



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231

FAX: 832-9348

April 21, 2026



GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

April 26, 2026– 9:30 a.m.

All our graduates will be recognized during the worship service; a cupcake reception will be held between Worship and Sunday School

8th Grade– Quinn Lillard, Addie Obenland, Julie Swigart

High School– Allison Eisenmenger, Ryan Lillard, Tucker Shunk

College– Kate Eisenmenger, Logan Lillard

BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS

*There are baby bottles at both exit doors at the church. If you would like to participate, you can take as many bottles as you like, **SIGN YOUR NAME AND THE NUMBER OF BOTTLES YOU TAKE** on the sheet next to the bottles (we need to know who has bottles!). You can fill the bottles with change, bills or checks, made to **CHOICES PREGNANCY & HEALTH**. Please return the bottles to the church by May 24. Questions? Call the church office.*



APRIL 19, 2026

Worship & Nursery	85
Sunday School	44
Preschool Class	2
Sunday Morning Celebration	0
King's Kids	2
Blessed Believers	10
The Fellowship Class	24
Chosen Ones	6
OFFERING Total	\$2,503.00
Spendable	2,483.00
Benevolence	20.00



Notes From the Office

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE IN YOUR 2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY:

Joyce Ritter's email address is incorrect in the book. The address is:

jaritter1953@gmail.com

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Eric Brucker (friend of Brad Smith)- double pulmonary embolism

Amy Czerwonka Ray (friend of Sarah Cannon)- surgery has been postponed until June

Mary Gen Frick- had kidney stone surgery on Monday at Sarah Bush

Sarah Hughes

Lettie (Marsha Green's 18-mo. old great-granddaughter)- home

Mike Lowery (friend of Margaret Black)- at Barnes, in critical condition

Amy O'Neill- lung cancer; having experimental treatment in Chicago

Kate Shunk- shingles

Randy Walters (minister at Living Hope Fellowship)- doing well after quadruple bypass surgery; in hospital for a week

Barb Watson- pneumonia; in hospital in Paris

Lola Wishersham (6-yr. old granddaughter of Deanne Rothermel's friend)- still struggling, but doing better



Administrative Assistant Position Opening

The Administrative Assistant position at the church will be opening in December. For anyone interested in the position, applications are available in the church office, or can be emailed. Call (217-832-5231) or email the office (fccvgooffice@gmail.com).

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26 IS
BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY.**



F A T H E R

Is the Answer

Big Tractor, Small Tractor

4/21/2026

It's spring planting time around here. I've seen a lot of big tractors pulling 36 and 48 row corn planters, outfitted with pneumatic planting systems. They do a lot of work in a short amount of time. Most farmers want to use the biggest equipment their fields will handle. And those big tractors are eye-catching. Who wouldn't want to drive one of those massive machines.

Yet, if you look in the machine shed of those same farmers, you will find that they also own several small tractors. These micro-machines are more efficient at mowing ditches and using their PTO to run augurs, bailers and sprayers. Their versatility and maneuverability give them an advantage over the 600+ horsepower, track-driven behemoths. The smart farmer owns both big and small tractors because each is valuable in its own way.

I believe the same is true when it comes to churches. People love the eye-popping power of the big church. They have the most resources, biggest programs, professional worship experiences, lots of baptisms and church plants. Their impact is massive.

And yet, there are many things that a small church does better. Small churches tend to be more intimate, encourage everyone to be involved, and we hold one another accountable. It is hard to be anonymous in a small church. People are urged to use whatever talents they have wherever they can. Small churches tend to be more forgiving of mistakes, and are more intergenerational. You are not just a number in the small church.

God owns both the big and small churches and needs them both to spread his message of reconciliation. Our job is to be content and work for the Lord regardless of our size. Remember: we plant and water the seed, and God gives the increase.



Mike

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

701 N. Sycamore St.

Villa Grove, IL 61956

Website: www.fccvg.com

Church E-mail: fccvgooffice@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

APRIL 26, 2026

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

Greeters: Janet Cassida (Front) Janice Thode (South)

Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Zylstra/Garland Hubert

Nursery: Molly & Shelby Hughes

Serving: J. Watson, S. Sinkes, B. Akers, S. Gordon

Elder-On-Call for April: BOB THOMAS (217)419-2195

Mission of the Week: ONE MISSION SOCIETY

Greenwood, Indiana

Sara Williamson, Missionary

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

JOE HOLSAPPLE

315 S. Douglas St.

Villa Grove, IL 61956