Weekly Update

December 19, 2018

***Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.***

***~ Janice Maeditere***

**THIS SUNDAY**

This week’s guest minister will be Beth Rupe.

She will be preaching on Micah 5:2-5a and Luke 1:46b-55.

We welcome back Beth Rupe to the pulpit Sunday. We have been blessed to have Beth fill our pulpit during our search for a new minister and look forward to her insightful message on the Sunday before Christmas.

**WELCOME MAT AND ELIZABETH BOWEN**

First Christian Church celebrates the gift of having a new minister coming in April. We are excited to have Mat Bowen and his wife, Elizabeth, joining our church and providing spiritual leadership to our congregation. We look forward to assisting them in their move to Gibson City and await their bringing new energy and enthusiasm to our fold.

**SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL**

The Seekers Sunday school class will not meet this Sunday, December 23rd.

**SERVING SUNDAY DECEMBER 23RD**

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

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

*Kristine Medler, Jeff Elder*

**Worship Leader:** *Marilyn Hopkey*

**Communion Preparation:** *Jeff Elder*

**Home Communion:** *Cheryl Elder and Jeff Elder*

**Greeters:** *Ron & Melanie Warfield*

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Monday, December 24th beginning at 8:00pm.

**CHRISTMAS CARD TREE**

The Christmas Card Tree has been placed in the narthex to receive your greetings to church members and friends. We invite you to donate any postage savings to the special Christmas Offering.

**WORSHIP LEADERS AND GREETERS**

Please consider serving as a greeter or worship leader in December or January. A sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex.

**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**

**Harriet Farney**

**Margaret Meers**

**Patty Benz**

**Margaret Gambill**

**John Weller**

**Evelyn Fawver**

**Barb Bennett**

**Irene Schaefer**

**Duff Knudsen**

**Marilyn Lowell**

We also continue to pray for the Search Committee

and the Recruitment Committee

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

(December 19-25, 2018)

December

21: Harold & Eleanor Baize

22: Harry McClure

25: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!!

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

anniversaries, or email addresses.

**FUTURE GUEST MINISTERS**

December 30th: Herb Knudsen

January 6th: Herb Knudsen

January 13th: Teresa Dulyea-Parker

January 20th: Herb Knudsen

January 27th: Joe Culpepper

**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.**

**ATTENDANCE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FCC ATTENDANCE | | SUNDAY WEEK | | | | |  |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | AVG |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2018 | JULY | 46 | 41 | 42 | 41 | 30 | 40 |
| 2018 | AUGUST | 48 | 42 | 42 | 45 |  | 44 |
| 2018 | SEPTEMBER | 46 | 55 | 48 | 47 | 51 | 49 |
| 2018 | OCTOBER | 63 | 68 | 51 | 50 |  | 58 |
| 2018 | NOVEMBER | 51 | 52 | 55 | 54 |  | 53 |
| 2018 | DECEMBER | 93 | 90 | 68 |  |  | 84 |
|  | AVG | 57.8 | 58.0 | 51.0 | 47.4 | 40.5 |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Average Monthly Attendance | | |
|  | 2017 | 2018 |
| July | 30 | 40 |
| August | 35 | 44 |
| September | 49 | 49 |
| October | 46 | 58 |
| November | 51 | 53 |