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November 8 – Worship on-line
11am – Adult Sunday School
via Zoom

November 10 – 6:30pm Council

November 11 - 6:30pm Worship
Team Meeting

November 15 – Worship on-line
11am – Adult Sunday School
Via Zoom

November 16 – 7pm Trustees,
meeting at the church.

November 17 – 9:30am
Ruth Circle meeting at church

November 19 – 1:30pm
Lydia Circle meeting at church

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

... for **Scott VanVelsor** and for his
caregivers and medical staff. And for
the many family members who have or
have had coronavirus.

...for **Christina Griswold**, who is
undergoing radiation.

... for **Bill Jewsbury** who has
neuropathy in his legs and is having
physical therapy.

... for **Judy Krueger** whose nephew
died with complications from
coronavirus.

... for **Marge Patterson**, undergoing
tests for her eye,

... for **Carolyn Spratt** who has family
members and dear friends with COVID.

... for **Kathy Neave**, whose daughter-in-
law passed away from cancer.

... for **Shannon Edwards** who is going
through a difficult time with chronic pain
and will also be having a court date Nov.
5.

*Regrettably, **Tim Hopkey** was
inadvertently left out of the All Saints
Day remembrance. Please take a
moment to give thanks for his life and
remember his wife Jane in your prayers.*



Crusader

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Vol. 74, No. 27, November 4, 2020



November 8 2020

Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch

“Gratitude: Thanksgiving People”

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19

*The service will be
recorded and then uploaded on Facebook
page, and Webpage
(fccgalesburg.org) and YouTube by
Sunday morning.*

WORSHIP CONTINUES TO BE ONLINE

Recently, our Governor has increased
restrictions in our Region (#2), beginning Nov. 4
saying: *“As cases, hospitalizations and deaths are
rising across our state, across the Midwest and
across the nation, we have to act responsibly and collectively to protect the people we
love.”* And the Health Department is discouraging small and large gatherings. Thus,
because of these conditions, our worship services will continue to be on-line only for
the time being. Please be sure to find us on-line at Facebook, on our webpage or on
YouTube.

And remember to mail your offerings/tithes to the church or use the Tithe.ly
giving option on our web-page, to help continue the ministry of our church.





BLESSING BOX

Hometown Hundreds is a program aimed at helping local charity groups already doing amazing work develop and pursue their mission. In short, it's a way to help improve our communities, and sponsored by F&M Bank and Galesburg Radio 14 WGIL. Recently FCC's Blessing Box ministry received \$100! Thanks Steph Line for entering our project!

We are always in need of items like hygiene products, cleaning products and paper products like toilet paper and paper towels. Items can be dropped by the church. Please contact Pastor MJ or Steph Line if you need to arrange a time for a drop off or a pickup.



CONGO OFFERING

It has been our practice to celebrate our relationship with our sister church in Mbandaka, DRC, New City Church, each fall. We invite you to make a contribution to the love offering that will be sent to them. Our

offering will assist them as they struggle to build a new church building while battling not only Covid 19, but also an outbreak of Ebola. You can mail your offering to FCC @ 301 N. Broad St, Galesburg, IL 61401. Please add a memo marking your donation to Congo: New City Church. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters of the DRC.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2X4 SUNDAYS

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to our recent 2x4 Sundays. We were able to send \$220 to Habitat for Humanity. Your name will be added to the 2x4's that will be used in the building of house #56. Praise God for the ministry of Habitat and the privilege of joining them in touching the lives of families in Galesburg.



FROM THE PASTOR

In past years, many of us have loved doing "God Sightings" at our Vacation Bible Schools where children were asked "Where did you see God today?" each night when we returned together. They had to be on the "look-out" throughout the day, so they could come back to VBS with an answer to share. It was a great way to help the children (and really us!) to be looking – opening our eyes to see our blessings and God's hands at work in our lives. It was a positive, uplift – turning away from all the complaining and negativity of the world.

If there ever was a time where we needed that positive, uplift, it seems to be now! And this is just what Misty Stecher was thinking one day as she drove to work. She was reflecting on how people are feeling so disconnected and so down these days. And in her words, she wrote: *"Perhaps if we turn our eyes to looking for God through God sightings, it will boost our spirits. Plus, it would be fun to see weekly where our congregation sees God in action. God speaks and is visible to people and so many different ways it causes us to pause and start looking for God in new ways. What a powerful way to lead into Advent."*

So that is exactly what we are going to do for the month of November. Look for and share our God sightings! And express our thanks to God for them.

But, what exactly is a "God sighting"? It is a time, a place, a moment when you see God present - or when God shows up when we least expect. Maybe it is a surprise visit or a phone call – or in the form of some unexpected help or a timely, encouraging word. For example, one person recently told me of a neighbor that just showed up at her door offering to rake her leaves! Or another told of a person ahead of them at a fast-food restaurant paying for their meal. Unexpected gifts/blessings!

God-sightings can also be things we take for granted – maybe it is a beautiful sunrise or the beauty of a newly plowed field at the time of harvest. Gifts from God – a God sighting. Or it may be a time when you were hurting and were comforted. A God sighting even in the darkest of times.

We have created a "google form" that you can click and fill out and share what your "God sighting" is. You can share once or even every day of November! Click on this link: <https://forms.gle/mhvy3qzaDDXXVbPZ9> and share your story. I will then copy the responses and share them on Facebook, or in emails or in our sermons, if you give the permission to share.

So, my challenge to you is to look for God Sightings – share them with others – and cultivate an attitude of gratitude! It will be good for your health & your heart!

Grateful for each of you, *Pastor MJ*