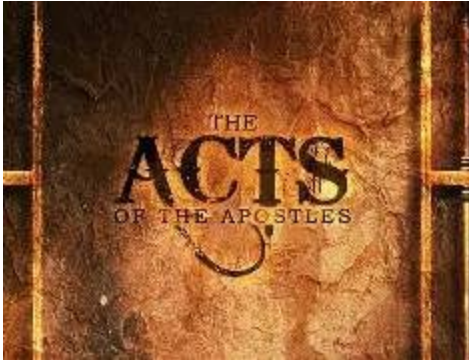




FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

September 23, 2025



COMING SOON TO THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS- THE BOOK OF ACTS

The Fellowship Class will start a new study in the book of Acts on October 5. You're invited to come and see what the Bible says about the New Testament Church.

How did the Church start? What was it like?

Are we the same Church today?

Were the believers different then than now?

How did 12 men change the world?

Can we still change the world?

Hope to see you there! In Christ, BOB THOMAS

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank our church family and friends for all their support and everything during our difficult time. May God bless you all and keep you in His arms each day. Again, I thank you, as does the rest of the family.

In Loving Memory of my wife, Evelyn,
DWIGHT HOWARD



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

Worship & Nursery 94
Sunday School 52
Preschool Class 2
Sunday Morning Celebration 3
King's Kids 3
High School/College Class 0
Blessed Believers 11
The Fellowship Class 27
Chosen Ones 6

OFFERING (9/14) Total: \$2,251.00
OFFERING (9/21) Total: \$3,949.00
Spendable: 3,834.00
Memorial: 100.00



****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. A receptacle is in the cloak room for shoe donations.]Contact Wayne Clark (217-414-7983) if you want more information.

PRAYER and Praise

Larry & Pam Biggs (friends of Smith's & Marsha Green)- Larry had bypass surgery on Monday; Pam has a hip MRI on September 29

Kenzie Cardiff- has second hip surgery on Sept. 30

Chloey Duitsman (Mabry's granddaughter)- doing better, had good test results

Kent Elam- recovering from pancreatitis

Frank Hall (Rothermel's nephew)- in the army and is now stationed in the Middle East until next summer

Steven Gordon- had extensive tests on Monday

Larry Kincaid (husband of Bob Dowler's cousin)- is doing fine, no heart issues

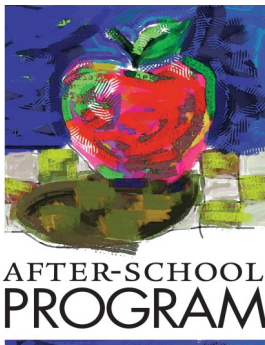
Nicole Kneer- cancer treatments

Bob O'Neill (friend of Boyd's)- kidney removed; having recovering issues

Greg Ritter- gall bladder surgery on Thursday

Barb Watson- saw surgeon on Tuesday for possible surgery

Greg Watson- having eye issues; in Carle Hospital



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM!

The Villa Grove United Methodist Church is sponsoring an after-school program, beginning October 1. The group will meet each Wednesday, from afterschool to 5:00 p.m.

They are looking for adults who would be interested in helping on Wednesday afternoon/evenings.

See the poster on the bulletin board for complete information—volunteer forms are located in the church copy room.



Wednesday, September 24, 6:30 p.m. Bible Study meets at the church— note the time change.

Sunday, September 28— Benevolence Offering will be taken during the worship service.

Tuesday, September 30- Please take a minute and send Millie Little a birthday card! Her address is: Newman Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, 418 S. Memorial Park Rd., Newman, IL 61942. Millie turns 90 on Tuesday!

Wednesday, October 1, 1:30-2:30 p.m.- "Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia"- this meeting will take place at the Zest For Life Center, 610 E. Harrison in Villa Grove. This is a 30-minute presentation by a speaker from the Alzheimer's Association, followed by questions/answers and a social time.

Hiding From God?

9/23/2025

Who doesn't love a good game of Hide-and-Seek? Children love to believe they are completely hidden from everyone even though their feet can be seen beneath the curtains and their giggles give away their position.

Sadly, not all who hide are playing games. Adam and Eve tried to hide from God after they sinned. Achan tried to hide his sin of stealing plunder. Even Jacob's wife, Rachel, stole items from her father and lied about it. Who among us hasn't sinned and tried to hide the evidence. We may be able to fool humans. But we can never fool God. In **Jeremiah 23:24** God says, "*Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?*" declares the Lord. "*Do I not fill heaven and earth?*" declares the Lord.

It seems so obvious that nothing is hidden from God. The Old Testament man, Job, realized this fully when he said, "*There is no darkness or deep shadow where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.*" (Job 34:22)

Jonah tried to run and hide from God's ministry call on his life. That didn't go well for him. Ananias and Sapphira tried to hide part of the money they had decided to give to the early church. That really didn't go well for them. And, in Jesus' parable of the talents (Matt 25:14-30), one servant hid what the master had given him and tried to justify it by pointing at the master's character. That didn't go well for him either.

The point is, why do we keep trying to hide our sin from God? Rather, we should be open and honest with our behaviors. Take responsibility, confess our sins, repent, seek forgiveness, be reconciled and live in the grace, mercy, and forgiveness of our God.

Paul summed it up wonderfully. Gal. 6:7 – "*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked (fooled). A man reaps what he sows.*"

Mike



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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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

**PLEASE BE AWARE...
THERE WILL BE CONCRETE WORK
BEING DONE ON THE EXTERIOR OF
THE BUILDING ON 9/26 OR 9/27**

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

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

Greeters: Stephen Gordon (Front) Shelby Hughes (South)

Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Janet Cassida

Nursery: Worship: M. Smith & J. Swigart SS: Shelby Hughes

Serving: D. Logan, K. Logan, P. Eisenmenger, R. Duzan

Elder-On-Call for September: BOB DOWLER (217)549-9791

**Mission of the Week: NEW CHURCHES OF CHRIST EVANGELISM
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
Matt Schantz, Executive Director**

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

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