



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

October 29, 2024



IN THANKS-GIVING!!

"Operation Christmas Child" with Samaritan's Purse

If you would like to fill a shoebox with gifts for a child, there are lists of suggested items for several ages located in the work room at the church; please add \$10 for shipping, if possible. If you would like to give a monetary donation, there is a box located in the auditorium. Boxes and donations will be collected until November 10.

Sunday, November 10-- 12:00 p.m.
Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner!
Turkey, ham, dressing, drinks and table service will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Invite your friends and neighbors!



This Sunday, November 3, we will begin collecting for Operation G.I.F.T. During the month of November, there will be envelopes in the Sunday School classes to collect money to purchase gifts for children in need in our community. Please be sure to make any checks out to Operation G.I.F.T. If you would like to donate on your own, you can go to the Villa Grove State Bank and tell them you want to donate to Operation G.I.F.T.

OCTOBER 27, 2024

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Worship | 93 |
| Sunday School | 48 |
| Nursery | 0 |
| Preschool Class | 0 |
| Sunday Morning Celebration | 0 |
| King's Kids | 3 |
| High School/College Class | 5 |
| Blessed Believers | 11 |
| The Fellowship Class | 23 |
| Chosen Ones | 6 |
| OFFERING: | \$3,410.35 |
| Spendable | 2,699.00 |
| Benevolence | 711.35 |



We will be preparing "Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'" by Lloyd Larson and Pamela Martin. The Christmas service is scheduled for Dec. 15. Christmas Choir rehearsals will be on Sunday mornings, following Sunday School, from 11:45-12:30pm, on Nov. 3, 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8. There's still time to be in the Christmas Choir-join us this Sunday!

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Heath Bigelow (Sheryl Mulvaney's nephew, lives in Tennessee)- health issues; body is rejecting his transplant

Karen Brewer (Sheryl Mulvaney's sister-in-law, lives in Michigan)- surgery to remove brain tumor

Family of Debbie Crabill- Paula Webber's friend

Jacob Hatfill- Mary Gen Frick thanks the congregation for prayers for Jacob; he is home, and will be having checkups in Chicago once a month

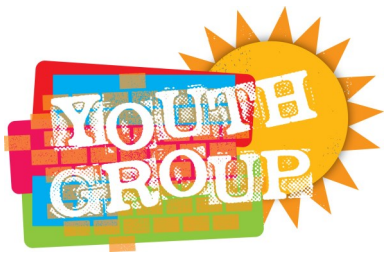
Cathy Haugo (friend of Judy Zylstra, Minnesota)- advanced pancreatic cancer; has had several surgeries

Family of Trudy Johnson- friend of Paula Webber

Becky Russell- health concerns

Isaac Struber (friend of Macen Hughes)- torn ligaments in ankle; recovering from surgery

Family of Corey Thompson- fallen State Trooper

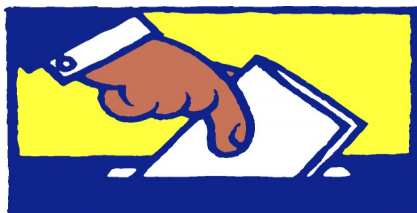


YOUTH GROUP!
Sunday, November 3
6:00 p.m.

Friday, November 1
is our day to help with the
Rural Grace Food Pantry
Hours: 3:00-5:00 p.m.



*Choices Pregnancy & Health is in need of **BABY WIPES**. If you can help out, there is a tub set up in the cloak room for donations. Any brand and any amount will be appreciated.*



**DON'T
FORGET
TO VOTE**

Tuesday, November 4

Have you “Ghosted” God?

10/29/2024

Since the holiday known as Halloween is soon upon us, I thought I'd write about ghosts. Not in the traditional sense of the word, where we think of specters, spooks or phantoms. But in the relatively new, colloquial way the term is used. The dictionary added the term “ghosting” in 2017 and it describes someone, in a dating relationship, that abruptly cuts off contact with their loved one without giving that person any warning or explanation for doing so. It involves someone essentially “vanishing” into thin air, as if they were a ghost. It is often a passive-aggressive, rude, immature way to end a relationship.

The one doing the “ghosting” doesn't want to deal with confrontation or the hurt feelings of breaking a relationship. Rather than face issues, they run away.

The one being “ghosted” is left with unanswered questions. “What did I do wrong? Why won't you communicate with me? Am I unworthy of being loved?” These questions can lead to feelings of inadequacy, depression, rejection, guilt, shame and grief.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused many to “ghost” the church. They left with no warning and no explanation. While all churches saw attendance decreases in the months immediately following the pandemic “shut-downs,” many have still not gotten back to pre-COVID numbers. Some “ghosted” because they had to move. Some left to go to a larger congregation. Some simply quit going to worship gatherings all together, and have no reason.

Unfortunately, we also have people in our world who are “ghosting” God. They began a relationship with Him. But now, they feel God is too stifling, too demanding, too perfect, too controversial, too whatever. Rather than draw close to Him, read His word and put in the work to have an amazing relationship with Jesus, they leave and have nothing to do with God.

My encouragement is to always seek the Lord. He loves you more than anyone could possibly love you. Stop “ghosting” God and His church. Be attracted to the Light of Christ and stay close to Him always.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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)

Elders:

John Dilliner Jerry Hughes
Bob Dowler Joe Rothermel

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

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

**Greeters: (Front) Joyce Ritter & Edna Waldrop
(South) Bill Akers**

**Coffee Fix & Cleanup: Bob Dowler/Margaret Black
Nursery: Worship: Sarah Cannon SS: Janet Cassida**

Serving: P. Eisenmenger, S. Shunk, B. Smith, M. Hughes

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

**Mission of the Week: TCM INTERNATIONAL
Indianapolis, Indiana
Tony Twist, President**

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

**VICKI GENTRY
1005 N. Fox Run Rd.
Villa Grove, IL 61956**