

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

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.



February 17

5:30pm Ladies Night Out at Jimmy's
and Men's Night Out at Pizza Ranch
6:30pm – Elders in-person and Zoom

February 19 –

Eva Seiler service – **visitation at
10am, service following at 11am**

February 20 –

Worship at 9:30am in sanctuary &
Facebook Live
11am Adult Sunday School

February 21 – 7pm

Trustees

February 23 –

**9am in-person and 5:30pm
in-person and on Zoom**
Bible Study
5:30pm – Youth Group
7pm – Historical Society

February 27 –

Worship at 9:30am in sanctuary &
Facebook Live
11am Adult Sunday School

March 1 – 1:30pm

Caring Ministers
Newsletter Week



... for **Shannon Edwards and her son, Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are apart from one another.
... for **Dr. Gene Johnson** to continue to improve at Bounceback, room 209.
... for **Judy St. John** to get stronger at Bounceback, room 210.
... for **Evelyn Danforth** at Bounceback, room 105.
... for **Jan Unger** who is recovering from surgery on Feb. 14.
... for **Rosemary Humphrey**, who will have surgery on Feb. 20, to have a temporary neuro-stimulator placed on her back.
... for Josh Kirkpatrick, son of **Mary Lydic**, who continues to be in grave condition at St. Mary's. He has been hospitalized now for 9 weeks.
... for Joyce, sister-in-law of **Cindy Andrews**, who is suffering with significant health issues and needs our prayers.



Crusader

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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309-343-9960

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

pastorgreg02@gmail.com & pastormj02@gmail.com



Vol. 76, No. 4 ~ Feb. 15, 2022



February 20, 2022
Message by Neill Unger

“God’s Not Finished With Me Yet!”
Ephesians 2:8-9

February 27, 2022
Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch
“Unshakeable Faith: Courage to Stand”
Daniel 6

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



ASH WEDNESDAY MEAL & SERVICE

March 2nd

Ash Wednesday Service will be led by FCC Youth on **March 2**. Dinner will be served at **5:30pm** with the service to follow. The service includes reflection, meditative stations, receive ashes, and partake communion. The dinner will be chicken parmesan or lasagna, salad, bread, dessert and drink for a free will offering. Save a spot for your family by calling the church office. RSVP preferred, not required.



HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 1980s

During the 80s many young couples in the church added 91 babies to the congregation. A “Treasure Chest” was formed to accommodate the preschoolers during the church service. After the Children’s Message was given by Pastor J. T. Moore the children were taken to another room for activities. The church service was held at 10:15 and during

the summer months an 8:00 a.m. service was held. Sunday school was held at 9:00 a.m.

Vacation Bible School and church camps were attended by the youth of the church during the summer months.

Annual golf outings as well as church baseball and bowling leagues were enjoyed by many members. An all church summer picnic was held at Lake Bracken Country Club. and other dinners, women’s and men’s groups met for fellowship during the year.

An annual Golden Age banquet, Mother-Daughter banquet and Father-Son banquet were enjoyed, as well as many church potlucks.

A Shepherding Program was started; daily meditation and children’s phone messages and the warm box ministry began during this time. Sunday services were recorded and delivered to home bound members. The music program, under the direction of James Musolf, was very active. Musicals titled “The Music Machine”, “100% Chance of Rain” and “The Story Telling Man” were produced by the youth. Each December there was a Round the Table Carol Sing. Mr. Musolf rewarded loyal youth with a trip to an amusement park during the summer. He also started a hand bell choir for adults during this decade.

There were several changes to the building and parking area, extensive organ repair was carried out, and a pictorial directory was completed in 1988. In June of 1980 William H. Jewsbury was ordained in the sanctuary. A Lay Witness Mission was held in February of 1989 with several prayer groups growing out of this spiritual weekend.

MEN’S NIGHT OUT ON FEB. 17

Men’s Night Out will be at **5:30pm Thursday, February 17** at Pizza Ranch. All men of the church are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and a brief devotional. Everybody pays their own way.



150th ANNIVERSARY CHURCH CELEBRATION

We are continuing to plan for our celebration to be held on **April 24, 2022**. Some special events include a celebratory service at **10:30am** that morning with “Timothy” Will Jewsbury preaching followed by a light lunch; Jim Sundberg will be a guest speaker during worship on **March 13** giving personal stories from his 16-year Major League Baseball career, along with sharing excerpts from his new devotional book *“Legacy Playbook: 50 Days of Encouragement to Pass on What Matters Most”*; and the compilation of a history booklet.

LADIES NIGHT OUT ON FEB. 17

Ladies Night Out will change from the 3rd Tuesday of each month to the 3rd Thursday so the next event will be at **5:30pm Thursday, February 17** at Jimmy’s Pizza. All ladies from the church are invited to attend. Come join the fun!



WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

February 20 & 27

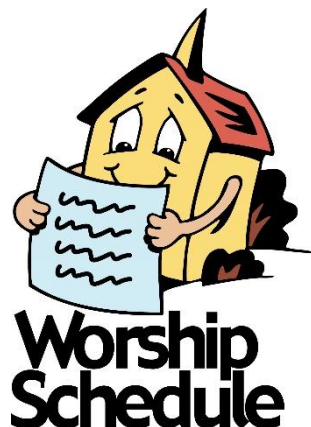
Love is a path forward

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” – 1 Corinthians 13:13

When you give to Week of Compassion, you help rebuild communities recovering from disaster. You also empower farmers to grow new kinds of crops in a changing climate; you support refugees; you empower youth through education; and empower women through vocational opportunities. In so many ways, your gifts of love have the power to transform lives.

Love is shelter. Love is a listening ear. Love is community. Love is a hopeful future. ***Love is a path forward.*** When all else seems lost, love remains.

You can give your gift at weekofcompassion.org OR bring your offering to worship, where an offering envelope will be available; or mail your offering in to the church.



WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

Feb 20 – Diaconate Serving: David Wilt & Leslie Wilt

Lead in Communion: Pastor

Greeters: David Wilt & Leslie Wilt at North St.; Janet Foster & Aaron Barton at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Ellen Anderson (recorded)

Prayers: Tina Burns

Feb 27 – Diaconate Serving: Chris Wood & Marla Wood

Lead in Communion: Renee Galvin

Greeters: Chris Wood & Marla Wood at North St.; David Wilt & Leslie Wilt at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Pastor

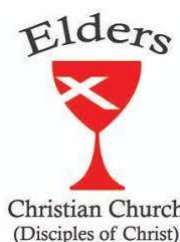
Prayers: Linda Mowrer

ELDERS MEETING NIGHT

Please note that the elders will meet on **Thursday, February 17 at 7pm.** This will be a hybrid meeting – meeting in person at the conference room at the church and on zoom. Please use the invite to link onto zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86018661553?pwd=cEF3NDNrUjh5dkthcmpzdGxaek5GZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 1866 1553 ~~ Passcode: 442833



LENTEN DEVOTIONS NEEDED

This year we are writing our own Devotional booklet for Lent. Our theme is “Cloud of Witnesses” and coincides with our 150th anniversary. We are looking for people to write devotions that shares stories of people who impacted their life and helped them grow in faith. The devotion should be one page in length (8 ½ x 11) and should include a

Scripture reading and closing prayer. Please send your devotion to the church office at fccgalesburg@gmail.com, by **NO LATER than February 18.**



NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES BEGINS FEBRUARY 27

The Adult Sunday School class will begin a new study, “Blessed Are the Chosen.” This book is a companion study to season 2 of “The Chosen,” the groundbreaking television series about the life of Jesus, and parallels each episode, connecting readers to the teachings of Jesus in a brand new way.

The class meets on **Sundays at 11am** in-person in the Conference Room or via Zoom. Because of time constraints, participants should watch the movie prior to class and free episodes can be found on YouTube by searching “The Chosen Season 2.” The cost of the study workbook is **\$12.50**. Please contact the church office if you would like a book.

The study will dive deep into the Sermon on the Mount and what it reveals about God’s character, power, and promises for those who follow Jesus. In this famous sermon, we learn that once we belong to God, not only are we given a new identity, we are ushered into a new reality. One that is sure, imminent, and permanent.

All are welcome to attend!

LENT BEGINS MARCH 2

Lent is a 40-day journey leading up to Easter. Beginning as early as 325 AD, Christians have set the 40 weekdays prior to Easter as a time of prayer and fasting and called this period of time, “Lent”. Lent literally means “Springtime” or the “Lengthening of days.”

We will begin our focus of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service on **March 2, at 5:30pm** with a dinner and a service led by our youth.

Throughout Lent, we are encouraging everyone to participate in a small group or Bible Study.

On the Sundays of Lent, we will journey through the “stones” in Scripture, exploring the stones of sin that took Jesus to the cross – to Jesus being the chief cornerstone of our faith – to the stone that was rolled away on Easter. With these stones ... the solid rock of Jesus ... we will grow in our faith. On **March 13**, a special guest, Jim Sundberg, will be with us sharing his story of faith.





NEW SMALL GROUPS

Something exciting is happening at First Christian Church! We are organizing small groups!

A Small Group is an intentional gathering, meeting regularly for the purpose of joining God's mission. Your group agree to share life together, they plan where and when to meet, and have a purpose for getting together. We have several different types of small groups to choose

from: task oriented, fellowship, ministry, care and self-help, study and shepherding. All of these groups will be detailed in depth in a later newsletter.

An interest survey will be available at church on Sunday to fill out so we can match you up with a small group. The survey will also be on the church website soon if you would rather do it digitally.

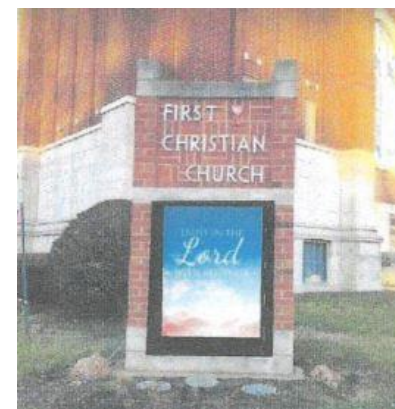
If you have any questions, feel free to contact Misty Stecher at (309) 337-4045.

Anniversaries:

- 5 – David & Leslie Wilt
- 16 – John & Janet Foster
- 19 – Nathan & LeAnn Unger
- 26 – Walter & Karen Bjorkman

Birthdays:

- 1 – Cameron Line
- 2 – Linda Mowrer
- 7 – Alanna Nalley, Matthew & Nathan Unger, Pam Whittom
- 9 – Shannon Edwards, Bonnie Glass, Denny Napier
- 11 – Chuck Boydston
- 19 – Tami Eager, Divinity Galvin
- 20 – Kate Doss, Val Morris
- 23 – Judy Krueger, Marla Wood
- 24 – Carstin Fuller
- 27 – Leslie Wilt



Dear Friends,

God has a plan for everyone and everything. That includes you and it includes First Christian Church. None of us can fully know God's plan--the best we can do is pray and listen for clarity. Our church leadership has been doing just that and are excited to announce our latest church project.

In honor of our 150th anniversary, the outdoor message board is going to be retro-fitted with an electronic/digital message board. Besides announcing services and upcoming events, this updated board can provide daily scripture and inspirational messages to the community.

This project will cost \$16,160.00 with \$14,000.00 already on hand from memorials and donations. All messages will be changed from the office instead of out in the cold. We hope you will wish to support this effort and prayerfully consider contributing to this project.

Our ancestors chose this corner for our church and our message board has been a focal point for years, inspiring those who stop at the 4 way stop signs.

If you wish to send a gift in memory or honor of someone, their name will be placed on a plaque that will be hung in the church. All gifts, large or small, will be accepted gratefully.

Please use the form below to enclose with your gift. You may mail your gift to the church office or place your gift in the offering plate on Sunday. If writing a check, please mark it for the Sign Project.

SIGN PROJECT

I wish to contribute to the updated message board at First Christian Church, 301 N. Broad Street, Galesburg, IL 61401 by February 28, 2022.

Amount enclosed _____

I wish this gift to be in honor of _____

I wish this gift to be in memory of _____

Signed: _____

Address _____ Phone: _____