



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

December 16, 2025



*Thanks be unto God
for his unspeakable gift.*

2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE!
The Youth Group will be leading the service
and all our youth will have a part!
The Christmas Choir will present, "This Is Christmas"
Join us for this special service!
9:30 a.m. Sunday, December 21!!

The annual CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will take place at the church on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR MEMBERS...
**Don't forget the special rehearsal- Saturday,
December 20, 10:00 a.m. at the church!**



ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION!

- **The 2026 Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 11, at 10:45 a.m. (during Sunday School time).
- **Please have annual reports in the church office by January 8.
- **Nominating Committee: John Dilliner, Jerry Hughes, Seth Shunk, Stephen Sinkes, & Mike Zylstra
- **Terms expiring are: Elder- Scott Beccue, Bob Dowler & Joe Rothermel
Deacon: Pete Eisenmenger & Jeff Watson
Trustees: Matthew Boyer & Garland Hubert
Financial Secretary: Kent Elam

DECEMBER 14, 2025

Worship & Nursery	37
Sunday School	23
Preschool Class	0
Sunday Morning Celebration	0
King's Kids	2
Blessed Believers	7
The Fellowship Class	14
Chosen Ones	0
OFFERING Total	\$1,158.00
Spendable	1,158.00



BLOOD DRIVE- December 19, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church Fellowship Hall, Villa Grove

To schedule: scan the QR code on the poster on the church bulletin board, or call the church office (217) 832-5231, or call ImpactLife (800)747-5401. The group code is 70301, and the last date to donate elsewhere is 10/24/2025.



Glenda Abercrombie (attends Living Hope Fellowship)- released from hospital; will be going to Northwestern Hospital for consult soon
Ryan Austin (friend of Macen Hughes)- surgery for broken wrists
Mary Gen Frick– home
Jacob Golightly (Marilyn Kellems' grandson)- involved in car accident; had surgery for broken tibia and other injuries
Amanda Drake (in same car accident, other car)- broken leg and other injuries
Patti Groves– heel surgery has been postponed

Praise! Dale & Garland Hubert have a new great-granddaughter!
Sarah Hughes– cancer
Kristin Kesler's friend's granddaughter– passed away
Nicole Kneer– cancer
Joyce Ritter– tests done were inconclusive; will need more tests
Holly Wiggam– had second cataract surgery on Tuesday

CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Janice & Paul Thode
 Sara Williamson
 Joe, Deanne, Rianna & Torie
 Rothermel
 Paula Webber
 Dennis & Karen Williamson

Seth, Kate, Madeline, Erin &
 Tucker Shunk
 John & Linda Dilliner
 Judi Lock
 Dwight Howard



Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and calls since my gallbladder surgery. I'm feeling much better.
However, my heel surgery has been postponed due to health issues. Please keep me in prayer to be patient as I heal.
PATTI GROVES

****Jerry Hughes is organizing all who want to participate in "Reading the Bible in a Year"- either chronologically or otherwise. See Jerry, if you want to be involved!**

****Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, January 7, at 6:30 p.m. The new study is on Joshua, using video curriculum from Ozark Christian College.**

****Everyone is aware that Rich & Angela Graham have moved, but you may not know their new address: 2355 CR 100 N, Broadlands, IL 61816**



Chronology of Christmas **12/16/2025**

Many in the FCC family are reading through the Bible in a year. One of the methods being used is called "Chronological Reading" meaning the scriptures are read in as close to a chronological timeline (from creation to end time) as scholars can determine. In keeping with that motif, I'd like to challenge you to read the events surrounding Jesus' birth in chronological order. It will take about 20 minutes, and it is a wonderful family Christmas tradition.

Jesus' Birth Prophesied in the Old Testament Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 9:2-7
The angel Gabriel announces Jesus' birth to Mary Luke 1:26-38
An angel of the Lord tells Joseph God's will in a dream Matthew 1:18-25
Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, near Jerusalem, who is 6 months pregnant Luke 1:39-45
Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be counted by Rome
 Luke 2:1-7 (note: this was prophesied in Micah 5:2-5a)
Angels proclaim Jesus' birth to local shepherds Luke 2:8-20
Jesus is circumcised on the 8th day after birth and given his name
 Luke 2:21 (cf: Lev 12:1-4) note: this likely happened in Bethlehem as Mary was still "unclean" and couldn't enter the "sanctuary" or temple.
Jesus is presented at the temple 40 days after his birth in keeping with purification laws, and sacrifices were made.
 Luke 2:22-24 (cf: Leviticus 12:5)
Simeon and Anna see Jesus in the temple and praise God. Luke 2:25-40
Magi from the east travel to Jerusalem to find the new King of Israel Matthew 2:1-12
Joseph, Mary and Jesus escape Herod the Great's death edict by going to Egypt
 Matthew 2:13-18 (note: this was prophesied in Hosea 11:1)
Joseph, Mary and Jesus return to Nazareth after Herod's death
 Matthew 2:19-23 (note: Jesus is likely between age 1 and 2 but still in Bethlehem)
Jesus' boyhood adventure at the temple in Jerusalem at age 12 Luke 2:41-51
May your Christmas be blessed as you connect with Jesus through His word!

Mike



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
701 N. Sycamore St.
Villa Grove, IL 61956
Website: www.fccvlg.com
Church E-mail: fccvloffice@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

DECEMBER 21, 2025
Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Greeters: Janice Thode (Front) Bob & Frances Dowler (South)
Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Janet Cassida
Nursery: Deanne Rothermel
Serving: K. Logan, D. Logan, D. Shunk, R. Mabry
Elder-On-Call for December: JOHN DILLINER (217)621-9807
Mission of the Week: LITTLE GALILEE CHRISTIAN CAMP
Clinton, Illinois
Gabe Rutledge, Camp Manager

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS
KEN HEYEN
Haven of Tuscola
1203 Egyptian Trail
Tuscola, IL 61953