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July 29, 2025

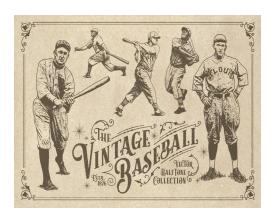


NEW SHOES FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The Villa Grove Rotary Club is collecting <u>NEW</u> 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.



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

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

JULY 27



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



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 guickly 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!



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 John Dilliner

Bob Dower

Jerry Hughes Joe Rothermel

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