



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

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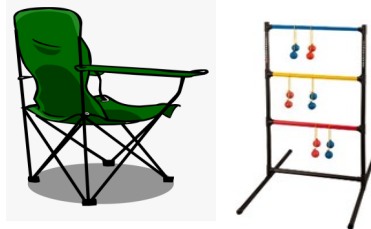
August 27, 2024

## 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 25, 2024

Worship 96

Sunday School 55

Sunday Morning Celebration 3

King's Kids 2

High School/College 7

Blessed Believers 18

The Fellowship Class 19

Chosen Ones Class 6

OFFERING: \$1,602.58

Spendable 1,226.00

Benevolence 376.58

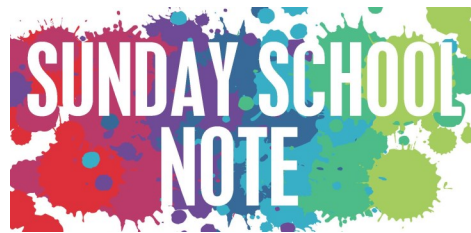


Chonda Pierce, Christian comedienne, will be performing at the Maranatha Church in Decatur on Sunday, September 29, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$29.75, and we have 5 committed to attend, and 5 tickets to sell.

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

# IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Penny Arnold (Holly Wiggam's sister)- having arm & shoulder surgery on Friday  
Family of Shirley Bradbury  
Debbie Crabill (friend of Paula Webber)- stage 4 terminal cancer, starting hospice  
Jacob Hatfield (nephew of Mary Gen Frick)- in Children's Hospital in Chicago for medical treatment  
Dale Hubert- had knee replacement surgery; asking for prayer for strength and recovery  
Family of Lloyd Kellems- passed away on Friday  
Praise! Molly McClintock came forward and joined in our fellowship!  
Rocky Mitchell (Angela Graham's cousin)- has ALS  
Greg Ritter- sees heart surgeon on Thursday



***\*\*The newest issue of OUR DAILY BREAD is available on the table at the south door.***

***\*\*Starting this Sunday, the cost of a soda or bottle of water will be 75 cents- prices have gone up!***

***\*\*Also starting this Sunday, there will be a class for our preschoolers! Becky Sinkes will be the teacher, and the class will meet in the room next to the nursery. All our non-school age little ones are invited to come to this class!***



I wanted to thank you all for your cards, phone calls and the real nice meals that I have received. My back is feeling a lot better, but my left hip and leg are about the same. Love to all of you!

RAY WEAVER

Thank you to all who acknowledge our recent anniversary. Your love and support mean the world to us.

CURT & SARAH CANNON

Dearest FCC family,

Wow! We were surprised, honored, grateful and humbled by the kindness shown to us at our 10 year anniversary of ministry here in Villa Grove. We love you all deeply.

In Christian love and service,  
MIKE & JUDY ZYLSTRA

## **Reflections on 10 years of Ministry**

### **8/26/2024**

Monday, August 25, 2014, Judy and I moved to Villa Grove, IL. We arrived at 6:30 p.m. on a very hot day, and began unloading the U-Haul. At 7 p.m., we endured a thunder and lightning storm. By 8:00 p.m., the crew of 20 or more people had set up most of the rooms and put boxes where they needed to be. My first sermon on August 31<sup>st</sup> was titled, *I Love the Church*. This past Sunday the congregation honored our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a cupcake reception and gift cards.

During the past 10 years, we have seen 32 baptisms and 14 transfers of membership to FCC. We have celebrated 5 weddings. And, sadly, I have officiated at 79 funerals, with half of them being members of the church. The COVID-19 shut-down hit us hard, as several families left the church. However, God has blessed us with new families and new faces and our attendance hovers around 90 people.

In 10 years, the church building has been upgraded and maintained well. We replaced the roof, repainted the sanctuary, replaced the sound system, computers, water heater, lawn mower, commercial refrigerator, and 6 HVAC units. We have added hallway railings, an outdoor pavilion, new driveway pillars, LED lighting throughout the building inside and out. We remodeled the fellowship hall and men's restroom. PLUS, the parsonage has a new center structural beam, hot water boiler, AC compressor, water heater, sump pump, two remodeled bathrooms, and a new concrete driveway. I've likely forgotten other upgrades. God has blessed FCC with generous donors and hard workers, and our facilities are in top shape.

Our leadership continues to grow in their faith, skills and unity. Though some people have stepped away from leadership roles and specific ministries, we continue to teach all ages in Sunday school, provide a Youth Group for our teens, grow our Women's Christian Fellowship, teach people in mid-week Bible Studies, provide an area wide Easter Cantata and offer our building and grounds to be used by the community and school.

Our goal is to always be faithful to God's truth. To work with all our might. To be available for church and community. And to be free to serve with our giftedness, so that a sin-darkened world might see the light of Christ. Thank you for the last decade of ministering alongside Judy and me. We love you all deeply.

*Mike*

#### **FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Website: [www.fccvg.com](http://www.fccvg.com)  
Church E-mail: [fccvgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccvgoffice@gmail.com)  
Minister: Mike Zylstra  
Home Phone: 681-1034  
Mike's E-mail: [fccvgmin@gmail.com](mailto:fccvgmin@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Brenda Elam  
Office Hours: 10:00-4:30 (M, T, Th, F)

#### **Elders:**

John Dilliner                  Jerry Hughes  
Bob Dowler                  Joe Rothermel

#### **SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

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

**Greeters: (South) Curaleen Gammon (Front) Marsha Green**

**Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Patti Groves**

**Serving: M. Hughes, P. Eisenmenger, D. Shunk, R. Graham**

**Elder-On-Call for September: JERRY HUGHES (217)369-5495**

**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