



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 219

May 26, 2020

What Manner of Love

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Mark Your Calendar

Tuesdays Online Prayer Time Starts
@ noon on the First Christian Church
Effingham Facebook (See page 2)

**Worship Services for Sunday, May
31st** Start @ 10:00 a.m. On Facebook
and You Tube First Christian Church
Effingham accounts

Tuesday, June 2nd Young @ Heart
meets @ 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, June 3rd Youth &
Young Adults meet @ 5:30 p. m.

Thursday, June 4th Elders meet @
9:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 7th Canned Meat, Des-
sert Mixes, Cereal or your choice is
due in Beebe Hall

Sunday, June 7th Church services
will be @ 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 9th Women's Evening
meeting will meet @ 6:30 p.m. with
Danielle Niebrugge speaking



Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

As I am writing this column, it is Monday afternoon, Memorial Day 2020. It is a beautiful day in Effingham, Illinois, USA. All seems to be peaceful and calm. One of the reasons why I am able to enjoy a peaceful afternoon is because of those brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to secure and ensure my freedom. May we remember those who died for the cause of freedom!

Freedom is a concept that has become a little more real and dear to our hearts in recent weeks. Because of the lockdown due to the Covid-19 crisis, some of our freedoms have been limited. The freedom that most readily comes to mind is the freedom to assemble for worship.

To prevent the spread of the virus, governors in most states had forbidden the meeting of churches. In some instances, when those executive orders were violated, arrests were made and fines were levied. Three months ago, I could not have imagined this happening in America.

I understand the reasoning on the part of the government for taking such actions. I am not ignoring the importance of what our government has asked the churches to do.

However, I want you to think with me for just a moment. Isn't it interesting and unsettling how quickly one of our most cherished freedoms, the freedom of religion and worship, was suspended? How quickly we willingly gave up that right. We were obedient to the governing authorities even as we are commanded to do in Romans 13. How quickly the position of the church in the nation was recognized as a threat to the health and well-being of our society rather than a contributor to the health of the nation. How quickly we went from being essential to being non-essential.

Today it was the temporary suspension of our freedom for a legitimate reason. What will tomorrow bring? Since it seemed so easy to get the church to comply with lockdown restrictions today, perhaps it would not be difficult to get them to comply with other more permanent restrictions tomorrow.

"The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime and the punishment of his guilt." John Philpot Curran (Irish lawyer, orator and statesman of the 18th century)

I urge you to continue to pray for America and to always be on guard to preserve the freedom that was bought for us at a great price.

Hoping to see C U N Church really soon,
David



<i>Serving In May & June</i> <i>Communion Table : May 31st—Jon Zerkel; June 7th—Dennis Bushue</i>	
5/10/2020 Attendance & Giving Total: 1,665 .00 includes Faith Promise & Online Offering	5/17/2020 Attendance & Giving Total: 3,498.00 includes Faith Promise & Online Offering
Property Ministry (Building)\$40.00	Online Giving:\$518.00 Property Ministry (Building)\$40.00
Faith Promise \$20.00	Faith Promise \$96.00

Prayer Tuesdays

Tuesday On Facebook

Join us online on First Christian Church Effingham Facebook account to pray together. Text, call or message and let us know if you have prayer concerns you want added to the list on Tuesdays.



Church Online

Sunday, May 31st

Tune in at 10:00 a.m. online at First Christian Church Facebook or You Tube pages. There will be a time of worship, communion and a message video taped each week.

For technical difficulties call or text Pastor Martin @ (217) 317-3800. He will be here from 9:30 a.m. till the church service finishes airing.



Prayer List



Cancer: Diane Slone (Chemo), Larry Ensign (lung and bone cancer & broken hip)

Special Needs: Sharon Caylor (breathing problems), Lindsay Rother (Mono), Loretta Miller (home healing from ulcer), Chris Gallina (Colon blockage surgery), James (depressed), Stephanie Vonderheide (health issues), Jim Schroeder (4 heart bypass), Ralitsa Bapseza (abnormalities in blood), Karen Clay's Sister (husband relationship problems), Hazel Kingery (Cataract Surgery), Bill Arnold (Ankle surgery), friend to Amanda Young (car accident), June McConnell (dealing with not going out from assisted living), Phyllis Mitchell (Lakeland with heart issues), Karen Ritter (heart surgery)

Grieving Families: Dori Cazier's Mom's Family, Judy Traub Family, Terry Smith Family, Dave Mayfield Family

Oil Belt Christian Service Camp



Updated 2020 Summer Camp Schedule

Date	Grade	Camp	Check-in	Check-out
July 19-24	7 th -8 th	Jr. High	3:30pm	3:30pm
July 26-31	9 th -13 th	Sr. High	3:30pm	3:30pm
August 1	1 st -3 rd	Sunrise Day Camp	10:30am	3:30pm
August 2-7	5 th -6 th	Encounter	3:30pm	3:30pm
August 9-11	4 th -5 th	Pathfinder	3:30pm	5:30pm



On Line Giving

FCCEffingham.com

Go to first Christian Church web site and click on the Giving and the page will go to the Kindrid giving page for FCC. You will have to put in your information and bank routing number to make a donation.

Young @ Heart

Tuesday, June 2nd

All over 50 meet @ 9:00 a.m. Please, bring your own coffee/tea. Please wear a mask and sit 6 feet apart.



Youth & Young Adults

Wednesday, June 3rd

All youth and young adults meet @ 5:30 p.m. for worship, prayer and Bible study





In-Person Worship Services

Sunday, June 7th

Two worship services will meet at First Christian Church.

The **first service will convene @ 9:00 a.m.** Those who are most vulnerable to the Covid 19 virus are encouraged to attend this first service.

The **second service will begin @ 11:00 a.m.** Those less vulnerable to the Covid 19 virus are encouraged to attend this second service.

Seating: Ushers will aid in helping with 6 foot apart seating.

Giving: Offering box will be in the foyer for convenience of dropping your offering in.

Communion: Individual sealed communion will be available at each pew.

Cleaning: All touchable surfaces will be cleaned before, in between and after the services. We request all to wear masks to the worship service.

The church office will be calling you to see which service you would prefer to attend.

If you feel uncomfortable attending, you may still watch the service on either Facebook or YouTube later that Sunday after it is uploaded. A letter with more details will be coming in the mail soon.



Women's Evening Meeting

Tuesday, June 9th

Since we have not met for the last two months, we will meet on June 9th @ 6:30 p.m.

Please wear a mask, and social distance from each other

Danielle Niebrugge will lead our group in a Bible study journaling hour.

Bring a notebook and your Bible to this special evening.



Voice of the Martyrs

May. 21, 2020 | Nigeria

Pandemic Hasn't Stopped Attacks or Aid

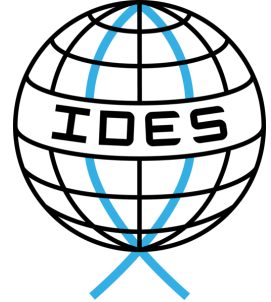
The global pandemic has not stopped Muslim militants from continuing their attacks on Christian villages in northern Nigeria. VOM workers have documented attacks on 15 cities in Plateau and Kaduna states since Jan. 8, 2020. At least 86 people have been killed, 13 kidnapped and 24 injured in the attacks, and more than 400 families have had to relocate. In the most recent attack, on May 5, eight militants shot a pastor, his wife and their two children at their home; thankfully, all survived. Despite pandemic lockdown measures, VOM workers have been able to distribute food aid on the three days per week when travel is permitted, and safety measures are in place to protect those receiving the aid. "We continue our commitment to serve the persecuted in the midst of the pandemic," VOM's regional director for Africa said.



International Disaster Emergency Service

A Message from IDES' Executive Director

Do you see the blue fish shape in the middle of the IDES logo? It's an ancient symbol used to help Christians reassure one another that they were not alone – other believers were standing with them in difficult times. IDES is here to strengthen the witness of the church, mobilizing ministry resources throughout the world in the name of Jesus Christ. Our hope is anchored in Him!



In the midst of the Corona virus (COVID-19) crisis we are taking necessary precautions to protect the IDES staff and volunteers. Some of our scheduled events and speaking engagements must be cancelled. Yet we are committed to serving the continued needs of suffering people. IDES sent a shipment of medical supplies to mission partners in China at the onset of what is now a world-wide pandemic. We are providing some of IDES' packaged meals for local families struggling with food insecurity. Heroic IDES volunteers are helping with tornado cleanup and recovery in East Tennessee this very moment!

Every time we wash our hands, let's be praying for each other! We are not alone. God is with us and He is giving us opportunities to share His love to a fearful world. Thank you for standing with the IDES ministry as we partner with Christians in many places to advance God's kingdom through compassionate crisis care.

Rick Jett

Executive Director



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SERVICE REQUESTED

Food Pantry Items

Sunday, June 7th

Please bring Canned Meat, Dessert Mixes, Cereal or your choice for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry.



Faith Promise Rally 2019/2020

Promises Made

\$53,492.00 for 2019/2020

Theme: Take God At His Word

Bible Verse: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33

Received So Far:

\$26,847.00

