Weekly Update

August 15, 2018

**EAGLES ARE SOARING AT FCC**

 FCC has operated without a pastor for 2 years now. Some of us have gone from a casual, “we should have a new pastor in 6-12 months;” To a more animated, “ what the heck is taking so long;” To a very impatient, “we need a new pastor NOW!” To a more faithful, “we will find a pastor that is a match for Gibson City First Christian Church.”

 But throughout the long process of finding the pastor that is a fit for FCC, there has emerged or re-emerged a growing number of eagles that are answering their call to share our Christian faith and Christ’s love with all people.

 You can see it in the over-the-top successful Summer Youth Program. It is great to hear the kids exclaim, “can we continue this program into the fall?” You can see it in the redesigned focus of “the old rugged cross” in our landscape and in our soul. You can hear it in the voices of those serving in all capacities in the church with the, “sure I can help with that” attitude.

 Yes eagles are soaring at FCC and there is some lucky pastor out there that will see those eagles and want to fly with them!

Isaiah 40:31 31but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
    they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
    they shall walk and not faint.

**THIS SUNDAY**

This week’s guest minister will be Herb Knudsen.

He will be preaching on Ephesians 5:15-30.

We welcome back Herb again this Sunday as he is filling in as guest minister every other Sunday during July and August. Herb was our former CCIW Regional Minister and President, serving

from 1998-2007. He has also served pastorates at First CC, Bloomington; First CC, Downers

Grove, IL; First CC, Alexandria, VA; WELCOME Herb!!

Teresa Dulyea-Parker

Regional Minister and President for the

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin

Biographical Sketch

Teresa grew up in First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Muskegon, MI. She was ordained by the congregation and the

Christian Church Michigan Region, 12/19/1982. In over 35

years of ordained ministry she has served congregations in

Indiana, Oregon, Michigan and Ohio. The last seven years as Regional Minister in

Illinois and Wisconsin.

She earned her undergraduate degree in Economics from Western Michigan University,

and her Master of Divinity degree from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis.

She also has a Doctor of Ministry degree from Ecumenical Theological Seminary in

Detroit, with an emphasis on “Spirituality in Community.”

She currently serves on the Administrative Committee of the General Board for the

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S and Canada. She is also ex-officio

Trustee for the Disciples Divinity House of UChicago; Board member of the Christian

Church Foundation. She just completed a term of service for the Central Pastoral Office

for Hispanic Ministries Pastoral Commission.

Teresa is chief “story-teller” for our region. She has a passion for congregational life.

She believes “it is in the church as a graceful community that lifelong transformation

occurs. We become caring communities: exhibiting hospitality, encouraging quests,

reflecting on scripture, discerning gifts, struggling with trust, healing souls, and providing

opportunities for service. Through these experiences we grow more deeply in our

connection to God and to one another, so that we are prepared to confront the some-

times brutal realities that plague our world. We are here to represent a different way of

being in the world, and in this way fulfill God’s healing/salvific purposes.”

Teresa lives in Bloomington, Illinois, is married to the Rev.

Canon Albert J. Keeney and they have four adult sons Jeff

and Travis Dulyea-Parker and Andrew (Christi) and Ryan

(Allison) Keeney. Teresa and Al are newlyweds having met in

Paris on a Shalem pilgrimage in 2015. Teresa enjoys science,

nature, walking, swimming, and travel

**“POURED OUT CHURCH”**

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH WEEKEND 2018**

This year’s “*Poured Out Church*” is combining with community organizations for a shared community outreach weekend. We will have our normal worship service at the church at 10:15 AM. At noon, everyone will meet at the park for lunch before ‘pouring out’ into the community to participate in a variety of outreach activities.

**WEBSITE**

**The church’s website is now live and can be found at** [**www.fccdocgc.com**](http://www.fccdocgc.com)

**On the website, you can view the** [**church video**](https://fccdocgc.com/our-mission/) **made to help with the search process,**

**a** [**calendar**](https://fccdocgc.com/calendar/) **featuring upcoming events,**

**and** [**copies**](https://fccdocgc.com/news/) **of the Weekly Updates and Christian Visitors.**

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

(August 15-21, 2018)

 August 18 Jerry Schutte

 Ruth Neal

 20 Peter Provin

 21 Elliott McClure

Please send us (gcfccdoc@yahoo.com) additions or corrections of birthdays,

anniversaries, or email addresses.

**PRAYER LIST**

**Rosella Jesse –**Hollybrook **Apt 42**

**Bill and Jean Kerchenfaut – new address**

6235 Hoffman St #201

North Port, Florida  34287-2285

**Harold Stimmel**— Hollybrook **Apt 34**

**John Revell**

**Sandra Goin**

**Harriet Farney**

**Margaret Meers**

**Patty Benz**

**Margaret Gambill**

**Jim McClard –** waiting for an important procedure

**Jessica Moore**

**John Weller**

**Lila Parsons**

**Evelyn Fawver**

**Barb Bennett**

**Irene Schaefer**

We also continue to pray for the Search Committee

and the Recruitment Committee

**SERVING SUNDAY AUGUST 19th**

 **Elders:** *Sharon Higgins, Melanie Warfield, Cheryl Elder*

 **Deacons:** *Tim Ricks, Katy Neal, David DeWall*

 *Kristine Medler, Jeff Elder*

 **Worship Leader:** *Carol Hutchcraft*

 **Communion Preparation:** *Kristine Medler*

 **Home Communion:** *Cheryl Elder and Kristine Medler*

**ATTENDANCE**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| FCC ATTENDANCE  | SUNDAY WEEK |   |
|   |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | AVG |
|   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2018 | JANUARY | 40 | 56 | 53 | 45 |   | 49 |
| 2018 | FEBRUARY | 45 | 22 | 43 | 42 |   | 38 |
| 2018 | MARCH | 54 | 41 | 46 | 39 |   | 45 |
| 2018 | APRIL | 78 | 53 | 51 | 49 | 54 | 57 |
| 2018 | MAY | 38 | 56 | 57 | 44 |   | 49 |
| 2018 | JUNE | 57 | 24 | 51 | 46 |   | 45 |
| 2018 | JULY | 46 | 41 | 42 | 41 | 30 | 40 |
| 2018 | AUGUST | 48 | 42 |   |   |   | 45 |
|   | AVG | 50.8 | 41.9 | 49.0 | 43.7 | 42.0 |   |