



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

February 6, 2024



SUNDAY NOON LIVE!!

Sunday, February 11-- 12 Noon

Hot meat sandwiches and beverage provided.

Please bring sides or desserts to share.

Fun & Games! Invite your friends!

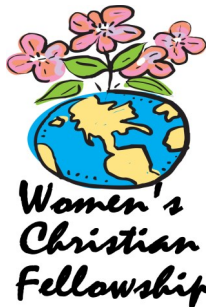
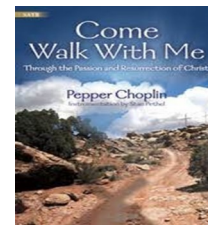
Sponsored by FCC Fellowship Ministry

SINGERS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY EASTER CANTATA

Directed by Janet McCumber

REHEARSALS STAR THIS SUNDAY, FEB. 11, 3:00-5:00 P.M.

ALL VOICES WELCOME,- Jr. High to Adult



Women's Christian Fellowship

Thursday, February 8

2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Karen Williamson

Missions: Sarah Cannon

Devotions: Judy Zylstra

Thank You!



FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Worship 92

Sunday School 58

Sunday Morning Celebration 3

King's Kids 2

High School 9

Blessed Believers 13

The Fellowship Class 24

Chosen Ones 7

OFFERING TOTAL: \$21,076.56

Spendable: \$11,697.50

Building & Grounds: \$5,000.00

Memorials: 4,379.06

Dear Church Family, The caption on the FCC 2024 Church Directory says it all... "I love my church family!" Your cards, prayers, and kind acts meant so much to me, giving me strength, support and encouragement while healing from surgery. Your Christian love is amazing. Thank you, my dear church family.

SUE TAYLOR

Dear FCC Family, Thank you so much for your cards, texts, posts, calls and gifts for my birthday! You sure know how to bless and make one feel loved!

Love, JUDY ZYLSTRA

Praise God! And thank you for your prayers. Missy (Smith) went back to work for the first time since October. She is able to walk with help of a crutch.

BRAD & MARYANNA SMITH



PRAYER LIST

Scott Beccue- had triple bypass surgery on Friday to eliminate blockages; recovering
Khristi Boyer- slow recovery from back surgery
Sandy Bragg- in Carle Hospital
Curt & Sarah Cannon thank everyone for their prayers and encouragement; they are recovering well!
Chris Clark- no relief, but has been sent to a specialist
Derek Duzan- recovering, but struggling
Praise! Birth of Ava Marie Garza, cousin of Mary Gen Frick, born on Jan. 29
Linda Hinkle- doing well after hernia surgery
Pete Kauffman (relative of Patti Groves)- doing much better, and was moved to Carle rehab floor
Tom Madden (grandfather of Bailey Ritter, Joyce's granddaughter)- cancer
Family of Dan Marlatt (Villa Grove)- classmate of Cindy Thomas and Joyce Ritter
Bill Schweighart- getting chemo and radiation; is at his stepson's home in Chicago area and hopes to come home in a couple of weeks



DYNAMIC WOMEN IN MISSIONS ONE MISSION SOCIETY

I am very excited about an upcoming trip to Benin. The trip will take place from March 8-18. I will be the leader of the team and will be leading two ladies from the US, and one from Benin. Our purpose in Benin is to facilitate TRAIN THE TRAINERS for the African women. During these trainings, the women will:

- Review skills learned in Seed Sower, which they previously completed
- Re-affirm their identity in Christ
- Continue mastering giving a 15-30 second testimony
- Teach others these skills, as well as how to present the Gospel
- Demonstrate how to lead a Bible study for discipleship purposes
- Practice listening in prayer
- Master adult learning skills and training techniques
- Conduct their own Seed Sower Training, prior to the end of training.

Once they complete the training, they will then be ready to continue training others in Seed Sower and multiply these skills throughout Benin and neighboring countries.

Please be in prayer for me and our team. We covet your prayers for our team's safety and effectiveness as we minister to the women of Africa.

Your sister in Christ,
SARA WILLIAMSON

The Folly of Many Words **2/6/2024**

He sits directly behind me as I drive the school bus. He is a 5th grader who has come from a broken home. Life has not been kind to him. Yet, he is healthy, clean and seems to like school. He does have one vice. He talks non-stop. From the moment he gets on the bus, he begins talking and moves from one topic to another with no input from anyone. His imagination is unhindered by the facts. And he believes his understanding of a subject is accurate. I'm guessing he spends a lot of time alone at his grandparent's home. He is not loud, rude, or obnoxious. He just talks. A lot! Even when no one is listening. I find myself tuning him out, because he doesn't need my input to have a dialogue.

I wonder if that is what God does with people who think that the most effective prayers are those filled with "many words." In His Sermon on the Mount (Matt 6:7) Jesus said, *"And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words."* Apparently, the pagans felt compelled to speak many words because they did not have a close relationship with their gods. They talked, begged, besought, and implored a lot just to receive an audience with their gods. Maybe they thought that, if they were annoying enough, their god would acknowledge them and possibly hear their prayer.

I'm so glad that our God promises to hear us when we pray. We don't need to beg him to be attentive to our needs, or plead with him to be near, faithful and responsive. If we simply call on the name of the Lord, in faith, and within His will, we don't need "many words." We simply need to be close to our God and speak with him as one who loves us deeply.

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: Brenda Elam (South) Marsha Green (Front)

Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Bob Dowler/Sarah Hughes

Serving: B. Kelly, B. Kelly, N. Kelly, R. Duzan

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

Mission of the Week: CHOICES PREGNANCY & HEALTH

Charleston, Illinois

Chris Bugle, Executive Director

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

KEN HEYEN

Tuscola Health Care Center

1203 Egyptian Trail

Tuscola, IL 61953