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THE CRUSADER (USPS139220) published weekly except the week after/of Christmas by First Christian Church,  
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**Thursday, Sept. 14**

9am Staff Mtg.  
10:30am DW Council Mtg.  
11:15am Gordon Behrents – Ellen

**Friday, Sept. 15**

4pm Knox College Choir Retreat in sanctuary  
and Large Hall

**Sunday, Sept. 17**

10am Outdoor Worship Service & Potluck

**Monday, Sept. 18**

5-7pm Youth/Family Services in Conf. Room  
7pm Men's Bible Study in library

**Tuesday, Sept. 19**

9:30am Ruth Circle @ Ruthann Smith's  
10:30am Heartland Devotions  
6:30pm Trustees Mtg.  
7pm "Weekend" Cluster Mtg.

**Wednesday, Sept. 20**

5:30pm Youth & "Can Do Kids Camp"  
7:30pm Choir

**Thursday, Sept. 21**

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

**Friday, Sept. 23**

8am-12noon Habitat Work Day

**SERVING SCHEDULE**  
**September 17, 2017**

**10am Outdoor Worship**

**Prayer Cards & Offering, Serve**

**Communion:** Janet Foster, Jan Unger  
**Prepare Communion & Serve Out if Needed:** Rachel Rose, Linda Mowrer, Janet Christiansen

**Offering:** Dick Welty

**Communion:** Ellen Anderson

**Prayers:** Neill Unger

**Phone:** Larry Thurman

**Clean up Communion, \*Acolyte, Serve**

**Out if Needed:** \*Renée & Erik Galvin

**Prayer Cards, Offering, Serve**

**Communion:** Marge Patterson & Mack Glass

**Elder Serving Out:** Ellen Anderson, Chris Mowrer, Steve Spicher, Hope Nelson



**September Coffee hosts:**  
Northern Lights Class

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



# The Crusader

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

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Galesburg, IL 61401 Phone: 343-9960  
For Church News call 345-4020  
Church e-mail address: [fccgalesburg@gmail.com](mailto:fccgalesburg@gmail.com)  
Web Page – [www.fccgalesburg.org](http://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](mailto:sjackson@sandburg.edu)  
Secretary – Terri Oehlert [fccgalesburg@gmail.com](mailto:fccgalesburg@gmail.com)  
Bookkeeper – Lynda White [fcclwhite@gmail.com](mailto:fcclwhite@gmail.com) Custodian – Bob Conley  
Interim Minister – Rev. Bob Clark [bobandamber2@gmail.com](mailto:bobandamber2@gmail.com)

**Vol. 71, No. 37, September 13, 2017**



## OUTDOOR WORSHIP & POTLUCK

**Sunday, September 17th**

**Lake Storey Shelter #2**

Worship Service at **10am** ~ Potluck at **11am**

Please bring your own table service and a dish or two to pass, as well as lawn chairs. Bottled water will be provided. Don't forget to bring a friend!!

In case of inclement weather – the service and potluck will be held at the church.



## ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOK SIGN-UPS

We will begin signing people up to write devotionals for our upcoming Advent Devotion Book. **Linda Mowrer** will begin signing people up at the Outdoor Worship Service on **September 17th**. If you are asked to contribute, won't you please say yes! All writings are due in to the church office no later than **Sunday, October 15th!**



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

**SEPTEMBER IS VOLUNTEER  
MONTH AT F.C.C.  
"Reaching Outside Our Walls"**



September is our month of "**Reaching outside our walls**" and what an awesome opportunity we have! First Christian Church has volunteered to have a Habitat for

Humanity day on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**. Work begins at **8AM** and will cease close to **NOON**.

After hearing Jordan Knight preach a few weeks in August we know what a passion he has for living a life of Christ and serving those in need. Jordan states we will be used in three areas on **Saturday, September 23rd** so lots of volunteers are needed.

**Landscaping:** we will be landscaping the outside of the 52nd house, planting shrubs, perennials, and doing garden edging.

**Foundation:** people who can use a shovel, do some heavy lifting and are able to be on hands and knees with concrete will be working on the 53rd house's foundation

**Building:** a handicap ramp needs to be built for a local family. We will be installing the deck board and hand rails.

As you can see there is much work to be done and there is something for every age/ability level. You are also welcome to work between projects during the day.

A sign-up sheet is available in the **SMALL HALL** to add your name and phone number to your project of choice. **\*\*Please remember, volunteers need to be 18 years of age or older, you need close toed shoes, and if you have tools that may help your area it is advised you bring them with\*\***

**KNOX PRAIRIE COMMUNITY KITCHEN  
F.C.C. VOLUNTEER DAY**

**Thursday, September 28th** we are the host servers at Knox Prairie Community Kitchen. We need 15 volunteers for each shift. The **4:30-6:00pm** shift is responsible for serving the meal. The **6-8pm** shift is mostly responsible for clean-up, although, some serving will still need done. You are welcome to join in for the meal, but please be there by **5:45pm** if you wish to eat.

**Misty Stecher** will have a clipboard to sign up for a shift at the outdoor service at the park on **September 17**. Looking forward to serving with you all!



**"KING CORNER" ...**

*Featuring weekly news  
from the teachers at King School*



"My name is **Teresa Johnson**, and I teach 4th grade at King School. I live in Abingdon. My two sons are both students at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. Nathan (23) is majoring in electrical engineering, and Cody (21) is majoring in mechanical engineering.

I have been at King since 2006. This is my 28th year of teaching, and almost all of my time has been spent in fourth grade. I love the enthusiasm and growing independence of this age group.

I appreciate all the ways that you have supported us at King, from the meal during conferences to the indoor games for recess, and many more. My classroom could use some headphones and some balls for recess.

I would like to ask for prayers for all of my students as we begin this year together. Getting settled into a new routine can be rough sometimes. I would also like to ask for prayers for my student teacher as she starts into teaching.

Thank you so much for your support!

~ **Teresa Johnson**

**YOUTH & CHILDREN'S  
MINISTRIES**



Our Youth Group (ages Jr. & Sr. High) and "Can Do Kids" Camp (ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade), continues to meet on **Wednesday** evenings from **5:30-7pm**. Why not join us and invite your friends!



**Sept. 14**  
**Sept. 19**  
**Sept. 28**

**SEPTEMBER DWF MEETINGS**

**10:30am** DW Council Mtg.  
**9:30am** Ruth Circle at Ruthann Smith's  
**1:30am** Lydia Church meets at the church

**SEPTEMBER CHURCH MEETINGS**

**Sept. 12** **6pm** Council of Ministries and **7pm** Ministry Teams  
**Sept. 19** **6:30pm** Trustees Meeting  
**Sept. 26** **7pm** Worship Task Force Mtg.



## BUDGET FOR JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 2017

\$247,028.00

Anticipated Bills \$5,145.33

Actual Giving \$3,256.00

Short \$1,889.33

Needed each week to meet budget: \$4,750.54

Year-to-Date Giving: \$37,825.71

Need Year-to-Date to meet Budget: \$42,754.86



### IN OUR PRAYERS

... CCIW Prayer list: Prairie Ave CC Decatur,  
Community CC Lincolnshire, FCC Olney.

... Our sister church, New City Church in Mbandaka,  
Congo.

... All our nursing home residents and shut-ins.

... **Kathy Neave**, health concerns.

... **Janet Christiansen** – health concerns.

... **Ben Hinkson's** sister, **Laura**, continues with speech therapy & chemotherapy.

... **Carol Blair**, for back pain relief.

... **Donna Welty**, health concerns. Prayers appreciated, no visitors please.

... **Bob Conley** (our custodian) – recovering from prostate cancer surgery.

... Continued prayers for **Scott VanVelsor's** health and treatment.

... Prayers for our pastors and all who are traveling.

... All who are suffering due to hurricanes, fires, earthquake, etc.

... Prayers for a brother and family living in Florida and all others there.

... Prayers to all who have been effected by the devastating weather events recently, i.e. hurricanes, earthquakes, wild fires.

... Sympathy & comfort to **Pastor Greg Fitch** and family on the recent passing of his mother, **Carolyn Fitch**.

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A nondenominational Men's Bible Study, led by **Rev. Bob Clark**, meets every **Wednesday** evening from **7-8pm** here at First Christian Church. It is a conversational approach to scripture, meeting every Monday evening. All men are welcome!



### HEALTH KITS

As Disciples Women have done for many years, we are inviting the congregation to join with us in making Hygiene Kits to be sent to Church World Service and to be used by them in helping to provide necessities to those folks who are injured or displaced by natural disasters. A Hygiene Kit can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families.

We will, need \$2.00 for each Kit we mail. If you wish to give toward postage, or purchase of Kits, please place the money in a separate envelope (marked "postage") and leave it in the church office or give it to your Circle Leader. To assemble a Hygiene Kit, you will need the following items:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15"x28" to 16"x32" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One wash cloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- One finger nail or toe nail clipper removed from the package
- One bath size bar of soap in the wrapper
- One toothbrush in the package
- Ten standard size Band-aids

Place all items inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Remove the excess air from the bag and seal before boxing. Do not add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each Hygiene Kit just prior to its journey. Value: \$15.00 and Processing fee: \$2.00 per Kit

**The Kits will be mailed the week of October 9, 2017.** If you have questions, call **Eva Seiler** at 342-6740 or **Earlene Crouse** at 343-6445. Please place the kits in the box located outside the church office.

Thank you for your support!

**RESPONDING TO HURRICANE HARVEY:** Since it made landfall on the evening of **Friday, Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>**, Hurricane Harvey has brought torrential rains & heavy flooding to much of Texas and Louisiana. CWS is working with local partners as they monitor the damage. We anticipate that tens of thousands of CWF Hygiene Kits, School Kits and Emergency Cleanup Buckets will be shipped to affected areas. The most immediate need is for HYGIENE SUPPLIES. As people begin to re-enter their homes, the need for cleaning supplies and buckets will be significant.

**F.C.C. has just started the Hygiene Kit program (see above). Let us come together and see how many kits we can send to the people affected by Hurricane Harvey. If you have questions, call Eva Seiler at 342-6740 or Earlene Crouse at 343-6445.**



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS NEEDED!

Due to QCACFP (Feed the Kids) will no longer be feeding our Wednesday night youth programs as they have been pulled out of Galesburg. Therefore, we are asking each Sunday School class, Bible study group, ministry team, choir, prayer circle, women/men's group, etc. to join our efforts. **There will be a sign-up sheet in the small hall for your group to volunteer to feed our youth on a Wednesday night.** Coffee House Theology will be serving **Wednesday, September 13** and Northern Lights Sunday School will serve **Wednesday, September 20.**

When you sign up, your group will be responsible for purchasing, preparing, serving, and cleaning up dinner for approx. 50 youth and youth leaders. Our Wednesday night programming starts at **5:30PM** so dinner will need to be ready by then. Dinners do not need to be elaborate. Things such as spaghetti, macaroni, pizza, chicken nuggets, are all child friendly and relatively cheap and easy to fix. Please let **Misty Stecher** or the church office know if you can help!!!



## GET "PINWHEELED"

This coming **Sunday, September 17**, the youth and Evangelism Team will give you the opportunity to join in the Pinwheel Game. One object of this game is to help our youth raise money for the Youth Fund. Another object is to create a buzz around town about First Christian Church.

How is the game played? Imagine the yards of our members as a game board, where sets of pinwheels will be moved from house to house until all the pin wheels are back at church. To play the game, church members need to get involved by **signing up September 17** (youth will help you sign up at the outdoor service and picnic). Then the youth will place a set of 12 pinwheels at 4 different houses along with a sign that provides a message about our church. The game rules require that to have pinwheels moved, a household needs to call **343-6427 (Diane Eager)** during regular business hours to schedule a time for the set of pinwheels to be moved, as well as donate \$10 to the youth Summit Fund. The youth will show the list to you, and you get to decide whose house gets "pinwheeled" next.

The youth and Evangelism Team hope you decide to be part of the fun; create a buzz about God and our church, as well as to help raise money for the Youth Fund.



## RECONCILIATION MINISTRY

**From Rev. Bob Clark...**

Being new to Disciples of Christ, I did a bit of research on

Reconciliation Ministry, for which we will be receiving a special offering on **Sunday,**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>.** This focus in our denomination goes all the way back to our response to the martyrdom of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 4, 1968.** It has been a consistent striving to recognize racism, break down barriers, and effect reconciliation within the church between all of its communities. Yes, racism, bigotry and prejudice is alive and as sick as ever in the Christian family.

One of the watchwords of Reconciliation Ministry is: "Racism is a spiritual and theological dilemma as well as a social evil." In 1996, the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) approved the formation of a church-wide process to discern the nature of racism in North America and to develop ways of helping congregations address racism. Out of this process, an Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation initiative was put before the church in 1998. At their July 1998 meetings, the Administrative Committee and the General Board approved this initiative. The Initiative called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to practice faithfulness with regard to the elimination of racism, which exists in all manifestations of the church, to discern the presence and nature of racism as sin, to develop strategies to eradicate it, and to work toward racial reconciliation. This effort involves staffing as well as resourcing our churches. Thus, the special offering.

While our denominational leaders are asking for the offering over two **Sundays, 9/24 and 10/01**, we at FCC Galesburg are having a special **Congo Offering on October 1<sup>st</sup>** and, therefore, will be receiving the Reconciliation Ministry special offering on the **September 24<sup>th</sup> only.**

Please support this worthy and timely ministry as you are able. Remember, Special Offerings are always an "invitation" and never an "obligation." Special appeals should never diminish our regular giving to the life of our church.

~ Bob

## OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will not be accessible on **Thursday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> from 2:30pm through Friday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>.** New carpet is being installed and all office equipment will be moved out.

