



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 236

February 2, 2021

The Way, The Truth & The Life

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Mark Your Calendar

Friday, February 5th Elders meeting
at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 7th Canned Fruit,
Jell-O, Pudding, cereal or your choice
is due in Beebe Hall for Calvary Bap-
tist Church food pantry

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

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

Wednesday, February 10th Youth &
Young adults meet @ 6:00 p.m.

Friday, February 12th Men's night
@ Oil Belt Camp



Ponderings of the Preacher . . .

Today we are celebrating one of the big holidays of the year – Groundhog Day. The first official celebration of Groundhog Day occurred in 1887. If any of you don't know the significance of the day, let me explain. If the groundhog comes out of its burrow and sees its shadow, it means there will be 6 more weeks of winter. If it comes out of its burrow and doesn't see its shadow, then it signifies an early spring. Although I don't see it as a part of the tradition, I wonder if the groundhog, afraid of its own shadow, is scared back into its burrow. Is there any application for us as Christians in this "hallowed" tradition? Maybe not, but I would like to make an application. I received the following from a missionary friend of mine named Douglas Montague. He used the turtle as the example but I would like to change that to groundhog in honor of the holiday.

When we see all of the events that are transpiring around us, we can become a little frightened and unsettled. Does God see what is happening? Are things out of control? Certainly our God is not asleep in relation to all the nations. He knows what is going on, and He is the living and active One, not passive, not unconcerned. Yet a temptation for many saints is to imitate the lowly groundhog, which when it feels there is the slightest threat (its own shadow) nearby, to just pull itself back into its burrow. It just waits, hoping for danger to pass by. But we are not groundhogs. We may at times feel like fearful Gideons. But the testimony of Scripture says that our Lord took that fearful little man, and turned him into a fearless and bold leader of men to drive away the enemy. There are still prayers to be prayed, Scripture to be read, saints to seek out for fellowship, churches that are not to be forsaken, and truth that must be quoted to the lost so that Jesus is lifted up to continue drawing them to Himself. None of that has changed regardless of what has transpired upon the political stages of each and every nation. And thankfully, our Lord Jesus was never elected to sit at the right hand of the Father. He is the King forever above all governments. He will call all nations before Him one day to separate sheep from goats. So let us keep our eyes on the prize, and that prize is the hope and promise that we shall one day cross over, and be welcomed into His glorious presence, and we shall see His smiling face. We shall live forever in His Kingdom where everything is righteous!

I hope to see you this coming Sunday. If you are unable to be with us in person, please join us online.

C U N Church,
David



Serving In February Communion Table : February 7th—Jon Zerkel; February 14th—Dennis Bushue	
1/24/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$3,783.00 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving	1/31/2021 Attendance & Giving Total: \$3,283.00 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving
Attendance: 38 Property Ministry (Building):\$40.00	Attendance: 54 & 12 online viewers Property Ministry (Building):\$40.00
Faith Promise: \$276.00 Faith Promise from 1/17/21:\$2500.00 Property Ministry from 1/17/21:\$500.00	Faith Promise \$1,043.00

Food Pantry Items

Sunday, February 7th

Please bring Jell-O, Canned Fruit, Pudding, cereal or your choice for the Calvary Baptist Food Pantry.



Young @ Heart

Tuesday, February 9th

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



W.O.W.

Wednesday, February 10th

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





Prayer List



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

Special Needs: Sharon Caylor (health issues), U.S.A., Police, 1st Responders, Church, Lisa Lipcamon (hospital), Danny (thyroid), Eric Poorman (tumor on Kidney), Katie Harper (Covid 19), Mark (sepsis)

Missions: Faith Promise 2020/2021

Pray For These Families: Bob Stine Family, Leon Vonderheide Family, Jeanette Butler Family, Stanley Dickerson Family, Martin Nosbisch Family, Pauline Verdeyen Family

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!



Oil Belt Men's Night

February 12, 2021

Men's Night

Jamie Allen from Central Christian Church in Mt. Vernon will be speaking on our topic of "Shining Our Light for Christ!"

Kinmundy Christian Church "Worship Team will be leading us in Worship!"

5:30 p.m. Doors Open

6:00pm - Supper (*catered by Niemerg's Fried Chicken & Pulled Pork*)

7:00pm - Worship





Family Life Center

Baby Bottle Project

They sent a letter to thank us for First Christian Church's donations of \$1,285.49

They appreciate greatly our donation and continuing to give to the Family Life Center.



Christmas Flowers

Thanks For The Poinsettias

The church family enjoyed the poinsettias through the holidays. Thanks for sharing them; The plants have been moved to the fellowship hall as the church hall is being decorated for February. They are available to be taken home at your convenience.



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

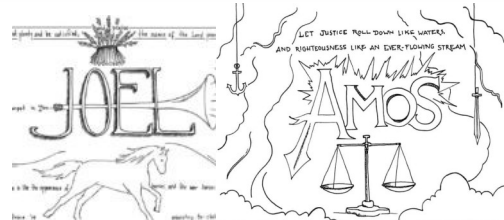
February Bible Study Book

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

Goals:

Greater knowledge of the Bible

Help one develop consistency in Bible reading.



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—\$15,055.00





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

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

