

«BAG» «ZIP_COUNT»
«NAMELINE»
«STREET»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP» «PLUSFOUR»

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March 17

5:30pm Ladies Night Out at Jimmy's
and Men's Night Out at Pizza Ranch

March 20 –

8:30am – Coffee House Theology
Sunday School

Worship at 9:30am in sanctuary &
Facebook Live

11am – Disciples Sunday School

March 21 – 7pm

Trustees

March 23 –

9:30am in-person and 5:30pm
in-person and on Zoom

Bible Study

5:30pm – Youth Group

7pm – Historical Society

7:30pm – Choir practice

March 27 –

8:30am – Coffee House Theology
Sunday School

Worship at 9:30am in sanctuary &
Facebook Live

11am – Disciples Sunday School

March 29

Newsletter Week

... for **Shannon Edwards and her son, Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are apart from one another. Also, she is need for help in getting to a doctor's appointment in Peoria.

... for **Betsy, cousin of Kim Barton**. Betsy is a single mom with two young boys. She recently had surgery and needs to improve soon so she can get home to her family.

... for **Mary Gehring** who will be meeting with a surgeon this week to make a treatment plan for Stage 1A lung cancer. Please keep her, her family, and doctors in your prayers.



DON'T FORGET!

Women's Night Out – March 17 at
5:30pm at Jimmy's Pizza!

Men's Night Out – March 17 at
5:30pm at Pizza Ranch!
Bring a friend!



Crusader

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

301 N Broad St. Galesburg, IL 61401
309-343-9960

Website: www.fccgalesburg.org

Office Manager – Lorraine Stone - fccgalesburg@gmail.com

Bookkeeper – Lynda White fcclwhite@gmail.com

Director of Music – Steve Jackson sjackson@sandburg.edu

Organist (virtual) – Mary Harlan mharlan@knox.edu

Part-time Pianist – Brady Warner bwarner06@icloud.com

Co-Pastors: Gregory S. and Martha-Jean Fitch

pastorgreg02@gmail.com & pastormj02@gmail.com



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With These Stones

March 20, 2022

Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch

“With These Stones: Sticks and Stones”

John 8:1-12

March 27, 2022

Message by Pastor Greg Fitch

“With These Stones: Upon this Rock”

Matthew 16:13-20

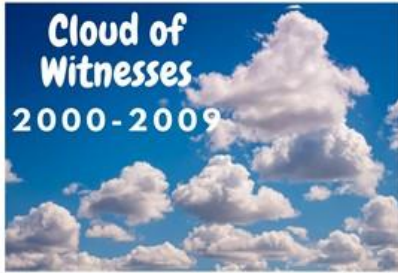
Worship will be in-person at 9:30am and on Facebook Live at 9:30am and later on Sunday morning on our webpage and YouTube

150th ANNIVERSARY CHURCH CELEBRATION

MARK YOU CALENDARS for the 150th

Anniversary Celebration to be held on **April 24, 2022**.
A celebratory service will be at **10:30am** that morning
with “Timothy” Will Jewsbury preaching followed by
a light lunch. There is no charge for the lunch, but
please call the church office for reservations.





HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 2000 - 2009

The year 2000 – a new year, new century, new millennium! A time of change – new ministries – new technologies – new staff. And yet the same commitment and drive to serve the Lord and grow His kingdom.

In 2000, a mission statement was made for the church that said: *“Our mission is to glorify God by following the teach of Jesus and sharing His message of love with all people in word and action.”* By 2002, the vision statement from the “2020 Vision Task Force”, shortened our mission statement to *“Helping people become passionate disciples of Christ”*.

A lot of changes happened within the staff and ministry. Carmen DeVoss resigned from being the bookkeeper and Lynda White became bookkeeper in March of 2000. Steve Gottcent was a pastoral intern, working with the youth, April 1999 to June 2000. Other youth/education interns were Jeff Nielsen, in 2005 and Andrew Wingo who came each summer from 2009 to 2012. Cheryl Robbins became choir director in 2000, followed by a very brief employment of Jason Purdle and then the calling of Steve Jackson in 2009. Pastor Dave Seitz had been the pastor since 1993, but in May of 2001 became ill and finally had to resign. Bruce Naylor and Dave Knicker served as interims then, until the church called Pastor Greg and Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch to be Co-Pastors on July 15, 2003.

A lot of changes happened to the building, including a lot of new technology. Screens were purchased for the sanctuary in 2000. Individual headsets were purchased as well as a video projector, used for the first time on Palm Sunday in 2001. The chimes were restored and the George Scofield Memorial Cymbalstern (chimes for the organ) was installed in 2004. The entire building was tuckpointed and waterproofed in 2000 and 2001. The upstairs Education Building hallway was painted with murals of Jesus and children and animals, in 2005. A chairlift by Garaventa was installed in 2006 and the parking lot was resurfaced in 2007. The sanctuary was air-conditioned in 2000! The church was robbed in 2004, resulting in us getting a new sound system to replace what was stolen!

Another great word to describe this decade is “Outreach”. In 2004, a Stone Supper was held for dislocated workers from Maytag. Beginning in 2006, women served sandwiches to the housing units. A Mission Bread Bakers group was formed in 2005 and they sold bread in the Farmer’s Market to raise money for missions – as well as reach out to the community. We had Miracle Day service events from Pilgrim Park to Jackson Blvd Christian Church in Chicago to LaGrace Hall of Hope and the Rescue

Mission. In March, 2008, we became a “Global Mission Congregation” and began a “Jumelage” (sister relationship) with the New City Church in Mbandaka, Congo. Throughout the decade we gave them gifts of roofing sheets for the parsonage, a door plaque for the front door of the parsonage, Bibles and soccer balls.

We continued to “reach out” beyond our walls by having a hot chocolate give-away at the Christmas parades (beginning 2004) and a “cup of cold water” give away at the annual Heritage Days (beginning 2005). We entered floats during the Veteran’s Day Parade and then the Christmas Parade – winning the 2nd place in 2009 with the Flicek hayrack! We began hosting an annual “Trunk or Treat” on our parking lot in 2007.

Youth groups were active in the region’s camping program and were active in the life of the church. Yearly VBS was held with a good portion of the church volunteering to work with the children. Wonderful Wednesday “field trips” began in the summer of 2004. DiscipleShip Sunday School began with Workshop Rotation Model in 2005 – along with a very active Children’s Church held during worship.

We celebrated our 135th anniversary in 2007.

Time and space have run out! So many other ministries and fellowship events could be shared. God truly blessed us and helped us grow in our journey to be passionate disciples of Christ.



COFFEE HOUSE THEOLOGY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS RESUMES

Coffee House Theology Class meets from **8:30 until 9:15am on Sunday morning** in the Conference Room (across from Pastors' Offices). Lesson materials are based on the International Sunday School Lessons. For more information, contact Diane Eager at (309) 335-7560

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS MARCH 23

A new Bible Study with Max Lucado’s book “3:16” on the verse John 3:16, will begin **March 23** and meet each week through April 20. There will be two session options: 1) in-person at **9:30am** in the Conference Room; or 2) in-person or on Zoom at **5:30pm**. All are welcome to join.





WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

March 20 – Diaconate Serving: Marge Patterson & Marla Wood

Lead in Communion: Cindy Andrews

Greeters: Marge Patterson & Marla Wood at North St.; Candi Moulton & Kim Barton at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Cindy Andrews

Prayers: Pastor

March 27 – Diaconate Serving: Earlene Crouse & Brandy Hossain

Lead in Communion: Pastor

Greeters: Earlene Crouse & Brandy Hossain at North St.; Marge Patterson & Marla Wood at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Steve Spicher (recorded)

Prayers: Donna Flicek

BLESSING BOX NEEDS

Our Blessing Box serves many different kinds of people....each one a child of God. Some need help feeding their family or need basic supplies such as dish soap or toilet paper. We also have a group of individuals who are homeless. They come looking for personal items and food, but obviously need items they can carry with them. We can meet the needs of many through your generous donations. The community is a great support as well!



If you would like someone else to shop for Blessing Box items, monetary donations are welcome.

Needed items:

- Shampoo, bath soap, body wash, toothpaste, deodorant
- Period supplies, toilet paper, Kleenex
- Non-perishable food items- including on-the-go items such as packets of tuna, nuts, granola bars, crackers, fruit cups and the like.
- Cleanser, dish soap, laundry detergent, disinfectant/floor cleaner, spray cleaner, etc.
- Can openers, small appliances, pans (gently used is fine)

Take what you need, leave what you can, be blessed!



WHAT CAN WE DO? HOW CAN WE HELP?

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

“For us, like for many others, every day Ukraine is on our hearts.” So begins a letter from Pieter and Nora Kalkan, missionaries to the Czech Republic, writing to their church family in the (American Baptist) International Ministries

(IM). Through IM, and the European Baptist Federation (EBF), Week of Compassion is on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding nations, responding to the emergent needs of those fleeing the country, and those who remain internally displaced by the war.

As stories of devastation and terror fill the international news, stories of compassion, generosity, and life-giving help flow in from our ecumenical partners as well. Churches in every region are serving as centers of refuge, helping those in transit to other locations, as well as any needing overnight care. Volunteers are establishing mobile hospitals; pastors provide spiritual and psychological support to patients and staff, and train others to do the same. Aid is being given to the thousands of refugees in a variety of ways – including transport and accommodations.

Even while the needs are dire and seem insurmountable, we remain a people of Gospel hope, a living witness to the goodness of Christ, alive in the world. Alongside you and all our ecumenical partners, Week of Compassion holds fast to the vision of a world where God’s people transform suffering into hope.

PRAY - Missionaries Pieter and Nora invite others to pray with them:

Pray that peace will reign in Ukraine. Pray for those who are stuck, or have to stay in the cities surrounded by the fighting. Pray for those traveling - for safe travels, welcoming arms and hot food. Pray that Churches will be able to minister to all. Pray that the leaders will know the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

GIVE - Contributions to Week of Compassion can be made online

(www.weekofcompassion.org) or by check (PO Box 1986, Indianapolis IN 46206).

When designated for International Emergency Response, 100% of your gift will serve those impacted by this crisis.



God's Love
Endures
Forever
Psalm 118

SPECIAL OFFERING

APRIL 10 & 17

As Disciples, we all benefit from the fruit, the gifts, of our general ministries. These fruits are made possible only through the connections and support that grow in collaboration

with our regions and congregations. This Easter, let us reflect on God's enduring love in the world –

- Love that creates: spiritual care for those in prison
- Love that inspires: visionary leadership that calls us to imagine new ways of being church
- Love that makes a difference: global ministry partners who work for justice, reconciliation and peace

Special offering envelopes will be available for your contribution or you can send a check to the office. More information is available at disciplesmissionfund.org.

COMMUNITY HOLY WEEK 2022

Trinity Lutheran Church will host Community Holy Week **April 11-14 from 12:05 to 12:30pm and April 15 from 12:05 to 3pm.** These special services will feature a guest speaker, a musician, choir or soloist, as well as a reader. More detailed information with times and participants will be determined in the near future and given in future newsletters.

