

September 29, 2011

The Christian Messenger



Fall Harvest Party

Sunday, October 16
4:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m.

Weiner Roast ~ Hayride
Cake Walk ~ Games

Food and Drinks Provided!
Come Enjoy Food, Fellowship & Fun!

Bring your Lawn Chairs, Hot Dog
Roasting Sticks and Friends & Family!

**Baked good donations for the Cake
Walk are needed and
much appreciated.**



**Take the "One-a-Day"
Challenge !!**

see page 2

This November we're going to take a youth trip to "Summit". It is a weekend youth retreat hosted by our region. The weekend is specifically geared for students 6th-12th grades. Some of the activities at Summit include: Worship, Swimming, Open Gym, Basketball, Rock Climbing, Interest/Activity Groups, etc.

Summit begins on Friday evening, November 18th and concludes after lunch on Sunday, November 20th. It is held at Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, IL. The cost is \$50 per student (scholarships are available) and registration is due to Pastor Grant by Oct. 16th. Registration forms are available at the church.

This is going to be a really great weekend. The region has worked very hard to make this a trip that will not only be a lot of fun but that will also be very meaningful. If you're interested or have more questions please contact Pastor Grant: grant@fcssullivan.org or 217.454.9090 (call or text). For even more information please visit the Summit page on our region's website: <http://tinyurl.com/youthsummit2011> ,

Holiday Market

Sat Nov 5 ~ 9:00 am-2:00 pm

CHRISTMAS SHOP - Some of the things we could use in the Christmas Shop include wreaths, ornaments, handcrafted decorations, or any almost-new Christmas item. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Seelhoefner at 797-6420.

JEWELRY - We are still in need of costume jewelry. You may bring the jewelry to the church office. Thank you.

We will soon be selling tickets for the raffle. If you are willing to help sell tickets please contact, Dick Burcham, Kathy Thomas, or Kim Warren. Remember, all proceeds will go to the food pantry.



Take the "One-a-Day" Challenge



During the past 15 years, 205 people that attended our church have died. Unfortunately, we have not been able to attract enough young families to replace this loss – both in numbers and in the money they gave. In recognition of this, our congregation took a "Leap of Faith" to stimulate our church and attempt to reverse this decline. This resulted in our hiring Grant Wade to be our Family Pastor. Since he joined us a year ago, we have seen many positive results. We have a vibrant and growing youth program and have begun a second service designed to attract the younger families. This has allowed Pastor Ingram to focus on more programs to meet the needs of our more mature members.

The congregation took this "Leap of Faith" knowing that there would be a lag between the time we began our new programs and when the results would be financially self sustaining. **The congregation now needs to put their "Faith in Action" by helping to fund these programs.**

This year we are proposing something different for our stewardship campaign. Instead of filling out our "ear of corn" showing your estimated giving for 2012, we are asking you to take the **"One-A-Day Challenge"**.

If our members take this challenge and each day eliminate one coke, one glass of ice tea, one candy bar, one cup of coffee, etc. and **ADD** this amount to their annual giving, we project that we could increase income by \$50,000 per year which would put our church on a firm financial footing.

We recognize that there are those of you who are giving the absolute maximum that you can afford. We thank you for this and understand your circumstances. However, there are many of us that can certainly eliminate one item from our daily life and make this as a contribution to further God's work at First Christian Church. For those, we ask that you fill out and sign the "One-A-Day Challenge" sheet and put it in the collection plate or return it to the church office. We will be posting these in the narthex so you can see our progress.

The Stewardship Ministry Team

What happened at General Assembly

Resolutions

An integral part of any General Assembly is the submission of resolutions for consideration. The following resolutions were adopted in Nashville.

► Addressing Anti-Muslim Action in the United States and Canada

Called upon the General Assembly to promote respect, civility, and love toward our Muslim neighbors and urges all expressions of the church to engage in interfaith dialogue.



► A Call for Reflection and Advocacy on Behalf of the Democratic Republic of Congo

Called upon the General Assembly to pray, reflect, educate, and advocate on behalf of sisters and brothers in the Democratic Republic of Congo, especially in the area of exploitation of people in the extraction of the mineral wealth of the Congo.

► Moral Injury and Spiritual Care in a Time of War

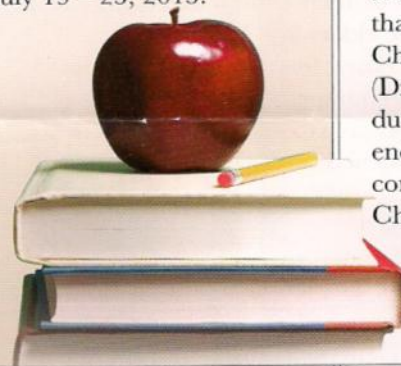
Asked the General Assembly to accept this as an Item for Reflection and Research during the 2011–2013 biennium in order to engage in reflection, prayer, and education around conscience, moral injury, and spiritual care in a time of war.

► Justice in Education Reform

Called on the General Assembly to affirm that education reform must be approached in a way that deals with justice issues of race, class, special needs, and geographical/residential location in relation to the equitable distribution of resources.

► Report of the Time and Place Committee

Recommended Columbus, Ohio, as the site of the 2015 General Assembly, July 19 – 23, 2015.



► Celebrate and Reaffirm Our Commitment to the Vision of Planting New Churches

Celebrated the 88 new and affiliating congregations that have joined the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) during 2009–2010 and encourages the Church to continue to support New Church Ministry.

► Human Trafficking

Called on the General Assembly to declare its opposition to human trafficking and to engage in education and advocacy in local communities about this criminal practice.



► Preventing Sexual Abuse and Ministering to Its Victims and Survivors

Called on all expressions of the church to nurture the spiritual wholeness of victims and survivors of sexual abuse and provides guidelines to aid in preventing such abuse.

► Support of Children and Youth by Opposing Bullying in Schools, the Church, and the Community

Called on the General Assembly to denounce bullying as sinful and harmful, and encourages local congregations to work within their communities to address bullying and other forms of harassment.



U-Night

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct 5

Fellowship Hall
Supper served at 6:00

Activities for adults and children of all ages. Sign up on the Worship attendance slip, through the Church Secretary or on Facebook.



News from the Pews

Attendance Report

"We count people-because people count!"

Sept 18		
9:00	Worship Service	81
11:15	Worship Service	44
Sept 25		
9:00	Worship Service	133
11:15	Worship Service	30

Stewardship Report

Sept 18	Offering	\$ 4,058.00
Sept 25	Offering	\$ 3,685.00
Weekly	Budget for 2011	\$ 5,000.00



Jim Ellerbrook, Walter Kirchholfer, Theresa VanDuerson, Deel Burns, Riley McPheeters, Andrew Sparrow, Donald Piper, Bev Alwerdt, Harold Hamilton, Sondra Daily, Darian Sparrow, Tony Sager, Brion Baker, Jesse Reyes, Ralph Dolan, Dalton Bly, Maxine Barrett, John Gentry Sr., Gracie Fringer, Brent Manning, Jerry Brumley, Fran Dudlley, Annabell Mallory, Bill Harris, Tara Sparrow, Terry Schultz, Charlotte Anderson, Tracy Hudson, Jennie White, Ron Sutton Sr., Mary Ann Webb, John Krone, Ted Westermann, Joe Thompson, Faye Walker, Debbie Bramhall, Gail Craycroft, Betty & Al Cherry, Gene Myers, Michelle Lewis, Stu Good, Dick Elder, Tim Daily, Tim Anderson, Tristan Warner, Susie Parks, Daisy Keown, Connie Lance, Mike Wilson, Vera Myers, Bob Harris, Andrea Klingel, Nancy Davis, Carol Bolsen, John Daily, Rodney Maxwell, Ellen Ann Little VandenBrink, Sean Little, Russell Wiley, Thomas Culp, Nancie Taylor, Toby Shafer, Pat Burcham, Don Bragg, Marvene Walton, Mardelle Bolin, Celia Buesking, LaVerne Braden, Ina Buxton, Warren Hall, Dick Mills, Ruth Sandrisser, Paul Hutchcraft

Our military serving our country

Community Calendar

Bible Readings



October 2011

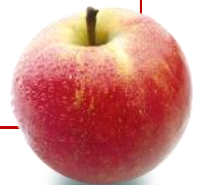
- 1 Psalm 72
- 2 1 Corinthians 11:17-34
- 3 Ruth 1:1-22
- 4 Ruth 2:10-23
- 5 Ruth 3:1-18
- 6 Ruth 4:1-22
- 7 1 Samuel 25:1-44
- 8 2 Kings 6:8-23
- 9 Job 32:1-22
- 10 Job 33:1-33
- 11 Job 34:1-37
- 12 Job 35:1-16
- 13 Job 36:1-33
- 14 Job 37:1-24
- 15 Job 38:1-41
- 16 Job 39:1-40:2
- 17 Job 40:3-24
- 18 Job 41:1-34
- 19 Job 42:1-17
- 20 Amos 5:1-27
- 21 Jonah 3:1-10
- 22 Jonah 4:1-11
- 23 Micah 1:1-16
- 24 Micah 2:1-13
- 25 Micah 3:1-12
- 26 Micah 4:1-13
- 27 Micah 5:1-15
- 28 Micah 6:1-16
- 29 Micah 7:1-20
- 30 Nahum 1:1-15
- 31 Psalm 46

Sanctuary Concert Series
Central Christian Church
Decatur, IL.
Sept 2011 ~ April 2012

Griefshare
Seminar/Support Group
Tuesday
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Aug 30 – Nov 22
First United Methodist Church
Mattoon

Volunteers needed for Golden Friends
Sullivan Health Care
For more information contact
Jeri Davis at 217-273-9457

*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>

October Serving Schedule

Elders

Mike Lane
Dennis Righter

Deacons

Nancy Gill, Checker
Jill Inman
Pam Jesse
Brad Burcham
Mike Marshall
Venessa Marshall
Cheryl Ray, Alt.
Steve Poland, Alt.

Communion Prep

Brad Burcham

Serve Shut-ins

Mike Lane
Dennis Righter
Jack Rogers
Nancy Gill
Jill Inman
Pam Jesse

Worship Leaders

Oct 2 Glen Dust
Oct 9 Betty Wilson
Oct 16 Mike Marshall
Oct 23 Venessa Marshall
Oct 30 Darian Sparrow

Flowers

Oct 16 Tom & Nancy Parks

October Anniversaries


11 George & Janet Harchous
13 Brandon & Misty Stone
25 Harold & Ann Hamilton
31 Barry & Judy Featheringill

October Birthdays

2 Roger Daily	19 Nicole Thomas
Elizabeth Inman	Kelly Pierce
Jean Wood	21 Charles Bragg
3 Ruth Brooks	Eileen Marlow
Rick Kenney	22 Paul Sager
5 Luella Hughes	24 Nancy Burcham
Jerry Lane	Rachael Dudley
6 Joe Harchous	Kelly Sullivan
Ryan Dudley	25 Rachel Elzy
10 Carson Essinger	Scott Lane
Warren Hall	26 Steve Elder
11 Brad Emel	Andrew Marshall
Hailey Essinger	27 Melissa Pruitt
Karen Voegel	Teresa England
12 Sara Boyer	29 Nicholas Bunning
Leighton Burcham	31 Kaci Cole
Jake Ray	
13 Daisy Keown	
14 Allen Cook	
Kiley Dyer	
15 Anna Jane Sager	
16 Steven Betzler	
Pam Murphy	
Angie Ward	
18 Pam Bone	
John Booker	



October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am S School 11:15 am Worship 4-6:00 pm HS Youth Group 6-8:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group	3 Girl Scouts 5:30-7:30 p.m. Christian Ed 6:30 p.m. Property Meeting 6:30 p.m.	4 Body Gospel Fit Club 6:30 p.m.	5 SAMA Meeting 9:00 a.m. 6:00 pm Supper 6:30-8 U-Night 7:00 Choir Practice	6 Headstart 1:00 p.m. Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m.	7	8
9 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am S School 11:15 am Worship 4-6:00 pm HS Youth Group 6-8:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group	10 Articles for the newsletter are due	11 Body Gospel Fit Club 6:30 p.m.	12 Coffee & Chat @ Courtyard Estates 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	13 Girl Scouts 6-7:30 p.m.	14	15
			← Directory Photographs →			
16 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am S School 11:15 am Worship 4:30-7:30 Fall Harvest Party	17 Adah/Naomi 1:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 5:30-7:30 p.m.	18 Body Gospel Fit Club 6:30 p.m.	19 6:00 pm Supper 6:20—7:00 "The Journey" Class 6:30-8 U-Night 7:00 Choir Practice	20 Board Reports are due	21	22
23 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am S School 11:15 am Worship 4-6:00 pm HS Youth Group 6-8:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group	24 Articles for the newsletter are due	25 Body Gospel Fit Club 6:30 p.m.	26 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	27 Girl Scouts 6-7:30 p.m.	28 Hopper/Graven Rehearsal	29 Hopper/Graven Wedding
30 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am S School 11:15 am Worship 4-6:00 pm HS Youth Group 6-8:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group	31 Girl Scouts 5:30-7:30 p.m.					

Family Matters



“Contemporary” - For the church in America today that term hardly fits the standard definition. In all actuality, contemporary is supposed to mean: “Up-to-date”, “present”, “the latest”. However, it has often been said that churches are usually behind “the” curve by a number of years.

Why am I writing about this word, you ask? I am writing because I have heard many refer to our 11:15 service as “contemporary”. Now, maybe this is just a personal issue I have, but I DO NOT think that our 11:15 service is contemporary. So why do we call it that? I think it's because we don't know what else to call it and “contemporary” seems to be the right word.

However, when I hear that this church or that church has a contemporary service, that tells me a number of things -- a number of connotations come with that word.

The whole idea behind our 11:15 service is that it NOT be contemporary. These days, there are plenty of churches who have a contemporary worship service. In a town such as ours, it does not make sense for us to just be another one of those churches.

In light of this, we have designed our service to be different in a number of ways. The goal is to be able to offer something different in a world where “contemporary” services are not all that uncommon.

So how is our 11:15 service different, you ask?

It is Family-Friendly. We don't exclude children from our service, but rather do our best to include them. We welcome their giggles, and we love it when kids are free to be themselves during worship.

We don't have a live worship band. We're using new technology in the form of worship videos. This allows us a lot of flexibility in our worship service.

Our worship is interactive. To some degree, most worship services cause you to interact, however very, very few are designed specifically with interaction in mind.

The service is not “sermon-focused”. In most “contemporary” worship services the sermon generally dominates the service. Most of these services last an hour and at least half of that time is spent sitting listening to a 30+ minute sermon. At 11:15 you'll find a balance of all elements of worship. At no time will you be sitting and listening for more than a 10-12 minute period.

So please, call it new, call it different, call it family-friendly, just don't call it contemporary!

Pastor Grant



Becky's By-line



Your opinion counts.

For the last couple of years we have been focusing on how to best meet the needs of our younger generations. You were great at giving your opinions and support, and it appears we have a wonderful start down the path toward that vision. Just like at your family dinners when you let the children go first, it is now time to concentrate on the adults.

A few months ago an Adult Needs Task Force was created, under the direction of Bill VanKeuren, to identify those primary needs of our church adult community. We received good feedback which is giving us direction for the path ahead. Now we want your opinion on which of those ideas is of specific interest to you so we will know where to begin.

This past Sunday we included a survey in the bulletins at the 9:00 Worship Service asking for your level of interest in a variety of areas from lunches to studies to trips. If you did not receive a survey or did not complete one, you will have another opportunity to do so this Sunday. Or you can contact Michelle, Church Secretary (217.728.7351 or office@fccsullivan.org), and she will get one to you.

Please do not miss this opportunity to help fashion our adult ministry here at First Christian Church.

Pastor Becky



Your Opinion Counts

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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



First Christian Church

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

September 29, 2011

Address Service Requested

Upcoming Messages & Scriptures

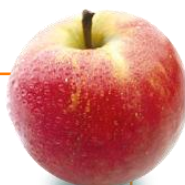
"Change Your Spiritual Life in Under a Minute"

Oct 2— *"I ♥ God: Relating"*—Luke 22:14-20

Oct 9— *"I ♥ God: Praying"*—Matthew 6:9-13

Oct 16— *"I ♥ God: Thanking"*—
2 Corinthians 9:7-11

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