



# First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 145

April 4, 2017

*Behold, What Manner of Love*

David McConnell-Minister  
217.690.4243  
pastordavefcc@gmail.com

Martín Reyes-Youth Minister  
217.317.3800  
pastormartinfcc@gmail.com

Cleone Bloemker-Secretary  
217.342.6797  
fcejffingham@gmail.com  
Website: www.fcejffingham.com

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Tuesday, April 11th**

Young @ Heart will meet at 9:00  
a.m. for fellowship, food and prayer

### **Tuesday, April 11th**

Women's Ministry meets @ 6:30  
p.m. in Beebe Hall

### **Wednesday, April 12th**

W.O.W. meets at 5:30 p.m. for supper  
with Bible study to follow

### **Friday, April 14th**

Good Friday  
Chain of Prayer—Sign up in the foyer  
or call the church office for a time  
slot

### **Friday, April 14th**

Youth Event (7th—12th graders)  
Meet at the movies to see *Case for  
Christ*

### **Saturday, April 15th**

Children's Event (up to 12 years old)  
Easter Egg Hunt will be from 10:00  
a.m. to Noon

**Easter Sunday, April 16th** Sunrise  
service at the Cross @ 6:00 a.m.

**Sunday, April 16th** Sunday evening  
worship is dismissed this evening

**Sunday, May 7th** Rice, Macaroni &  
Cheese or Instant Potatoes are due in  
Beebe Hall for Calvary Baptist  
Church Food Pantry

## **Ponderings of the Preacher . . .**

A few years ago, there was an expression being used that was quite popular. The expression was “a born again Christian.” Despite its popularity, the expression was redundant. Let me explain. In order to be a Christian, you must be born again. Jesus said, “No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” (John 3:5) If you are born again, then you certainly are a Christian. The terms “born again” and “Christian” describe the same individual. However, to many people a born again Christian described a “super Christian” i.e. someone who was really on fire for the Lord, showing evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence in his/her life. That may have been the meaning we attached to the terms, but the Bible did not make such a distinction between the two.

Today, there are two other words that are being used that like the two terms mentioned above essentially describe the same person. Those two words are “Christian” and “disciple.” Disciple is understood by many to mean a follower of Jesus who is really serious about their faith. That follower of Jesus not only is a learner of the teachings of Jesus but is also one who practices those teachings. A Christian is understood by some as just a regular church member who claims to have faith in Jesus. We may make a distinction in the two words, but the Bible does not.

Let me give you an example. “The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch” (Acts 11:25). Those who were practicing the teachings of Jesus (disciples) were called Christians. This is different than what is happening today. We are calling Christians who really practice their faith, disciples. The biblical truth is that a Christian and a disciple of Christ are one and the same. There is no distinction made between the two in the New Testament.

What is the application for us today? If you are a Christian, then you are a disciple. If you are a disciple, then you are most certainly a Christian. I will gladly wear either name because both names indicate that I am a follower of Jesus Christ.

I hope to see each of you in one of our services this coming Lord's Day. Let's all do our best to be present when the Christians/disciples assemble for worship.

C U N Church,  
David



### ***Serving In April***

***Elder:*** Dennis Bushue & Jon Zerkel alternating

***Deacons:*** Tom Shouse, Martin Zubiata, George Shouse, Toby Wolke

***Deaconesses:*** Judy Gregory & Angie Denoyer

<b>3-26-17 Attendance &amp; Giving</b> <b>Total: \$3,966.00 includes Faith Promise Offering</b>	<b>4--2-17 Attendance &amp; Giving</b> <b>Total:\$4,374.56 includes Faith Promise</b>
Worship: 89                      Sunday School:30 Evening Worship: 18	Worship:94                      Sunday School:19 Evening Worship: 14
<b>Faith Promise Missions: \$415.00</b>	<b>Faith Promise Offering:\$965.00</b>
Costa Rica Mission Trip \$100.00    Building:\$40.00	Costa Rica Mission Trip\$100.00    Building:\$40.00
Oil Belt Christian Service Camp \$25.00	Sunday School:\$ 9.50
Sunday School:\$10.00	Countrymark Refining:\$31.06

***April 9th Greeters:*** Terry & Nancy Harper ***April 9th Home Communion:*** Jon Zerkel & Don Thoele

***April 16th Greeters:*** Sandy Grimsley & Judy Tapp ***April 16th Home Communion:***



## ***Directory Pictures—Share Your Talents***

### **Volunteers Needed**

Help needed in **publicizing** our directory event

Help needed in **contacting** our families

Help needed with portrait **appointment** sign ups

Help needed in **greeting** our families during photo sessions

Help needed choosing **candid photography** for our directory's activity pages

Help needed in **creative design** ideas for our new directory

**Students** interested can gain student community service hours

**Let Pastor David know** if you can help in any of the above categories



## ***Young @ Heart***

### **Tuesday, April 11th**

Come @ 9:00 a.m. to share in coffee/tea,

fellowship and prayer in Beebe Hall

All 50 and over are invited to come and be with us on Tuesday mornings



## ***Women's Ministry Invites You***

### **Tuesday, April 11th**

Come and join us at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship, snacks, prayer and Bible study. The name of the Bible study is *Let's All Be Brave* with Annie F. Downs. The lesson this month is on Jesus.





# Prayer Requests



**Homebound and Nursing Home:** Marie Waddell, Bonnie Koester, Wanda Morgan, Holly Arney, Loretta Quast, Cecil "Paul" Richey, Wilma Sherrick, Marie Fulk, Harry Johnson, Don VanDeveer, Lulubelle Winn, Oneida Lewis, Eleanor Bounds, Elinor Wolford, Elfrieda Zerkel, Eldon Ooton, Darlene Zimdars

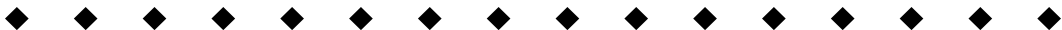


**Cancer:** Laura Knierim, Sharon Douglas, Shirley Strickland, Ron Anderson, Tatum, Ashley Judd, June Cain, Linda Smith, Paul Dempsey, Barb Eaton, Patty Willis, Alayna Plank, Renae Metke, Andy, Mike Page, Tom Koester, Brett Walker, Gary Lewis, Brandy Harper, Tiffany Dunaway, Brad Arney's Great Grandson Parker Burns, Susie Mast, Nancy Koester, Patrice Runyon, John Arnold, Carley Tull, Robert Barkauska, Jessica Baker, Nikki Szyonik, Katie Krueger, Misty Ulmer, Lanny Grove, Joshua McConnell, Rosemary Niemerg, Paula Jones, Mike Altgilbers, Ruth, Barb Gaddis, Elizabeth Weidner, Trish Couch, Wyatt Smith, Dallas Parkhurst, Ray Bushue, Bill Dentln, Darrell Raymond, Jane Ann's Friend, Joy Gamber, Gene Moeller, Angie Thomason, Cindy Thomason, Ellen Walk, Sue Heth, Ken Gilbert, Arlene Mullen, Donna Pollock, Cheryl Woodard, Joe Stoops, Roland O'Leary, Jill Fiddler, Scott Chalcant, Dallas Hurst, Caleb, Tammy Zuber, Lynn Weddle's two sisters, Travis Stine, Linda Packer



**Special Needs:** Darlene & Gary Elliott, Elaine Griffin, Lee Beals, Gloria Herrera, Mary Muntean, Michelle Vonderheide, Carol Grimes, Tammy Culler, Russ Mitchell, Randal Loy, Leslie Reed, FCCs 150th anniversary, Lynn Weddle, Judy Tapp, Harriett Moore, Lois Ooton, Annaka Robison, Barbara White, Diane Donaldson, Dan Inman, Joel Harrison, Kelvin Williams, Elizabeth Thurston, Roy & Agnes Simpson, Connie Zerrusen, Ken Thomason, Rosario Madero—Pastor Martin's grandma, Andrew Collins' wife, Costa Rica Mission Trip—Youth, David Boice, Cody Garner, John Weiffenbach, Bailey, Justine's co-worker's, Jeri Bokor

(These names will remain on the prayer list for one month. Then, we need an update to put their names back on this Special Needs list.)



**Missions:** Costa Rica Mission Trip



**Military:** J.R. Trueblood, Troops in harms way, Tyler Cross in the Air Force



**Grieving Families:** Frank Percival Family, Beulah Ritter Family, Anita Cowger Family, Earnie Gilmore Family, Jerry Donaldson Family, Joe Denton Family

## Thanks To All

### Anita Cowger's Church Family

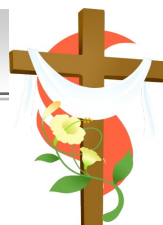
Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and kind words over the past few month. We appreciate the many cards, visitors and meals we have received due to your kindness. We are blessed to know our Mom had a great church family and she is watching over us all now.

Blessings,  
Caryn Cross & Family





## ***Easter Lily Plants For Easter***



### **Easter Lily For Church**



Anyone who would like to donate a lily in memory of a family member or to donate for decorating the church for Easter would be greatly appreciated.  
Please have the lily brought to the church by **April 14th**.

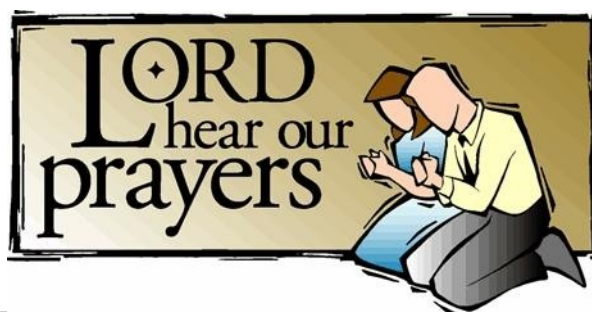
## ***Good Friday***

### **Chain of Prayer**

There are a few afternoon prayer times open on the Chain of Prayer list. Please, sign up in the foyer or call the church office.

2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



## ***Sunday Evening Service***

### **Sunday, April 15th**

This service will be dismissed for Easter Sunday evening.

## ***Sunrise Easter Service***

### **Sunday, April 16th**



Join us at the Cross @ **6:00 a.m.**  
**Pastor Jared Chesnut** from the Church of God will lead the worship service







## ***Graduates***

### **Sunday, May 21st**

If you have a family member **graduating from school, college, university or a tech school**, let the office know so we can recognize them during worship service.

#### **Information needed:**

Name, school and degree



## ***Volunteers Needed***

### **Upward Soccer & V.B.S. Community Events**

Plans for **Upward Soccer** are under way. Helpers are needed for the practice days and the game days. **Practice Days for week 1** are **June 12th, 13th, 15th & 16th** practice hours of 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **Game day is June 17th** and hours are 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The **week 2 of soccer practice days** are **June 26th, 27th, 29th & 30th** with practice hours of 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **Game day is July 1st** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Plans for **Vacation Bible School** are under way as well. Helpers are needed for the week of **July 10th through the 14th**.

Let one of the pastors know if you can help with any of these events



## ***April Challenge***

### **Eliminating Biblical Illiteracy**

Biblical illiteracy has increased dramatically in recent years. People including Christians know less and less about the Bible. If we claim to be a people of the Book, we should have a working knowledge of the Bible. During the next several months, we as a congregation will be working toward eliminating Biblical illiteracy by increasing our knowledge and understanding of the Bible. Each month we will be focusing on a different part of the Bible and attempting to increase our knowledge of that part of Scripture.



In April, our challenge is to memorize the names of the twelve disciples of Jesus. In addition to memorizing the names of the disciples, we will also be learning information about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus today. Won't you join us in this worthwhile endeavor? Be sure to pick up your Bible question calendar for April!



6 Serving Jesus

## Youth Event

**Friday, April 14th**

7th grade through 12th grade meet Pastor Martin at the movies to watch the *Case for Christ*



## Calvary Baptist Food Pantry

**Sunday, May 7th**

Rice, Macaroni & Cheese or Instant Potatoes is due in Beebe Hall



## *New Directory Photo Sessions*

**April 20th, 21st or 22nd**

Life Touch will be taking pictures:

Thursday, April 20th—2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday, April 21st—2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 22nd—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Sign Up on [fcceffingham.com](http://fcceffingham.com)**

Just click on the rotating picture on the home page, or the button beside the rotating pictures or hover over the “Upcoming Events” and click on Life Touch Button



## Immeasurable Harvest

**2016-2017 Faith Promise Giving**

**Promised**  
**\$38,790**

**Given**  
**\$22,319**

