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«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published weekly except the week after/of Christmas by First Christian Church,  
301 N. Broad St., Galesburg, IL 61401-3696. POSTMASTER: Send Address Corrections to The Crusader at above address.  
Periodical Postage paid at Galesburg, IL 61401.



**January 17** — Worship online  
10am Adult Sunday School on  
Zoom

**January 18** – 7pm Trustees  
meeting at the church.

**January 24** – Worship on-line  
*Week of the Laity*  
Message by Christina Griswold  
10am – Adult Sunday School

**January 24 & 31** – Blanket  
Sundays

**January 31** - Worship online  
10am Adult Sunday School on  
Zoom

**February 2** – 1:30pm Caring  
Ministers via Zoom

**February 8** – 6:30pm Elders  
Meeting via Zoom

**February 9** – 6:30pm Council



... 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 seeking second opinion at Cancer Treatment Center of America.  
... for **Jim Eager** who will have a bone marrow biopsy on January 21.  
... for **Kathy Neave** and **Margaret Ann Sandberg**, both on Hospice.  
... for **Mary Davis**' sister, with COVID.  
... for **Joyce Aldridge**, who fell and broke her right femur. She is recuperating at Bounce Back.  
...for **Lynda White**'s Uncle Don who passed away. The service will be held on January 21.  
...for **Carolyn Spratt**, who will have a partial mastectomy on January 21.  
...give thanks for the vaccine being available now in Galesburg!



# Crusader

## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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



[fccgalesburg@gmail.com](mailto:fccgalesburg@gmail.com) Web Page – [www.fccgalesburg.org](http://www.fccgalesburg.org)

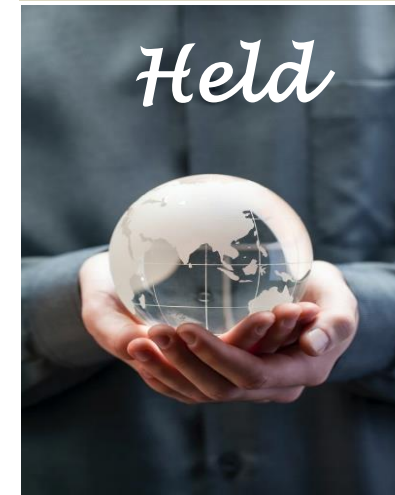
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Secretary – Christina Griswold [fccgalesburg@gmail.com](mailto:fccgalesburg@gmail.com)

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

Co-Pastors: Gregory S. and Martha-Jean Fitch [pastorgreg02@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgreg02@gmail.com) &  
[pastormj02@gmail.com](mailto:pastormj02@gmail.com)

Vol. 75, No. 2, January 19, 2021



**January 17, 2021**

Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch

*“Held: As on the Wings of Eagles”*

Scriptures: Isaiah 40:9-11, 28-31

**January 24, 2021**

Message by Christina Griswold

*“Held: Safe in His Arms”*

Scripture: II Corinthians 12:9

Worship will be pre-recorded and shown on Facebook,  
on our webpage and YouTube by Sunday morning.

### EPIPHANY STAR WORDS

Have you gotten your star word yet? You can still get one by going to our church's webpage:

[fccgalesburg.org](http://fccgalesburg.org) and click on the star and a word will be generated for you. You can also go to

[Dayspring.com](http://Dayspring.com) and answer some questions and then a word will be generated. Or Pastor MJ will be happy to mail you a paper star. And then be on the look for how God might surprise and delight you through this year!

Steph Line picked out a “star word” for our church family as a whole – and the word is “service”! How might God be speaking to all of us through that word in 2021??





## BLANKET THE WORLD WITH~LOVE!

January 24th and 31st

In the midst of crisis, faith guides a loving response. That's how the CWS (Church World Service) Blanket Program started, and that's why your gift mean so much during this pandemic. Through the generosity of congregations, shelters, vulnerable people around the world are getting supplies like blankets and hygiene kits to keep them safe and healthy. And, if you are able, please give generously to show that love never fails...

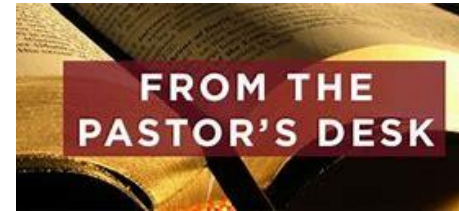
You can purchase a blanket for **\$10.00** each by mailing a check payable to First Christian Church, mark it for Blanket Sunday, and mail to 301 N. Broad St. Your support is very much appreciated and will give many a hope filled tomorrow for people all around the world.

## BUCKETS OF LOVE

On **February 13** beginning at **10:00am** the Outreach Ministry/FCC Blessing Box will host a drive-up/walk-up give away of household supplies for members of our community. This no contact event will gift each family a bucket filled with household supplies such as dish soap, laundry detergent, disinfectant cleaner, spray cleaner/degreaser, scouring powder, glass cleaner, trash bags, sponge, paper towels and a valentine! We will use the parking lot and back canopy area to greet those wanting this gift. Masks are required.

### How can you help?

- **Fill one bucket with each \$10 you donate to the project.** Send a check to the church at 301 N. Broad St. Galesburg, IL 61401 marked with "Buckets of Love". You can fill as many buckets as your heart desires!
- **Volunteer for the event.** Volunteers are needed in the morning Saturday, Feb. 13 for approximately 2 ½ hours. We will need workers inside and outside. Contact Steph Line at [dropaline1@gmail.com](mailto:dropaline1@gmail.com) or 335-4465 if you can help.
- **Make/Buy a Valentine or write a note to add to a bucket.** Express the love of Christ to the families who will be helped by these buckets. This is a great way to get your children involved.



In the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) the ministry of the laity is vital to the life of the church! Ever since our very beginning in 1832, our founding fathers, Barton W. Stone and Thomas and Alexander Campbell emphasized the need for the laity to be biblically literate and

equipped to think theologically so that they might articulate the Christian story and serve the church faithfully. Within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the importance of the importance of the laity in claiming and carrying out the mission and work of the church remains as one of the core values!

We are blessed to have lay leaders as part of all our worship services throughout the year. But every January, we join with other Disciples in celebrating Week of the Laity. On that Sunday, we have the entire service led by our laypeople.

This year, we are in for a treat to hear **Christina Griswold** share her testimony in our **January 24** service. Christina has been battling cancer all throughout the pandemic and has truly felt "held" by God throughout the journey. Be sure to tune in and hear her inspiring testimony. Others in the service will include **Neill Unger, Steve Spicher and Hope Nelson**.

And one more invitation to all of you to join one of two (or both) Zoom studies. We need that connection with one another – and to keep growing in our faith, beyond our time of worship. I really hope you can join us!

Our Adult Sunday School meets at **10am on Sundays on Zoom**. To join click this invitation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3610895950>. We are studying Kathie Lee Gifford's DVD Bible Study called *The Rock, the Road and the Rabbi*. Hiking the ancient paths of Israel, Gifford will talk with a Messianic Jewish Rabbi who will help the Bible come alive, by looking into the Hebrew language, culture and heritage and the life of Jesus. This study will go all the way until Easter.

Our Adult Bible Study meets at **5:30pm on Wednesdays on Zoom**. To join click this invitation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88395654041?pwd=T1Y5UFZRUXFB SGFSQWNGUUorTXFodz09>. We will be studying the newest Max Lucado's book, *Begin Again: Your Hope and Renewal Start Today*. We will be joining the nationwide 5-week Reading Club and learn about how God's restores and renews every aspect of our lives. It will be a great study of hope for our new year!

*Stay focused in prayer – stay connected in service – keep your heart open and listening to the Spirit's leading!* God bless and keep you all! Pastor MJ



Anniversaries

17 Al & Jeannie Bower

Birthdays

- 1 Tom Maleck, Charlene Thompson
- 2 Nathan Fitch
- 4 Nick Nalley
- 6 Karen Jehling
- 9 Diego Galvin
- 11 Mary Runge
- 13 James Jackson
- 16 Richard White
- 19 Bill Arnold
- 20 Elizabeth Costner, Eddie McGee
- 21 Carolyn Spratt
- 28 Chris Mowrer

Happy Anniversary/Birthday to you!  
 Is your name missing: Please call the church  
 office and share your information with us.

February 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 1:30 Caring Min 	3	4	5	6
7 Worship Online 10:00 Adult Sunday School - Zoom	8 6:30 Elders	9 6:30 Council of Ministries	10	11	12	13
14  <u>Valentine's Day</u>	15 7:00 Trustees <u>Presidents' Day</u>	16	17	18	19	20
21 Worship Online 10:00 Adult Sunday School - Zoom	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship Online 10:00 Adult Sunday School - Zoom						