



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 232

December 1, 2020

The Way, The Truth & The Life

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Mark Your Calendar

Worship Services for Sundays The services will stream live to watch on You Tube First Christian Church Effingham accounts for the 10:00 a.m. service each Sunday

Friday, December 4th

Come, decorate the church for Christmas from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 5th Come, decorate the church for Christmas from 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Sunday, December 6th Flour, Sugar, cereal or your choice is due in Beebe Hall for Calvary Baptist Church food pantry

Tuesday, December 8th Young @ Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 8th Women's Christmas Party @ 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays Online Prayer Time Starts @ noon on the First Christian Church Effingham Facebook

Wednesday, December 9th Youth & Young Adults will meet @ 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19th Open House for John & Cathy Weiffenbach's 50th anniversary from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

I was disappointed that I was not able to be in church on Sunday. I was really looking forward to sharing with you in a special thanksgiving service. I had selected the songs to help us focus on the items I had mentioned in my sermon on November 22. Praise God and be thankful to Him for His creation, His faithfulness, His plan and Heaven. I trust that those of you who were able to be there were able to experience a great time of praise.

The health experts had been encouraging us to have a "quiet" Thanksgiving. Just exactly what is a "quiet" Thanksgiving? I believe their intention was that everyone was to stay at home and celebrate on their own. That sounds ok, because to many people the Thanksgiving holiday is more of a passive event. I mean, a typical Thanksgiving consists of sitting around the table and eating or sitting around the family room and watching TV (football or Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade). We bow our heads and give thanks to God. Is a quiet thanksgiving what God would have us to observe?

Quiet is a word that actually has several shades of meaning. It can mean uneventful. If it is a quiet weather day, then that means there really aren't any major weather disturbances. If you have a quiet wedding or celebration, then that might mean that the event is a private one. In baseball, if the bats are quiet then that means there aren't many hits by the offense. If the lake is quiet, there isn't any activity on the lake. So, is that the kind of thanksgiving we are to celebrate? No action, no noise, and private? Not according to what we are taught in the Scriptures.

In Psalms 105:1 we are told to "Give thanks to the Lord." Are we to do that quietly or privately? Just read the next several verses and you will be struck by all the action verbs. We are to **call** on his name, **make known** among the nations what he has done, **sing** to him, **tell** of all his wonderful acts, **glory** in his holy name, **look** to the Lord, **seek** his face always, and **remember** the wonders he has done. That is a lot of action! How about silent thanksgiving? I am reminded of the leper who was healed by Jesus. He came back to Jesus and thanked Him "praising God in a loud voice." (Luke 17:15)

Let's not allow thanksgiving to be restricted to only one day of the year. Let gratitude and thanksgiving be a part of each day!

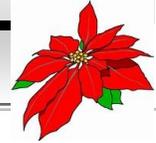
I look forward to the next time I will be able to be with you.

C U N Church,
David



<i>Serving In October</i>	
<i>Communion Table : November 22nd—Dennis Bushue; November 29th—Troy Bloemker</i>	
<i>11/22/2020 Attendance & Giving</i> Total: \$3,423.00 <i>includes Faith Promise & Online Giving</i>	<i>11/29/2020 Attendance & Giving</i> Total: \$2,483.00 <i>includes Faith Promise & Online Giving</i>
Attendance: 51 Property Ministry (Building):\$40.00	Attendance: 44 Property Ministry (Building):\$40.00
Faith Promise: \$406.00 Operation Christmas Child:\$120.00	Faith Promise \$276.00 2020/2021 Salvation Army Reimbursement:\$100.00

Decorate The Church



Come & Help Decorate

Friday, December 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. & Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Color Theme is **silver & gold with red accents**. If you wish to donate a poinsettia, please have at the church by December 5th. If possible, have the poinsettia covered with silver with a red bow.

Hope to see you all there!

Food Pantry Items

Sunday, December 6th

Please bring Flour, Sugar, cereal or your choice for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry.



Young @ Heart

Tuesday, December 8th

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

Special Needs: Sharon Caylor (health issues), U.S.A., Police, 1st Responders, Church, Vernon Jamison (COPD), Lisa Lipcamon (health Issues), Aaron Carroll (house burned), Koesters (garage fire damage), Ron Walls (hernia surgery 11/30/20), Cloe Spracklen (Tumor surgery)

Covid 19: Shorty & Lee Beals (recovering), June McConnell, Pat Schlueter, Joel & Cathy & Maddie Harrison, David McConnell II, Alexis Smith, Pat Schleuter, Debbie Little

Missions: Operation Christmas Child, Faith Promise 2020/2021, Salvation Army

Pray For These Families: Christine Huntington Family, Larry Kennedy Family, Mila Leach Family, Darlene Zimdars Family, Alice Fennessey Family, Marie Waddell

The LORD will
COMMAND
His lovingkindness
in the daytime,
And in the night
His SONG
shall be with me

Psalm 122

Women's Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 8th

6:30

Time: 6:30 p.m.

What to Bring:

A dozen cookies (we are having dessert only this year. A cookie exchange can be done for the leftover cookies)

\$5.00 for a Wal-Mart gift card for Oblong Children's Christian Home

Small exchange gift of under \$10.00 with a **star theme**



Showing The Video

From *The Chosen* series *The Nativity: A Christmas Special*

Secret Sisters

Bring a Christmas card for your secret sister to reveal to them who has been their secret sister all year.



W.O.W.

Wednesday, December 9th

Come and watch *The Chosen* episode *I Am He*

@ 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16th

Come and watch *The Shepherd* @ 6:00 p.m. This will be the last W.O.W. till January



Open House

John & Cathy Weiffenbach

Come, celebrate their 50th
wedding anniversary

Saturday, December 19th

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cake and punch will be
served

Please, no gifts, your pres-
ence is present enough



December Events

December 25th

Christmas Eve Candle Light Service starts @ 5:00
p.m.

Due to Covid 19 and CDC guidelines more informa-
tion will be coming



December 31st

New Year's Eve service starts @ 6:00 p.m.

There will not be a party after the service





Book Of The Month

December Bible Study Book

The book of the month for December is Isaiah

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible

Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



Foyer Wall Photos

Thankful Pictures

Mimi Bushue asks that anyone who has pictures of Christmas or winter to share with her to possible use for the thankful pictures in the wall in the foyer that she exchanges as the seasons change. Please, e-mail the pictures to Mimi @ denmib@consolidated.net

Then, In January, send a picture of a thankful time during Christmas to be considered for the thankful pictures on the wall in the foyer.



Faith Promise 2020

Promises Made

\$39,449.00 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—\$4,289.00





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

Worship Service

10:00 A.M.

We will continue to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing and wearing face masks

The 10:00 a.m. service will be streamed to FCC's You Tube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzvbjDnqiiSgRwsjlorIJhA>

For technical difficulties call or text Pastor Martin @ (217) 317-3800.

