



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS

PHONE: 832-5231

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August 11, 2026

THIS WEEK...

Wednesday, August 12– 6:00 p.m. Elders meeting

7:30 p.m. Monthly Board meeting, at the church

Thursday, August 13– 6:30 p.m. Women's Christian Fellowship will meet at the church.

Hostess: PATTI GROVES

Missions: BRENDA ELAM

Devotions: FRANCES DOWLER



For everyone... CHOICES PREGNANCY & HEALTH'S annual fundraising banquet— Saturday, September 19, 6:00pm, at the McKenna-Yost Convention Center, Mattoon

If you would like to attend, please see the sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board. We would like to fill at least two tables!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER!!

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 13— Noon

Henson Park Pavilion

Fried chicken & bottled water are provided

Everyone is asked to bring dishes to share

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!



Family of Larry Carrell– Amy Allen's dad (Amy is Elam's neighbor)

Sarah Hughes– hospice

Kurt Logan– cancer treatments

Lola (6-yr. old granddaughter of Deanne Rothermel's friend)- open heart surgery went well

Mary Stephenson (Khristi Boyer's grandmother)- health concerns and pain management

Sharon Wilhelm (Chris Clark's aunt)- broken femur; had surgery and is recovering at Carle Hospital

AUGUST 9, 2026

Worship & Nursery 90

Sunday School 39

Preschool Class 2

Summer Youth Class 6

Blessed Believers 10

The Fellowship Class 18

Chosen Ones 3

OFFERING: Total \$1,930.00

Spendable 1,730.00

Memorial 200.00



**This month's PRAYER & COFFEE will be held on
Tuesday, August 18, 9:00 a.m. at the Lazy Day Café.**

Everyone is invited!

Nicknames

8/4/2026

Did you have a nickname when you grew up? I did. It wasn't flattering. I would never have picked it for myself, and it only lasted through High School, thankfully!

The book of Ruth tells us that Naomi picked her own nickname. She wanted people to call her "Mara" because God had made her life bitter. She had moved to Moab. Her husband and her two sons had died, and Naomi had no land or heirs. Later in her life, through Ruth and Boaz, God restored her family name, family land, and took away her bitterness.

In our culture, some nicknames are designed to hurt. They accentuate a physical flaw or a character weakness. The Dictionary of Psychology Words defines name calling (which can include nicknames) as a form of verbal abuse. Someone gives you a name to point out your inadequacy in their eyes and build themselves up. This happened to Jesus. At one point, his family called him crazy. The religious leaders called him Beelzebub and a blasphemer. His own Jewish people called him, "a son of a carpenter," in a derogatory manner. In **John 10:20** those who heard him preach said, "He is demon-possessed and raving mad." All these names were designed to demean and hurt Jesus.

Jesus didn't shy from what people called him. He asked his disciples, "Who do people say I am?" The disciples replied with, "Some say, John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." Then Jesus asked, "Who do you say I am." And Peter proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Jesus told Peter that this identity came from the Holy Spirit.

The lesson is simple: Only through God's spirit can we see people for who they really are. If they are a disciple of Jesus they have another nickname, CHRISTIAN!

Mike

NICKNAME

[ExaminingFaith.com](http://examiningfaith.com)

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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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

AUGUST 16, 2026

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

Greeters: Bob & Frances Dowler (Front) Rex & Jan Duzan (South)

Coffee Fix/Cleanup: Brenda Elam/Glenda Case

Nursery: Deanne Rothermel

Serving: K. Logan, D. Logan, M. Boyer, R. Mabry

Mission of the Week: CHRISTIAN CAMPUS HOUSE (EIU)

Charleston, Illinois

Matthew Thomas, Lead Campus Minister

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

KEN HEYEN

Haven of Tuscola

1203 Egyptian Trail

Tuscola, IL 61953