



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231

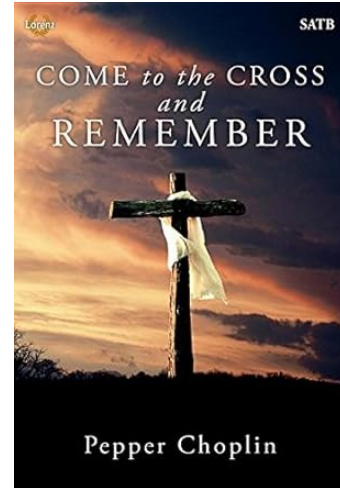
FAX: 832-9348

March 16, 2026

**COMMUNITY EASTER CANTATA
SUNDAY, MARCH 29- PALM SUNDAY
4:00 P.M.**

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, VILLA GROVE

Please join us for this special event! There is a choir of 43 singers, a 16-piece orchestra, 2 narrators and prop people ready to bring you this special cantata. This will be a great way to open Holy Week! This is a free event, though there will be an opportunity to leave a donation to help defray expenses. The event is sponsored by the Villa Grove Area Ministerial Alliance.



Thursday, April 2 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service at the church

Friday, April 3 Good Friday services in the community

Sunday, April 5 Sunrise Service- 7:30 a.m.; Breakfast to follow- 8:00 a.m. Worship Service- 9:30 a.m.

No Sunday School or Youth Group on this date

(NOTE: There is a sign-up sheet on the south bulletin board for items for the Easter Breakfast.)

MARCH 15, 2026

Worship & Nursery	85
Sunday School	47
Preschool Class	1
Sunday Morning Celebration	0
King's Kids	3
Blessed Believers	13
The Fellowship Class	23
Chosen Ones	6
OFFERING Total	\$3,270.00
Spendable	3,270.00



FCC's day for volunteers at the Rural Grace Food Pantry is this **FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 3:00-4:30 p.m.** If you would be interested in helping out, please contact Sarah Cannon.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Raeanna Boyer– home from mission trip; having kidney stone issues

Family of Anne Cutright- Glenda Case's niece

Sheryl Gaston– recovering at home from foot surgery

Olive Hamann (Jeretta Mabry's granddaughter)- 15 yr. old gymnast; was diagnosed with Rhabdomyolysis, a disease that breaks down skeletal muscle and sends toxins to the liver

Sarah Hughes

Nicole Kneer

Amy O'Neill– lung cancer in both lungs

Gavin Smith (Brad & Maryanna's grandson)- having heart problems again, will be going to Children's Hospital in St. Louis next week to be checked out

Tornado victims around the state

Praise! Mark & Brandy Waldrop (Philo) have a new baby girl– her great-aunt is Joyce Ritter and great-grandmother is Edna Waldrop



Tuesday, March 17, 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Coffee Time at the Lazy Day Café in Villa Grove.

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m. Bible Study meets at the church– the group is studying the book of Joshua

Sunday, March 22, 11:45 a.m. The Fellowship Committee will meet in the Fellowship Hall

Our current church administrative assistant, Brenda Elam, will be retiring on December 15, 2026. Duties and responsibilities will be discussed with all serious candidates. Knowledge and use of the computer, word processing and other computer programs is a must. If anyone in the congregation might be interested in filling this position, please contact Mike Zylstra at the church (217)832-5231, or one of the elders.



...HOW WIDE AND LONG
AND HIGH AND DEEP
IS THE LOVE OF CHRIST.

EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV



Why Does Stuff Always Happen to Me?

3/16/2026

It was a rainy day on my school bus route. I pulled up to a driveway and waited for a child to emerge from her garage. She had her backpack on and was carrying an umbrella. She was overburdened with a lunch container, Chrome Book computer, homework keeper and jacket. She came running to the bus while trying to open the umbrella. Suddenly, a wind gust threatened to rip the umbrella from her grasp. In trying to control the wild umbrella, she dropped her lunch and her coat in a water puddle. As she scrambled to retrieve those items she decided to “give up” on the umbrella and just get on the bus as quickly as possible. With wet hair, water spotted glasses, dripping coat and as much dignity as she could muster, she climbed aboard and said, more to herself than to me, “Why does bad stuff always happen to me?”

It is a question many people ask, and for much more serious reasons. Why did I receive the cancer diagnosis? Why did my spouse file for divorce? Why was I the one fired from the company? Why did someone pick my identity to steal? Why do bad things happen to me?

Sometimes, when this question is asked, it isn’t because the person wants a scientific explanation, or even a theological discussion. Many times, they simply want to know if, when bad things happen to them, will you be like Jesus to them and walk along side them in their need. **James 2:15-16** reminds us, ***Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?***

There will be time for deeper philosophical, scientific and even theological discussions. But right now... your friend needs an immediate helping hand and an understanding

<p>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 701 N. Sycamore St. Villa Grove, IL 61956</p> <p>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)</p> <p>Elders: Scott Beccue Joe Rothermel John Dilliner Bob Thomas Jerry Hughes</p>	<p>MARCH 22, 2026 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Greeters: Steven Gordon (Front) Hal & Holly Wiggam (South)</p> <p>Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Bill Akers</p> <p>Nursery: Kilee Simpson</p> <p>Serving: M. Boyer, D. Shunk, B. Akers, B. Smith</p> <p>Elder-On-Call for March: JOE ROTHERMEL (217)369-5285</p> <p>Mission of the Week: LITTLE GALILEE CHRISTIAN CAMP Clinton, Illinois Gabe Rutledge, Camp Director</p> <p>REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS KEN HEYEN Haven of Tuscola 1203 Egyptian Trail Tuscola, IL 61953</p>
---	--