



# First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 283 February 8, 2023 In God's hands

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## Mark Your Calendar

**Tuesday, February 14th** Young @ Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m. the church for snack, prayer & fellowship

**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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqJ8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K)

**Wednesday, February 15th** W.O.W. meets with a light supper @ 5:30 p.m. and Bible study to follow

**Thursday, February 16th** Summer Planning Meeting begins @ 6:00 pm

**Saturday, February 18th** Men's Breakfast begins @ 8:00 a.m.

**Saturday, February 18th** Children's Event for Valentine Party for Junior high and younger starts @ 10:00 a.m.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Sunday, March 12th** All church Spring Luncheon will meet directly after worship service.

## Serving & Giving

### Serving In February

**Communion Table :** February 12th—Troy Bloemker; February 19th—Jon Zerkel

#### 1/22/2023 Attendance & Giving

**Total: \$3,676.00**

**includes Faith Promise & Online Giving**

Attendance: Sunday—63

Sunday School—14

Property Ministries: \$65.00

Quilt Guild Donation: \$120.00

#### 1/29/2023 Attendance & Giving

**Total: \$7,975.00**

**includes Faith Promise & Online Giving**

Attendance: 65

Sunday School: 10

Property Ministry (Building): \$540.00

Quilt Guild Donation : \$150.00

**Faith Promise 2022/2023: \$787.00**

**Faith Promise 2022/2023: \$3,472.00**

#### 2/5/2023 Attendance & Giving

**Total: \$4,586.13 includes Faith Promise & Online Giving**

Attendance: Sunday—71

Sunday School—12

Property Ministry: \$65.00

**Faith Promise 2022/2023: \$1,357.00**

## Prayer List

**Special Needs:** Hurricane Ian (Florida & East Coast), Ukraine & Russia Standoff, Pastor Martin, Gary & Darlene Elliott (health issues), John Donathan (surgery 1/31/2023), Dee Musgrave (Surgery 2/16/2023), Karen Hakman (Pseudogout), J.P. Smith (back pain), Michelle's newborn (4.11 pounds), Zach Bloemker (shoulder rehab), Bobbie (surgery 2/3/2023), Ruth Lowrance (pneumonia), Zelma Thomason (bacterial infection), Elaine Hartman (bone fusion surgery), Steve Barnes (heart attack)

**Missions:** Faith Promise 2022/2023, Salvation Army

**Pray For These Family:** Bob Bequette Family, Harold Mingus Family, Sam Bidrawn Family, Larissa Smith Family, Evelyn Livingston Family, Donnie Gephart Family, Tracy Kistler Family, Bill Wascher Family, Drake Armstrong Family, Annalee Anderson Family





## Politics!

*Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”*

**- Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)**

Jeremiah 29 records a letter the Prophet Jeremiah sent to all the people “Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.” (Jer. 29:1). The letter gives instructions from God to the Israelites who were taken from their land and now living in a country that did not share their values, customs, or beliefs.

In the letter, God tells them to settle down, even though their most likely instinct was to leave. He tells them to plant a garden, to form families, and to “increase in numbers”, which would have reminded them of the Garden of Eden and God’s purpose for humankind. He also tells them to “seek the peace and prosperity” of the place they end up in. Lastly, God tells them to pray “for it”, in favor of that land and government, “because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

Yesterday, our president gave the State of the Union Address. Whether you support him or you don’t we all should be praying for him and his administration, as well as for congress. We find this encouragement to pray not only in the Old Testament, but also in the New Testament:

*I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.*

**1st Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV)**

As our country is preparing for the start of a new election cycle, I ask you to seek the peace and prosperity of our nation by having civil, rational, and calm conversations about the issues (if you choose to do so), specially in social media. Remember that you are “ambassadors for Christ” (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 5:20), so your actions and words are representing Jesus to those who don’t know Him. I urge you to focus more on gaining your brother or sister for Christ than the argument; to care more about your brother or sister than an issue.

Don’t get me wrong, the issues are important and your vote and participation on the local and national discourse is important. However, I ask you to remember two things:

First, we should be quick to listen and slow to speak. Listen to their concerns or needs and give a Gospel-center solution to those concerns or needs. Second, remember that whatever the issue is, it is temporary in comparison to our eternal life, so don’t forget your mission to glorify God in everything you do, and to introduce people to Him.

Looking forward to hearing how God is using you this election season to bring people to Christ,

Pastor Martin Reyes






# Young @ Heart

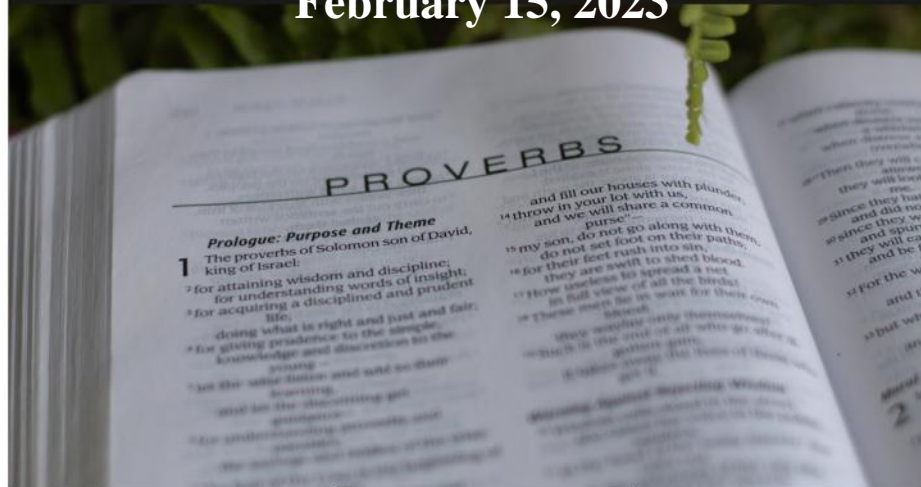
## 9:00 A.M.

Tuesday, February 14th  
For Coffee, Prayer & Fellowship



# W.O.W. WEDNESDAY

February 15, 2023



<b>5:30 P.M. To</b>	<b>7:30 P.M.</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
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# Summer Planning Meeting

**Meet @ the church**  
**Thursday, February 16th @ 6:00 p.m.**

The background of the second poster is a close-up photograph of several golden-brown, sesame seed-covered bagels arranged on a light-colored wooden surface.

## Men's Gathering

**Meets @ 8:00 a.m. at the church**

*February 18, 2023*  
*901 N. Henrietta St.*  
*Effingham, IL*



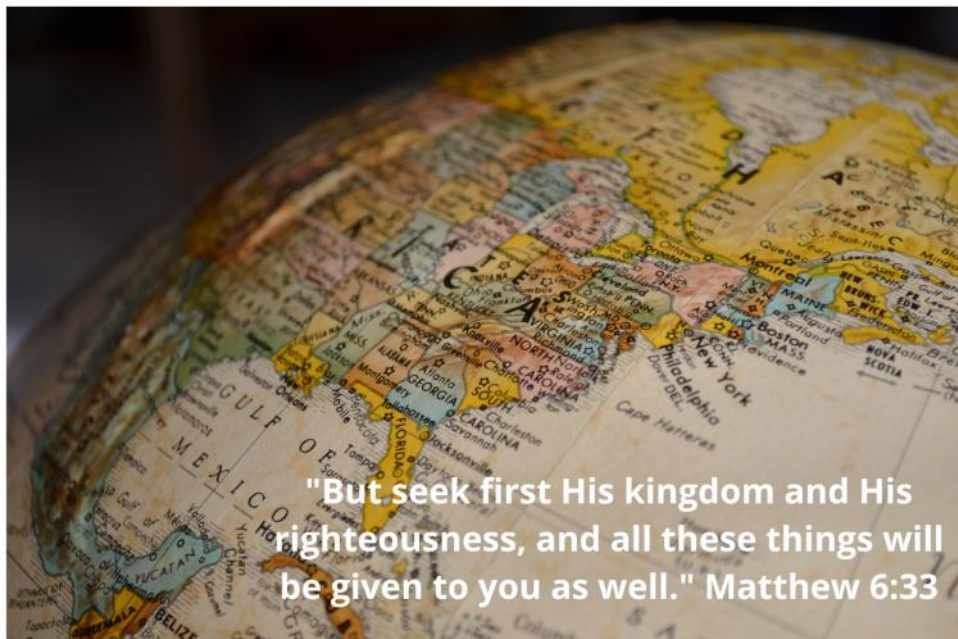
**FCC Children's Party**

**Saturday, February 18th**  
**Meet @ the Church 10:00 a.m.**  
 901 N. Henrietta St., Eff. IL,  
 All Junior High and under

**Valentine Themed Party**

*Any Questions:  
 text or call Pastor Martin  
 (217) 317-3800*

## Faith Promise 2022/2023



Promises Made: \$31,084.00

Received: \$ 16,327.00






# All Church Spring Luncheon

Sunday, March 12th  
Directly After Worship  
Service

*This will be a potluck luncheon.*

*A sign up sheet is in the foyer*

## SUMMER CAMP 2023 REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 6 AT 10AM!

### JESUS IS \_\_\_\_\_.

OIL BELT CHRISTIAN SERVICE CAMP 2023



Select the week of camp based on the grade campers are going into in the fall. Walk-in registrations are allowed, but camps fill up quickly, so we highly suggest to register in advance.

### REGISTER ONLINE AT [OILBELT.COM](https://oilbelt.com)

Oil Belt Christian Service Camp • 555 Park Road • Flora, IL 62839  
618-662-2822 • [campoffice@oilbelt.com](mailto:campoffice@oilbelt.com)





GRADES	CAMP NAME	DATE	REG. FEE	DEAN	CAMP STARTS	CAMP ENDS
K-4th	Father/Child Camp	July 14-15	\$70	Dustin Draear	5:30pm	3:30pm
K-Adult	Special Needs Day	May 20	\$30	Danielle Kimbrell	9:30am	3:00pm
1st & 2nd	Sunrise Day Camp 1	June 10	\$30	Kelly Baker	10:30am	5:30pm
1st & 2nd	Sunrise Day Camp 2	July 8	\$30	Christian Michels	10:30am	5:30pm
2nd & 3rd	Footprints 1	June 23-24	\$70	Brittany Bear	5:30pm	3:30pm
2nd & 3rd	Footprints 2	July 21-22	\$70	Malachai Keen	5:30pm	3:30pm
4th & 5th	Discovery	July 5-8	\$150	Dusty Schulz	3:30pm	9:30am
4th & 5th	Pathfinder 1	May 31-June 2	\$125	TBD	3:30pm	5:30pm
4th & 5th	Pathfinder 2	June 26-28	\$125	Caleb Higginbotham	3:30pm	5:30pm
5th & 6th	Encounter 1	June 18-23	\$190	Rob Plummer	3:30pm	3:30pm
5th & 6th	Encounter 2	July 16-21	\$190	Alex Foltz	3:30pm	3:30pm
5th & 6th	Camp Out	June 17-19	\$140	Darren Barbee	9:00am	2:00pm
6th-8th	Athletes Camp	July 9-14	\$210	Tre Schlieff	3:30pm	3:30pm
7th & 8th	Jr. High 1	June 11-17	\$200	Anthony Sweeney	3:30pm	9:30am
7th & 8th	Jr. High Wilderness: Base	June 25-30	\$250	Seth Schnautz	12:30pm	5:30pm
7th & 8th	Jr. High 2	July 23-29	\$200	Lance Boldt	3:30pm	9:30am
7th & 8th	Fishing Camp	June 2-3	\$85	Aaron McCaleb	9:00am	5:30pm
7th-12th	Genesis Week	May 30-June 3	\$200	Tim Davis	9:30am	9:30am
7th-13th	Worship Camp	June 25-30	\$200	Jason Henry	3:30pm	8:30pm
9th	Niners	July 16-21	\$190	Mike Knepper	3:30pm	3:30pm
9th-12th	Senior High	June 4-10	\$200	Bryan Heinrich	3:30pm	9:30am
9th-12th	Sr. High Wilderness: Trek	TBD	\$250	Keaton Eisenmenger	5:30pm	5:30pm
10th-13th	Deeper Life	July 30-August 5	\$200	Dustin Leek	3:30pm	9:30am
18-24yrs	Greater Retreat	May 19-21	\$100	Stephen Dulaney	6:30pm	1:00pm
Adult Special Needs	O.A.S.I.S. Retreat	August 11-12	\$50	Lisa Dill	5:30pm	3:30pm





**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**  
5:30 p.m. Bible Study & Worship Time