

The Christian Visitor June 2024



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

Our Life Together in June

Youth Sunday June 16th

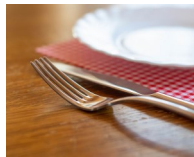
Sunday, June 16 is designated as Youth Sunday in our congregation. It's Father's Day, and we can't think of a better time to involve our daughters and sons more significantly in our worship together. Our youth will provide leadership for various aspects of our service, and Sarah Higgins will fill the pulpit with her message, exploring how to build a closer relationship with God. You won't want to miss this special time as we encourage our youth to take greater responsibility in our life together.

Book Study to Begin

Our book study of *Your Journey to a Prayerful Life* will begin as soon as the books come in, around the first of July. Several people have signed up for the study, which will likely happen Sunday mornings (specific time to be announced). There's still time for you to join us — let the office or pastor know!

Welcome Table Wednesday June 19th

This month's Welcome Table Wednesday will be on June 19th with a meal beginning at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall, followed by a short lesson. All are welcome!



Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Sunday, June 9th following worship.

If you have any items to add to the agenda, please notify the church office.

Congregational Meeting June 30th

The Annual Congregational Meeting has been set for Sunday, June 30th immediately following worship. This meeting is for electing Elders and Deacons and approving next year's budget.

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for the new church year, beginning Sunday, July 7th, are available for pickup in the narthex. Please sign your name next to the number that matches the box you take.

Bible Study



A weekly bible study meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm.

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

A PASTOR'S PONDERING

So we're in what we call "that long green season" in the church. Also known as "the Season After Pentecost," and "Ordinary Time" (don't you love that appellation!), our liturgical colors are green and remain so through summer and into autumn. I like that term, "long green season," because, as we know here in central Illinois, this is the growing season. The fields are green with growing corn and beans. And this time between Pentecost and Advent is certainly a growing season for the church.

Normally we think of summertime as "dead time" in the church; people are away on vacation, choirs are on hiatus, pastors away for down time, and programs generally put on "hold." But while on the surface, things aren't particularly "happening," we know that God is always working in our lives, and we know that what we've experienced throughout Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost has provided spiritual seeds that we now need to nourish and coax into bearing spiritual fruit for us.

I've designated this year for an emphasis on building our prayer life. We are beginning a study on how to make prayer a more integral part of our lives, we're getting our chapel ready to be used as prayer space, and planning some other prayer models we can use. Alongside that, right now we're exploring what it means to be a church neighborhood. Both of these things combine to teach us that our faith walk is all about building relationship with God, with each other, and with the world around us. This "long, green season" is the perfect time for our growth as a true community of faith.

I wonder what we'll discover together? I wonder in what significant ways we'll grow together as a church neighborhood? I wonder what God will have in store for us as we grow in our prayer life? I think that, as we begin a new church year in July, we have a lot to look forward to! Changes are coming for us, if we only pay attention. Instead of seeing this season as simply "marking time" until we gear up for our fall programming, I wonder what might come to fruition if we anticipate and expect some growth to happen? Now is a good time to renew your commitments to the church, to deepen friendships, to begin new opportunities for service, to begin a fresh life of prayer. Summer is a good time to make things happen as we learn, once again, to live deeply and refresh ourselves.

May it be so! May it be so for us!

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

June 2024

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							1
2 10:15 AM Worship	3		4 6:30 PM Bible Study	5	6	7	8
9 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Church Board	10		11	12 Pastor Vacation	13	14	15
16 Youth Sunday 10:15 AM Worship	17		18 6:30 PM Bible Study	19 6:00 PM Welcome Table Wednesday	20	21	22
23 10:15 AM Worship	24		25 6:30 PM Bible Study	26 Secretary Out of Office	27	28	29
30 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting							

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
June 2024**

- 6 David & Cathy Hagan '81
Kate Provin
- 8 Ron and Janet Hoffman '96
- 10 Ron & Melanie Warfield '67
Harold & Jalene Medler '62
- 11 Angie Barnard
Patty Storm
- Steve & Beth Tabor '94
- 16 Beth Tabor
- 17 Cheryl Elder
- Jeff & Cheryl Elder '78
- Josh & Stephanie Johnson '06
- 19 Darrell & Sue Ann Rickey '71
- 20 Elliott & Leah McClure '15
- 22 Sue Walker
Wesley Johnson
- 24 Troy & Kathy Jo Spears '00
Matt & Angie Barnard '06
- 27 Jerry & Ida Wahls '70



- June 2 Mechanicsburg CC, IL; FCC Keithsburg, IL; FCC Knoxville, IL; Riverview Park CC, IL; St. Joseph, MI
- June 9 : 15th Avenue CC, Rock Island, IL; Memorial CC, Moline, IL; FCC Maywood, IL CYF Camp @ Camp Walter Scott, IL
- June 16 Second CC, Rockford, IL; Bethany CC, Detroit, MI; Christian Church of Kalamazoo, MI You & Me and Beginners Camp @ Camp Walter Scott, IL; Elementary Camp at Crystal Lake, MI
- June 23 Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors; Old State Road CC, Charleston, IL; FCC Watseka, IL; Big Life Community Church, Osewgo, IL JYF Camp @ Camp Walter Scott, IL; Day Camp at Crystal Lake, MI
- June 30 healing of our nation Chi Rho Camp @ Camp Walter Scott, IL

Pastor - David Massey-Brown
Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Hagan
Church Pianist - Joan Ricks
Custodians - Jeff and Cheryl Elder

10:15 a.m. Worship Service
 Church Phone 784-5460
 Email address: gcfccdoc@yahoo.com
 Website: fccdocg.com

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