



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231  
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November 18, 2025

The FCC 2025  
IN THANKS-GIVING PROJECT  
is supporting Choices Pregnancy & Health.  
You are still able to give— make checks payable to FCC  
with “Choices” on your check

**IN THANKS-GIVING**



We are still collecting always-needed items—please place them in the cloak room:

*Enfamil formula (Infant and Gentlease)*

*Diapers— size 3, 4, 5      Wipes      Crib sheets*

*Baby clothes of any kind*

*Baby lotion and shampoo*

*Personal items for Mom, such as shampoo, body wash, lotion, etc.*

**DON'T FORGET— THESE ITEMS ARE VERY IMPORTANT!!**



Rural Grace Food Pantry has seen an uptick in the number of people who use the pantry. Because of this, several needed items have become scarce. If you would like to help out, bring items to the cloak room at church and put in the boxes UNDER the table.

NEEDED ITEMS: spaghetti sauce, pasta, cereal, toilet paper, Stove Top stuffing mixes, and paper towels. Monetary donations should be made to RURAL GRACE FOOD PANTRY.

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

Worship & Nursery	98
Sunday School	45
Preschool Class	2
Sunday Morning Celebration	0
King's Kids	4
High School/College Class	0
Blessed Believers	13
The Fellowship Class	21
Chosen Ones	5

OFFERING Total:	\$1,959.00
Spendable	1,959.00

# Thanksgiving Worship Service

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

*Living Hope Fellowship,*

*Villa Grove*

*7:00 p.m.*

***Duane Piercy, Victory Church, will be the  
speaker***

# PRAYER and Praise

*Patti Groves– saw doctor on Tuesday*

*Sarah Hughes– in Carle Hospital*

*Nicole Kneer– cancer treatments*

*Janet McCumber– sees oncologist on Thursday*

*Family of Larry Thomason (Danville)- Mary Gen Frick's cousin*

*Jason Smith & co-worker (Brad & Maryanna Smith's son)- traveling on Friday to Guam for work*



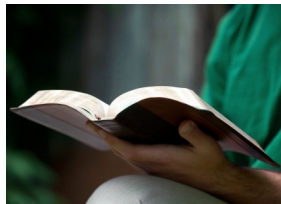
Donations for “Operation GIFT” are being collected until November 23. Please give your donation to Kate Shunk or put in the offering tray. Make checks out to **OPERATION GIFT.**

Donations can also be taken directly to the Villa Grove State Bank.

*Dear Church Family,*

*Thank you for blessing our family. The Christmas decorations are beautiful. We have several out and looking good. Thank you!*

**THE HUGHES FAMILY**  
(Philippians 1:6)



**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

**6:30 P.M.**

**BIBLE STUDY MEETS  
AT THE CHURCH**

*Following worship service or Fran's funeral, a key was found in the south parking lot. It is on a chain with “Hal Armstrong Auction Service, Marion, IL” on it. Call the church if this is yours.*

**FOUND  
KEY**



**Our monthly BENEVOLENCE OFFERING will be collected this Sunday following our time of Communion.**

## ***Thanksgiving Should Be Our Nature***

### **11/18/2025**

Someone shared a statement with me that continues to speak deeply into my soul. They said, "I try to view the gospel message through the lens of gratitude."

Those words caused me to realize that, from the moment God created humans, we were created to give thanks. Adam and Eve didn't create themselves; they were part of an intentional, purpose-filled, design by our creator, God. They were given paradise, work to do and companionship. God gave them His peace and a harmonious relationship with all His creation. Plus, God walked with them in true fellowship. Gratitude should have been their nature. Instead, because Satan filled their heads with lies and deception, God received rebellion, doubt, and deception. Instead of walking in fellowship with God, they ran and hid.

Throughout Israel's history, ingratitude and rebellion toward God was displayed. However, God never gives up on his creation. He made a way so that what had fallen into sin could be redeemed. He paid the price so we might be freed from sin and death. God entered a world full of ungratefulness in the form of Jesus, so that we might have hope. He sent his son to restore the chaos of our thanklessness and bring us back to our original nature, THANKSGIVING!

It is fitting for created humans to be in an attitude of gratitude toward our creator. And it is even more fitting for a rebellious sinner to fall prostrate before our redeemer in an attitude of gratitude for a second chance to live the grace-filled life God has always intended for us, as we daily seek to be more like Jesus.

**Colossians 2:6-7:** "As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

*Mike*



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
701 N. Sycamore St.  
Villa Grove, IL 61956  
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Church E-mail: [fccvgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccvgoffice@gmail.com)  
Minister: Mike Zylstra  
Home Phone: (217)681-1034  
Mike's E-mail: [fccvgmin@gmail.com](mailto: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

**NOVEMBER 23, 2025**  
**Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.**  
**Greeters: Judy Zylstra (Front)**  
**Dennis & Karen Williamson (South)**  
**Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam**  
**Nursery: Cecile Eisenmenger & Julie Swigart**  
**Serving: M. Boyer, D. Shunk, R. Mabry, S. Gordon**  
**Elder-On-Call for November: JERRY HUGHES (217)369-5495**  
**Mission of the Week: OBLONG CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN HOME**  
**Oblong, Illinois**  
**Amy Kemp, Exec. Dir. of Operations**

**REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**  
**JOE HOLSAPPLE**  
**315 S. Douglas**  
**Villa Grove, IL 61956**