



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
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November 14, 2023



Sunday, November 19  
7:00 p.m.

Villa Grove United Methodist Church  
Mike Zylstra will be speaking  
Everyone is invited to attend!

Sara Williamson will be with us on Sunday, November 26, during the Sunday School hour. She will update us on her recent trip to Benin. All Sunday School classes are invited to join together in the auditorium to hear her speak.



MISSIONS



**IN THANKS-GIVING**

*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. We will be collecting donations from now until November 26. There is a container for donations located in the auditorium. As of Nov. 12, \$3,435.00 has been given- WE'VE REACHED OUR GOAL!!*



**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

Worship	80
Sunday School	50
Sunday Morning Celebration	0
King's Kids	2
High School	6
Blessed Believers	14
The Fellowship Class	22
Chosen Ones	56

<b>TOTAL OFFERING</b>	<b>\$13,427.13</b>
Spendable	12,512.13
In-Thanksgiving	915.00

It's time for OPERATION G.I.F.T.! During the month of November, there will be envelopes in the Sunday School classes to collect money to purchase gifts for the needy children of our town. If you would like to donate on your own, go to the Villa Grove State Bank and give them your donations for the account. Be sure to make any checks to "OPERATION G.I.F.T. Thank you!

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

Family of Dan Crawford

Joe Dalton (Smith's son-in-law, wife is Kelli)- had surgery for a brain blockage on Monday

Mary Gen Frick- stent is out; will know in a few days about seeing a doctor in Springfield

Melvin & Darlean Greeley (Judy Zylstra's parents)- recovering from auto accident on Monday morning

Darrell Hinkle- vein issues; has a consultation at Barnes Hospital on Thursday

John Klucinkas- on November 29, having nerve block injections in leg and calves to reduce pain

Julie Lacine- knee replacement surgery in Arkansas on November 28

Jeretta Mabry- recently diagnosed artery issues

Terry & Lois Naddy- travel mercies as they fly to Arizona

Rachel (Sarah Cannon's niece, in Chile)- her depression is affecting her family

Mike Reed (brother-in-law of Rich & Jeretta Mabry)- home, doing well after bypass surgery

Linda Soard- seeing a neurologist

Nation of Israel

John Wax (Brenda Logan's dad)- hospice; prayers needed for comfort

Rehearsals are November 19, 26, December 3 & 10, at 11:45 a.m. (after Sunday School). The group is singing "Noel, Christ Is Born!"- a celebration for two-part choir. It's not too late, if you would like to sing with the group!





## **Hand of Thanksgiving** **11/14/2023**

I read a story about a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher who gave her students the homework of drawing a picture of something for which they were thankful. The next day, the students brought back their artwork. The teacher promised to hang the drawings on the classroom wall while the kids were at recess. The students had mostly drawn things the teacher expected. There were pictures of family, friends, pets, food, toys, houses, etc. Then the teacher noticed Harold's picture. It was a picture of a hand. Harold hadn't traced his own hand. This hand was larger. There were no words to identify the hand. So, whose hand was it?

As the students came in from recess, they looked at the pictures. When they saw Harold's drawing, they wondered whose hand it was, too. One child concluded it was the hand of God, who gives us everything we need. Another thought it was a farmer's hand, because they grow our food. Another said it was a policeman's hand, because they protect us. Finally, Harold came into the classroom and the teacher asked him if he wanted to share whose hand it was.

"It's yours, teacher." he said, "One day you held my hand when I needed a friend. I am very thankful for your hand."

We don't always know the effect we have on another person. What we do in kindness may seem insignificant and inconsequential. However, the small ways we act towards others, the words spoken out of love and not anger, the smiles given to try to brighten another's day can have a long-lasting impact. Thanksgiving is not only found in the huge blessings of life. Often, what we are most thankful for are the small compassions extended to us when we are in a time of great need, and simply want someone to give us a hand.

Be the hand of thanksgiving to someone today.

*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: John & Linda Dilliner (South) Dave Shunk (Front)**

**Coffee Fix & Clean-up: Brenda Elam/Glenda Case**

**Serving: P. Eisenmenger, D. Shunk, M. Hughes, S. Shunk**

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

**Mission of the Week: RURAL GRACE FOOD PANTRY**

**Murdock, Illinois**

**Stevie Shearer, Contact Person**

#### **REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

**NINA BOYER**

**Brookstone Estates, Room 42**

**146 Brookstone E St.**

**Paris, IL 61944**