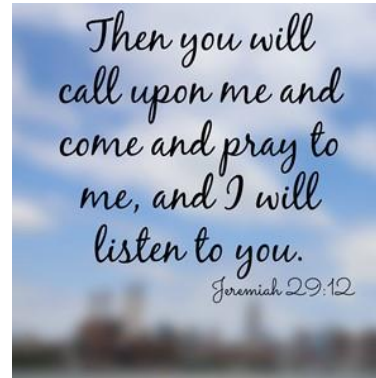


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THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published weekly except the week after/of Christmas by First Christian Church,
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September 12 – In-person worship
at **9:30am** in sanctuary
11am Adult Sunday School

September 13 – 6:30pm
Elders at church

September 14 – 6:30pm
Council at church

September 15
5:30pm - Youth Group
9:30am in-person and 5:30pm
in-person and on Zoom
Bible Study

September 19 – In-person worship
at **9:30am** OUTSIDE ON
PARKING LOT!
11am Adult Sunday School

September 20 – 7pm
Trustees at church

... for **Shannon Edwards and her son Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are apart from one another.

... for **Jim Eager** who is undergoing radiation and chemotherapy at the University of Iowa in Iowa City for the next 5 weeks. You can send him cards to: Hope Lodge, 750 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246.

... for **Janet Christiansen's** great-grandson, Jackson, who is very ill.

... for **Sue Colvin** as she recovers from her broken pelvis.

... for **Lisa Simmons** as she awaits results from a biopsy.

...for **our children and youth**. Our Wednesday night activities will be meeting every other Wednesday night beginning **September 15**. We are in GREAT need of volunteers to work with our children and youth. Please contact Misty Stecher if you are able to help.



Crusader

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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

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Director of Music – Steve Jackson sjackson@sandburg.edu.

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

pastorgreg02@gmail.com & pastormj02@gmail.com



Vol. 75, No. 18~ Sept. 7, 2021

September 12, 2021

Message by Pastor MJ Fitch

"Always: God is Hearing"

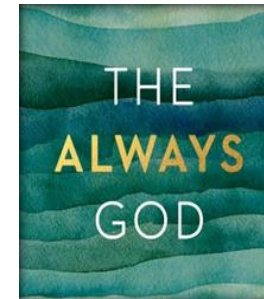
Scripture: II Kings 19-20

September 19, 2021

Message by Pastor Greg Fitch

"Always: God is Seeing"

Scripture: I Peter 5:6-11



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

We Wish Luke All the Best

Our organist Luke Acerra will be leaving for Graz, Austria, to study at Kunst Universität Graz for a Masters in Cello Performance. Luke's last Sunday with us will be **September 12**, and we want to wish him a fond farewell.

We will be presenting Luke with a love offering from the church family at the service. If you want to contribute, please get your gift to the church no later than **September 8**.





WELCOME TO THE BARTONS

What a joy it was on August 29 to welcome the Barton Family into our church family.

Aaron comes, making his confession of faith and will be baptized on September 12. **Kim** comes to us, transferring her membership from Orange Chapel. They bring their two wonderful children **Kenley and Louwen** who will be dedicated later this month.

Aaron grew up in Galesburg and went to Sandburg and Knox College. He is the Supply Chain Manager at Thrushwood Farms. Kim grew up in Knoxville and went to Sandburg and Bradley University. She is the Supply Chain Director at Sitka Salmon Shares. They will celebrate their 4-year wedding anniversary this October. They have 2 children, Kenley and Louwen. Kenley is 2.5 years old and loves to play outside and play her ukulele. Louwen is 3 months old and likes to watch everything his big sister does. The Bartons share: *“We joined because of the welcoming and inclusive environment at First Christian Church. We are excited to officially be a part of the FCC family.”*

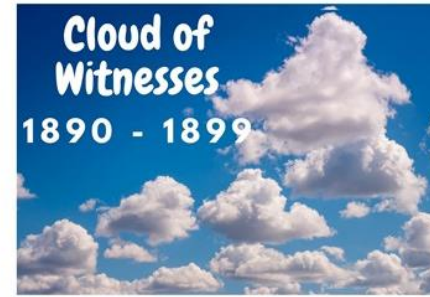
OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE SEPTEMBER 19

Worship will be outside on **September 19 at 9:30am**. Bring your lawn chairs to sit outside or sit in your car and listen to the service on FM 88.1.



MEN'S NIGHT OUT

Men's Night will resume in September after a long hiatus. We have reserved one of the private rooms at Pizza Ranch for **Tuesday, September 21 at 5:30pm**. All men of the church are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and a brief devotional. We hope to resume this as a regular monthly activity. The cost is \$13.49 (plus tax for the buffet (\$12.14 for seniors) and everybody pays their own way. But where else can you get some of the best fried chicken in town, dessert pizza, ice cream and Christian fellowship all at the same time.



HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 1890-1899

Pastors during this decade were: Rev. Gilbert J. Ellis—1889-1893; Rev. R. J. M. Morris—1894-1895; Rev. Sherman B. Moore—1895-1902

Just imagine we are in the last decade of the 19th century. In 1890 we find ourselves in a small church on West Tompkins Street, with a membership of 30 people. Rev. Gilbert J. Ellis is called to serve our congregation. Bible school was organized during his pastorate consisting of three classes. Soon there was an enrollment of 70 people, and eleven teachers were required. He needed a larger church.

In 1890, a site on North West Street, in the first block north of Main Street, about midway on the east side of the street, was purchased for \$2,500.00. In May of 1891, constructions began at a cost of \$12,000.00. All during this construction of the new building, our congregation met at the West Tompkins Street Church. On March 2, 1892, the church building on North West Street was dedicated. In future years, it was known as “The little church around the corner”. Rev. Ellis was an industrious pastor during this time, and left Galesburg in 1894.

A number of prominent people move to Galesburg and join the First Christian Church. Among them are: Dr. Edgar D. and Anna Wing, Andrew J. and Julia Wilson Cameron, Randolph W. and Sophia King Cameron, and Professor George Oldfather, Knox County Superintendent of Schools. Soon the membership was 80. Our church started to contribute to missionary causes to help others.

Rev. R. J. M. Morris was called to be our Pastor in 1894 and stayed for one year. In 1895, Rev. Sherman B. Moore was called to be our Pastor. He stayed until 1902. Both of these Pastors were dynamic at bringing in members. By 1900, our membership had grown to 347 members.

Please continue to look for more First Christian Church History coming soon.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office has changed office staff hours to **8:30am to 1:30pm Monday through Friday**. The building doors will remain locked for security purposes so be sure to ring the doorbell, knock loudly or call the office at 343-9960 to alert us to your arrival.

SERVING SCHEDULE

| | DIACONATE | COMMUNION | OFFERING |
|---------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| SEPT 12 | Candi Moulton Janet Foster | Cindy Andrews | Misty Stecher |
| SEPT 19 | Chris Wood Marla Wood | Mary Runge | Steve Spicher |
| SEPT 26 | David Wilt Leslie Wilt | Neill Unger | Carolyn Spratt |
| OCT 3 | Jake Runge Earlene Crouse | Steve Spicher | Steph Line |



HYGIENE KITS FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Disciples Women are again inviting the congregation to join with them in making Hygiene Kits to be sent to Church World Service. You also have the option to make a donation of \$15.00 instead of making a kit. Last year we sent around \$200.00 in donations and 4 kits to CWS. Either way we are still sharing our love with others and caring for families around the world. CWS is always looking ahead for the next disaster, a hurricane, a flood, a fire out of control and families that have lost their homes. There will always be a need for help around the world. This is the list of

items needed to make the kit:

- * One hand towel measuring approximately 15"x28" to 16"x32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)
- * One washcloth
- * One wide-tooth comb removed from package
- * One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package
- * One bath size bar of soap in the wrapper
- * One toothbrush in the package
- * 10 standard size band-aids

All items need to fit inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Do not add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each hygiene kit just prior to its journey. Value of the kit: \$15.00; Processing fee: 2.00 per kit

The kits or donations will be mailed the week of October 11, 2021. Your donations can be given to Carolyn Spratt, our secretary or to Earlene Crouse at any time. Thank you for your support.

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC ON SEPTEMBER 24

The Knox County Health Department will sponsor a free COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic from **9 to 11am September 24** in our large fellowship hall.

Pfizer vaccines are available for ages 12 and up and Moderna vaccines are available for ages 18 and older. Parents or guardians must accompany their child to the clinic. A parental consent must be signed before the vaccine can be given.

If you would like to get a vaccine, this would be an easy opportunity to do so. For more information on the vaccines, call the Health Department at 344-2244.

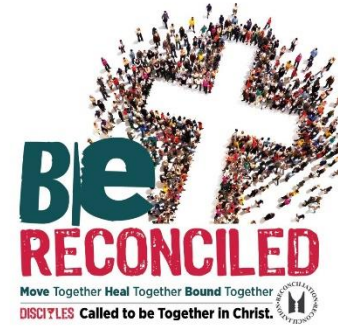


RECONCILIATION SUNDAY Sundays, SEPTEMBER 19 and 26

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a history dating from the 1960's of sharing our resources to address the racism of our society and the racism in our own church. We call this process the Reconciliation Ministry. Funds raised, through this voluntary offering, are used throughout the year to give grants to the pro-reconciliation/anti-racism initiative: educational and outreach opportunities that promote

justice that heals and love that binds us together with our God and neighbors. Will you support Reconciliation Ministry today? Envelopes will be in the sanctuary on **September 19th and 26th**. Go to www.reconciliationministry.org to learn more about this important work.

II Cor. 5:18 tells us that God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Giving to the Reconciliation Offering helps you be a part of that!



DRIVE-THRU HOG ROAST SEPTEMBER 11

Galesburg Rescue Mission will have a Drive-Thru Hog Roast from **4 to 7pm September 11** at 435 E. Third Street. Please enter from Second Street. Carry out only. Menu includes roast pork, potato salad, baked beans and applesauce.

