

First Christian Church – Disciples of Christ
803 Market Street
Mt. Carmel, IL 62863

SUNDAY SERVICE
September 29, 2019

Sermon
"Deserter"
Rev. Sue Knipp

Scripture: Galatians 1:3-10
Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 10:30 AM

WATCHING OUR FIGURES
Sunday Worship: 9/22 - 90



Website: www.mountcarmeldisciples.com
New Email: fccmc803@gmail.com



"Growing God's Family to Share Word"
First Christian Church



Visitor

Volume 77, Number 2 **September 30, 2019**

SERVING IN OCTOBER



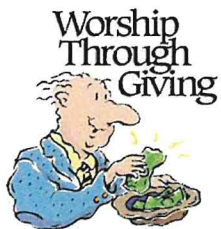
Deacons: Marilyn Bellessa, Clint Anderson,
Chuck Wiles, Gary Bellessa, Phil Benefiel,
Rhiannon Anderson
Custodial Deacon: Jon Mayhue
Elder on Call: Priss Parmenter
Sanctuary Straightener: Lynette Wiles
Acolytes: Emma & Shelby Mayhue
Counters: Gayle Conrady & Doris Beckerman
Communion Preparers: Larry & Ginger Boewe



The church seniors are continuing to make plastic bag mats for those in need and would like to request donations of **yellow** plastic bags like those from Dollar General Store. If you have any bags you don't need, the ladies would love to have them to use in this very worthwhile endeavor! With winter approaching, the mats are needed now more than ever. Thank You!



There will be a fundraiser for **Jeff Hyatt** and his family on Oct. 5th at the VFW in Mt. Carmel. Jeff is battling leukemia and is unable to work. With many trips to the doctor and treatments, the medical bills add up quickly. For more information on the fundraiser or if you would like to donate to help this family, please contact Leah Merriel at (618) 263-2519 or Eric Hall at (618) 240-1292.



OFFERING - September 22, 2019

General	\$3,346.00
World Outreach	8.00
Website	100.00
New Sign	26.00
Membership Care	120.00
Memorial Fund	50.00
Security cameras	1,000.00
Sunday School	19.00
TOTAL:	\$4,669.00



Glyn Draper, Kevin Pixley, Vesta Rigg, Ron DeFoor, Peg Geurin, Tracy Deckard, LuAnn Lemke, Emily Ewald, Laverne Sherman, Sylvia Spencer, Julia Corwin, Bob Nix, Jim Warmoth, Don Mann, Global Refugee Crisis, Betty & Mike Foshee, Joan Hackler, Devan Swift, Jennifer Koonce, Elaine Spencer, Bill & Pat Beesley, Mya James, Karen Hahn, Mary Peterson, Larry O. Gaines, Don Tharp, Leslie Glenn, Atticus Scott, Fred Xanders, Leon Dudley, Bob Stuessel, Kenny Webb, Jeannie Tennis, Rev. Brant Hazlett, Bev Williams, Don & Mary Jane Bellessa, Rich Kolb, David Taylor, Harold Mobley, Scott & Jennifer Nettleton, Marilyn Matthews, Jaxson Malcolm, Jayce Swift, Sue Wilkinson, Robin Crouch, Cathie Gorley, Kendall Brooke, Jeff Hyatt, Norma Beckerman, Harold Leipold, Connie Mayhue, George Beckerman, **Joe Beckerman, Rosanna Peterson, Etta Rosignol**, and our country, its leaders, all servicemen and women, and natural disaster victims.

***The Prayer List is periodically updated. Let us know if someone needs to be removed or put back on. Please note that due to current privacy laws, you must have the permission of whomever you wish to include on the prayer list.**

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FCC extends its condolences to the Ray Street Family. Ray's cousin, Rob Street, passed away on September 16. We are sorry for your loss, and you are in our hearts and in our prayers at this time.



We received the following "thank you" from the Safe Haven shelter for women and children...

"On behalf of the Safe Haven Board of Directors, we would like to take this time to send our heartfelt thanks to you for your generous and timely donation. Because of you, we can continue to provide a safe shelter for women and children who would otherwise be homeless..." This is a wonderful blessing to those in need, and we at FCC are a part of that each time we donate to this worthy cause!



Clergy Appreciation Sunday...

Sunday, Oct. 13th, has been designated as Clergy Appreciation Sunday. We will be honoring Virgil and Sue during worship and there will be a luncheon after Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. Fare will be BBQ sandwiches, potato chips, potato salad, slaw, and baked beans. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share. All are welcome so mark the date on your calendar.

The Worship Committee

Thoughts from our Pastor...



As many of FCC members know, stewardship to Sue and me means using all of our God given talents for His glory in ministry. Each of our gifts, graces, the work of our hands, our money, and everything else that makes us who we are, belongs to the worship of God. Scripture reminds us that it was God who made us and not we ourselves. So, everything we have and all we are really belongs to God. As Christians we will be required to account for the way in which we use what we have been given to do ministry.

September and October of this year have been chosen as stewardship months. During these two months, each one can reflect upon their stewardship and decide, with God's help, if they are doing what He has requested of them.

For those who have been working on their own talent project, the time to complete them ends on Thanksgiving Sunday. Our prayer is that you take time to reflect on your progress and begin to complete tasks. Several members have shared their projects with us, and we are quite pleased with how the membership of FCC is using their talents. Some of you may be saying, I did not receive any seed funds from the stewardship committee, but I still would like to participate in the talent project. Here are a couple of ideas:

1. Look at the prayer list in the bulletin each week and daily pray for each one by name and then make a contribution in a jar for each one. If you gave a \$1.00 each day in a year your talent project would amount to \$365.00. Praying is talking to God, using the talent of your voice.
2. A second project is to look at your car's odometer and set aside 10 cents for each mile driven in a year. Our ability to travel to work and drive to other places daily is a gift from God.

Again, Sunday prior to Thanksgiving, we will conclude our Talent Project Program. During the opening congregation hymn, all who have participated in the Program will be asked to bring their gift(s) forward. We will ask God to bless the gifts and the giver.

Remember, our Stewardship emphasis ends October 31st. Take some time during the upcoming weeks to review your own stewardship for God.

Virgil

Sp^LiN^Te^RS from the BOARD September 2019

Treasurer's Report:

- The actual operating deficit for 2019 stands at (\$32,108.50) at the end of eight months.

Property Committee:

- Extensive drain repair discussed, but problems have surfaced finding a contractor willing to work around the incoming power lines.
- Planning for repair/updating to the Women's restroom by the Market Street entrance continues.
- Security cameras are installed and operational.
- The hand rails for the sanctuary to the pulpit and choir loft were tabled until later meeting.
- Thank you to Tony Bowles for repairing the roof of the playground house. Painting needs to be completed.
- Fire alarm problems are being addressed and repairs are in process.
- The bus had starting problems and the scheduled repair did not find a problem. This is an ongoing problem and will be addressed as needed. DOT number has not yet been obtained; the name of someone who will accept financial responsibility will need to be placed on the application.
- Larry Boewe painted new stripes in the church parking lot with handicapped painting to be completed when the paint arrives.
- A bus driver for Sunday mornings was discussed with a suggestion that this be brought to the congregation for possible volunteers.
- Procedure for use of credit card was discussed with emphasis on the importance of bringing a receipt to the church office secretary for proper accounting.
- The Board approved installing air conditioning in the Fellowship Hall kitchen per the \$6,580 bid from J. E. Shekell, plus the costs for wiring and other incidentals to not exceed the budgeted \$8,500.

Worship Committee:

- Choir has resumed. Practice is at 8:40 a.m. on Sunday. Extra rehearsals to be called as needed.
- Choir will vote on the use of Choir Robes with 3 options on the ballot:
 1. Discontinue use completely.
 2. Wear robes only on special occasions (to be determined by the director)
 3. Wear robes every Sunday.
- September 29 is Intinction Sunday.
- October 6 is World Wide Communion Sunday.
- October 13 is Clergy Appreciation Day. We will honor pastors during worship. The luncheon after Sunday School will include BBQ pork sandwiches and sides. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share.
- November 3 is All Saints Day, which will be handled by the pastors.
- November 24 will be the Hanging of the Greens in the sanctuary. Removal of decorations will be January 5 after Sunday School (Epiphany Sunday).
- Thanks to Marilyn Hocking for procuring special music for Summer Worship.
- Thanks to Janice Alka for getting new flowers for the Sanctuary.
- There was discussion of the 2020 budget.
- Barry Roberts is working with WVC Channel 15 to improve the sound on the TV broadcast.

Christian Education Committee:

- The first Wednesday meeting of CCF had over 30 students attending, plus 8 junior high and senior high youth. The second meeting had an additional 5 in attendance. Transportation is being handled. Help would be welcomed, especially from the time the students arrive at church until Stacey Swift arrives.
- In order to make a welcoming place for kids, decorating ideas are being considered. If you would like to donate to help purchase a rug or other items, please mark your contribution to go toward CCF decorations.

- Steps are being taken to revitalize Sunday School. Beginning in October, a new curriculum will be used for the K-5th group and the junior high/senior high group.
- The Children's Christmas Program will be held on Wednesday, December 18 at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The change should enable more children to participate in the program and encourage more parents to attend. All members of the congregation are asked to mark their calendars and support these students and their families.

Stewardship Committee:

- Budgets for 2020 are due to Marilyn Bellessa by Sunday, October 13.
- October 27 will be Stewardship Sunday. Rev. Doris Beckerman will bring the message. A carry-in meal will follow Sunday School.

Membership Committee:

- Fellowship Time is back after a summer break. Eight members will rotate through the remaining eight Sundays of Fellowship. The donations will be used toward the purchase of the sign. There will be no hot breakfast on either September 29 or December 29. The committee discussed changing the hot breakfast to a carry-in dinner on the fifth Sunday for next year.
- Wilbur Brown continues to organize Cookie Day. There are 10 members that receive the cookie tray and visit. There is a need for people willing to help with this outreach.
- An Ice Cream Social was held Sunday, August 25 at 11:30 a.m. for the seven new members.
- Seven families were served funeral dinners in July and August.
- Janice Alka has updated the Membership records. They are now in an Excel file, which needs to be kept current. There was discussion on membership guidelines and determining a more realistic membership number.
- Several members need transportation to church. This could be arranged if someone was willing to pick them up in the bus, or, if we as individuals pick one of them up for church and provide a ride home.
- Another ministry would be for the older members or those who live alone. Volunteers would help with minor home repairs, household issues, personal assistance, and yard work. This is a

ministry to make life a little easier for others. The committee is working to have The God Squad in operation by the first of the year, or sooner if possible.

Evangelism Committee:

- There was a good turnout of Junior League and Varsity football players for the On1 event. First Christian Church worked in conjunction with the Community Church of God. Over 200 hot dogs were served.
- On September 27, we will serve breakfast to the varsity football players and cheerleaders at approximately 7:15 a.m. Hogg Heaven will cater the breakfast. The committee needs help with serving and clean up.
- Operation Share is designated to receive financial help that is given on the 2nd Sunday in October.
- Literature about our church is to be inserted in the tumblers given to visitors.

World Outreach Committee:

Church Finance Council	\$ 250.00
Church Mission Trip	250.00
Week of Compassion - Bahamas	1,000.00
Thanksgiving Special Offering	<u>500.00</u>
Total ...	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>

Christian Action Committee:

Heart of Hope House	\$1,000.00
Operation Share for Thanksgiving (\$450.00 from Regular Fund & \$1,550.00 from Special Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$3,000.00</u>

Administrative Committee:

- The committee discussed preparation of the 2019 Ballot to be approved by the Church Board and then by the Congregation.
- Janice Alka reminded that in November we will be looking at both the Budget and the Ballot.

Chairman of the Elders:

- On weekends and other times, the church office is closed, the office telephone will be redirected to the Elder on Call in order to

have someone available to respond to such things as hospitalizations and deaths of church members.

- Retreats were discussed, including the upcoming Women’s Retreat at Camp Walter Scott.
- Janis Roberts read an article to the group concerning 10 simple ways to grow spiritually and we talked about other ways we can increase our spirituality individually and as a group.
- There will be an Elders dinner to celebrate the holidays on November 16.

Youth Director:

- The number of CYF youth attending mid-week activities averages 8-10.
- Replacing the Sunday afternoon meeting time with Wednesday after school is working well.
- Planned events:
 - o Shopping day trip to Evansville – October 5, 2019
 - o Summit – November 22-24, 2019 – Registration is now open
 - o Summer Mission Trip to Memphis – June 29-July 3, 2020

Executive Committee:

- The Executive Committee recommended and the Board approved the distribution of \$5,058.22 in Memorial Funds to the electronic sign.

Old Business:

- The Employment Contract with Interim Co-pastors Rev. Virgil Knipp and Rev. Sue Knipp was extended by three (3) months.
- Karissa Anderson reported that Pastoral Search Committee’s required paperwork has been submitted to Teresa Dulyea-Parker, CCIW Regional Minister. Also, the YouTube video should be live on the regional website soon. This will permit prospective pastors to log on and view.

Ministers’ Report:

- Rev. Virgil Knipp and Rev. Sue Knipp stated they have completed one year as Interim Pastors at First Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Mount Carmel.
- The congregational leadership was commended for hearing God’s Spirit, and for planning and implementing new and diverse

ministries. While the vehicle to get the Message out is always changing, we must remember that the Message never changes.

- There is sadness in our hearts from the loss of loved ones.
- The congregation was encouraged through these words to keep up the great work, "God has blessed this congregation over the many years since it was established and we believe He will continue if we follow His Spiritual leadership."
- The Knipp's will be gone for about a week toward the end of October in order to officiate at the wedding of their granddaughter.
- Gayle Conrady is a member of the Regional Committee on Ministry.
- To commemorate All Saints Day, a time of remembrance of those who have passed will be held on November 3.
- The Sunday before Thanksgiving we will be singing "Bringing in the Sheaves" while reaping the benefits of the Talent Project. Proceeds grown from the \$5 seed money given to members about this same time last year will be brought forward and presented to help finance the electronic sign.

Chairperson of the Board Comments:

Janice Alka used 2 Corinthians 1:10 to close: "He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us again. On Him we have

Games, games, and more games...



We have had an excellent turn out on Wednesdays for CCF. With that said, we need games and plenty of them. We also need ideas for games. If you have any suggestions for games, please pass them along to Stacey Swift. If you have any activity-oriented games, board games, or games for small children (Kindergarten age) that you would be willing to donate to

CCF, we would greatly appreciate it. Thank you!!!



Are you looking for your place in God's harvest field?? We have some areas where you have the opportunity for service. We have several older members who could use your gifts, talents...and TIME.

Perhaps you would be willing to drive them to an appointment or to church on Sunday mornings. Perhaps you might be willing to pick up some groceries or mow a lawn. Maybe you're handy with a hammer and saw and could do some minor repairs for someone. Maybe you are a gourmet cook and would be willing to provide a home cooked meal to someone no longer able to cook for themselves. There are unlimited opportunities to use what God has given you to bless someone else. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help.

The Cookie Day ministry still needs volunteers once per month to help prepare plates of cookies and distribute them. The old saying that "many hands make light work" is so true. We need you!!

We have a need for volunteers willing to pick up those who cannot get to church on Sunday mornings on their own. This would be done in your own vehicle so you don't have to have any kind of special license. Although the service can be viewed on television which is wonderful for the home-bound, there is nothing like being in God's House with God's people. Some can attend service, but simply have no way to get here. Please ask the Lord what he would have you to do to help in this area.

"In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me" ...what are you willing to do for Jesus today?



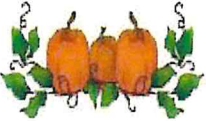

October Birthdays

2	Myra Lathrop	14	Karissa Anderson Betty Winternheimer	2	Mark and Debbie Meyer
3	Jacob Nelson Mary Burkitt	15	Kaitlyn Osman	6	Tim and Sarah Wiser
4	Asher Lathrop Caleb Stevenson	18	Elaine Spencer	12	Wilbur & Peggy Brown
6	Mike Foshee	19	Sophia Wolf	14	Verlin and Trish Snow Ray and Paula Street
7	Sarah Wiser	20	Ruby Kirkman	17	Stephen and Brenda Sawyer
9	Emily Ewald Brian Gill	23	Sue Sams	18	Scott and Marilyn Compton
10	Sarah Sawyer Craig Leeper	26	Aden Gill	20	Kurt and Susan Keneipp
11	Anna Grace Gill	27	Calvin Seybold		
13	Sam Shehorn Kaitlyn Grimwood	29	Stephen Sawyer Steve Storckman Madison Escobedo		
		30	Gayle Conrady		

Senior Group - Each Wed. 10 AM – 2 PM
 CCF – Each Wed. 3:30-5:00 PM
 Choir – Each Sunday 8:40 AM
 Senior Exercise - M, W, TH 9-9:45 AM
 CYF/Chi Rho – Each Wed. 5 – 6:00 PM

Minister Appreciation Month

October 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Senior Group CCF 3:30-5:00 PM	3 Exercise 9-9:45 AM	4	5
6	7 Exercise 9-9:45 AM	8 Counseling Anxiety Group 7-8:30 PM	9 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Senior Group CCF 3:30-5:00	10 Exercise 9-9:45 AM	11 	12
13 Clergy Appreciation Day Dinner @ 11:30AM Operation Share Special Offering	14 Exercise 9-9:45 AM	15 Counseling	16 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Senior Group CCF 3:30-5:00	17 Exercise 9-9:45 AM COOKIE DAY	18	19 Lewis-Simpson Wedding
20	21 Exercise 9-9:45 AM	22 Counseling Grief Group 7-8:30 PM **PASTORS OUT**	23 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Senior Group CCF 3:30-5:00 *****OF TOWN*****	24 Exercise 9-9:45 AM *****	25 *****	26 *****
27 GUEST SPEAKER Regional Elder Doris Beckerman Stewardship Sunday Luncheon @11:30 AM *****	28 Exercise 9-9:45 AM *****	29 Counseling *****	30 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Senior Group CCF 3:30-5:00 *****	31 Exercise 9-9:45 AM Committee Chairmen's Budgets Due *****	(Nov. 1) Pastors return	