



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231
FAX: 832-9348

February 3, 2026

SOUP-ER BOWL LUNCH!
Sunday, February 8– 12:00 p.m.
Soup is provided.
Everyone is asked to bring sides,
salads or desserts to share.
Everyone is invited!!



**SINGERS NEEDED FOR
COMMUNITY EASTER CANTATA**

Directed by Janet McCumber

*Rehearsals on Sundays, February 8-March 22
3:00-5:00 p.m.*

*Performance on Palm Sunday, March 29
All held at First Christian Church, Villa Grove
ALL VOICES WELCOME– Junior Hi thru Adult
Performance will be accompanied
by area instrumentalists*



FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Worship & Nursery	78
Sunday School	48
Preschool Class	2
Sunday Morning Celebration	3
King's Kids	4
Blessed Believers	13
The Fellowship Class	22
Chosen Ones	5
OFFERING Total	\$3,245.00
Spendable	3,130.00
Benevolence	115.00

The 2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY (phone book) for the congregation is available at the south door. This includes phone numbers and addresses of the congregation, plus a few former members. Please take what you can use– we'll make more!

Please make the following changes in your book:
Tony & Chris Clark address: 669 N CR 1475 E
Tuscola, IL 61953
Madeline Shunk address: 930 O Waterview Way
Champaign, IL 61822

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Kim Denny (Holly Wiggam's cousin)- stage 2 breast cancer

Sarah Hughes- cancer, doing better

Family of Bob Maring- Treanna Ragan's uncle

Travel mercies- those in the congregation on winter vacation

Barb Watson- had heart valve surgery, then had a pacemaker implanted; is in Carle Hospital



*Women's
Fellowship*

Because the church will be in use for Preschool Screening on February 12, WCF will meet on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, at 2:00 p.m. Following the meeting, Karen Williamson will have everything needed to make cards. All ladies are welcome!

Hostess: KAREN WILLIAMSON

Devotions: FRANCES DOWLER

Missions: BRENDA ELAM

In church tradition, the seven weeks prior to Easter is known as Lenten Season. During this time, many Christians remember Jesus' life and death by intentionally fasting or abstaining from activities and items so they can focus more on Jesus' sacrifice and less on themselves. There is also a larger emphasis on prayer and drawing closer to God.

FCC doesn't formally observe Lent. But we want to give you a chance to pray with and for someone (February 18-April 5).

To participate, there is an insert in Sunday's bulletin for your name and contact information. Sarah Cannon & Mike Zylstra will randomly draw names, and those two will be prayer partners. Questions? Contact the church office.



PRAYER



**"I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD.**

**WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER
WALK IN DARKNESS,
BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE."**

JOHN 8:12



Four Chaplain's Day
2/3/2026

John 15:12-14 – *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.*

On February 3rd each year, **Four Chaplains Day** honors four military chaplains from World War II who sacrificed their lives for fellow service members.

George L. Fox, a Methodist minister, Clark V. Poling of the Reformed Church of America, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, and Father John P. Washington of the Roman Catholic Church all attended Military Chaplain School together at Harvard. On January 23, 1943, the four men boarded the *Dorchester* enroute to the Army Command Base in southern Greenland. Aboard the ship were 904 service members. At the time, German U-Boats were patrolling the area, and the convoy was on high alert. When a German submarine torpedoed the *Dorchester* on February 3, 1943, in the frigid waters off the coast of Newfoundland, chaos ensued.

Eyewitnesses recounted the chaplains' praying with service members, assisting them into lifeboats, giving their life jackets and gloves to other service members and remaining on the sinking ship as it went down. Only 230 men were rescued from the waters.

Congress posthumously awarded the chaplains the **Four Chaplains Medal** in 1960 and made February 3rd National **Four Chaplain's Day**.

These men performed their duties heroically. Books and movies have been made about their sacrifice. But they were not just obeying military orders. They were obeying the command of their true Master, Jesus, whose orders all believers to love others even if it costs us our life. We must love our enemy, those who persecute us, and those who hate the God we stand for. The goal of this level of love is to lead wanderers to Jesus where He can transform and save them. People don't just need to be saved from the perils of this life, but from the eternal fires of Hell. Make it your goal to love people to life. The life only Jesus can provide.

Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 701 N. Sycamore St.
 Villa Grove, IL 61956
 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 Joe Rothermel
 John Dilliner Bob Thomas
 Jerry Hughes

FEBRUARY 8, 2026
Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Greeters: Treanna Ragan (Front) Rex & Jan Duzan (South)
Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Margaret Black
Nursery: Deanne Rothermel
Serving: K. Logan, D. Logan, S. Gordon, R. Graham
Elder-On-Call for February: John Dilliner (217)621-9807
Mission of the Week: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MISSIONS (ICOM)
Clayton, Indiana
David Empson, Executive Director

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