

The Christian Visitor October 2020



We are called to share our Christian Faith and Christ's Love with all people.

Our Life Together in October



Recycling October 3rd & 17th

First Christian Church is in charge of recycling on October 3rd and 17th. Slots from 8:00-10:00am and 10:00-11:30am are available. Notify the church office if you would like to volunteer to help.

Food Pantry October 24th



First Christian Church is scheduled to provide volunteers at the food pantry on October 24th. Volunteers are needed Friday night for setup beginning at 6:30pm and Saturday morning for distribution from 8:30-10:30am. Notify the church office if you would like to volunteer to help.



Baptism Sunday November 1st

We will have a special service on Sunday, November 1st where the youth who have been participating in the Faith Foundations Class will be baptized during the morning worship.

ATTEND- ANCE		SUNDAY WEEK					AVG
		1	2	3	4	5	
2020	JULY	46	44	33	-		41
2020	AUG	-	44	47	41	-	44
2020	SEPT	34	44	53	39		43

Small Groups

The following small groups will meet this fall:

Family in Focus

Family in Focus small group meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00pm at the church. Meeting dates for this month: October 1st & 15th

Fellowship Small Group

Fellowship small group meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 6:00pm at the church. Meeting dates for this month: October 8th & 15th

DWM

The Disciple Women's Group meets at 7:00pm on the third Tuesday of each month. These brief gatherings provide a casual atmosphere for the women in the church to study and encourage each other in faith and family. Next meeting: October 20th

Men's Fellowship

The men's group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 8:00am. Next meeting: October 15th

Seekers

The Seekers Adult Sunday School class provides an option for those with busy schedules to meet in a small group on Sunday mornings. Meeting dates for this month: October 4th & 18th at 9:15am.

Hustlers

The Hustlers Group meets on the last Sunday of each month at 7:00pm at the church. Next meeting: October 25th.

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

Devotional

Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?- Galatians 3:5

Who supplied the Holy Spirit? Obviously, the Spirit was given as a gift from God. God supplied the Holy Spirit in RESPONSE to faith. Miracles are wrought by faith. Yet the Galatians were deceived into thinking that real spiritual riches lay in pursuing God through a *works* relationship. "By the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" Paul repeated the phrase from Galatians 3:2 because he wanted to emphasize there was a choice to be made. Which will it be? Do you believe you will be blessed by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Will you *earn and deserve* your blessing from God, or will you *believe and receive* it?

This speaks to those who see lack of miracles in their life. Why? Not from a lack of devotion, not because they haven't earned enough; but because they are not putting their faith, their joyful and confident expectation in Jesus Christ first. Miracles happen everyday. This is why Jesus directly says us having the Holy spirit is better for us!

Can you believe it? Us having the Holy Spirit is better than if Jesus was here in real life. While Christ's miracles were physical, the miracle of the spirit is spiritual! When you devote your time to hearing words of faith (instead of trying to achieve) your heart transforms. This is the biggest blessing you have been given. What is more important to you? Getting a bigger house or eternity in heaven? I am going to say that we all would say the latter. Yet, often we pursue the first. Achieving, though, does not lead to eternal life. The only thing that leads to eternal life is hearing words of faith. So how can you this month hear those words more often?

Pastor Mat

This is part of a series of daily devotionals sent out by email and posted to the church website. Please send your email address to gfccdoc@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the daily study list.

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to Gary Reiners and family upon the death of his mother, Wilma Reiners, who passed away on Sunday, September 20th.

Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, October 13th at 6:30 pm. If you have any items to add to the agenda, please send them to the church office.

Elders Meeting

The Elders will meet on Sunday, October 18th immediately following worship.

In Our Prayers

The Prayer Group gathers in confidence at 9:30 am each Tuesday to honor prayer requests and remember those with on-going needs.

Harold Stimmel
Harriet Farney
Patty Benz
Evelyn Fawver
Irene Schaefer
Mike Lorenzen
Chet Goodrich
Phil Walker
Noel Hutchcraft



We invite anyone with a prayer request to drop it in the offering plates on Sunday morning.

Office Hours:
 Mon—Fri: 9:00 am—1:00 pm
 Church Phone: 217-784-5460
 gcfcdoc@yahoo.com
 fecdocgc.com

October 2020

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00 PM Family & Focus	2	3 8:00 AM Recycling
4 9:15 AM All Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School Ministry	5	6	7 6:00 PM Rise	8 6:00 PM Fellowship	9	10	
11 9:15 AM Foundations Class 10:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School Ministry	12	13 6:30 PM Church Board	14 6:00 PM Rise	15 8:00 AM Men's Group 6:00 PM Family & Focus	16	17 8:00 AM Recycling	
18 9:15 AM All Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Elders Meeting 5:00 PM High School Ministry	19	20 7:00 PM DWM	21 6:00 PM Rise	22 6:00 PM Fellowship	23	24 8:30 Food Pantry	
25 9:15 AM Foundations Class 10:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School Ministry 7:00 PM Hustlers	26	27	28 6:00 PM Rise	29	30	31	

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*October 2020***

- 4 Don Eberly
- 6 Jay & Lori Kristensen '01
- 7 Matt Provin
- 8 Taylor May
- 9 Stephanie Johnson
- 16 Perry & Barbara Comer '71
- 21 Marti Wiebers
Joe & Amy Higgins '00
- 22 Kristy Elder
- 27 Xavier Moore
- 29 Clyde McRae
- 31 Ron Warfield



Sunday School

We offer Sunday school classes for grades pre-k, 1st-3rd, 4th-5th, 6th-8th, and adults beginning at 9:15am on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month.

Rise Youth Group

Our Rise Middle School Youth Group meets each Wednesday at 6:00pm outside, weather permitting, with prepackaged snacks and a short lesson.

High School Ministry

Our High School Ministry meets each Sunday at 5:00pm in the youth room with prepackaged snacks and social distancing.

Pastor - Mat Bowen
Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Hagan
Choir Director - Tim Ricks
Church Pianist - Joan Ricks
Custodians - Jeff and Cheryl Elder

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Church Phone 784-5460
Email address: gfcdoc@yahoo.com
Website: fcdocgc.com

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 10
Gibson City, IL 60936-0010
217-784-5460
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED