



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 237

February 16 2021

The Way, The Truth & The Life

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Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, February 23rd Young @
Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m.

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

Wednesday, February 24th Youth &
Young adults meet @ 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 7th Peanut Butter,
Jelly, cereal or your choice is due in
Beebe Hall for Calvary Baptist
Church food pantry



Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

I am sitting at my desk looking out the window watching the snow fall. Snow can be a problem but it truly is a beautiful thing to watch. The Middle Eastern climate in which many of the events of the Bible occurred was not conducive for a lot of snow. The words “snow, snows, and snowy” appear 23 different times in the New International Version of the Bible. The Bible teaches us that God is the ultimate source of our weather including snow. Job 37:6 – “He says to the snow, “Fall on the earth,” and to the rain shower, “Be a mighty downpour.”

Psalms 147:15-16 – “He sends his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes.”

Snow is a part of God’s plan for providing moisture for the earth. Isaiah 55:10 – “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater.”

More than half of the times when snow appears in the Bible, it is used in a comparative sense and not as a condition of the weather. Three different times the appearance of leprosy is described as white like snow. Two different times clothing was described as being white as snow.

My favorite way that snow is used in comparing it to something else is when it is used to describe how my sins are forgiven. David in Psalms 51:7 begged for God’s forgiveness. “Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.” The Lord promised forgiveness in Isaiah 1:18. “Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” A vacant lot can have a lot of debris scattered across it but when a snowfall occurs, those blemishes disappear from our sight. Instead of a trashy yard, you have a beautiful landscape. Even as snow covers over many blemishes in nature, so the blood of Christ covers my sins and makes me pure in the sight of God. Thank you God for the snow and thank you God for the blood of Jesus that makes me white as snow?

C U N Church,
David



Serving In February Communion Table : February 21st—Troy Bloemker; February 28th—Delaine Donaldson	
2/7/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$6,262.50 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving	2/14/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$1,439.98 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving
Attendance: 47 Property Ministry (Building): \$40.00	Attendance: 41 Property Ministry (Building): \$40.00
Faith Promise: \$1,401.00	Faith Promise \$251.00 CD Interest: \$117.98

Young @ Heart

Tuesday, February 23rd

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



75th Oil Belt 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. Recipes and stories will be taken until October 15th, 2020. 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!





Prayer List



Cancer: Ed Book (leukemia), Anthony (leukemia), Sally Nevile

Special Needs: Sharon Caylor (health issues), U.S.A., Police, 1st Responders, Church, Eric Poorman (tumor on Kidney), Mark (sepsis), Dee Musgrave (Pneumonia & Low B/P), Don Schlueter (Knee Replacement), Jimmy Prager (Colon Resection), Sabrina Koppelman (Surgery), Muriel Dunckel (Anemia), Lynn Weddle (colon blockage), Sandy Brockett (infection & needs knee replaced), Linda VanAlst (surgery), Gina Hargis (Covid ventilator), Ray Schnake (pneumonia, staff infection)

Missions: Faith Promise 2020/2021

Pray For These Families: Martin Nosbisch Family, Pauline Verdeyen Family

Thanks To All

Décor & New Shelving

A big thanks to the **Tuesday coffee group** for helping to take down Christmas decorations. Also, for hauling down the many totes from upstairs storage.



Thanks to **Chris Hutcheson**, we have good, **strong shelves in a downstairs room** for storage of decorations, flower arrangements and sport equipment for the youth. Chris has been working on this for several weeks. Good job, Chris!!!

Thanks to June Ashley, Cleone bloemker, Richard Raber and the Jeff Bloemker families for sharing **poinsettias and wreathes for Christmas decoration**. Much appreciated.

There will be a **signup sheet** on the foyer table for anyone who would like to **decorate the Sanctuary or Beebe Hall** for a month or season. Your help would be much appreciated. We are in the heart of winter now, but take heart, Spring is just around the corner. Stay safe and well

Cheryl Bloemker



W.O.W.

Wednesday, February 24th

Youth & Young Adults will meet @ 6:00 p.m. in the church auditorium for worship & Bible Study



MARCH

4

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Young @ Heart @ 9:00 a.m.	3 W.O.W. meets @ 6:00 p.m.	4	5	6
7 Food Pantry items peanut butter, jelly, cereal or your choice	8	9 Young @ Heart @ 9:00 a.m. Women's meeting @ 6:30 p.m.	10 W.O.W. meets @ 6:00 p.m.	11	12	13 Seminar by IDES mission group
14 	15	16 Young @ Heart @ 9:00 a.m.	17 W.O.W. meets @ 6:00 p.m. 	18	19	20 
21	22	23 Young @ Heart @ 9:00 a.m.	24 W.O.W. meets @ 6:00 p.m.	25	26	27
28 	29	30	31	But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7(NIV)		

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

2-Elsie Palmer-	BD	24-Greg Spillman	BD
2-Tracey Scoggins-	BD	26-Sonya Davis-	BD
3-Bob & Judy Gregory	WA	26-Velda Cunningham-	BD
8-Jane Ann Zerkel-	BD	31-Bob Gregory	BD
11-Alexandria Denoyer-	BD		
14-Shirley Jamison-	BD		
15-Vernon & Shirley Jamison-	WA		
17-Pastor David's preaching anniversary			
23-Judy Tapp	BD		

HaPpY
BiRtHdAY
Happy
Anniversary



Foyer Wall Photos

Thankful Pictures

In January, those who have a picture of a thankful time during Christmas to be considered for the thankful pictures on the wall in the foyer send them to Mimi Bushue.

Please, e-mail the pictures to Mimi @ den-mib@consolidated.net



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—\$16,707.00





Food Pantry Items

Sunday, March 7th

Please bring Peanut Butter, Jelly, cereal or your choice for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry.



Oil Belt Christian Service Camp

March 13, 2021

Ladies' Day—Clothed in Grace

Spend a day being encouraged by Cindy Sigler Dagnan, International Speaker & Author, and being led in worship by Dee Ann Schnautz!

Pre-Register online by March 5th for the early bird rate of \$20.00.

After March 5th registration fee is \$25.00

Schedule:

Doors open & light breakfast @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship Begins: 9:00 a.m.

Dismiss: 2:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided

April 19, 2021

Minister's Gathering

May 2, 2021

Camp Open House from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.—tours, yard games, live music, food trucks and more!

6:00 p.m.—Activity room worship service

No cost & no need to register. Food available to purchase and Oil Belt shirts & gear.

May 21-23

Greater Retreat





Book Of The Month

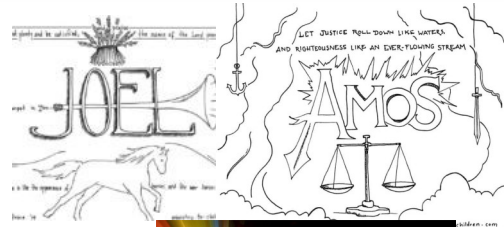
February Bible Study Book

The book of the month for February is Joel, Amos & Micah

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible

Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



IDES

Saturday, March 13, 2021

Who: All Effingham County-area churches, public safety agencies and disaster relief organizations

What: IDES "Prepare to Respond" disaster preparedness training

When: Saturday, March 13, 2021; 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Free Lunch provided by the church from noon to 12:30 p.m.

Where: First Christian Church

Why: Learn the church's role in different phases of a natural disaster



The Prepare to Respond Seminar Includes:

Background of IDES and how IDES can help before and after a disaster; a 10-step disaster preparedness plan; the best timing of the volunteer response to the disaster; the basics of managing donated good and monetary donations; the basics of using the church facility as a relief site; where your church's programs fit in the overall relief efforts; understanding how the "government" and non-government organizations mesh together; and understanding the benefits of "affiliated" volunteers with the proper Personal Protective Equipment.

Please RSVP to Cleone Bloemker @ 217-342-6797

Instructor: Ed Sanow, IDES Director of Training, 30 year veteran of law enforcement, ALERRT-certified in Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events. FEMA-certified as Community Emergency Response Team.



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 Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/FCCEffingham>

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

