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«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published weekly except the week after/of Christmas by First Christian Church,  
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**April 29 – 5:15pm**

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning

**May 2 & 9 –**

In-person worship

at **9:30am** in sanctuary

**11am** Adult Sunday School  
on Zoom

**May 4 – 1:30pm**

Caring Ministers

**May 5 – 5:30pm on Zoom**

Bible Study

**May 6 – 9am**

Church Women United  
First Church of God on  
Harrison



... for **Scott VanVelsor** and for his  
caregivers and medical staff.

...for **Christina Griswold**, for strength  
and hope as she fights a difficult battle  
with cancer.

... for **Jim Eager**, for health and well-  
being as he receives treatments for a  
form of blood cancer.

... for **Shannon Edwards and her son  
Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are  
apart from one another. And for  
Shannon as she anticipates future  
surgery.

... for these folks on Hospice:

**David Fell (husband of Brenda Fell)**

**Jamie (daughter of Mary Lydic)**



**TO THE MALECKS!**

**Tom and Linda Maleck** are the proud  
new grandparents of Mateo Erik Maleck,  
born April 12, 2021. He was 7 lb. 2 oz.

The happy parents are  
James and Elly Maleck.



# Crusader

## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

301 N Broad St. Galesburg, IL 61401

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Bookkeeper – Lynda White [fcclwhite@gmail.com](mailto:fcclwhite@gmail.com)

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

[pastorgreg02@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgreg02@gmail.com) & [pastormj02@gmail.com](mailto:pastormj02@gmail.com)



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

**May 2, 2021**

**Message by Pastor Greg Fitch**

*“Transformed: My Spiritual Health”*

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2

**May 9, 2021**

**Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch**

*“Transformed: In our Relationships.”*

Scripture: I Corinthians 13

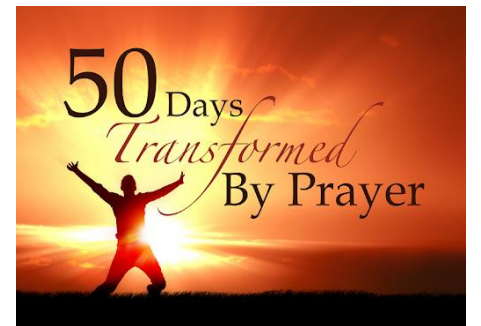
**50 DAYS OF PRAYER**

**MAY 2 to JUNE 21**

*There is power in a praying church!*

It is time to believe that God can transform  
and move in our church – and in our  
neighborhood!

Beginning **May 2**, we are challenging you  
to make a commitment to boldly pray **every day**  
for the growth of our church – to add 50 new  
people! To thank God and praise Him and call on Him to restore and renew and revive  
us once again. Will you accept the challenge?



## BLESS OTHERS THIS MOTHER'S DAY!

As Mother's Day approaches each one of us are reminded of our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, mentors, or teachers. All the good women in our lives who have instilled good things in us. Through word or example, they have taught us about faith, loving others, and the joy of giving.

You are invited to honor those special women by donating a small gift to our blessing box ministry. On **Sunday, May 4 or May 11** bring items that could be enjoyed or greatly needed

by the women who visit our Blessing Box. Baskets are waiting for your donations at the front and back of the sanctuary. What a great way to thank God for those women who have touched our lives, as well as bless the ladies who visit our box hoping to find an item or two that will make life easier!

Suggested Items:

*Lotion, bath wash or soap, combs and brushes, deodorant, flower seeds, razors, chap stick, socks, wash cloths, hand towels, tooth paste and brush, kitchen towels, fingernail files or clippers, nail polish, facial tissue, period supplies, candy, etc.*



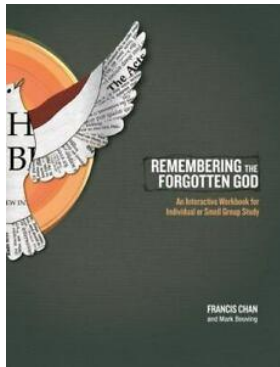
## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT BIBLE STUDY

*Begins May 5 at 5:30pm!*

**Join us for a compelling Bible Study to understand, embrace, and follow the Holy Spirit's direction of our lives.**

*"In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of all three, but how often do we live with an awareness of only the first two? As Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit—the Helper—so that we could be true and living witnesses for Christ. Unfortunately, today's church has admired the gift but neglected to open it."*

We will take a 7-week journey in a Bible Study by Francis Chan, to understand the work and power of the Holy Spirit – which will *transform* our lives and our church! Join us through Zoom each **Wednesday night at 5:30pm**. Let Pastor MJ know if you need a book – and she will also get you the invitation for ZOOM.



## Christian Community for Helping Neighbors (CCHN)



**Purpose:** To provide a central location in Galesburg Illinois where local churches and other agencies can refer individuals that have come to their church or facility asking for financial assistance. We coordinate local monetary resources to meet the emergency financial needs of the people of Galesburg. A Christian Community for Helping Neighbors is an ecumenical group comprised of people of faith committed to making the creative and persuasive power of God's love real through acts of compassion. The program began in January of 2006.

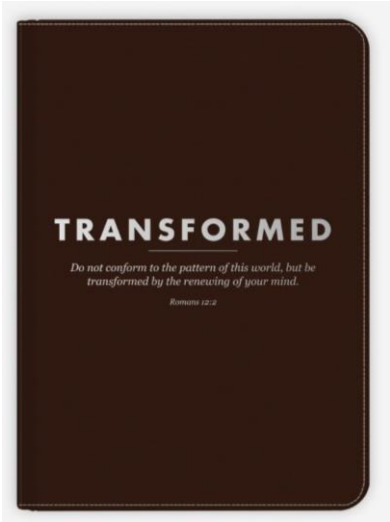
Volunteers will help clients fill out applications by calling 309-351-8693 and then schedule a phone interview time on Tuesdays of each week. We give assistance with Ameren power bills, Galesburg City water bills, and with rental/mortgage payments. We have a maximum assistance of \$200 per household per year.

First Christian has been a part of CCHN since its inception. Currently Steph Line and Lynda White serve as volunteers.

### How can you help?

- **Pray for CCHN:** its volunteers, its mission and those seeking assistance
- **Support CCHN:** Monetary gifts can be mailed directly to CCHN at 325 Division St in Galesburg or sent to the church with the memo CCHN
- **Volunteer:** Talk to Steph or Lynda if you would like to get involved
- **Refer those in need:** Spread the word to those in need. Funds are available regardless of income. Begin the application process by calling 309-351-8693. Applications and interviews are done by phone at this time.

**OUR MISSION:**  
Growing Spirit filled, committed disciples of Christ.



# TRANSFORMED!

## New Sermon Series and Study

Beginning **May 2**, we will be joining churches around the country for a 50-day campaign to be *Transformed! Seeing How God Changes Us!* Based on Romans 12:2, this series will look at the health of our body, mind, and spirit – and the transforming power of Jesus Christ. Together, this series/study will help us to:

- ~Grow closer to God
- ~Live life with less stress
- ~Reconcile broken relationships
- ~Learn to manage money better
- ~Be more confident at work & in the sharing of time and talents

Many have purchased the “Transformed Workbook” that goes along with the series. This all-in-one journal contains the study guide for 7 DVD lessons, a daily devotional for each day of our 50-day campaign, space for taking weekly sermon notes and places to journal and reflect and make three-month goals.

Throughout the series, we will be following an altered order of topics from the order the book is written. Please make note of which “chapters” to read and study for each week. These chapters will go along with each Sunday’s sermon.

<b>May 2</b>	Spiritual Health – chapter 1
<b>May 9</b>	Relational Health – chapter 5
<b>May 16</b>	Vocational Health – chapter 7
<b>May 23</b>	Financial Health – chapter 6
<b>May 30</b>	Physical Health – chapter 2
<b>June 6</b>	Mental Health – chapter 3
<b>June 13</b>	Emotional Health – chapter 4

The **Adult Sunday School Class** that meets on **Zoom at 11am Sundays** will be studying this series – and we always have room for others to join us! We are hoping there can be many other groups (or even individuals) who will choose to study this book together between **May 2 and June 20**. Books are \$14 and will be ordered in bulk by the church. *Scholarships are available.* Please contact Pastor MJ if you are interested and would like a book ordered for you.

May we individually and as a church be transformed to the glory of God!

# TRANSFORMED IN OUR GIVING!

## Romans 12:1-2

*<sup>1-2</sup> So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it.*

God has blessed us in so many ways – and is transforming us. We are called to take all of our lives – our time, talent, and money – and place it before God as an offering. It is truly an honor and privilege to be God’s disciples and stewards through whom He accomplishes His purposes. The Holy Spirit, working through God’s Holy Word, transforms us to be people who do His will. Through faith, we know all of our gifts are from God, the motivation to serve and to give is from Him, the cause to support is His, and the promise to bless the gifts and the givers is His.

**We will have an opportunity to make a commitment to God financially on Commitment Sunday, May 23. Please be in prayer as to how God is calling you to give in the coming year, to further God’s work at our church.**



## COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

DATE	DEACONS	ELDER
May 2	Kaleb & Raeleen Brown	Neill Unger
May 9	Janet Foster Candi Moulton	Mary Runge
<b>MAY 16</b>	Chris & Marla Wood	Cindy Andrews
May 23	Renee & Erik Galvin	Chris Mowrer
May 30	David & Leslie Wilt	Ellen Anderson





**Anniversaries**

24 Earl & Therese Shelton

**Birthdays**

- 3 Mike Wood
- 5 Noah Wood
- 10 Luke Griswold
- 12 Ray Maddox, Steve Spicher
- 18 Mike White
- 20 Midge Cameron, Tom Yeast
- 25 Swede Oehlert
- 27 Joe Anderson, Eva Seiler
- 29 Ron Frakes
- 30 Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch
- 31 Aleta Anderson



May 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>All services on Sundays will be at 9:30am in person &amp; on Facebook Live.</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School will be held every Sunday at 11am on Zoom</i>					1 
<b>2</b> 9:30am Worship 11am Sunday School <i>Transformed begins</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 1:30pm Caring Ministers at church	<b>5</b> 5:30pm Bible Study on Zoom	<b>6</b> 9am Church Women United – 1 <sup>st</sup> Church of God	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:30am Worship 11am Sunday School <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>10</b> 6:30pm Elders at church	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Council on Zoom	<b>12</b> 5:30pm Bible Study on Zoom	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:30am Worship 11am Sunday School	<b>17</b> 7pm Trustees at church	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30pm Bible Study on Zoom	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <i>Wear Red!</i> 9:30am Worship 11am Sunday School <i>Pentecost</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Bible Study on Zoom	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:30am Worship 11am Sunday School	<b>31</b> <i>Memorial Day</i>			Commitment Sunday  Pray Pledge Participate	<i>Commitment Sunday May 23</i>	