



# The MESSENGER



Also, 8:30-9:00 Worship at FCC  
9:00 Sunshine Unlimited Class at FCC

## ➤ *Summer Bible Study*

Brown Bag Bible Bunch is reading through the short Letters of Paul (currently in Philipians) on Wednesdays at noon in the Conference Room. Jim Warren leads the study. Come join us!

## ➤ *Gifts for Another Table*

During the month of August, rather than non-perishable food items please bring to church the following items for The Boys & Girls Club: tall white kitchen garbage bags, 55 gallon garbage bags, toilet paper, latex gloves, band aids of all sizes, ziplock bags (sandwich, quart, gallon), and quality ice cube trays. The Club has recently taken on one of the Western Avenue Community Center programs so now has even more children.

## ➤ *Fall Schedule Resumes*



- Worship & Wonder this Sunday, August 20, during the 9 AM worship service. Volunteers are needed. Please see Holly Irvin to help.
- Chancel Choir Wednesday, August 30 5:30 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Rehearsal
- Handbell Choir Wednesday, Sept. 6, 5:30 PM
- Youth Groups Sunday, Sept. 17, 5 PM meal

## ➤ *We're Going Back*

Washington Park Cemetery in St. Louis October 20-22. This time with chainsaws and more people! We want YOU to go on Mission with us. See Holly Irvin for more information.

## ➤ *Disciples Women's Ministries* *Operation Santa*

Operation Santa is a national program with the hub being in Bloomington. The purpose is to sew large stockings, stuff them with various items, and then mail them to troops who are deployed overseas. Contributions come from all over the United States. The DWM ladies are conducting a Fall project to help our military men and women enjoy Christmas while serving our country. We are planning on sewing 40-50 large Christmas stockings that will eventually be filled with a variety of useful items.

- A few examples of items needed are: travel size deodorant, travel size foot powder, individually wrapped hard candy (no chocolate), beef jerky, and individual packets of hot cocoa. Many other items will be listed on a poster by the Information Center for you to see.
- We will be collecting items from **September 1 through mid-October.**
- We would like to invite all church members to participate in this project. All donations will be collected at our church and will then be delivered to the Operation Santa location at Crossroads Center.
- Tax deductible monetary donations may also be made to help cover the expense of shipping. Mail to: Operation Santa PO Box 1975 Bloomington, IL 61702-1975
- If you have a loved one serving overseas, please give us his/her name, address, and how many are serving in his/her company. They will be included in the shipping. Approximately two-three weeks before Thanksgiving stockings will be stuffed and shipped to all branches of our armed forces serving around the globe.
- Special note: We are unable to send cards, stockings, notes, etc. that have GLITTER. It can get on clothing and put our heroes at risk.
- Facebook: Operation Santa - Central Illinois
- Web: OperationSanta.us



Thank you in advance for your help.  
Contact person: Jan Dyer

*A long obedience in the same direction...*



## *Charlottesville*

The disturbing images of racism coming from Charlottesville, VA, last week continue to haunt me. A young man screaming hateful invective toward African Americans, Jews, and immigrants. A Klansman confidently carrying a confederate flag and proudly giving a Nazi salute. Torch-bearing white supremacists gathered around a statue of Robert E. Lee. A car plowing through a crowd of protesters who are twisting into the air like unsuspecting bowling pins before a vicious bowling ball.

The jarring images, hate speech, despicable violence, and loss of life in Charlottesville are in-your-face reminders that America continues to be plagued by the sin of racism and is still deeply wounded by racial conflict and divided along racial lines.

The optimist in me wonders why we have to keep experiencing this. After all, doesn't everyone *know* that racism in any form is wrong and sinful? Isn't it patently obvious that anything that promotes hatred and violence is wrong and sinful? Can't everyone see that racially divisive language and actions are wrong and sinful? This is all beyond question, isn't it? Isn't it abundantly clear that, in Jesus Christ, there can be no place for white supremacy and racism?

But the realist in me knows that, this side of eternity, we'll never completely eliminate the sin of racism. Its roots run very deep, and it has become tightly intertwined into almost every aspect of our society. Its deathly grip on America's soul will never be completely loosened.

What that means for us Christians is that we must always stand up against racism and call out racism for what it is: a sin that is absolutely incompatible with our faith. White supremacists and the groups that support them have no place in our nation. We are a people who seek to practice unity, equality, and freedom.

I hope all of us will be unequivocal in our opposition to racism, wherever it may manifest itself. And I hope that every preacher and church in America denounce what happened in Charlottesville, call racism the sin it is, and pray for and work toward healing.

A good resource for learning about racism is the book *America's Original Sin* by Jim Wallis. Wallis is a man of deep faith who explores racism biblically and theologically.

I also recommend to you a short video put together by Proctor and Gamble that addresses the realities African Americans face in our country. The video is titled "The Talk," and here's a link: <https://youtu.be/GdV2f4jH5YQ>. You can also find the video on YouTube by searching for The Talk (Full Length). As the father of children who are African American, I can say that this video accurately depicts some of the biases that my children have encountered.

Please join me in condemning last week's events in Charlottesville, fighting against racism, and working for God's peace, justice, and love to triumph.  
-- Jim Warren

### *Witness of the Faithful*

**Attendance:** 8/6: 160, 44      8/13: 158, 36  
**Offering:** \$25,442.58

### *Prayer Concerns*

**Advocate BroMenn:** Linda Harweger

**Barnes, St. Louis:** Taylor Gramley

**Treatment:** Sharon Warren

**Tests/Surgery:** Richard Malone

**Aftercare:** Mickey Armstrong, Deb Bomeli, Rita Bell, Max Chapman, Lori Craig, Dave Eyman, Art Gregg, Kaleigh Menken, Mary Smart

**Hospice:** Darlene Bethel, Virginia Warren

**Assisted Living:** Alma Samuels (Taylors' home)

**Nursing Homes:** Marilyn Thompson (Blm Rehab); Merle Murray, Virginia Warren (Heritage, Blm.); Sonna West (Heritage, El Paso) Harold Goyen, Roger Harweger (Heritage, Normal); Corena Meyer (Liberty, Clinton); Dave Dungan, Marlyn Mahannah, Lois Murray, Barbara Thatcher (Martin Health); Eugene Hunter (McLean Co.); Roberta Blomgren (Sugar Creek)

**Military:** Chris Kavanaugh (Marines, CA); Harley Scott (Phillis niece/Navy, VA)

**Sympathy to:** Randy (Connie) Crill family on the August 8 death of his brother, Robert Crill, in TX

**Wedding:** Noelle Harper married Daniel Bruce on July 29 in East Glacier, Montana. Parents of the bride are Given & Jean Harper.

### *Thank You*

... to all those who helped with our Block Party on Saturday, August 12

... notes from Mickey Armstrong and Jim & Helen Fry are posted on the Information Center bulletin board

**The weekly Bible verse from the Stewardship Committee**

August 20 – Psalm 50:23: He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I show him The Salvation of God.

August 27 – Proverbs 3:27-28: Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow" when you now have it with you.



*What is God asking us to do for the stewardship of His Church?*

**AUGUST 2017**

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
20	9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM One and All Worship	21	10:30 AM Bridge 4:30 PM Trustees Meeting 5:45 PM Bridge	22	9:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM CCIW - The Coaches 5:00 PM NA	23	12:00 PM Bible Bunch 7:00 PM One and All Rehearsal	24	10:00 AM CCIW- Regional Elders 5:30 PM Private Voice Lessons	25		26	10:00 AM CCIW Finance
27	9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM One and All Worship 2:00 PM Christian Motorcycle Association	28	 <b>Elders Meeting</b> 10:30 AM Bridge 5:00 PM PPR 5:30 PM Elders' Meeting 5:45 PM Bridge	29	9:30 AM Staff 5:00 PM NA	30	 <b>Choir Rehearsals</b> 12:00 PM Bible Bunch 5:30 PM Choir Meal 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM One and All Rehearsal	31	5:30 PM Private Voice Lessons	1	5:00 PM Nehrt/Orendorff Wedding Rehearsal 7:00 PM Square Dance	2	3:00 PM Nehrt/Orendorff Wedding



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*Bloomington's Oldest Continuing Congregation - Founded 1837*



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Bloomington, Illinois 61701

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**Bloomington, IL 61701**



## Serving Sunday, August 20

**Acolytes:** Evelyn Kosier, Clark Kosier  
**Child Care:** Trish Logan, Heather Damery  
**Deacons:** 9:00 Brian Metz, Ted Logan  
10:15 Peg Larson, Ryan Newton  
**Jr. Deacons:** Bryce Reed, Bren Reed  
**Driver:** Gary Thompson  
**Elders:** Chip Jamerson, Marla McElroy  
**Homebound Elders:** Naomi Kosier, Kathie Chapman  
**Fellowship Host:** Julie Robinson  
**Fill Candles:** Becky White  
**Greeters:** Alan & Kathie Chapman, Vicki Hall  
**Information Center Host:** Jan Dyer  
**Recycle:** Given Harper  
**Scripture:** Sue Brumme  
**Sound Tech:** James Nussbaum  
**Time for Children:** Linda Lehmann  
**Video Tech:** Nate Damery  
**Pulpit:** Jim Warren - Romans 8:28  
"You Asked for it Again: What Do I Believe?"

## Serving Sunday, August 27

**Acolytes:** Kenley Nichols, Mackenzie Nichols  
**Child Care:** Trish Logan, Naomi Kosier  
**Deacons:** 9:00 Martin & Sue Ross  
10:15 Ryan Newton, Holly Rocke  
**Jr. Deacons:** Averie Kiesewetter, Drew Logan  
**Driver:** Rich Crusius  
**Elders:** May Jackson, Patti Jamerson  
**Homebound Elders:** May Jackson, Marla McElroy  
**Fellowship Host:** Nancy Guither  
**Fill Candles:** Becky White  
**Greeters:** Darrell & Teri Arvik, Matt & Naomi Kosier  
**Information Center Host:** Leslie Frizzell  
**Recycle:** Given Harper  
**Scripture:** Susan Cleaver  
**Sound Tech:** David Phillis  
**Time for Children:** Jim Warren, Holly Irvin  
**Video Tech:** Nate Damery  
**Pulpit:** Jim Warren - Ephesians 1:3-14  
"You Asked for it Again: Who Is the Holy Spirit?"

*Mailed: August 16, 2017*

**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](mailto:jwarren@blmfcc.org)

### Minister Emeritus

John Trefzger

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