



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

January 3, 2024

Sunday, January 14-- ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
11:00 a.m.

SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR 2024

Elder: John Dilliner (1 year) Jerry Hughes (3 years)
Deacon: Stephen Sinkes (3 years) Bill Akers (3 years)
Ray Weaver (3 years)
Trustee: Curt Cannon (3 years)
Jeff Watson (3 years)
Church Treasurer: Helen Watson (3 years)



Women's Christian Fellowship will meet on Thursday, January 11. A soup luncheon will be served at 1:00pm followed by the regular meeting at 2:00pm. All ladies are invited to attend!

Hostess: JUDI LOCK
Devotions: KAREN WILLIAMSON
Missions: BRENDA ELAM

ON THE BULLETIN BOARD, SOUTH HALLWAY, THERE IS A NOTE FROM SARA WILLIAMSON WITH ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SHE DIDN'T KNOW DURING HER BENIN PRESENTATION. ANYONE INTERESTED SHOULD CHECK THIS OUT!

JANUARY 7, 2024

Worship 100
Sunday School 54
Sunday Morning Celebration 5
King's Kids 3
High School 5
Blessed Believers 14
The Fellowship Class 22
Chosen Ones 5

OFFERING

Total \$3,294.00



Church family,
Thank you so much for the prayers and cards during my stay in the hospital and since returning to Sara Jane's. All are much appreciated!

LINDA STANFIELD

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Michelle Bailey (daughter of Pete & Linda Lake; friend of Marsha Green)- serious heart issues, on heart pump

Khristi Boyer- health issues, infection

Charlie (Darrell & Linda Hinkle's grandson-in-law)- waiting for kidney/lung transplant

Della Mae Frahm- has a new room at Eberhard Village- 61A is the new number

Vicki Gentry- struggling with memory issues

Sarah Hughes- hasn't been feeling well

Linda Hinkle- upcoming hand surgery, January 15

Norma Johnson (Maryanna Smith's sister)- in hospital with heart problems

Sue Taylor- doing well after hip surgery

Bill Schweighart- not doing well; came home Wednesday with 24/7 home care

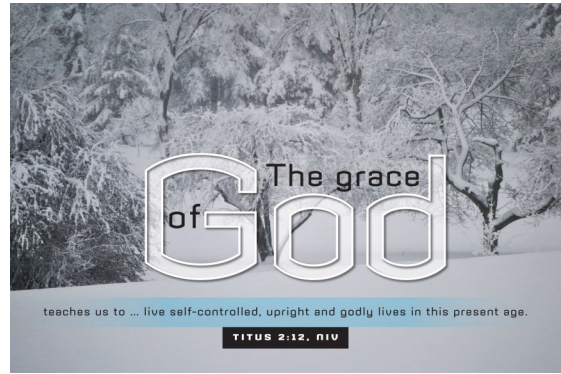


*****CONGRATULATIONS to Raeanna Boyer, January Rotary Student of the Month! Raeanna is the daughter of Matt & Khristi, and is a senior at Tuscola High School.***

*****The January Elders meeting will be Wednesday, January 17, at 6:00 p.m. Board meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m.***

*****Wednesday night Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, January 24, 6:15 p.m. The group will be studying "Max on Life," at study by Max Lucado.***

*****Next week, we will be updating and publishing the 2024 Church Directory, our little phone book. If you have changes in your address or phone number, please contact the church office by next week. THANKS!***



Fruit of the Spirit: Self-Control
1/10/2024

Galatians 5:22-23 - *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

I'm so glad the Holy Spirit is growing these character traits within every Christian. Yet, the last one, self-control, is interesting because of an amazing nuance. Bear with me as I explain.

The word "self-control" appears twice in the OT. Proverbs 16:32 - *Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.* And Proverbs 25:28 - *Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control.* Wise statements indeed. In the NT, it is often described as a character trait of Elders, Deacons and overseers of the church. Showing self-control is almost always positive, except the one time when the word is used as part of a warning. In 1 Corinthians 7:5, Paul warns married couples not to withhold intimacy from their partner because Satan knows about our lack of self-control when it comes to sexuality and will use it against us.

Yet, self-control is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, which tells me self-control is more than one's ability to show restraint and regulate their own emotions, thoughts, and behaviors. Spirit-filled self-control is deeper than what we can do within our own fortitude.

Spirit-filled self-control reveals a depth of Godly character that begins in our mind. God promises that the Holy Spirit is there to transform our mind, so it reflects Godly character. We need to submit to that transformation. When that happens, we will have a Godly foundation and Godly resources to draw upon whenever we need to demonstrate restraint and curb our natural tendencies to retaliate.

Praise God, He helps grow within us Holy Spirit directed self-control.

Mike

<p>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)</p> <p>Elders: John Dilliner Jerry Hughes Bob Dowler Joe Rothermel</p>	<p>Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Greeters: Janice Thode (South) Patti Groves (Front) Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Joe & Deanne Rothermel Serving: J. Watson, D. Shunk, R. Graham, B. Smith</p> <p>Elder-On-Call for January: JERRY HUGHES (217)369-5495</p> <p>Mission of the Week: TCM INTERNATIONAL Indianapolis, Indiana Tony Twist, President</p> <p>REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS NINA BOYER Brookstone Estates, Room 42 146 Brookstone E St. Paris, IL 61944</p>
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