



The MESSENGER

> Let's "Fall" into Prayer...



It's coming! Excitement is in the air!
Get ready to "Listen to God!"

> **What:** Plans for everyone in our congregation to join a Prayer Group focused on scripture, prayer, and our future. Each Prayer Group will have a leader and will follow a guided plan and format.

> **When:** Soon!!! You will have the opportunity to sign up for a weekly Prayer Group of six to eight individuals. Prayer Groups will start in September and will continue into November.

> **Why:** To listen to God, to know God more deeply, and to see where God is leading us. We want to make deeper spirit-filled connections with one another and to prepare for our future.

> **Where:** Meeting places will be determined as the Prayer Groups take form.

The Discernment Team has been meeting regularly as we continue this journey into our future. Scott Woolridge from our Regional Office is guiding us in our discernment process. He has worked with over 100 congregations and knows our congregation well. He offers heart-felt spirituality, a wealth of knowledge and materials, and the ability to lead us forward as we prayerfully listen to God and discern where He is leading us.

RSVP: Respond So Very Promptly ... and sign up for a Prayer Group ... the opportunity is coming very soon!

> *Gifts for Another Table* – Let's really get going and bring the following items to church for the Regional Alternative School during July: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, lotion, chap stick, and diapers.

> *Blood Drive* – The American Red Cross has contacted us to host an emergency blood drive in Major Hall this Friday, July 20, from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please call the church office if you would like to sign up. Note: If you gave at the most recent drive at FCC and have not donated since then, you are eligible for the July 20 drive.

> *Block Party* -



1. Saturday, August 4, 9:00 AM - noon, in the church parking lot
2. School kits, food, games, entertainment, social service agencies, and health screenings
3. Please contact Julie Robinson to help (838-4335) or a sign-up genius link for volunteers is: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#1/showSignUp/5080B4EAF2CAA8-volunteer2>
4. **Attention Bakers:** Cakes are needed for the cake walks, and cookies are needed for lunch. Please sign up at the Information Center.
5. **Needed:** Bottled water for the Block Party. Midwest Food Bank is low, and we can only get a few cases. We have 576 bottles downstairs.
6. Making school kits will be Wednesday, August 1, from 4:00 PM-done. Earlier dates and times may be scheduled as we need to make 400 kits.
7. Our "Change for a Change" Block Party fundraiser raised \$807.90!

> *Blessing of the Backpacks* – Students: Please bring your backpacks with you to church on August 12.

> *Board Retreat* – Saturday, August 18, 9:00 AM – noon, in Fellowship Hall

➤ *Abundant Life Meal* – We served over 50 meals of chicken & dumplings at Abundant Life Church last Sunday. Our next noon meal will be August 19. Please contact Julie Robinson if you would like to help with the meal (838-4335).

➤ *Scholarship Available* – Former First



Christian Church members Dr. Richard and Lois Manahan have generously donated \$1,000 to be awarded as a scholarship to a church member who attends Illinois State University. Full-time and part-time students attending ISU for the 2018 Fall semester are eligible to apply. Consideration will be given to active participation in the ministries and programs of the church. Please submit a letter of interest and your class schedule to the First Christian Church office by Monday, August 20. All applicants will be interviewed by a committee of the Trustees.

➤ *Brown Bag Bible Bunch* – We are beginning a study of the Apocryphal books starting with I Maccabees. Jim Warren leads the weekly study on Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:00 PM in the Conference Room. Come join us!

➤ *Worship in the Park* –

September 9 at Fairview Park

- 9:00 AM - Short, traditional service at church
- 10:15 AM - Service at the park
- 11:00 AM - Potluck lunch
- 12:00 PM - Softball game



➤ *Promotion Sunday – September 16*



➤ *A Note from Dawn ...*

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity, friendship, love, and prayers. I will never forget all the memories I've made and all the lovely people I've met. I will forever cherish the time I've spent at First Christian Church.

-Blessings always, Dawn ReNee'



JULY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 15th-21st Camp Walter Scott Chi-Rho Abundant Life Meal 10:00 AM Combined Service 11:00 AM Farewell Reception for Dawn	16 10:30 AM Bridge 12:00 PM Seedling	17 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Seedling 5:00 PM NA	18 12:00 PM Bible Bunch 12:00 PM Seedling 12:30 PM Bridge 7:00 PM One and All Rehearsal	19 10:30 AM Bridge 12:00 PM Seedling 5:00 PM TOPPS 6:30 PM Prairie Pride Theater	20  Blood Drive 9:00 AM Blood Drive 12:00 PM Seedling 7:00 PM Square Dance	21 10:30 AM Bridge
22 22nd-28th Camp Walter Scott Chi-Rho/JYF 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM One and All Worship 2:00 PM Christian Motorcycle Association	23 10:30 AM Bridge	24 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM NA	25 12:00 PM Bible Bunch 7:00 PM One and All Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM One and All Worship	30 10:30 AM Bridge	31 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM NA 5:00 PM PPR	1 12:00 PM Bible Bunch 7:00 PM One and All Rehearsal	2 10:00 AM CC/W 1:00 PM Disciples Women's Ministries 4:30 PM Trustees	3 3rd-5th Camp Walter Scott Post High	4  9:00 AM Block Party



August 26 -- Matthew 20:1-16

"Did You Hear the One About ... the Late Workers?"

The landowner hires workers throughout the day and pays them all the same. How fair is that?

September 2 -- Matthew 13:44-46

"Did You Hear the One About ... Finding Riches?"

These two short parables illustrate the shedding of all that is unnecessary in order to have what is truly necessary and valuable.

July 22 -- Matthew 13:3-9

"Did You Hear the One About ... the Lousy Farmer?"

The farmer seems to sow his seeds carelessly. His seeds land everywhere, but only some fall where they are able to grow. What does this tell us about how God spreads God's love?

July 29 -- Luke 16:1-9

"Did You Hear the One About ... the Dishonest Manager?"

This is a difficult parable to understand because it seems to praise the manager's dishonesty. The parable is better understood as praising the rich man's trust of his manager. How willing are we to trust someone else?

August 5 -- Luke 18:9-14

"Did You Hear the One About ... the People Praying?"

Jesus talks about a Pharisee and a tax collector going up to the Temple to pray. The tax collector humbly prays and earns Jesus' approval.

August 12 -- Matthew 25:31-46

"Did You Hear the One About ... the Sheep and the Goats?"

To treat people, especially the least of these, with compassion and mercy is to receive God's praise and be welcomed into the kingdom. To ignore those same people is to be condemned.

August 19 -- Luke 16:19-31

"Did You Hear the One About ... the Rich Man?"

A rich man dies and sees the beggar Lazarus in heaven. The rich man asks for relief, but receives none because he had his chance in life to do good.

Witness of the Faithful

Attendance -- 7/8/18: 145, 43

7/15/18: 163

Offering -- \$12,802.61

Welcome New Member

Welcome to Sherry Bright who joined our church family on June 24.

Prayer Concerns

St. Francis, Peoria: Sue Brumme

Aftercare: Rita Hensley, Hazel Kuhn, Peggy O'Neal, Connie Rapp, Sid & Mary Smart, Pam Yerkes

Hospice: Harold & Helen Goyen, Virginia Warren

Treatment: Mary Moran, Sharon Warren

Assisted Living: Mickey Armstrong (Luther Oaks), Alma Samuels (Taylors' home)

Nursing Homes: Blm. Rehab -- Marilyn Thompson

Heritage, Blm. -- Merle Murray, Harry Schultz, Virginia Warren

Heritage, El Paso -- Sonna West

Heritage, Normal -- Harold Goyen

Liberty, Clinton -- Corena Meyer

Martin Health -- Myrna Cable, Dave Dungan, Carol Kline, Marlyn Mahannah, Lois Murray, Barbara Thatcher

McLean County -- Darlene Bethel

Military: Chris Kavanaugh (Marines, CA);

Harley Scott (Phillis niece/Navy, VA)

Thank You

Posted on the Centrum bulletin board are notes received from: INteGRity Counseling (donations) and Susan Hinrichsen (sympathy).

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Bloomington's Oldest Continuing Congregation - Founded 1837

**401 West Jefferson Street
Bloomington, Illinois 61701**

Bloomington, IL 61701



Return Service Requested



Mailed: July 18, 2018

Serving Sunday, July 22

Acolytes: Josie Jamerson, Lucy Jamerson
Child Care: Trish Logan, Abby Logan
Deacons: 9:00 Matt Nichols, Brian Metz
10:15 Pat & Jenny Lawler
Jr. Deacons: Jaci Cox, Austin Metz
Drivers: Frank Lipscomb, Ralph Lehmann
Elders: Camille & Art Taylor
Homebound Elders: Joe & Sue Bandy
Fellowship Host: Susan Cleaver
Fill Candles: Becky White
Greeters: Pete Whitmer, Cindy Rousey
Information Center: Mary Ellen Gottselig
Scripture: Todd Chapman **Time for Children:** Matt Chapman
Sound Tech: James Nussbaum **Video Tech:** Austin Metz
Pulpit: Jim Warren (see page 3)

Serving Sunday, July 29

Acolyte: Campbell Damery
Child Care: Trish Logan, Kim Cox
Deacons: 9:00 Nate & Heather Damery
10:15 James & Libby Nussbaum
Jr. Deacons: Madison Varner, Jaden Eft
Drivers: Rich Crusius, Ralph Lehmann
Elders: Al & Beverly Leight
Homebound Elders: Camille & Art Taylor
Fellowship Host: Becky White
Fill Candles: Becky White
Greeters: Bill, Susan, and Tom Chaney
Information Center: Ron & Nancy Gramley
Scripture: Darrell Arvik **Time for Children:** Linda Lehmann
Sound Tech: Dave Phillis **Video Tech:** Chip Jamerson
Pulpit: Jim Warren (see page 3)

Sunday Traditional Worship 9:00 AM
One and All Worship 10:15 AM
Sunday School for Adults 10:15 AM

Senior Pastor

James Warren 212-6873
jwarren@blmfcc.org

Minister Emeritus

John Trefzger

Music

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