



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 246 July 6, 2021

The Way, The Truth & The Life

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Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, July 11th Children's Church will meet after communion with Gospel Project curriculum

Tuesday, July 13th Young @ Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m.

Tuesdays Online Prayer Time Starts @ noon on the First Christian Church Effingham Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FCCEffingham> and You Tube [First Christian Church of Effingham - YouTube](#)

Wednesday, July 14th W.O.W. meets @ 6:00 p.m. continuing *The Chosen* season 2 videos

Monday, July 19th God's Great Masterpiece V.B.S. begins at 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will continue Tues. and Wed. as well

Sunday, August 1st Please, bring Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta, Cereal or your choice to Beebe Hall for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry

Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

I hope that you had an enjoyable Fourth of July celebration. Every nation in the world has a fourth of July but only the United States of America has the kind of Fourth that we do. As you know, we celebrate our country's independence on that day because it was on July 4, 1776 that the second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence declaring that the 13 colonies were breaking ties with Great Britain.

There are many patriotic songs that are sung to honor our country but none (in my mind) any more pointed as to the source of our freedom than "God Bless America." We sang the song as a congregation this past Sunday morning in our worship service and this past Sunday evening at our picnic. I don't know what others are thinking when they join in singing this song, but I am offering the song as a prayer to God. "God, please bless America. May you stand beside her and guide her through the night with a light from above."

The song became quite popular through the dark days leading up to and then going through the Second World War. Kate Smith was the artist who is most well known as the singer of this song. Something that I did not know was that there are introductory lyrics to the song that we never sing. Those lyrics are:

"While the storm clouds gather far across the sea

Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free

Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,

As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer."

I don't suppose it should surprise me that we never use those lyrics anymore. We certainly would not want to acknowledge God in a public forum and offer a prayer to Him. Instead of a plea for God's blessings, I have to wonder if many may be singing the words as a demand for God to bless our land. We are undeserving of His blessings and we desperately need His grace and mercy. So join me in prayer asking God to please bless America again.

I hope to see you this coming Lord's Day morning!

C U N Church,
David



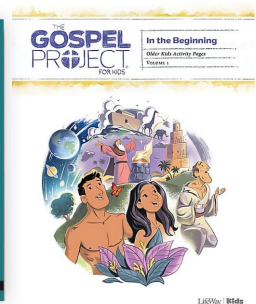
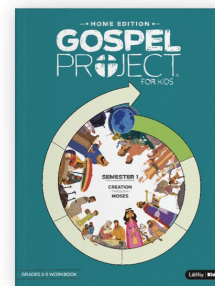
Serving In July Communion Table : July 11th—Troy Bloemker; July 18th—Delaine Donaldson	
6/20/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$3,609.45 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving	6/27/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$2,683.62 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving
Attendance: 71 Family Life Center: \$361.45	Attendance: 71 Property Ministry (Building): \$40.00 Soccer Fees: \$60.00 Initial Offering: \$20.00
Faith Promise: \$261.00 Soccer Fees: \$150.00 Vernon Jamison Memorial: \$100.00	Faith Promise \$411.00 Quilt Guild Donation: \$98.00 Family Life Center: \$84.62
7/4/2021 Attendance & Giving	
Total: \$7,766.00 Attendance: 68 Property Ministry (Building): \$ 40.00 Soccer fees: \$270.00	Faith Promise: \$2,146.00 Initial Offering: \$5.00

Children's Church

Sunday, July 11th

Children's church will meet in Beebe Hall directly after communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Children 5th grade and under are invited to attend. Gospel Project curriculum will be used for these classes.

There is also a home edition parents can buy.



Young @ Heart

Tuesday, July 13th

All over 50 meet @ 9:00 a.m. Coffee will be available along with a snack cake. Come for the conversation and prayer time.



Prayer List



Cancer: Journey Campton (tumors removed), Rosie Parkhurst (lung cancer), Diane Slone (cancer drug IV), Scott Young (chemo)

Special Needs: Charlotte Wright (Broken ankle bone & heart monitor), Ashley Goldstein (bulged disk), Ken Thomason (Lung problems), Gary Elliot (Home, still health issues), Ruby Tabor, Ruth Lowrance (Home, still health issues), Jane Jensen (knee replaced), Jesse Bushue (foot & ankle surgery), Elaine Griffin (back & hip pain), Jamie Thomason (Pneumonia), David Westphal (Health Issues), Allen Hinkle (shattered pelvis), Barb Young (hematoma from fall)

Missions: Faith Promise 2020/2021, Voice of the Martyrs, IDES

Pray For These Families: John Patralski Family, Rachelle Hinkle Family, Ralph Raber Family

NEW: Prayer Bulletin Board: Anyone can add anonymous prayers to the board. Note paper & pen available.

Tuesday, Prayer Time

Every Tuesday @ Noon

Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FCCEffingham> to share in the prayer time with Pastor David & Pastor Martin. The prayer time can be viewed at your convenience because it is streamed and saved.



W.O.W.

Wednesday, July 14th

We are meeting @ 6:00 p.m. and watching *The Chosen* 2nd season videos. Then, we will have discussion and worship to follow.





Vacation Bible School



FCC's V.B.S. Studio 2:10

Ages: K to 6th grade

Dates: July 19, 20, 21

Times: 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: First Christian Church

Bible Verse: Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

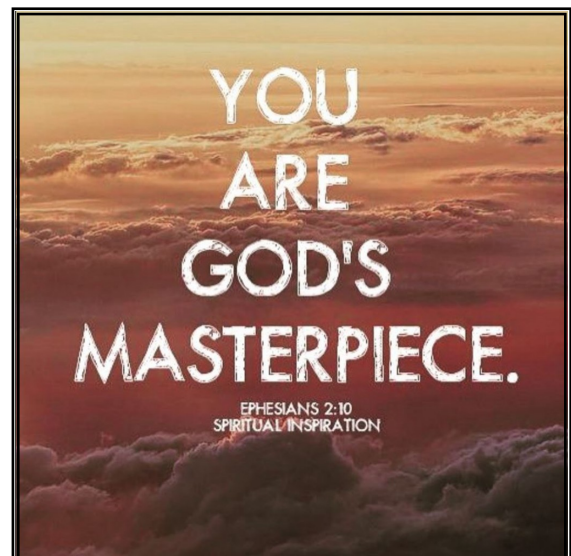
Themes For Each Day:

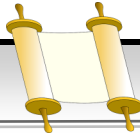
Day 1: Create

Day 2: Salvation

Day 3: Following Jesus

Each day there will be Opening, Worship, Studio Art, Mission Point, Snack, Fun Play Time, Closing





Book Of The Month



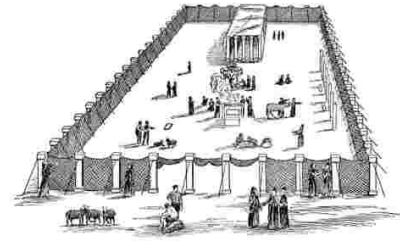
Bible Reading

Study Guide for Leviticus is on the foyer table

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible

Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



Food Pantry Items

Sunday, August 1st

Please bring Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Cereal or your choice for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry.



Oil Belt Christian Service Camp

75 Year Anniversary

Join with us the celebrate Oil Belt Christian Service Camp's 75th year! Below are a few of the activities and plans we have.

Oil Belt Recipe & History Book is currently being created. To purchase yours, more information is forthcoming.

Attend Family Camp 2021 for a special service on Sunday, September 5, 2021.

- Mail / Email your pictures, videos and stories to the camp office!
- Stay Tuned! We have more planned!



Faith Promise 2020

Promises Made

\$36,117.00 for 2020/2021

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—\$30,198.00





**First Christian church
901 N. Henrietta
Effingham, IL 62401
SERVICE REQUESTED**



**901 N. Henrietta St.
Effingham, IL 62401**

Sunday Times

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

9:40 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. Fellowship Time

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday Morning

9:00 a.m. Young @ Heart Coffee & Prayer Time

Wednesday Evening

6:00 p.m. Bible Study & Worship Time