

December 8, 2011

The Christian Messenger

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24
8:00 p.m.

Make this beautiful Communion
Service a part of your family tradition.



Brighten the Sanctuary

Would you like to help brighten the Sanctuary for Christmas? Bring a poinsettia or Christmas flowers of any type or color to the church by Saturday, December 17.

We request you leave it in place until after our Christmas Eve Service. A form is available in the lobby if you would like to designate your flower in the honor or memory of a loved one.



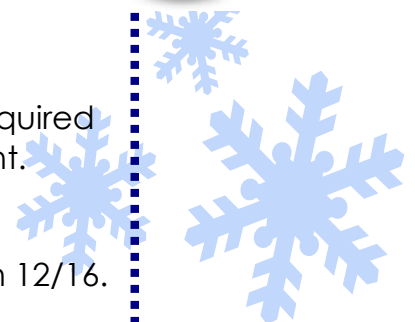
“Good Luck” Party

Sunday, December 11 after 9:00 a.m. Worship

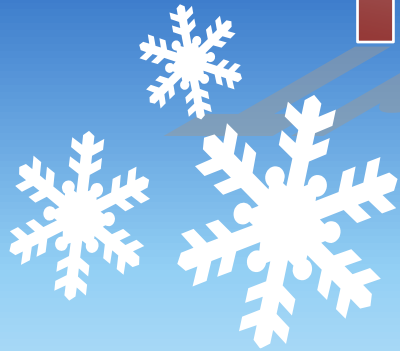
Come give your good wishes to Michelle Liddiard as she goes to work in her family's business.

Administrative Assistant

Excellent opportunity exists for a qualified individual for the position of part-time Administrative Assistant at First Christian Church in Sullivan. Position requires excellent organization, communication and office management skills. Computer skills required including Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, Outlook and Power Point. Basic bookkeeping skills required. One to three years secretarial experience preferred. Send resume with references to personnel@fccsullivan.org. Applications will be accepted through 12/16.



Thank You



Prayer Shawl Stitching Team,

I want to thank everyone for all the love and work that went into the Prayer Shawl. I love it and pray that it will bring me peace.

Thank you,

Carol Mode

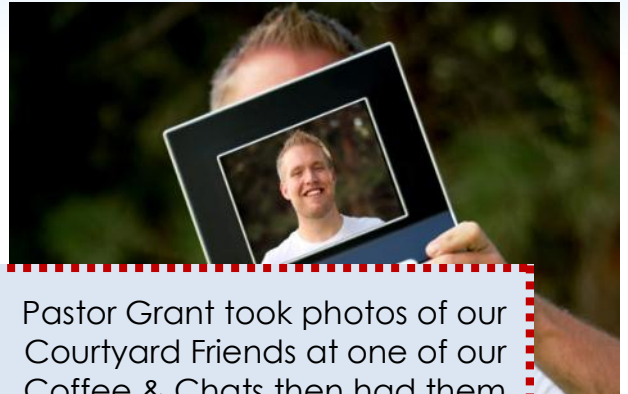
Rev. Becky,

I returned from a visit with my family in Paris, Illinois to find a surprise waiting for me. A beautiful 8 x10 photo of me from you and the First Christian Church. I can't thank you enough for this gift of love from you all!

Also, I want you to know you are blessing to us all here at Courtyard Estates, taking time from your busy schedules to remember us, always with an interesting program.

God Bless you for this! We love you!

Jessie Mohler

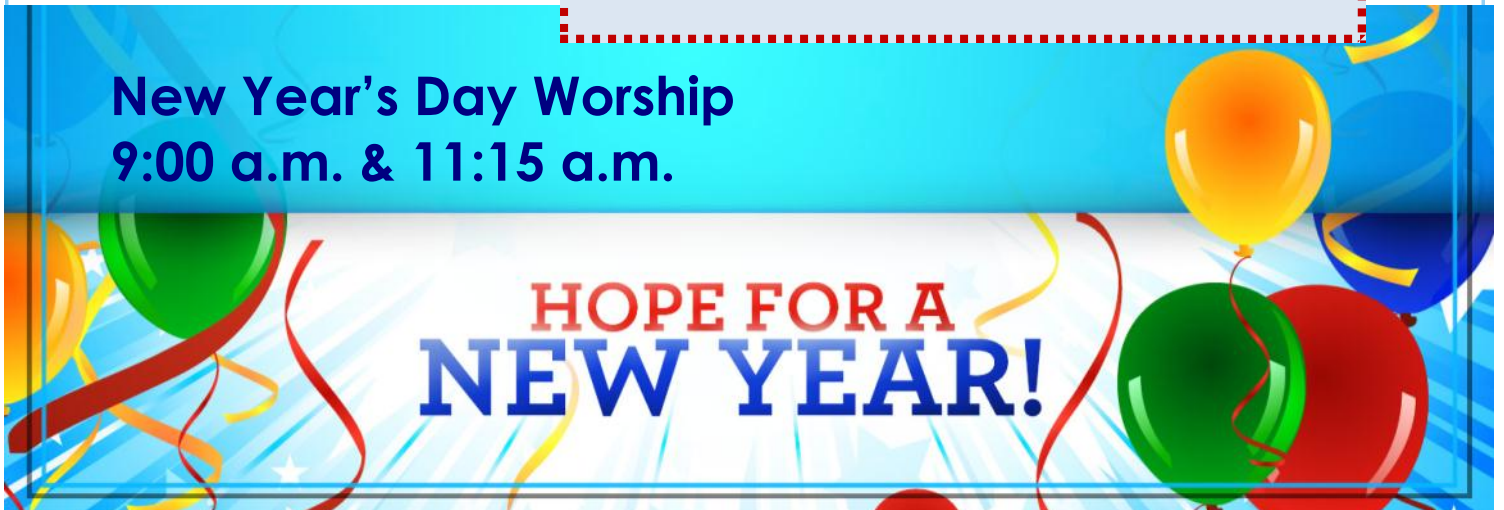


Pastor Grant took photos of our Courtyard Friends at one of our Coffee & Chats then had them professionally printed. They turned out great!

Our next Coffee & Chat is December 14, 10:00 a.m. at Courtyard Estates. Anyone can come and join the fun!

New Year's Day Worship
9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

HOPE FOR A
NEW YEAR!





Wednesday, Jan 4

- 6:00 p.m. Supper for all
- 6:20 - 7:30 Youth Choir practice
- 7:00 - 8:00 Adult Choir practice
- 6:30 - 8:00 U-Night — activities
for adults & children of all ages

Sign up on the Worship Communications slip, through the Church Secretary, or on Facebook.

News from the Pews

Attendance Report

“We count people-because people count!”

Nov 27		
9:00	Worship Service	123
11:15	Worship Service	20
Dec 4		
9:00	Worship Service	109
11:15	Worship Service	35

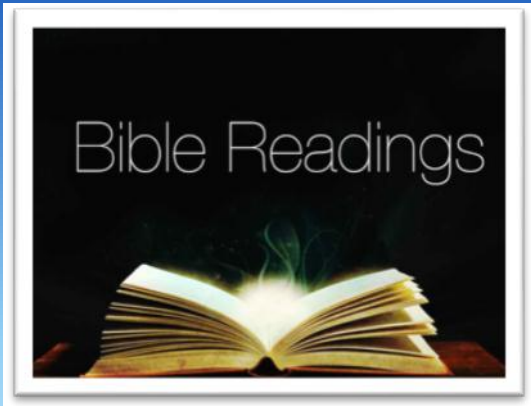
Stewardship Report

Nov 27	Offering	\$ 4,757.00
Dec 4	Offering	\$ 7,837.00
Weekly Budget for 2011		\$ 5,000.00



Larry Gregory, Dave & Niki Goatley, John Gentry, Stu Good, Emma Mead (Bill & Evelyn Kidwell's great-granddaughter), Rob Chenoweth, Amber Elder, Brian Hart, Kay Aldridge, Kathryn Hutchcraft, Barbara Reynolds, Neil Elder & family, Tony Sager, Ron White, Heather Martin (Mindy McPheeters cousin), Fultz' friend, Fran Dudley, Mark Wilhelm, Walter Kirchholfer, Theresa Van Deurson, Lori Harbaugh's friend in Arizona, Elaine Rice (friend of Charlene Coleman), Harold Hamilton, Ralph Dolan, Jesse Reyes (friend of Brion Baker), Tracy Hudson, Donna (Jan Dust's sister-in-law), Don Bragg, Maxine Barrett, John Gentry Sr., Brent Manning, Jerry Brumley, Annabelle Malloy, Bill Harris, Jennie White, John Krone, Faye Walker, Betty & Al Cherry, Gene Myers, Michelle Lewis, Tim Daily, Tim Anderson, Daisy Keown, Connie Lance, Mike Wilson, Vera Myers, Bob Harris, Andrea Klingel, Nancy Parks' sister-in-law, Nancy Davis, John Daily, Rodney Maxwell, Randy Righter, Ellen Ann Little VandenBrink, Sean Little, Russell Wiley, Nancie Taylor, Toby Shafer, Pat Burcham, Marvene Walton, Mardelle Bolin, Celia Buesking, Evalyn Glazebrook, Ina Buxton, Warren Hall, Ruth Sandrisser, Paul Hutchcraft

Our military serving our country



December 2011

- 1 Isaiah 11:1-16
- 2 Isaiah 12:1-6
- 3 Isaiah 52:1-12
- 4 Jeremiah 33:1-26
- 5 Malachi 3:1-18
- 6 Malachi 4:1-6
- 7 Mark 1:1-13
- 8 John 1:19-34
- 9 John 1:35-51
- 10 John 2:1-12
- 11 Isaiah 60:1-22
- 12 Isaiah 61:1-11
- 13 Isaiah 62:1-12
- 14 Zephaniah 3:1-20
- 15 Zechariah 8:1-23
- 16 Zechariah 9:9-17
- 17 Psalm 24
- 18 Isaiah 7:1-25
- 19 Isaiah 8:11-9:7
- 20 Luke 1:1-25
- 21 Luke 1:26-38
- 22 Luke 1:39-56
- 23 Luke 1:57-80
- 24 Luke 2:1-20
- 25 John 1:1-18
- 26 Luke 2:21-40
- 27 Luke 2:41-52
- 28 Titus 1:1-16
- 29 Titus 2:1-15
- 30 Titus 3:1-15
- 31 Revelation 1:1-20

Community Calendar

M.O.M.S.

Moms on a Mission in Sullivan
Beginning Jan 13-May 11, 2012

2nd & 4th Fridays

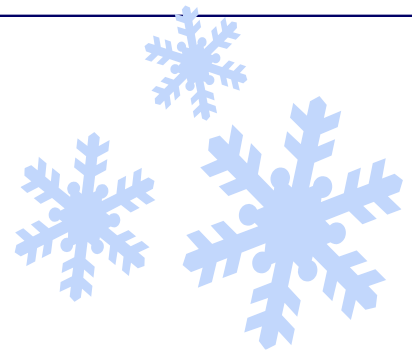
9-11:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church, Sullivan
Looking for Volunteers in the children's ministry.



Sullivan High School Music Department
Christmas Program
Saturday, Dec 10
6:30 p.m.
Sullivan High School

*See office bulletin board for more
information.*



Visit our website for recent sermon
audio, past newsletters, and all kinds of
helpful information!



Follow us on Twitter:
<http://www.twitter.com/fccsullivan>



Like us on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/fccsullivan>

Family Matters



Yep, we made it! By now, most of you know that our youth had a fantastic weekend in Carlinville at "Summit". Indeed I can say that it was a great weekend. I am so thankful that we were able to take 12 students and am extremely grateful for your support of our trip.

Of course, as soon as the trip is over, our students want to know when our next big event is! Fortunately it's coming soon, and even more fortunately, it's right here at our church! Our region hosts two "mid-winter" retreats each year. This year we've agreed to host one of those retreats.

The mid-winter retreat to be held here is scheduled for January 28th-29th. It is an intense 24 hours and will not only be great for our students but will also be fun for others who decide to attend.

Certainly this event is not nearly the size of "Summit", but I want us to do all that we can to make this a great weekend for our regional youth! Therefore, I am going to be doing some recruiting in the near future. We are not responsible for planning the entire weekend, but there are some pieces that we get to lead. I hope that you will mark this weekend on your calendar and be ready to pitch in!

If you are a youth, parent of one, or grandparent of a youth, you can find more information about the mid-winter retreat at this website: <http://www.cciwdisciples.org/>. The retreat is open to all youth 6th-12th grades. Once there you will find the schedule and registration form for the retreat. Registration forms and payment are due on January 1st and you may give them to me or turn them in to the church office. If you've got any questions or want to help out, feel free to call, text, or email! (grant@fccsullivan.org or 454-9090)

Pastor Grant



Becky's By-line



I was moved to tears. When Pastor Grant and I talked about our Advent sermon series and the challenge we wanted to make to "Rethink Christmas," I had no idea of what was to come. We talked about a way in which our congregation could take the idea of spending less and giving more and put it into practical action. Then it all came into focus! How about issuing the challenge to give one less gift this year or go out to eat one less time during the Christmas Season and, instead, give that money for a local cause?

About that same time we discovered a need for Christmas gifts for children of soldiers attached to the Sullivan Illinois National Guard Unit. This was a project we would normally take on through our Partner in Care ministry with the ING so we were on-board. AND we discovered a need for Christmas dinner baskets for families in need at the Sullivan Elementary School. But it created a dilemma....

Our congregation is very generous in helping others. We had just completed our annual Operation Christmas Child campaign, filling shoeboxes with toys for children all over the world. We knew we would just be past our denomination's Thanksgiving Offering which supports ministry on campuses across the nation. Would we be able to raise enough money for both the ING and SES?

We took a step of faith and set our goal for \$840. I was moved to tears when the count came in at \$2300! You are amazing!! And the Treasurer tells me our regular offering did not go down which means this truly was sacrificial giving.

How awesome! Your sacrifice of a gift or two within your own family causes many children and families to have a Christmas beyond what they ever imagined (details to come). Thank you, thank you, thank you! I am so proud that you shared from your blessings to bless someone else.

Your CHRISTmas will be brighter!

Pastor Becky

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 AM Morning Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Worship Service



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
1357 CR 1200 E
Sullivan, IL 61951

Phone - 217.728.7351
Fax - 217.728.7352

Michelle Liddiard, Secretary
Office Hours: M-F 9 to 12:00, 1 to 4:00
Church E-mail: office@fccsullivan.org

Rebecca S. Ingram, Senior Pastor
rsi@fccsullivan.org • 217.273.9766

Grant Wade, Family Pastor
grant@fccsullivan.org • 217.454.9090

Visit us at www.fccsullivan.org

December 8, 2011

Address Service Requested

Upcoming Messages & Scriptures

Dec 11—Third Sunday of Advent
FCC Choir Cantata

Dec 18—Fourth Sunday of Advent— “Showing
Real Love at Christmas”—Luke 2-8-20

Dec 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec 25—Christmas Day— “Merry CHRISTmas”—
John 3:16

Visit our website at www.fccsullivan.org for highlights
from our Sunday Worship Services and pictures from
church events.

Pass the word...

11:15 am
Worship Service
Sundays

casual
interactive
family-friendly