



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
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July 29, 2025



*****NEW SHOES FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN*****

The Villa Grove Rotary Club is collecting NEW shoes for children (age 0-18) who are living in poverty. The greatest need is for boys shoes, age 14-18. The shoes go over the world- 80% internationally, 20% US. Shoes help: 1) help prevent health issues, 2) improve school attendance, 3) increases self-confidence.

A receptacle is in the cloak room- you can drop off your shoe donations there.

Questions? Contact Wayne Clark (217-414-7983)



The Fellowship Committee is inviting everyone to attend a Vintage Baseball Jamboree at Kennekuk County Park north of Danville on SATURDAY, AUGUST 9. The first game starts at noon. The church bus will leave the church at 10:30 a.m. If you wish to ride the bus, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, south hallway. Spectators will need to provide their own lawn chairs, food and beverages. An awning for shade would be helpful. Questions?

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for interest in additional church shirts. We must have a minimum of 24 shirts to place another order. If you are interested, please sign up and check what shirts you are interested in ordering. If you have questions, see DEANNE ROTHERMEL.



CHURCH SHIRTS
SIGN UP
NOW!

JULY 20

Worship & Nursery 88
Sunday School 49
Nursery 0
Preschool Class 2
Sunday Morning Celebration 3
King's Kids 3
Blessed Believers 13
Fellowship Class 22
Chosen Ones 6
OFFERING: \$2,365.00
Spendable 2,345.00
Benevolence 20.00

JULY 27

Worship & Nursery 83
Sunday School 51
Nursery 0
Preschool Class 2
Sunday Morning Celebration 3
King's Kids 3
Blessed Believers 16
Fellowship Class 22
Chosen Ones 5
OFFERING: \$4,153.00
Spendable 3,738.00
Benevolence 415.00

PRAYER *and* Praise

Liam Calloway (8th grader at VG Jr. High)- having seizures; in the hospital
Elmer Decker-health issues concerning his kidney and lung
Family of Barbara Dutton- Holly Wiggam's mom
Darlean Greeley (Judy Zylstra's mom)- in hospice, declining quickly
Brian Icenogle (Linda Shadwick's brother)- cancer
Carol Meeker (Shirley Schweighart's daughter)- had heart surgery on July 21
Sharon Sims (Margaret Black's niece)- bone cancer



Sunday, August 3, 6:00 p.m. Youth Group meets at the church
Tuesday, August 12, 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast at Lazy Day Café, Villa Grove
Wednesday, August 13, 6:00 p.m. Elders meeting 7:30 p.m. August Board meeting
Thursday, August 14, 6:30 p.m. Women's Christian Fellowship meets at the church

Thank You! 

Dear Friends at Villa Grove 1st Christian,
Thank you for your participation in our Baby Bottle Blessings fundraiser! We are grateful for your total donation of \$1,158.43! Your support helps provide accurate information and caring services to those who come for free and confidential help in their unplanned pregnancy. You make a difference!

CALI RICE
Client Services Director

Thank you for all the calls, texts and prayers following my mom's death and funeral. They were all so appreciated.

HOLLY WIGGAM

Thank you so much for all the cards and best wishes for my birthday. They were very much appreciated. God bless you all.

CURALEEN GAMMON



"I Just Wanna Laugh"

7/29/2025

Life had been getting more difficult for the haggard mother of four grown children. Her 35th wedding anniversary was quickly approaching; the family always had financial struggles; her parents were needing more medical care; her boss was a self-absorbed egomaniac; she volunteered to help care for her grandkids; and she was always in demand to organize a group or battle for a worthy cause. She wasn't as carefree as she had been and bemoaned the fact to her husband, "I just wanna go somewhere, see something, or hear someone who makes me laugh."

Laughter! Humans laugh before they learn to speak (a baby's laugh is one of the most contagious.) It is a universal reaction in every culture and is even found in the animal world. *Reader's Digest* says, "Laughter is the best medicine." They are right. According to neuroscience research, laughter reduces stress, increases our oxygen intake, exercises our facial and core muscles, releases endorphins in our brain, increases our lung capacity, reduces pain sensations, improves heart health, boosts our immune system and is generally good for our mental health by reducing anxiety, depression and anger.

Laughter helps us bond more strongly with others, it is often a characteristic sought in a new relationship. Laughter can disarm a tense situation. And...face it...we are very real when we laugh (snort, knee slap, guffaw, wipe away tears).

Unfortunately, as we grow older, the cares, worries and anxieties of life get in the way of laughter. One study stated that children laugh 20 times more often than adults. Maybe that is one reason God wants us to be more like children in our faith and live in His joy.

So go ahead, tell a "dad joke", crack out that one-liner, regale friends with a humorous story, share a funny meme, laugh at your own mistakes. God gave us humor as a gift. Besides, laughter strengthens our bond with His angels who rejoice when people come to Christ. What fun!

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

**THERE WILL BE NO
SON TIMES PUBLISHED
NEXT WEEK.**

AUGUST 3, 2025

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

**Greeters: Judy Zylstra (Front)
Pete & Cecile Eisenmenger (South)**

Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Dowler/Shelby Hughes

Nursery: Worship: C. & S. Cannon SS: Janet Cassida

Serving: R. Duzan, J. Watson, C. Cannon, M. Boyer

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

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

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

**JOE HOLSAPPLE
315 S. Douglas
Villa Grove, IL 61956**