

«BAG» «ZIP_COUNT»
«NAMELINE»
«STREET»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP» «PLUSFOUR»

THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published bi-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.



Anniversaries:

29 – Bill & Lorraine Stone

Birthdays:

1 – Earlene Crouse, Ron Patterson,
Aaron Barton, Jamie Kelley
8 – Linda Maleck
9 – Bill Stone
10 – Wanda Andrews, Bill Jewsbury
16 – Mack Glass
17 – Lennox Barton
28 – Dave Nalley



... for **Rosemary Humphrey and Larry Thurman** as they have concerns with their eyes.

... for **Bill (Smitty) Smith**, (father of Jackie Smith-Esters) is hospitalized at St. Mary's.

... for **Chris and Sue Colvin**. Chris is hospitalized at St. Mary's and Sue is recovering from a fall.

... for **Roy Ewalt**, recovering from a successful heart valve surgery!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS – APRIL 7th
During Coffee Fellowship on **April 7**, we will celebrate April birthdays. If you have a birthday in April, you are invited to bring treats to share.



Crusader

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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



Website: www.fccgalesburg.org

Office Manager/Bookkeeper – Lorraine Stone - fccgalesburg@gmail.com

Director of Music – Steve Jackson sjackson@sandburg.edu

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

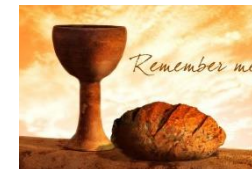
pastorgreg02@gmail.com & pastormj02@gmail.com

Vol. 78, No. 6 ~ March 19, 2024

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!



Maundy Thursday, March 28: This is the day commemorating the Last Supper of Jesus with His disciples and the initiation of communion. Join us at **7pm in the sanctuary** as we will gather around tables, much as the disciples did in the upper room and partake of communion together.

Good Friday, March 29: Join us at our Tenebrae Service, “Facing the Shadows,” at **7pm** as we will hear from those who were near the cross that day that Jesus willingly suffered and died by crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. It will be a time of communion, Scripture and song.



SUNDAY, MARCH 31 – EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Special Offering received

Message by Greg Fitch

“Resurrecting Hope”

Scripture: John 20:11-18

Worship at **10am**

No Sunday School

Worship will be in-person and on Facebook Live



March 24, 2024
PALM SUNDAY
Easter Special Offering received
Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch
"Palm Sunday Christians"
Scripture: Luke 19:28-43

APRIL 7, 2024
Message by Jackie Smith-Esters
"Power of Parental Guidance"
Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11

Worship will be in-person and on Facebook Live at 10am



EASTER BRUNCH – MARCH 31
Easter Brunch at 9am – no Sunday School
Please bring a brunch dish or two to share.
Table service & drinks provided.



JOY BOXES "LIVING WITH GRATITUDE"

Friends, have you remembered to use your Joy Boxes on a regular basis this past year? Disciples Women will be dedicating the offerings from your Joy Box on **April 7th** at worship. Please bring your Joy Box offering (or the contents thereof) to the church that day and place it in the basket provided on the first pew in the sanctuary. The offering will be dedicated during worship and will then be forwarded to the Disciples Mission Fund to be added to offerings given by many Disciples Churches for the ongoing work of the Church and Disciples Women. And also reminds all of us of what God has done in our lives.

If you are unable to be at worship on **April 7th**, please give the contents of your Joy Box to Carolyn Spratt or Earlene Crouse or leave it at the church office. If you have any questions, please call Earlene at (309) 368-2446.

Thank you for participating in this project of love and gratitude to God. Please keep your Joy Box so you may continue to use it throughout the coming year! Additional boxes are available should you need one.



2024 WOMEN'S LENTEN SERIES

The final session of the 2024 Women's Lenten Series: "Words that Last Forever" will be at **9:30am Wednesday, March 20th** in Large Hall. The speaker will be Rev. Carrie Carnes on "It is Finished." All women are invited to attend this inspirational series.



heartseekers.inc@gmail.com.

HEARTSEEKERS WEEKEND March 22-23 at Bethel Baptist Church Pam Tebow - Speaker

Pam Tebow will be this year's speaker at the Heartseekers Weekend on **March 22-23** at Bethel Baptist Church. Retreat and registration information are available at Brighter Life Bookshope, 72 N. Seminary St., Galesburg; phone: (309) 344-3987; email: heartseekers.inc@gmail.com. We also have registration brochures in the office.

Knox County Right to Life Pancake, Sausage Breakfast and Bake Sale

On **March 24**, Knox County Right to Life will be hosting its annual Pancake, Sausage Breakfast and Bake Sale at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1556 E. Fremont St.

Serving time will be from **8am until 1pm**. Tickets will be available at the door. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children under 12, and a \$15 family maximum. Proceeds will be used to support much-needed pro-life efforts in our area.



EASTER OFFERING

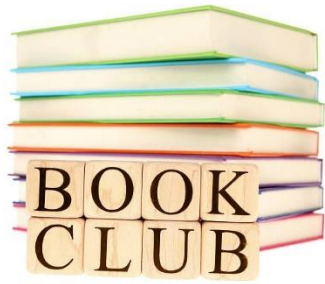
On Easter, we celebrate the power of the resurrection together with the whole body of Christ as one united church in multiple places with many gifts and languages. Gifts to the Easter Special Offering support ministries that help Disciples share the limitless love of God that overcomes death. General ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) share the good news from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

For more information, visit disciplesmissionfund.org. Offering envelopes will be in the bulletins on **March 24 and 31**.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous	2 1:30pm – Caring Ministers	3 NO Youth Group – Spring Break	4 9am – Staff meeting 7pm – Worship committee	5	6
7 8:40am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School conference room 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship – Celebrate April birthdays 10am – Worship – Guest Speaker: Jackie Smith-Esters Joy Box Dedication 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School	8 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous 6pm – Council meeting 7pm – Elders meeting Newsletter week	9	10 9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 3pm – Hawthorne Worship 5:30pm – Youth Group	11 9am – Staff meeting 10:30am – Disciples Women Council Meeting 2pm – Knox County Worship	12	13 CCIW Disciples Women Spring Gathering: “ <i>Ties That Bind</i> ” in Peoria
14 8:40am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School in conference room 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship 10am —Worship 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School	15 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous 6:30pm – Trustees	16 10am – Naomi Circle	17 9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 5:30pm – Youth Group	18 9am – Staff meeting 5:30pm – Men’s Night Out at Pizza Ranch and Ladies’ Night Out at Jimmy’s Pizza	19	20
21 8:40am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School in conference room 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship 10am —Worship 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School	22 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter week	23	24 9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 5:30pm – Youth Group (final session for school year)	25 9am – Staff meeting	26	27
28 8:40am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School in conference room 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship 10am – Worship 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School	29 Lunch hour – Book Club 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous	30			<i>Note: Worship services are in-person as well as Facebook Live</i>	<i>Note: Disciples Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are both on Zoom and in person.</i>



BOOK CLUB NEWS

We are beginning a new series of books based on the year you were born. There are several lists available that provide the top books for each year. We are using anyone of those Top 10, 20, or even 100 books from your birth year.

The first book is based on 1946. We will read “*The King’s General*” by Daphne DuMaurier. The novel is set at the time of the English civil war.

Amazon.com describes the book as a “bittersweet saga,” in which “the weak prove their courage and the privileged become traitors.”

With our library being closed there are other libraries that are honoring Galesburg library cards. Anyone is invited to read this book and join the discussion, which will take place **during the lunch hour on April 29** (place to be determined and published in our Daily Messages). You can also learn at that discussion more about choosing your book.

CCIW DISCIPLES WOMEN SPRING GATHERING APRIL 13, 2024

CCIW Disciples Women Spring Gathering: *Ties that Bind*, will be on **April 13** at Peoria First Christian Church, 6440 N. University St., Peoria. The registration fee is \$60 per person and due by **March 22nd** and can be done at cciwdisciples.org/events. Cost of the event includes batting, thread, and backing materials for the quilts as well as continental breakfast, a soup and salad lunch and other event expenses. Each registrant is asked to bring one yard of cotton or cotton flannel fabric with a children’s theme in green, yellow, or purple.



COMMUNITY NOON DAY HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT TRINITY LUTHERAN ~ Kellogg & Ferris Streets Monday, March 25th – Good Friday, March 29th

Preludes daily at **11:45am** ~ Services daily at **12:05pm**

A community choir which includes several of own FCC choir members will perform during the 1st word at 12:05pm and Steve Jackson will perform during the 3rd word at 12:55pm on Good Friday, March 29th.

All are welcome.



NEW SERMON SERIES RESURRECTING HOPE

Easter is a reminder that the Christian lives day in and day out with power that can overcome any challenge. In our darkest days, it gives us light. In overwhelming discouragement, it gives us faith. In the midst of devastating loss, it gives us joy. In times of divisiveness, it gives us something that unifies us. The tomb is empty. Jesus is alive, and that gives us hope! Join us for 4 weeks of messages on the power of the resurrection and the gift of hope.

WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

March 24 – Diaconate Serving: Janet Foster and Jan Unger

Lead in Communion: Donna Flicek

Offering Message: Carolyn Spratt

Prayers: Misty Stecher

Greeters: Janet Foster and Jan Unger at North St.;
Marge Patterson at Broad St.; Sharon Carnes at canopy door

March 31 – Diaconate Serving: Aaron and Kim Barton

Lead in Communion: Pastor

Offering Message: Jan Unger

Prayers: Chris Mowrer

Greeters: Aaron and Kim Barton at North St.; Janet Foster at Broad St.; Jan Unger at canopy door

April 7 – Diaconate Serving: Amanda Keith and Izabelle Keith

Lead in Communion: Steve Jackson

Offering Message: Misty Stecher

Prayers: Pastor

Greeters: Amanda Keith and Izabelle Keith at North St.; Kim Barton at Broad St.; Aaron Barton at canopy door

Elders Serving Out: Neill and Jan Unger

