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THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published weekly except the week after/of Christmas by First Christian Church,
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Wednesday, January 9

2pm Rosewood/3pm Hawthorne-MJ
5:30pm Youth Skate Party @ Skate Land
7:30pm Choir

Thursday, January 10

9am Staff Mtg.

Sunday, January 13

8:30am Worship
9:30am Coffee time in small hall
10am Sunday School
11am Worship

Monday, January 14

5-6:30pm organ & piano lessons in sanctuary
4pm Daisies troop in small hall
6:30pm Thrive Mtg.

Tuesday, January 15

6:30pm Council of Ministries Mtg.

Wednesday, January 16

9:30am Bible Study
5:30pm Bible Study
5:30pm Youth Group & Can Do Kids
7:30pm Choir

Thursday, January 17

9am Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Men's Night Out

Sunday, January 20 – Blanket Sunday

8:30am Worship
9:30am Coffee time in small hall
10am Sunday School
11am Worship

Office Closed Monday, Jan. 21st –MLK Jr. Day

SERVING SCHEDULE

January 13, 2019

8:30am Worship

Greet at North Street, Prayer Cards & Offering, Serve Communion: Janet Foster, Jan Unger

Prepare Communion, Greet at Broad St. & Serve Out if Needed: Dori

Oberman, Candi Moulton

Offering: Carolyn Spratt

Communion: Linda Mowrer

Prayers: Tina Burns

Phone: Larry Thurman

Education Building Greeter: Janet Christiansen

Acolyte: Cameron McAllister

11:00 a.m. Worship

Clean up Communion, Greet at Broad St., *Acolyte, Serve Out if Needed:

*Mack Glass, Shawn Keith

Greet at North St., Prayer Cards,

Offering, Serve Communion: Larry Thurman, Amanda Keith

Elder Serving In: Chris Mowrer

Elder Serving Out: Neill Unger



January Coffee hosts:

Faithweavers Class

**3rd Sunday
of the Month
Congo Coffee**



The Crusader

**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

301 N Broad St.

Galesburg, IL 61401 Phone: 343-9960



Church e-mail address: fccgalesburg@gmail.com

Web Page – www.fccgalesburg.org

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Organist – Amber Clark Director of Music – Steve Jackson sjackson@sandburg.edu

Secretary – Terri Oehlert fccgalesburg@gmail.com

Bookkeeper – Lynda White fcclwhite@gmail.com Custodian – Bob Conley

Co-Pastors: Gregory S. and Martha-Jean Fitch pastorgreg02@gmail.com & pastormj02@gmail.com

Vol. 73, No. 2, January 9, 2019

**IT'S NOT
TOO LATE!**

January 13, 2019

Message by Pastor MJ

“Not Too Late: Rahab Was a Harlot”

Scripture – Joshua 2:1-15

8:30am Worship - Quest Band plays,

“Resurrection Power”

9:30am Coffee time in small hall

10am Sunday School

11am Worship, Choir sings “Lord, Make Us Worthy” by Natalie Sleeth

JANUARY MEETINGS

Tues., Jan. 8

1:30pm Caring Ministries,

6:30pm Elders Mtg.

Mon., Jan. 14

6:30pm Thrive Mtg.

Tues., Jan. 15

6:30pm Council of Ministries

Thurs., Jan. 17

5:30pm Men's Night Out at Pizza Ranch

Tues., Jan. 22

6:30pm Trustees Mtg.

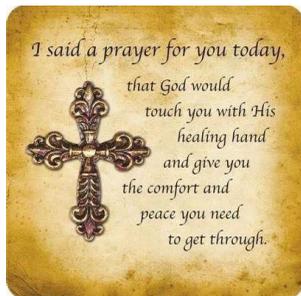
Tues., Jan. 29

6:30pm Diaconate Meeting

No Disciple Women's meetings in January.



Our Mission Statement: Growing Spirit-filled, committed disciples of Christ.



IN OUR PRAYERS

... Pray for **Cara McKinney**, Mexico Missionary.
 ... Central CC Havana, FCC Henry, FCC Washburn.
 ... New City Church in Mbandaka, Congo. For new life for this new year.
 ... Continued prayers for rest and comfort for **Scott**. Prayers for our cousin after surgery.
 ... **David Fell**, continued prayers for health.

... **Rosemary Humphrey** – back and shoulder pain.
 ... **Estelle Trask** - on Hospice.
 ... **Margaret Coombs** – back at Marigold.
 ... **Barbara Hopkins**, recovering from recent surgery and doing well.
 ... **Linda Hawkinson**, recovering from kidney removal surgery on Jan. 4th.
 ... for **Heidi** – still in hospital after car accident. For **Mike & Stephany**. Mike was in a motorcycle accident and just had another surgery.
 ... Praises for **Rick**'s retirement of 43 years of work on January 1, 2019.
 ... Bring healing for those struggling.

BLANKET SUNDAYS January 20 & 27

For many, a simple blanket given when they most need it is a loving way to offer warmth, to offer hope. Many people without homes have a daily challenge of fighting the bitter cold. Around the world, disasters force people from their homes, sending them to shelters and refugee camps where a blanket can make a big difference. For declining neighborhoods, outside of major cities in the U.S., families struggle to make ends meet. The CWS Blanket program provides warmth, hope, and care during cold and trying times.



On **January 20 and 27**, Disciples Women are encouraging you to donate \$5.00 to go towards purchasing a blanket or \$10.00 that will purchase one blanket. Please give generously. Thank you for your caring and compassionate response. (please make your check payable to First Christian Church) Go to www.churchworldservice.org to learn more about this organization and all the ways you can help.

JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT – RESCUE MISSION Paper Products

BLESSING BOX FOR JANUARY – Drop in a coin to thank the Lord for another blessed year.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT

All men are invited to Men's Night Out on **Thursday, January 17th, 5:30pm** at the Pizza Ranch. We'll have a short devotion and great fellowship. Each person pays for their own meal. Yes, you can bring a friend.



CAN DO KIDS & YOUTH GROUP

We will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings at **5:30pm** on **January 16th, 23rd and 30th**.

DIACONATE MEETING

Tuesday, January 29th at 6:30pm

It is very important that all diaconate members attend this meeting. You will be receiving your new diaconate handbook for the year. We will be doing some training as well. Please mark your calendars to attend this very important meeting!



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL 2019

If you are writing a devotion for the 2019 Lenten Devotional Book, the deadline for having it in to the church office is **no later than February 3rd**. Thank you for sharing your story of how you have received the gift of God's grace. Be sure to add a scripture to be read and a closing prayer, along with your name. If you are emailing your devotion, please send it to fccgalesburg@gmail.com Thank you for honoring the deadline!





FROM THE PASTOR

Do you remember the story of the demon-possessed man in Luke 8? He had so many demons in that they were named “Legion”. A legion in Roman times was a large unit of the Roman army. Some have defined a legion as being as many as 5,000 soldiers!! This multitude of demons had consumed this man who lived in the Gerasenes, so much so that he was bound with chains and shackles which the demons broke. People were terrified of

him. When Jesus met him, he drove the demons out! And the man was now in his right mind, fully healed. Truly he had experienced the power of God’s grace!!

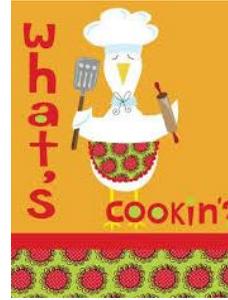
He wanted so badly to go with Jesus. Who could blame him? He wanted to begin his new life as a disciple of this Wonderful Healer and Savior. But Jesus doesn’t want him to do that. Rather He says: *“Return home and tell how much God has done for you.”* Luke 8:39 Go home and tell your story! He was truly commissioned as one of the first missionaries to this whole region. And his story changed lives!

I believe that you have a story to be told! God has worked in your life in an amazing way. I am confident that you have experienced God’s grace in some way that has made a difference in your life. Maybe it was in a very dramatic way, where you experienced a great change like this man named “Legion”. Or it could be in a very simple way – like when you heard a song that touched you or you read a Scripture that lifted you up and helped you get through a tough time. How have you experienced God’s grace?

We want to hear your story. This year’s Lenten Devotional book will be written by our own church family and friends. This is your opportunity to be like the man who Jesus healed, to: *“go tell how much God has done for you.”* You will need to supply your own Scripture reading, for others to read, along with a brief prayer. And the main focus will be the telling of how God has shown His grace to you!

The length of the devotional should be no more than one page (8 ½ x 11) and should preferably be typed. Terri would love it if you could email it to her, if at all possible at fccgalesburg@gmail.com. We are in need of 47 devotionals!!! Please let Renee Galvin (402-730-0160) know if you are willing to write a devotional, ASAP. The devotional must be in the church office by **Feb. 3**.

I am so looking forward to reading your story. And just think what a difference it will make in lifting up and inspiring our church family! And I believe these stories will make a difference to people beyond our church walls, too!



God bless you all, **Pastor MJ**

BOOK CLUB ~ JAN 27th AFTER 2ND SERVICE

The first ever (who knows, maybe annual), cookbook read!! This month we will each choose a favorite cookbook/recipe and share the history or story behind this recipe with the group. Please bring the recipe to share (we will run off copies for each person to have). Additionally, since it is lunch time, prepare the dish to share with the group. Please, everyone, bring your own utensils and whatever you may wish to drink. Anyone is welcome to come!!!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

July 20-24, 2019

Des Moines, Iowa



Early Registration deadline:

March 31

See www.ga.disciples.org for registration information

Imagine this:

Worship that lifts your soul

Stories that touch your heart

Educational resources to assist your congregation in ministry

Conversations that stretch your mind

Messages that call you to action

**Connections that remind you that God’s family is bigger than
a local congregation.**

All this and more in just 5 short days!