. They don’t second-guess God or argue with him. They obey, because in obedience, they give praise and glory to God’s authority.

Welcome our God of all seasons with a commitment to obedience.

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

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WILLING TO BE TRAINED IN THE USE OF OUR WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, TALK TO MIKE.

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

Greeters: Joe & Fran Waldrop (South) Janice Thode Front)

Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Williamson/Wiggams

Serving: S. Shunk, D. Shunk, K. Logan, D. Logan

Elder-On-Call for October: JOHN DILLINER (217)621-9807

Mission of the Week: ONE MISSION SOCIETY

Greenwood, Indiana

Sara Williamson, Missionary

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

DELLA MAE FRAHM

Eberhardt Village, Room 44

431 W. Palmer

Arthur, IL 61911

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