



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

May 13, 2025



GRADUATE SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MAY 18

College: Braden Boyer, Macen Hughes, Brandon Kelly, Dalton Logan, Madison Logan, Torie Rothermel, Erin Shunk

High School: Noah Kelly

Jr. High: Miles Swigart

These young people will be recognized during the worship service; following the service, there will be a cupcake reception in the Fellowship Hall

*The congregation is invited to a graduation reception for **BRADEN BOYER**, in the church Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 17 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.*

Youth Group will be held on Sunday, May 18 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

***BACCALAUREATE** will be held at Villa Grove High School on Sunday May 18, at 7:00 p.m.*

Sara Williamson has written a letter and it is posted on the bulletin board in the south hallway. Please take a moment to see what Sara wrote about her recent trip to Cameroon!

MAY 11

Worship & Nursery 107
Sunday School 55

Nursery 0
Preschool Class 2
Sunday Morning Celebration 3
King's Kids 3
Blessed Believers Class 13
The Fellowship Class 28
Chosen Ones Class 6

OFFERING: \$1,832.00
Spendable 1,832.00



**MAY BOARD
MEETING**

Wednesday, May 14

*Elders meeting 6:00 p.m.
Board meeting 7:30 p.m.*



Family of Jim Compton- Juanita Dowler's brother
Sarah Hughes- continuing radiation treatments for
two more weeks
Melanie (Glenda Case's niece)- heart surgery moved
to June 13
David Smith (father of Sonja Jones' son-in-law)-
stroke, concussion; doing much better
Barb Watson- heart catherization on May 23

*Thank you so much for all your support. Let us know
how we can pray for you!
Blessings as your church continues to reach people for
Christ!*

**CALI RICE, CLIENT SERVICES DIRECTOR
CHOICES PREGNANCY & HEALTH**



Congratulations!



Congratulations to MILES SWIGART, who recently ran in the Junior High conference meet. He was conference champion in the 100 meter and 400 meter races! He will be running in the State meet soon. Great job, Miles!!



1 John 4:7, NRSV



“A Holy Lament” **5/13/2025**

The book of Psalms is a compilation of five books of poems that were likely set to music and sung in the temple worship. Many of the 150 psalms are songs of adoration, praise and declarations of God’s unfailing love and faithfulness. In many ways this “psalter” is like the song books used in worship in modern churches.

What is interesting is that more than 1/3 of the psalms are known as songs of lament. Meaning they describe corporate and individual grief, pain, suffering and feelings of alienation from God. The songs expose personal struggles with guilt, anger, frustration, and disappointment both with God and with other humans. These types of songs are conspicuously absent from modern worship volumes. Maybe we don’t sing laments because we don’t want to relive our weaknesses, sins, and adversity.

Yet, we all sin. We all doubt. We all go through times of weakness and disappointment. A lament encourages us to face our pain and wrestle with the guilt of our sin. A lament reminds us of our inadequacy in handling life’s experiences. It forces us to appeal to God for His power and authority, rather than trying to figure it out on our own. A lament pushes us into the throne room of God where we must humble ourselves before His grace, faithfulness, mercy and compassion.

Some lamentations in Psalms express concern that God had abandoned His people. We can all relate. This means that laments unify us with song writers of ancient days. Plus, they unify us with Jesus who, while dying on the cross, lamented to feeling abandoned by His father, God.

Maybe it is time to rediscover the value of the songs of lament. Joy and praise have their place in exulting God. So should our expressions of sorrow, regret and pain. God can handle our laments.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Website: www.fccvg.com
Church E-mail: fccvgoffice@gmail.com
Minister: Mike Zylstra
Home Phone: (217)681-1034
Mike’s E-mail: fccvgmin@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: Brenda Elam
Office Hours: 10:00-4:30 (M, T, Th, F)

Elders:

Scott Beccue Jerry Hughes
John Dilliner Joe Rothermel
Bob Dower

MAY 18, 2025

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

Greeters: Macen & Molly Hughes (Front) Judi Lock (South)

Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Bob Dowler/Margaret Black

Nursery: Worship: Deanne Rothermel SS: Sarah Hughes

Serving: D. Shunk, D. Logan, K. Logan, S. Sinkes

Elder-On-Call for May: SCOTT BECCUE (217)369-9278

Mission of the Week: EIU CHRISTIAN CAMPUS HOUSE
Charleston, Illinois
Matthew Thomas, Lead Campus Minister

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

JOE HOLSAPPLE
315 S. Douglas
Villa Grove, IL 61956