



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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April 9, 2024



WE HAVE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES!!

fccvgoffice@gmail.com (church)

fccvgmin@gmail.com (Mike)

Be watching for this week's newsletter!!

Sidney Christian Church is hosting a concert featuring DARYL MOSLEY! Daryl is a Grand Ole Opry veteran and 3-time Song-writer of the Year. There is no cost for the concert, and a free-will offering will be taken. The concert is at the Sidney Christian Church (305 E. Main St.) on SATURDAY, APRIL 27, at 6:00 p.m.



Weekly Announcements

April 10, 2024 - 6:00 p.m. - Elders meeting
7:30 p.m. - Board meeting

April 11, 2024 - 6:30 p.m. - Woman's Christian Fellowship

Hostess: Sarah Hughes Devotions: Janet Cassida Missions: Sarah Cannon

APRIL 7, 2024

Worship 100

Sunday School 66

Sunday Morning Celebration	2
King's Kids	6
High School/College	8
Blessed Believers	11
The Fellowship Class	32
Chosen Ones Class	7

OFFERING: \$2,020.00

Spendable: \$2,070.00

Benevolence: \$50.00



Women's Christian Fellowship

WCF is planning a trip to tour Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute, IN on April 20, 2024. Church bus will leave at 9:00 a.m. and return between 3:30 - 4:00. We will stop and have a late breakfast in Paris around 10:00. After the tour you can shop at the Open Door Christian Book Store and Gift Shop. Cost is \$5.00. Give it to any WCF officer. Any questions call Sarah Cannon!

PRAYER
Requests

Connie Berry - cancer treatments
Derek Duzan - in Shirley Ryan Rehab in Chicago
Jan Duzan- lung surgery at Barnes Hospital on Wednesday
Mary Gen Frick- not feeling well
Larry Mulvaney- waiting for meds
Brad Smith - cancer treatments
Barb Watson- seeing a neurologist



Tony and Jessalyn Jackson, son and daughter-in-law of Nancy Jackson, will be adopting 4 siblings, ages 2-6, on April 30!! Their names are Nevaeh, Spencer, Olive and Piper. Some of us would like to encourage them with a GIFT CARD SHOWER! Nancy reported that Tony would like to get the kids a swing set from Amazon. They also shop at Walmart and Sam's Club. The kids love McDonalds, and Tony and Jess like Cheddar's on the rare occasions they eat out alone. If you would like to participate, buy any gift card and send it directly to Tony and Jess. Their address is: 610 Poinsetta Dr., Little Rock, AR 72205. Questions? Contact Sarah Cannon or the church office.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
May 9, 2024-- 6:00 p.m.
Ladies Salad Supper
"God Pieces Our Lives Together"



Monday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING for everyone interested in helping out this year. The meeting will be held at the United Methodist Church in Villa Grove.

Sunday, April 28, 9:30 a.m. During the worship service on April 28, we will be honoring our graduates from Jr. High, High School and College. During the fellowship time between church and Sunday School, cupcakes will be served.



Darkened in their Hearts **4/9/2024**

Well, the total solar eclipse happened yesterday, we are still here, and the Lord's second coming is still on the horizon. Which means that we have work to do for God's kingdom.

If you watched the eclipse, hopefully you saw it as a wonderful way to draw close to God's power proclaimed through His creation. Unfortunately, too many people will not see God's power. Their eyes are not on God, but elsewhere. The apostle Paul says it this way... **Ephesians 4:18 - *They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.*** Paul is talking about pagan Gentiles who had ***"given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed."*** That description could apply to many in our culture today. Something is getting in the way of people seeing the SON!

Paul's challenge to the Christians in Ephesus is that, if they are to live for Christ, they have to always live in the light of Christ. Anything that stands between them and Jesus must be discarded. The same is true in our culture. We must not let anything darken our understanding of God or harden our heart. When the moon came between earth and the sun, there was darkness and a chill was in the air. When we allow the things of this world to come between us and the Son of God, the result will be spiritual darkness and coldness and a darkness that will only be removed when we allow the light of God's Son to shine in our life to soften our hard hearts and dispel our spiritual obscurity.

Praise the Lord that Jesus, the light of life, shines his will for all to see and live in.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website:
Church E-mail:
Minister: Mike Zylstra
Home Phone: 681-1034
Mike's E-mail:
Secretary: Brenda Elam
Office Hours: 10:00-4:30 (M, T, Th, F)

Elders:

John Dilliner Jerry Hughes
Bob Dowler Joe Rothermel

APRIL 14, 2024

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

**Greeters: (South) Janice Thode (Front) David Shunk
Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Dilliner/Zylstra
Serving: B. Smith, B. Kelly, B. Kelly, N. Kelly**

Elder-On-Call for April: BOB DOWLER (217)549-9791

**Mission of the Week: AXIOM CHRISTIAN (U. of I)
Urbana/Champaign, Illinois
Aaron Bird, Axiom Director**

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

**KEN HEYEN
Tuscola Health Care Center
1203 Egyptian Trail
Tuscola, IL 61953**

Bible Drive

March thru April

Bring new or used Bibles, any translation, any condition.

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

**First Christian Church

**Mr. Kestner's class at the VGHS

Bibles will be donated to
Love Packages for overseas distribution.

Sponsored by:
F.C.C. Youth Group
VGHS S.W.A.T.
(Students With A Testimony)