



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
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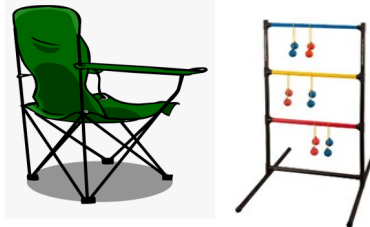
August 20, 2024

**FCC'S ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC!**

Sunday, September 8  
12:00 p.m.

Henson Park Pavilion

Tableware, chicken & drinks are provided-- please bring dishes to share, lawn chairs and lawn games. You are invited to enjoy a fun afternoon and get to know the FCC folks better!



**HOPE AND A FUTURE**

*Choices Pregnancy & Health invites you to their Annual Fundraising Dinner SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28*

*McKenna Yost Convention Center at the Hilton Garden Inn, Mattoon, Illinois*

*Seating begins at 6:00 p.m.; Dinner and Program is from 6:30-8:30 p.m.*

*An opportunity to make a financial gift will be extended- the dinner is complimentary (adults only)*

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE SEE RICH OR ANGELA GRAHAM BY SEPTEMBER 11!**

**AUGUST 18, 2024**

Worship 82

Sunday School 50

Sunday Morning Celebration 4

King's Kids 2

High School/College 5

Blessed Believers 17

The Fellowship Class 17

Chosen Ones Class 5

OFFERING: \$1,437.02

Spendable \$1,437.02



Chonda Pierce, Christian comedienne, will be performing at the Maranatha Church in Decatur on Sunday, September 29, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$29.75, and we have 5 committed to attend, and 5 tickets to sell.

If you would like to attend, please contact Karen Williamson or the church office.

# IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Shirley Bradbury- has had two strokes, has COVID-19 and kidney failure  
Jacob Casey (nephew of Mary Gen Frick)- going to Children's Hospital in Chicago for medical treatment; not sure what is wrong, but wanted a specialist called in  
Praise! Frances Dowler will be coming home on Wednesday  
The Greeley family (Judy Zylstra's folks)- memorial service for Judy's dad on August 23 in Minnesota  
Dale Hubert- had knee replacement surgery; asking for prayer for strength and recovery  
Lloyd Kellems- cancer  
Greg Ritter- had heart catherization on Monday at OSF  
Holly Wiggam- knee replacement has been postponed



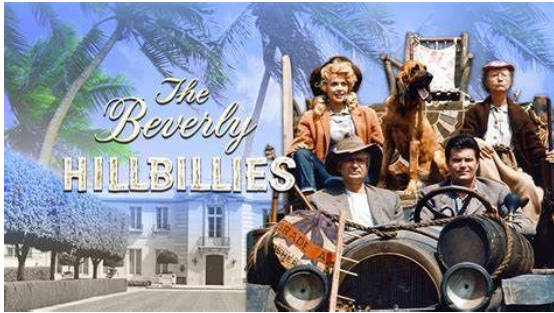
*First Christian Church family,  
Thank you so much for the amazing gifts and prayers that you have blessed our new family with. June, 2023, Jess and I listened to God calling us to open our heart to our amazing four children, and in April, we made our family official. There have been many moments of uncertainty, but there have been far more that have shown us this is the path God has laid out for us all along. The blessings and prayers from this church family was one of those moments. When Jess and I prepared to adopt, we knew we wanted to be able to provide everything for these kids. With the outpouring of love, we have purchased an amazing play set, and there will be pictures soon to come.*

*Sincerest thanks,  
TONY & JESS JACKSON*



On the bulletin board (south hallway), there is a brochure about GRIEF SHARE, a grief recovery support group, hosted by the Sidney Christian Church. The group will meet on Sundays, September 1 to November 17, from 4:00-5:30 p.m., with a special two-hour seminar called "Surviving the Holidays." on November 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Grief Share is a video seminar series that features some of the nations foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a Biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the material presented during the video. There is a registration fee of \$20 to cover the cost of the workbook, but scholarships are available. Childcare is not provided. Questions? Contact DOUG KRUKWITT, pastor of Sidney Christian Church, at (309)-318-0632 (call or text). Be sure to look at the brochure, if you're interested.



**Wealthy... Just Don't Know It  
8/20/2024**

From September 1962 until 1971, a TV show known as *The Beverly Hillbillies* was aired on CBS stations. The events of the show begin with Jed Clampit “discovering” oil on his property, when an errant shot penetrated the ground and “black gold, Texas tea” bubbled up. Jed sold the oil to a petrochemical company for 25 million dollars and moved to Beverly Hills, CA with his mother (Granny); his daughter, Elly May, and his wayward cousin, Jethro Bodine, who felt compelled to be the brains of the family given his 6th-grade education.

The TV show is fiction, right? Not exactly. According to *Wikipedia*, Ira and Ann Yates lived a hardscrabble life on a west Texas ranch they owned. Yates was having difficulty making sufficient profit to pay the mortgage and taxes. On a hunch, he invited Michael Late Benedum’s Transcontinental Oil Co. to explore his land. In 1926, a partnership consisting of Mid-Kansas Oil Company and Transcontinental drilled an exploratory well, the Yates No. 1-A. At approximately 1,000 feet, they hit a rich productive zone, producing a “gusher.” Almost 100 years later, the Yates oil field is still producing millions of barrels. The Yates family is worth 2.5 billion dollars.

Some say Yates became a billionaire overnight. Actually, Yates was a billionaire the minute he signed the papers buying the land. He just didn’t know it.

Some Christians might be living in that predicament. **Ephesians 1:3** reminds us that God has **“blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus.”** Unfortunately, many do not live like they have “every spiritual blessing.” They are oblivious to the riches of God’s grace, the lavishness of his mercy, the completeness of his forgiveness, the generosity of his provisions, the fullness of his love and the wholeness of his salvation. Having never tapped into God’s riches, they try to scratch out a spiritual life, but believe they are destined to live spiritually poor.

Don’t wait. Tap into the gusher of spiritual blessing in Christ. Live the full life God has given you.

*Mike*

<p><b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>          Website: www.fccvg.com          Church E-mail: fccvgoffice@gmail.com          Minister: Mike Zylstra          Home Phone: 681-1034          Mike’s E-mail: fccvgmin@gmail.com          Secretary: Brenda Elam          Office Hours: 10:00-4:30 (M, T, Th, F)</p> <p><b>Elders:</b>          John Dilliner                 Jerry Hughes          Bob Dowler                     Joe Rothermel</p>	<p><b><u>AUGUST 25, 2024</u></b>  <b>Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</b>  <b>Greeters: (South) Joe &amp; Fran Waldrop</b>  <b>(Front) John &amp; Linda Dilliner</b>  <b>Coffee Fix &amp; Cleanup: Bob Dowler/Sarah Hughes</b>  <b>Serving: C. Cannon, R. Duzan, D. Shunk, P. Eisenmenger</b>  <b>Elder-On-Call for August: BOB DOWLER (217)549-9791</b>  <b>Mission of the Week: OBLONG CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN HOME</b>  <b>Oblong, Illinois</b>  <b>Amy Kemp, Exec. Dir. of Operations</b></p> <p><b><u>REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS</u></b>  <b>JOE HOLSAPPLE</b>  <b>315 S. Douglas St.</b>  <b>Villa Grove, IL 61956</b></p>
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