



The Christian Messenger

November 2019



Grant's Good News

Rev. Grant Wade

One of the best ways to grow deeper spiritually is in relationship with other people of faith. As scripture says, "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." (Proverbs 27:17) Here at FCC, we have several small groups that meet on a regular basis. These groups vary in their methods, but all have a similar purpose: to grow closer to one another, and to grow closer to God.

Another great benefit of small groups is that they help people become more intimately connected with the church. People who only attend on Sundays are less likely to stick around for the long term.

Currently, we have two small groups that meet on Sunday mornings: The *Fellowship Class*, and the *Let's Talk About It Class*. The *Fellowship Class* follows a weekly Bible reading plan with an accompanying lesson. The class is taught by Betty Wilson and is a great way to get to know the Bible on a deeper level. The *Let's Talk About It Class* is currently watching and discussing Rob Bell's series: NOOMA. These videos challenge the way we view our faith and are spiritually enriching.

In addition to our Sunday morning small groups, we have a women's and men's group that meet regularly also. The Ladies of Faith group meets every Thursday for discussion and fellowship. There isn't a set lesson, but usually members bring something for spiritual discussion each week. The Amen Men's group meets once a month on the third Saturday. Donuts are provided, and topics for discussion vary from scripture passages to deeper spirituality.

There are other groups that meet infrequently, so keep your eyes and ears open for those as they don't always follow a set schedule. And starting on November 10, I'll be facilitating a book discussion each Sunday morning at 9:00 am. Our first book will be *What Is the Bible?* by Rob Bell. The class will take a very progressive look at the Bible and faith. Copies of the book can be purchased from your favorite book store, or let me know and I can get you a copy. As always, reach out to me if you have questions: 454-9090.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Grant

1st Tuesday Lunch

Everyone is invited to join Pastor Grant for 1st Tuesday Lunch on Tuesday, November 5, at 11:30 am, at the Sullivan VFW. Whether you're a regular attender 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! Please RSVP to the church office or fill out the communication slip on Sunday, November 3. Everyone is welcome!



Prairie Winds 35th Anniversary Show

On Sunday, November 3, 2019, the Prairie Winds of Sullivan will present a public performance as they begin their 35th Year with an Anniversary Show at Sullivan First United Methodist Church at 2:00 pm. The Prairie Winds is a local volunteer group that originally began with eight singers under the direction of Virginia Darnell. They have now expanded to nineteen singers and musicians, with Debbie Seelhofer directing.

"Sharing God's Love Through Music" is on the side of their trailer and in their hearts as they bring entertainment to area nursing homes and senior residences on Monday nights throughout the year. Their Anniversary Show is a "Sentimental Journey" in music from some of their favorite shows. Their hour-long show is filled with singing, dancing, humor, and lots of fun, featuring songs from their Country Western, Patriotic, Broadway, Down South, and 1940's Radio Show.

The public is invited to attend this free concert. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Write It Down!

In an effort to improve communicating announcements, prayer requests, and joys during worship, here are a few suggestions. If you have prayer requests or joys you would like shared on Sunday morning, please submit them to Pastor Grant before worship. You can jot them on a piece of paper or text them to him (454-9090). This enables everyone in worship to hear the request.



You are always welcome to share your prayer request or joy during our prayer time, but please write the information on the tear-off slip too if you haven't already given Pastor Grant that information. We want to do our best to communicate your requests clearly, and make sure we have correct names and spelling.

Additionally, if you have an announcement you would like shared, please submit that to the worship leader before worship, in writing. Again, announcements made without using a microphone can be hard for everyone to hear. Having them in writing will allow the worship leader to share all of the details clearly so that everyone can be informed.

Hopefully, this will make communicating your requests more accurate and concise.

2019 Holiday Market

It's time! The Holiday Market is a week away — and it will be here in the blink of an eye! The preparation for this event is quite an undertaking, and — to everyone involved in any way — your time and effort spent to support this event is greatly appreciated!

We will be setting up the Shops after worship Sunday, the 27th. Any and all help will be appreciated! Donated “goodies” for the Bakery need to be brought to the church by 9:00 am on Friday, November 1. All other items may be brought to the church beginning Monday, October 28. Anyone wanting their unsold items returned to them need to pick them up by Noon on Monday, November 4.

If you sold any raffle tickets for the Sullivan Redskin quilt, please give your tickets and money to Judy Sumner by Sunday, October 27, so we have them for the drawing.

If you would like to help but haven't signed up yet, please call Judy Sumner at 972-0426 or call the church office at 728-7351. Spread the word! Invite your friends and neighbors!

Christmas Gifts for Residents

Last year we partnered with Sullivan Rehabilitation & Health Care Center to bless their residents with Christmas gifts. It was such a success, they have asked us to join them again this Christmas!

When you enter the sanctuary on Sunday, November 3, you will find 30 cards that have a resident's name and wish list on them. We simply ask that you take a card with you as a way to buy for one of the residents. It is requested that we put the gifts in gift bags instead of wrapping them. You can use the card as the name tag on the bag.

Most of the items requested are things like clothes, socks, gloves, and sugar free food and candy. The expected cost is \$15-\$20 per gift bag. The gifts may be dropped off here at the church, and are needed by December 1.

Thank you for your help in blessing those in need this Christmas!

CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets

We are extending the time to bring donations for the Church World Service Emergency Cleanup Buckets until the end of December or until we have enough in supplies and monetary donations to fill 20 buckets. Empty buckets have been donated by Ace Hardware, so no other buckets are needed. There is a table in the Narthex for donated supplies. The total collected in donations so far to purchase supplies for the buckets is \$510, and we will keep you updated as we get closer to our goal of filling 20 buckets. Thank you for your continued support.



Daylight Saving Time Ends

It's time to change your clocks again! Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 3, at 2:00 am. That means an extra hour of sleep Saturday night to wake up refreshed for church! This is also a good time to change your smoke alarm batteries!



Community Thanksgiving Service

Our entire community is invited to come together with grateful hearts as we celebrate this Thanksgiving season. The Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on November 24 at Building 1225 in Sullivan at 3:00 pm. The special guest speaker is Brigham Hagerman from the Elim Springs Church of Jesus Christ. Coffee and snacks will be served. You won't want to miss it! As in the past, an offering will be received. It is one of the main sources of support for the Sullivan Area Ministerial Association.



2019 DMF Thanksgiving Offering

From the very beginnings of the movement, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning, encouraging students in their intellectual pursuits. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Currently, over 52,000 students attend our fifteen Disciples related colleges and universities or seven seminaries and divinity houses. And in the past twelve months, over 12,000 students have graduated from these fine schools.



On November 17 and 24, Disciples churches across the US and Canada will collect the Thanksgiving offering. Your gift to the Thanksgiving offering helps to support the work of our institutions of higher learning in many ways: financially supporting Disciples related schools, providing undergraduate scholarships and support for spiritual life offices, and providing scholarships and support for those pursuing theological education.

This November, please give generously to this year's Thanksgiving offering. Your gifts make a world of difference as Disciples continue our legacy of supporting education and our institutions of higher learning.

Save the Date

The **Annual Holiday Dinner** will be Sunday, December 8, in the Fellowship Hall, following the Congregational Meeting. Everyone is invited. More details will be coming soon in the Weekly Update and in the December newsletter.



The annual **Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 11:00 am, immediately following worship. All members are encouraged to attend.

This year's **Christmas Cantata**, "**We Sing for Joy: Christmases Past, Our Present to You**," will be presented by our choir on Sunday, December 15, during the 10:00 am worship gathering. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to join you for worship this Advent season.



Board Meeting Date Changes

The November and December Board Meeting dates have been changed due to when Thanksgiving and Christmas fall this year. Board meetings are normally held the fourth Wednesday of each month, except for June, when the Board does not meet. This year, the fourth Wednesday in November is the day before Thanksgiving, so the November Board Meeting will be moved up a week to Wednesday, November 20. The fourth Wednesday in December is Christmas Day, so the Board will meet a week earlier on December 18.



November Sermons & Scriptures

The sermon series through the month of November is "Prodigal Love: He Spoke in Parables." If you would like to prepare ahead for each week's sermon, here's what Pastor Grant has planned for each week.

Nov. 3: "Give Me My Share" — Luke 15:11-32

Nov. 10: "He Refused to Go In" — Luke 15:25-32

Nov. 17: "Everything I Have is Yours" — Luke 15:1-6, 25-32

Nov. 24: "We Had to Celebrate" — Luke 15:11-32

Scripture Readings for November



1 Genesis 1:1—2:4a	11 Psalm 116	21 1 Chronicles 16:1-7
2 Psalm 104	12 Psalm 118	22 1 Chronicles 16:8-36
3 Psalm 105	13 Psalm 132	23 1 Chronicles 16:37-43
4 Psalm 106	14 Psalm 135	24 Psalm 144
5 Psalm 107	15 Psalm 136	25 Psalm 145
6 Psalm 111	16 Psalm 138	26 Psalm 146
7 Psalm 112	17 Psalm 18:1-24	27 Psalm 147
8 Psalm 113	18 Psalm 18:25-50	28 Psalm 148
9 Psalm 114	19 Psalm 21	29 Psalm 149
10 Psalm 115	20 Psalm 50	30 Psalm 150

November Serving Schedule

Elders

Lilly Haverstock
Bob Haverstock

Worship Leaders

Nov. 3: Haily Robinson
Nov. 10: Lori Harbaugh
Nov. 17: Wilma Durbin
Nov. 24: Mike Smith

Deacons

Check & Serve: Bob Ingram
Serve: Darian Sparrow
Serve: Nick Voegel
Prep & Serve: Ginger Voegel

Tech Booth

Media: Madeline VanKeuren
Sound: Scott Neal



Greeters

Nov. 3: Haily Robinson & Howard Nolen
Nov. 10: Mike & Kim Smith
Nov. 17: Lynn Elder & Bill VanKeuren
Nov. 24: Steve & Marcia Epperson & Jan Dotson

CCIW / Local Church Prayer Calendar

Nov. 3–9: FCC Downers Grove, FCC Robinson / Elim Springs Church of Jesus Christ
Nov. 10–16: Parkway Gardens CC Chicago, Spanish CC Chicago, University CC Chicago / Faith Lutheran Church
Nov. 17–23: Thanksgiving Offering, Eureka College & Disciple Divinity House / First Apostolic Church
Nov. 24–30: Park Manor CC Chicago, Clayton CC, FCC Janesville / First Baptist Church

Prayer Requests




Joys: Anna Jane Sager at church, Liz & Noah Wolpert's Wedding, Nate Blakemore home from Iraq, Jack Cavanaugh—great-grandson's birth, outpouring of love & support in our community

Concerns: Family of Jim Wheeler, Family of Jim Taylor, Nancy Gill, Peggy Hargis' brother-in-law: Jay, Charlotte Emel, Bernadine Casteel, Kelly Sullivan, Diana Lane, Greg Crawford, Sam Donaker, Teresa England, Jack Crane, Connie Ingram, Bonnie Turner, Joyce Abderhalden, Helen Cole, Harvest

Calendar

Sundays — 9:00 am Small Groups, 9:30 am Coffee & Cookies, 10:00 am Worship, 10:15 am Kids' Church
Tuesdays — 6:00–8:00 pm GriefShare in Parlor
Wednesdays — 7:00 pm Choir Practice; 7:40 pm Cantata Practice
Thursdays — 9:00 am Weight Watchers in Fellowship Hall; 10:00 am Ladies of Faith @ 5 West

Saturday, Nov. 2	9:00 am–1:30 pm Holiday Market here at FCC	
Sunday, Nov. 3	2:00 am Daylight Saving Time Ends ~ "Fall Back" 2:00 pm Prairie Winds 35 th Anniversary Show at Sullivan First United Methodist Church 2:30 pm Lead Worship at Sullivan Rehab & Health Care Center	
Tuesday, Nov. 5	11:30 am 1st Tuesday Lunch at the Sullivan VFW	
Monday, Nov. 11	Veterans Day	
Wednesday, Nov. 13	10:00 am Coffee & Chat at Courtyard Estates 5:45 pm Elders' Meeting in Parlor; 6:30–8:30 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved	
Thursday, Nov. 14	12:00 pm Board Reports Due 6:00–8:00 pm Head Start Meeting & Meal in Fellowship Hall	
Saturday, Nov. 16	8:00 am AMEN Men's Group in Parlor	
Monday, Nov. 18	12:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due; 12:00–3:30 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved	
Tuesday, Nov. 19	6:00–8:00 pm GriefShare ~ Last Meeting in this Series	
Wednesday, Nov. 20	6:00 pm Board Meeting in Parlor; 7:00 pm Choir Practice	
Sunday, Nov. 24	3:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service at Building 1225	
Thursday, Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Day ~ Church Office Closed	
Saturday, Nov. 30	10:00 am Mending Hearts Group in Parlor	

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Brittin Boyer	16 Peggy Bowers
Bob McClain	18 Georgia England
2 Dylan Dudley	Grant Wade
7 Raymond Brown	19 Madeline VanKeuren
Janis Typer	21 Debbie Lawson
Emery Wade	Kinzey Thompson
8 Ledger Lindley	22 Theresa Poland
9 Lynn Berner	Jill Seelhofer-Babulal
Paul Pierce	24 Gracie Fringer
Tom Snelling	25 Cheri Burcham
10 Don Spinner	Kurt Pierce
13 Cullen Dyer	28 Steve Epperson
Pat Thompson	29 Madison Atchison
14 Kyle Kroll	Roger Berner
Andrew Thompson	Steve Durbin

Anniversaries

3 Kyle & Kaci Crafton
5 Jim & Kathy Thomas
6 Rusty & Julie Ramsey
9 Paul & Beverly Pierce
19 Nick & Ginger Voegel
23 Dale & Margaret Dudley
28 Kurt & Brenda Pierce





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