

«BAG» «ZIP_COUNT»
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«STREET»
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Anniversaries:

5 – Randy & Wendy Schauer
12 – Ryan & Rachel Curry

Birthdays:

3 – Mike Wood
5 – Noah Wood
12 – Ray Maddox, Steve Spicher
18 – Mike White
20 – Tom Yeast
22 – Jan Currie
25 – Swede Oehlert, Madison Schauer
27 – Joe Anderson
29 – Ron Frakes
30 – Pastor MJ Fitch, Louwen Barton
31 – Aleta Anderson

... for **Shannon Edwards and her son Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are apart from one another. Also pray for Shannon as she is expecting a baby in November.

... for **Rachel and Ryan Curry** who are expecting a baby in June.

... for **Mary Gehring** who will be having a lobectomy on April 21 for lung cancer Stage 1A.

... for **Jimmy Ellis** with colon cancer.

... for situation with Ukraine and Russia – that peace and diplomacy will reign.

... for New City Church, Mbandaka, Congo.

OUR PASTORS WILL BE ON VACATION

Pastors Greg and Martha-Jean will be on vacation April 25 to May 3. On May 1, Neill Unger will bring the message. If you have a pastoral need during the week, please call the church office or your shepherding elder.



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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150th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We begin our 150th Anniversary Celebration at First Christian Church, with two worship services on **April 23**.

At **10am**, we will have a Praise and Worship Service that will be a reunion of members of our Quest Band – that was formed 25 years ago! And then that evening at **7pm**, we will have a Hymn Festival, lifting up the great hymns of the church, played by some of our former church members and our current organists! What a great way to begin our celebration with thanksgiving and worship to our God!

April 24, 2022

150th Anniversary Celebration Worship

Message by Rev. Will Jewsbury

“Who Are the Witnesses?”

Scripture: John 20: 19-31

Worship at **10:30am**

Light lunch at noon will be provided

Slides and Memorabilia will be shared

Immediately following worship, prior to lunch, we will take an all Church Family picture in the sanctuary.

Please stay in your seat after worship so the picture can be taken quickly.

COFFEE HOUSE THEOLOGY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Coffee House Theology will meet at **9:15am on Sunday, April 24**. The lesson is based on John 8:31-38 and is entitled “Freedom in Christ.” We meet in the conference room across from the Pastors’ offices. If you are looking for a Sunday School class, please feel free to join us.



May 1, 2022

Message by Neill Unger

“Lessons Learned on the Journey”

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:11; Psalms 8:4-6;
John 4:20-21; Matthew 5:15-16

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



NEW OUTDOOR SIGNS

Praise God for our new sign in celebration of our 150th anniversary! May God receive all the glory for the messages it gives to our community.

And check out the outside banner designed and made for our 150th Anniversary by Hope Nelson.



MOTHER’S DAY GIFT

Dear Christian Friends,

Mother’s Day is approaching May 8th and we would like to invite you to give a love gift in honor, or in memory of, your mother, grandmother, sister or special woman who has influenced your life.

Our Disciple Women’s Fellowship has met the goal of \$1,000 to the Disciple Mission Fund but still needs around \$500 to complete our budget for local needs including the Rescue Mission.

Please fill out the form below and return to the church office by **May 4th**. A list of those honored and remembered, along with those contributing, will be published in an upcoming Crusader.

Thank you very much. – Disciple Women’s Fellowship Board



MOTHER’S DAY GIFT

Name of donor _____
Amount enclosed \$ _____
Person(s) to be honored _____
Person(s) to be remembered _____

Signed: _____
Address _____ Phone: _____

Mail or deliver to First Christian Church, 301 N. Broad St., Galesburg, IL 61401.
(Your gift is tax deductible.)

Our Mission Statement
Growing Spirit-filled, committed disciples of Christ.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am – Worship – guest Speaker Neill Unger <i>Joy Box Dedication</i>	2 <i>Newsletter week</i>	3 1:30pm – Caring Ministers	4 5:30pm – Youth group 7:30pm – Choir practice	5 8:15am – Staff meeting 6pm – Girl Scout leaders	6	7
8 8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am – Worship 11am Disciples Sun. School	9 6:30pm – Elders (hybrid)	10 No Council in-person meeting (Google Docs)	11 5:30pm – Youth group (final) 7:30pm – Choir practice	12 9am – Staff meeting	13	14
15 8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am – Worship Baptisms 11am Disciples Sun. School	16 6pm – Rehearsal – Buchanan Community Chorus 7pm – Trustees <i>Newsletter week</i>	17 10:30am – Naomi Circle 7pm – The Weekend Cluster	18 9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 2pm & 3pm – Worship at Seminary Manor & Hawthorne 5:30pm – Youth group 7pm – Historical Society 7:30pm – Choir practice	19 9am – Staff mtg 5:30pm – Men’s Night Out at Pizza Ranch and Ladies Night Out at Jimmy’s Pizza	20 7pm – Buchanan Community Chorus Concert	21
22 8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am - Worship 11am Disciples Sun. School	23	24	25 9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 5:30pm – Youth group 7:30pm – Choir practice	26 9am – Staff meeting	27	28
29 8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am - Worship 11am Disciples Sun. School	30 <i>Memorial Day - Office Closed</i> <i>Newsletter week</i>	31		<i>Note: Worship is in- person as well as Facebook Live at 9:30am</i>	<i>Note: Adult Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are both on Zoom and in person.</i>	<i>In person classes are held in the Conference Room, along with Zoom, at the same time.</i>



WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

April 24 – Diaconate Serving: Kaleb Brown & Raeleen Brown

Lead in Communion: Pastor

Greeters: Kaleb Brown & Raeleen Brown at North St.; Chris Wood & Marla Wood at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Pastor

Prayers: Pastor

May 1 – Diaconate Serving: David Wilt & Leslie Wilt

Lead in Communion: Steve Spicher

Greeters: David Wilt & Leslie Wilt at North St.; Kaleb Brown & Raeleen Brown at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Tracy Jackson

Prayers: Bill Jewsbury

A PRAYER

*God of the great and small, you hold all in your care.
We pray safety for Ukraine's people; generosity from
those rendering aid;
and comfort for countless families
separated and terrified.*



*Christ of compassion and peace, your love never fails, never runs out, never wanes.
We pray with deep gratitude for those who put hands and
feet and faces to your goodness.*

*Spirit of mercy and justice, may your wisdom prevail.
We pray for clarity and discernment, with desperate words but also with great
confidence, that your true shalom might reach every corner it has yet to find.*

*Spirit of abiding hope, Christ of expansive welcome, God of outrageous love,
We are yours. In your mercy, hear our prayers.
And may we put those prayers to work. Amen.*

<https://www.weekofcompassion.org/stories/the-latest-on-ukraine>

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

As you can see from these pictures, 19 youth, along with a few extra adults, thoroughly enjoyed the activity with Art Defined on April 6. This school season for Youth Group will end on **May 11**. Meetings will be held **April 20, April 27, May 4, and May 11 from 5:30pm to 7pm**, with dinner served at 5:30pm. Baptisms for new members will be on **Sunday, May 15**.



GIVING THANKS TO GOD

We are so very grateful to all who work with the children and youth every week! To **Mark and Mary Davis** who cook and feed the kids each week and those that help: **John & Janet Foster & Nancy Spicher**. And to all the great teachers and leaders: **Misty Stecher, Candi Moulton, Renee Galvin, Pastor Greg Fitch, Brandy Hossain** and others who have filled in: **Leslie Wilt and Kim Barton**. All of you are such a great blessing!