



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 171

May 15, 2018

Under His Wings

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Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, May 22nd Young @ Heart
meets @ 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 23rd Last W.O.W.
for Youth & Young Adults for the
season meets @ 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 24th Vacation Bible
School Meeting meets @ 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 25th Upward Soccer
Evaluations meets from 5:00 p.m. to
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 26th Upward Soccer
Evaluations meets from 10:00 a.m. to
12:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 27th Recognize gradu-
ates during worship service

Sunday, June 3rd Canned Meat, Des-
sert Mixes or your choice due in
Beebe Hall for Calvary Baptist Food
Pantry

Tuesday, June 5th Elder's Meet @
6:30 p.m.

Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

Have you ever felt inadequate in your ability to serve the Lord? I suspect all of us have felt that way at some time in our life and some of you may be feeling that way now. I hope the following article might help you see that God can and will use us despite our imperfections.

A PARABLE FOR ALL CRACKED POTS

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots of water to his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you." "Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said. The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure. The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His table.

I hope to see each of you this coming Lord's Day morning as we gather for worship and fellowship. Let's each of us do our very best to be present when the church meets!

C U N Church,
David

***Serving In May******Elder:*** Dennis Bushue & Jon Zerkel alternating***Deacons:*** Tom Waldhoff, Vernon Jamison, Don Thoele, Kevin Jamison***Deaconesses:*** Linda Rush & Irma McConnell

<i>5/6/18 Attendance & Giving</i> <i>Total: \$ 4,608.68 includes Faith Promise Offering</i>		<i>5/13/18 Attendance & Giving</i> <i>Total: \$ 4,116.00 includes Faith Promise Offering</i>	
Worship:96	Sunday School:23	Worship:110	Sunday School:23
<i>Faith Promise Missions: \$1,020.00</i> <i>Upward Soccer: \$45.00</i>		<i>Faith Promise Offering:\$730.00</i> <i>Upward Soccer:\$45.00</i>	
<i>Building:\$40.00</i>		<i>Building:\$40.00</i>	
<i>Sunday School:\$12.00</i>		<i>Sunday School:\$18.00</i>	

May 20th Greeters: Dallas & Hazel Kingery ***May 20th Home Communion:*** David McConnell***May 27th Greeters:*** Elsie Palmer & Reenie Miller ***May 27th Home Communion:*** Martin Reyes

Young @ Heart

Tuesday, May 22nd

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



W.O.W.



Wednesday, May 23rd

No adult or children Bible study till September

**W.O.W. begins @ 5:30 p.m. with supper,
then worship in song and Bible study to follow.**

This is the last W.O.W. for the season for
Youth and Young Adults.



Homebound and Nursing Home: Marie Waddell, Bonnie Koester, Wanda Morgan, Holly Arney, Marie Fulk, Don VanDeveer, Oneida Lewis, Elinor Wolford, Elfrieda Zerkel, Darlene Zimdars, Dorothy Locke, Cecil "Paul" Richey, Jackie Kersey



Cancer: Laura Knierim, Sharon Douglas, Shirley Strickland, Ron Anderson, Tatum, Ashley Judd, Linda Smith, Paul Dempsey, Barb Eaton, Patty Willis, Alayna Plank, Renae Metke, Andy, Mike Page, Tom Koester, 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 Szynonik, Misty Ulmer, Lanny Grove, Joshua McConnell, Rosemary Niemerg, Paula Jones, Ruth, Barb Gaddis, Elizabeth Weidner, Wyatt Smith, Dallas Parkhurst, Ray Bushue, Bill Dentln, Jane Ann's Friend, Joy Gamber, Gene Moeller, Ellen Walk, Arlene Mullen, Joe Stoops, Jill Fiddler, Scott Chalcant, Dallas Hurst, Caleb, Sandy Brockett, Travis Stine, Diane Slone, Ken Roley, Lois Bartels, Cindy Meitzner, Mat Reed, Adam Stoops, Allen Griffin, Kathy Schroeder, Joyce Jordon Griggs, Mitchell Coffin, Grace Frye, Steve Sabens, Dennis Young's Sister-in-law's sister, Reenie's Cousin Teri, A.J.'s Grandmother, Brad Hockman & family, Hanna Henning



Special Needs: Darlene & Gary Elliott, Elaine Griffin, Mary Muntean, Rodney Raber, LeAnn Spruell, David Shouse, Brad Donaldson, Callista Denoyer, Sarah Gremo & baby Cal, Ron Thomason, Lydie Anderson, Josh & Rochelle Dunkel, Craig Lattig, Irma McConnell, Phyllis & Russ Mitchell, Bonnie Thomas, Jody Scribner, Nadine Bair, Ken Thomason, Zoe Sanchez-Grubb, Diane Donaldson, Sandy Grimsley, Sandi Donaldson, Bev Thoele, Sara (Roedl) Niccum's premature son Oliver, Bobbie Raymond, Chris Hutcheson's nephew, Reenie's nephew A.J., Michele Vonderheide, Melissa Ross, Pastor Martin's sister, Vicky Stout, Sequoia (Dennis Young's granddaughter), Lynn Weddle, Syria, Douglas Nursing & Rehab Residents and Staff and families, Alistair Titsworth, Ashley (friend to Mary Muntean), Brad Arney, Holly Cornell, Tracey Scoggins, Maddie Harrison, Danny Vasquez, Gary Elliott's Sister-Evelyn

(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.)



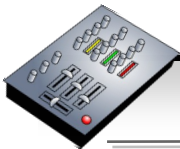
Missions: Oil Belt Christian Service Camp, Heartland Christian Village



Military: Troops in Harms Way; Tyler Cross in the Air Force



Grieving Families: Wilma Sherrick Family, Catherine's Family (Cynthia Carr's Sister-In-law), Jacquelynn Scott Family, Virginia Fox Family, Charlie Moon Family, Dale Smith Family, Cheryl Woodard Family, Grandma Lucille Family



Sound Room Volunteer

Need Minimum of One Volunteer More

If we have 6 people in rotation in **manning the church's Audio/Visual booth** during our Sunday morning services **everyone only has two months** out of the year to man the booth.

No experience is necessary... Jon Zerkel will be happy to train any volunteers. Responsibilities include ensuring that all speakers have access to a working mic, displaying the power point slides for announcements, hymns, and the sermon, and recording the sermon.

Contact Jon Zerkel with any questions





JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1,2 (NIV)					1	2
3 Food Pantry Items Canned Meat, Dessert Mixes Due	4	5 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m. Elders meet @ 6:30 p.m.	6	7	8	9
10	11 Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	12 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m. Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	13 Open Church Begins 4to 7 p.m. worship 6 to 7 p.m.	14  Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	15 Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	16 Upward Soccer Game Day 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
17 Bring Baby Bottles Back HAPPY Father's Day!	18	19 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m.	20 Open Church 4to 7 p.m. worship 6 to 7 p.m.	21 Last V.B.S. Meeting starts @ 5:30 p.m.	22	23 Children's Event 10:00 a.m. to Noon— Soccer day
24	25 Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	26 Young @ Heart Meet @ 9:00 a.m. Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	27 Open Church 4to 7 p.m. worship 6 to 7 p.m.	28 Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	29 Upward Soccer 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	30 Upward Soccer Game Day 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

5. Troy Bloemker	BD	18. John Donathan	BD
6. Linda Rush	BD	20. Jeromy Knaus	BD
7. Jeff & Laurie Akeman	WA	20. Josh Knaus	BD
9. Audrey Shouse	BD	22. Payton Bushue	BD
9. Toby & Heather Wolke	WA	23. LeAnn Spruell	BD
10. Jeff Akeman	BD	26. Holly Bloemker	BD
11. Scott & Julie Healy	WA	29. Rodney Raber	BD
11. Terry & Nancy Harper	WA	30. Nancy Harper	BD
13. Erin Calvert	BD		
15. Darlene Elliott	BD		
15. Randy Bushue	BD		
16. Klent & Tracey Scoggins	WA		



Memorial Day Brief History

For some, **Memorial Day** is the unofficial start of summer, a long holiday weekend to head to the beach or fire up the barbeque. I sincerely hope that Americans attach a deeper meaning to this unique holiday.

Here's a **brief history lesson about Memorial Day**. In the 19th century, "Decoration Day" was started to encourage citizens to decorate the graves of soldiers who died in the Civil War. After World War I, the observance expanded to include ceremonies honoring those who died in all of America's wars. **The holiday became Memorial Day in 1967.**

Now Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday in May.

Touching and beautiful ceremonies are held at cemeteries across the country, and if you haven't ever attended one, I encourage you to go this year. I guarantee you'll come away with a new appreciation for the extraordinary efforts of our veterans, and the ultimate sacrifice of those who gave their lives for our country. General George S. Patton offered his own perspective: "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived."

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Over 400,000 American soldiers and sailors died in World War II. Many of the veterans from that war are already gone and many are dying daily. These are the unsung heroes who saw action in Europe, Asia and Africa, and then came home and got down to business. We know them as the "Greatest Generation" – the men and women who took on big challenges and gave selflessly.

We honor them for their commitment and service. We recognize their sacrifices, and their families' sacrifices, that allow us to go about our everyday activities.

We shouldn't wait until Memorial Day to show our gratitude for our servicemen and women. I am grateful to those who have made my freedoms possible.

Harvey Mackay

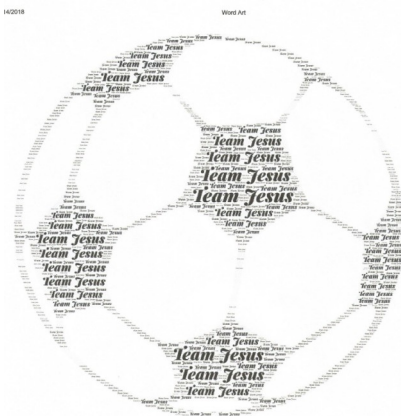




Vacation Bible School Meeting

Thursday, May 24th

The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. We will discuss more about the plans under way for July 9th through July 13th week of Team Jesus Vacation Bible School, and what next year's V.B.S. will need.



Graduates Or Promotions

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Graduates and those promoted to high school will be recognized during worship service.

Please call (217. 342.6797), text (217.317.3800) or e-mail (fcceffingham@gmail.com) the office with information about your graduate. If you have a picture you want added to the newsletter, it would be great if you could send that e-mail as well. We need the Name, degree and honors, and the school they are graduating from. The article will appear in the 2nd newsletter on May 15th.



May Book of the Month

Exodus

A **study guide** is available on the foyer table.
Pastor David will be preaching from **Exodus** during the month of May

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible
Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



Oil Belt Kitchen Helpers

Saturday, June 2nd

The morning shift for Oil Belt Kitchen help is needed for hours
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



**Two volunteers are
needed.**



Calvary Baptist Food Pantry

Sunday, June 3rd

Canned Meat , Dessert Mixes or your choice are due
in Beebe Hall



Faith Promise

2017-2018 Faith Promise Giving	
<u>Promised</u>	<u>Given</u>
\$30,220.00	\$16,992.00





Upward Soccer



**First Christian Church
901 N. Henrietta St.
Effingham, IL**



Evaluations

Friday, May 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 26th from 10:00 a.m. to noon (Also last date to register)

Cost: \$45.00 (*Includes, Soccer Ball, T-shirt, Water bottle and Award Poster*)

Two Weeks of Camp:

June 11 to 16 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)

Wednesdays off & Saturday is game day

June 25 to 30 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)

Wednesdays off & Saturday is game day

(K-4 to 6th Grade)