



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
FAX: 832-9348

February 27, 2024

**Wednesday, February 28-6:15 p.m. Bible study  
meets at the church**

**Sunday, March 3-11:45 a.m. Fellowship  
Committee meeting, fellowship hall**

**3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Cantata rehearsal**

**6:00 p.m. Youth Group meets at the Church**



Steve & Sandy Bragg- Sandy is off oxygen, and blood pressure is good; Steve is walking fine, able to do chores

Curt Cannon - Hernia surgery Friday

Family of Charlie - (Jeri Michael's cousin - prayers for Jeri & her extended family

Chris Clark - sees rheumatologist on Wednesday

Debbie Crabill - (Paula Webbers friend) - terminal small cell carcinoma; hoping chemo will prolong her life

Brenda Elam - knee replacement surgery on March 7

Rachel Elam - (Elam's daughter-in-law has spinal surgery on Friday

Dale Hubert - had knee replacement surgery on Monday

Lois Naddy - good reports from last weeks tests

**FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

Worship 89

Sunday School 62

Sunday Morning Celebration 4

King's Kids 5

High School 8

Blessed Believers 19

The Fellowship Class 21

Chosen Ones 5

**OFFERING 2/18 TOTAL: \$1,900.00**

Spendable: \$1,675.00

Memorial 225.00

**OFFERING 2/25 TOTAL: \$2,898.95**

Spendable \$2,380.00

Benevolence 518.95

*Thank You!*



*Dear church family,*

*Thank you so much for your continued support of mission work and me! You bless me and the ladies I get to serve! Miss you all!*

**SARA WILLIAMSON**

***It Keeps our Imagination Grounded***  
**2/27/2024**

Watching children who have a vivid imagination is interesting. One minute they are holding a toy dinosaur and living in the Jurassic era. The next minute they are wearing an eye patch and talking like a pirate. They may see themselves on a battleship while wearing a sailor's hat. Or, herding wild Mustangs while wearing cowboy boots. Give them a toy rocket and they are hurtling through space on their way to Mars. Or allow them to hold a die cast police car and the chase is on as they set out to apprehend the "bad guys." It doesn't matter if the object is the real thing. Sticks make a more than adequate sword for Sir Lancelot. And a stuffed animal is ferocious except for the young lion tamer. The child's imagination is encouraged by the objects that connect with their senses.

Jesus employed the same tactic to encourage the imagination of His followers. As Jesus approached the fulfillment of His mission on the cross, he wanted his disciples to remember, to use their imagination, and to keep in mind all that He was doing. He gave them a couple of small, tangible articles (bread and wine) to engage their minds and encourage their imagination.

2,000 years later, Jesus still urges every believer to touch, taste, smell and see these representations of the real thing and be mentally teleported back to the day when Jesus allowed his body to be broken and his blood shed. Jesus is okay with believers who have a vivid imagination. He encourages it with the objects He provided. And he desires that these objects keep our imaginations grounded in truth.

So, go ahead. Engage your imagination every time you participate in communion. It is a beautiful time of hope and fulfillment.

*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

**MARCH 3, 2024**

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

**Greeters: Allison Eisenmenger (South) Glenda Case (Front)**

**Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Brenda Elam**

**Serving: R. Duzan, K. Logan, D. Logan, D. Shunk**

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

**Mission of the Week: LITTLE GALILEE CHRISTIAN CAMP**

**Clinton, Illinois**

**Gabe Rutledge, Camp Manager**

**REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

**JOE HOLSAPPLE**

**315 S. Douglas St.**

**Villa Grove, IL 61956**

# 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