



The Christian Messenger

January 2020



Grant's Good News

Rev. Grant Wade

As we wrap up another year and look ahead to 2020, I am filled with hope for our future! We're certainly not the biggest church, nor are we a perfect church. However, through 2019 I saw so many signs of a faithful, healthy, vibrant church – and that's what matters. In 2019, we met a lot of new people, and we blessed a whole lot more through our various ministries.

In 2020, my hope is that we can continue to serve together in ways that bring hope to our community and bring glory to God. There is much work to be done, and it is holy work. God has positioned us in a unique way to be able to serve and minister to people in today's world. I don't think you can find a more welcoming, inclusive church in our community. That is certainly one of the ways in which I believe God will use us for His glory this year.

As you look ahead to 2020 and think about your hopes and dreams for you and your family, I hope you'll consider how God may want to use you in a new way this year. It is my desire to help you grow and become the person that God has called you to be. Maybe 2020 is the year you decide that you want to be baptized. Maybe 2020 is the year you decide you want to commit to FCC by joining us in membership; or perhaps this year you're going to find a way to be more involved in the life of the church. None of our journeys are finished – God is still working on each of us, and I am confident that when you yield to the Holy Spirit, you will find the guidance that you need! When that happens, I hope and I pray that you will come and talk with me so I can help you on your journey of faith.

We're all in this together. It's been a great journey so far, and I anticipate 2020 will be another year of great things.

“When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come.
The old is gone! The new is here!” — 1 Corinthians 5:17

See you Sunday,

Pastor Grant

Sabbatical Update



As Pastor Grant continues his Educational Sabbatical, he will be out of the office January 13-17 for a full week of class at Northern Seminary in Lisle, IL. This seminar is titled, "Becoming Doctors of the Church" and will consider how ethnography might be employed as a pastoral discipline. Students will be introduced to the process of applying systematic ethnographic methods in a congregational setting. Ethnography typically involves the observation and study of people in their natural settings. The focus is on churches and their contexts (neighborhoods, districts, towns, cities). Leading up to the class, you can expect him to be spending extra time reading and writing to get all of his assignments finished up. As always, if he isn't in the office and you need to get in touch with him, you can reach him via his cell phone: 217-454-9090.

FCC Online Calendar

Another easy way to keep up with what's happening here at the church is to view our calendar online. If you're wondering about using the church for a certain event, or simply can't remember when something is scheduled for, you can visit our website and click on the Calendar tab at the top of the page. This calendar is live, so it is always up to date. Here is a direct link that you can bookmark if you'd like: <https://www.fccsullivan.org/calendar>

First Christian Church Sullivan, IL

Today ◀ ▶ January 2020 ▼ Print Week Month Agenda ▼

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Grant Gone No Choir 10am Worship	30	31	Jan 1 Church Office Closed 7pm No Choir Practice	2 8:30am Weight Watchers 10am Ladies of Faith @ !	3 Pastor's Day Off	4 Erin Wade Pastor's Day Off
5 Scott Neal Take Down Christmas 10am Worship	6 Ethan Smith	7 11:30am 1st Tuesday Lur	8 10am Coffee and Chat @ 5:30pm Yoga (in FH) 5:45pm Elders' Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	9 Mike Marshall 8:30am Weight Watchers 10am Ladies of Faith @ !	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 Barb Daily Pastor's Day Off
12 No Choir 10am Worship	13	14 Kyle Crafton Millie May Mills	15 5:30pm Yoga (in FH) 7pm Choir Practice	16 Board Reports Due - F 8:30am Weight Watchers 10am Ladies of Faith @ !	17 Bob Haverstock Jill Inman Pastor's Day Off Sawyer Wade	18 Lucas Mossman Pastor's Day Off
19 10am Worship	20 Chester Reeder Newsletter Articles Due 12pm Fellowship Hall Re	21 Lindsay Ray Marvin Wiley	22 5:30pm Yoga (in FH) 6pm Board Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	23 Newsletter Mailed 8:30am Weight Watchers 10am Ladies of Faith @ !	24 Pastor's Day Off Ron Sutton	25 Pastor's Day Off 8am AMEN Men's Group 10am Mending Hearts
26 Leslie Mossman 10am Worship	27	28 Jim Gaither	29 Joyce Abderhalden Tom Hargis 5:30pm Yoga (in FH) 7pm Choir Practice	30 Jordan White 8:30am Weight Watchers 10am Ladies of Faith @ !	31 Pastor's Day Off	Feb 1 Pastor's Day Off

Events shown in time zone: Central Time - Chicago Google Calendar

1st Tuesday Lunch

We're trying a new place for 1st Tuesday Lunch this month! Everyone is invited to join Pastor Grant on Tuesday, January 7, at 11:30 am, at Windsor's Pub in Windsor. Meet here at the church at 11:10 am if you would like to carpool. We've heard good things about the food there! Whether you're a regular attendee or first-time guest, we'd love to have you join in on good food, good friends, good conversation — what more could you ask for! We had a great turnout last month, and this is a great way to get to know each other better and share in each other's lives. Please RSVP to the church office or fill out the communication slip on Sunday, January 5. It will be a fun way to start off the new year!



Communication Slip

Each Sunday we ask you to fill out the "Communication Slip," and it's important that you know "why" we do that. We use the communication slip for a variety of purposes, and some of them are as follows:

- 1) To track attendance. We don't use them to count how many people are here, but we do use them to track who was here. It is helpful to our Elders if everyone fills a slip out each Sunday they are in attendance. Our goal is to be able to reach out to folks who haven't been in attendance for a while, and the communication slip helps us track this.
- 2) To receive communication from you. When your address or phone number changes, please remember to let us know by listing that on your slip. It is helpful for all of us if our records are accurate!
- 3) To keep updated on prayer concerns. It is wonderful to be able to share these things during our prayer time. However, sometimes you have a private request, or something you don't want to say in front of the entire congregation. Being able to list your prayer concerns on the slip is a great way to ensure we all receive them. Additionally, it is helpful to Pastor Grant so that he knows he has the correct spelling and details.
- 4) To sign up for events and activities. There are times when it is helpful for us to know how many of you are planning to attend a particular event or function. By RSVPing on the slip, it makes our job that much easier when it comes to planning certain things.



These are just a few reasons why we have the communication slips and appreciate when they are used. Thanks for helping with this simple logistic and enabling a direct line of communication between church family and the church office!

Food Pantry

During the month of January, we will be collecting goods for the local Food Pantry, which provides food and staples to families in need in our community. Please plan to grab something from the following list to bring with you to worship on a Sunday or you can drop off items during the week. We will have an area set up in the lobby where you can place your items.

The following is a list of the Food Pantry's needs:

peanut butter	canned vegetables	toothpaste
pork & beans	macaroni & cheese	toilet paper



"Do not neglect to do good
and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices
are pleasing to God."
Hebrews 13:16

After-Christmas Clean-Up

On Sunday, January 5, we'll be taking down Christmas décor from the Sanctuary and around the church building. If you are able to stay after worship and help, we would be very grateful! All helping hands are welcome. We need to do a thorough job this year of organizing and labeling as we put things away, so bring your patience with you! Taking all the decorations down seems to go faster than putting them up!



Thank You

Dear Church Family,

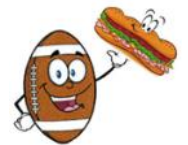
What a great group of folks here at FCC! Thank you for the recognition we received during worship on December 8, and for the Christmas gift we each received. We so appreciate your generous and loving spirit!

Your FCC Staff — Grant, Julie, Jill, Debbie, Kelly, Marilyn, Jonathan,
Leona, & Hannah



Super Bowl Sunday Torpedoes

We will once again be offering LaGondola Torpedo sandwiches on Super Bowl Sunday, which is February 2, 2020. Brenda Kroll has graciously volunteered to head up this event again. Watch the Weekly Updates in the coming weeks for more information. If you can't be in Miami for the game, at least you can eat a great sandwich while watching it on TV!



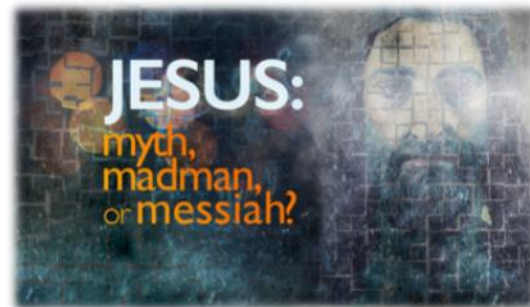
The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in IL & WI

There are many Disciples of Christ churches in Illinois doing wonderful ministry. If you'd like to keep up with what some of these churches are doing, you can join the CCIW Disciples Facebook group! Just search CCIW Disciples on Facebook and choose to join the group. Additionally, our region shares a bi-weekly newsletter that continues various events, educational opportunities, as well as ministry opportunities. If you'd like to sign up for this weekly email, you can do so here: <https://cciwdisciples.org/newsletter-signup/>



January Sermons & Scriptures

As we begin 2020, we step into the season of Epiphany. Epiphany, which means light, is the season between Christmas and Lent. During this season, Pastor Grant's new sermon series for January is "Jesus: myth, madman, or messiah?" If you would like to prepare ahead for each week's sermon, here's what Pastor Grant has planned for each week.



Jan. 5: "Searching for the Historical Jesus" — Luke 1:1-4

Jan. 12: "The Humanity of Jesus" — Mark 1:14-15

Jan. 19: "Did Jesus Really Say That?" — Romans 5:6-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18

Jan. 26: "Who Do You Say That I Am?" — Matthew 16:13-17

Weekly Groups

"Ladies of Faith" — 10:00 am at 5 West Coffee Lounge, Thursdays.

Women of all ages are welcome to come together for an hour of discussion, devotion, and great fellowship over a cup of coffee or tea.



"Weight Watchers" — 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, Thursdays.

Weigh-in at 8:30 am, Meeting at 9:00 am — Everyone is welcome!



"Yoga Wednesdays with Crystal" — 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, Wednesdays.

Everyone is welcome! Contact Crystal Roberts at 217-454-0499 for more information.



Monthly Groups

"Coffee & Chat at Courtyard Estates" — 10:00 am, second Wednesday of each month.

Pastor Grant and a group of volunteers provide a fun activity to share with the residents, sing a few familiar songs, and share a delicious treat, coffee, and tea with them. This is a great way to serve and be a blessing to some of our own church members who live there, as well as many folks who don't get many visitors. If you'd like to join us, just let Pastor Grant know.



"AMEN Men's Group" — 8:00 am in the Parlor, *third Saturday of each month.

Men of all ages are invited to join this group for an uplifting time of sharing and praying together as they discuss matters of faith. ***Please note: January's meeting will be on the 25th instead of the 18th.**



"Mending Hearts Grief Group" — 10:00 am in the Parlor, last Saturday of each month.

If you've suffered the loss of a loved one and are in need of support, our grief group, Mending Hearts, is here for you. They share ideas and activities with one another that help with the process of learning to live with loss and grief.



Scripture Readings for January

1 Romans 1:1-17	11 Matthew 9:18-38	21 Matthew 20:20-34
2 Romans 1:18-32	12 Matthew 10:1-15	22 Acts 3:1-26
3 Romans 2:1-16	13 Matthew 10:16-31	23 Acts 4:1-22
4 Matthew 1:1-17	14 Matthew 10:32-42	24 Acts 4:23-37
5 Matthew 1:18-25	15 Matthew 11:1-19	25 Acts 5:1-16
6 Matthew 2:1-23	16 Matthew 11:20-30	26 Acts 5:17-42
7 Matthew 3:1-17	17 Matthew 16:1-12	27 Acts 6:1-15
8 Matthew 8:1-17	18 Matthew 16: 13-28	28 Acts 7:1-22
9 Matthew 8:18-34	19 Matthew 17:1-27	29 Acts 7:23-43
10 Matthew 9:1-1	20 Matthew 20:1-19	30 Acts 7:44—8:3
		31 Acts 8:4-25



January Serving Schedule

Elders

Bob Elder
Charlie Bragg

Worship Leaders

Jan. 5: Haily Robinson
Jan 12: Richard Glazebrook
Jan 19: Scot Light
Jan 26: Peggy Hargis

Deacons

Check & Serve: Kurt Pierce
Serve: Brenda Pierce
Serve: Venessa Marshall
Prep & Serve: Hannah Elzy

Tech Booth

Media: Mike Smith
Sound: Kyle Kroll



Greeters

Jan 5: TBD
Jan 12: TBD
Jan 19: TBD
Jan. 26: TBD

CCIW / Local Church Prayer Calendar

Jan. 5–11: Central CC Havana, FCC Henry, FCC Washburn / St. Columcille Catholic Church

Jan. 12–18: FCC E. Moline, Eureka CC, Frederick CC / Smyser Christian Church

Jan. 19–25: Glen Oak CC Peoria, Memorial CC Peoria, FCC Petersburg / Solid Rock Chapel

Jan. 26–Feb. 1: Illinois St. Lewiston, Ipava CC, Barnett CC Litchfield / Southern Baptist Church

Prayer Requests



Joys: Kelly Sullivan—good report, Steve Epperson—good report, Alyssa Marshall—on Dean's List & 6 months until graduation, Judy Featheringill's surgery went well & "Thanks" for notes & prayers

Concerns: Family of Sondra Daily, Paul McKinzie, Clyde Gregory (Kim Smith's Dad), Pat Flannell & Family, Family of Rachel Watson of Camargo, Family on S. Grant St. in Sullivan—home destroyed in fire, Scott Abderhalden, Bill & Marge Gaule, Jerry Rohman, Ty Scott & Family, Helen Cole

Calendar

Sundays — 9:00 am Small Groups, 9:30 am Coffee & Cookies, 10:00 am Worship, 10:15 am Kids' Church

Wednesdays — 5:30–6:30 pm Yoga Class in Fellowship Hall

Thursdays — 8:30 am Weight Watchers in Fellowship Hall; 10:00 am Ladies of Faith @ 5 West

Wednesday, Jan. 1	New Year's Day ~ Church Office Closed; No Choir Practice
Sunday, Jan. 5	11:00 am After-Christmas Clean Up following worship
Tuesday, Jan. 7	11:30 am 1st Tuesday Lunch at Windsor's Pub. Meet here at the church at 11:10 am to carpool to Windsor.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	10:00 am Coffee & Chat at Courtyard Estates 5:45 pm Elders' Meeting in Parlor 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Sunday, Jan. 12	10:00 am Worship ~ No Choir
M–F, Jan. 13–17	Pastor Grant out of office to Northern Seminary Class
Wednesday, Jan. 15	7:00 pm Choir Practice
Thursday, Jan. 16	12:00 pm Board Reports Due
Saturday, Jan. 18	1:00–5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
Monday, Jan. 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 12:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due 12:00–3:30 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
Wednesday, Jan. 22	6:00 pm Board Meeting in Parlor 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Saturday, Jan. 25	8:00 am AMEN Men's Group in Parlor 10:00 am Mending Hearts Group in Parlor
Wednesday, Jan. 29	7:00 pm Choir Practice



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Benjamin Dillner	20 Chester Reeder
4 Erin Wade	21 Jeff Freese
5 Scott Neal	Lindsay Ray
6 Ethan Smith	Marvin Wiley
9 Mike Marshall	23 June Hutchcraft
11 Barb Daily	24 Ron Sutton
14 Kyle Crafton	26 Leslie Mossman
17 Bob Haverstock	28 Jim Gaither
Jill Inman	Doug Reeder
Nancy Kuhns	29 Joyce Abderhalden
Sawyer Wade	30 Jordan White
18 Lucas Mossman	31 Allyson Glazebrook
	Lou Ann Soper

Anniversaries

2 Jeffrey & Rachel Elzy
7 Mike & Venessa Marshall
15 Aron & Mindy McPheeters
23 Jack & Rose Crane
Andrew & Beth Thompson





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

Return Service Requested

«AddressBlock»

Worship with us!

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Kids' Church: 10:15 am

Contact us!

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

Julie Ramsey, Administrative Assistant • office@fccsullivan.org • 217.728.7351

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 12:30 – 3:00 pm, Monday – Thursday; Closed Friday

Connect with us!

Website: www.sullivan.church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fccsullivan