



The Christian Messenger

September 2019



Grant's Good News

Rev. Grant Wade

As I write, the Cardinals and Cubs are tied atop the National League Central Division. There is perhaps no greater cause for disagreement in our church than which baseball team you root for! It's all in good fun of course, and with that in mind, I'd like to invite you to join us for a special worship gathering on Sunday, September 1, "Baseball Sunday."

Come that day wearing your favorite team's apparel or colors. The message for the day is titled, "Life is Like a Game of Baseball" and will have insights for all people, regardless of whether you love the sport or not.

After worship, stick around for hot dogs, brats, etc. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall for a ballpark style meal. Feel free to bring a dessert if you'd like, but it's not necessary!

This would be a great time to invite someone to check out our church who may be otherwise apprehensive. It will be a light-hearted and fun day while still maintaining our normal worship gathering style and substance.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Grant

Head Start

We will once again be hosting some of the Head Start "Family Nights" here at FCC this year. Their first event is a "Parent Resource Fair" on Thursday, September 26, from 5:00–7:00 pm, which will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

This is an event where parents can drop in and go around to booths from several community organizations that offer services and help for families. Please feel free to share this information with any families that might benefit from this event.



On Being People of the (Red) Cup

By: Sara Nave Fisher

https://saranavefisher.com/2015/11/10/on-being-people-of-the-red-cup/?fbclid=IwAR1OQWEtcOxuHoOOuKqwfbasziOcGh-Lf2oeFX-gwbf0x6TP.osdXa_cuc

"It's called the '*Christian Churches – Disciples of Christ*.' You might have seen our churches before; our denomination's logo is a red chalice with St. Andrew's Cross."

The other person stares at me blankly. I sigh.

"Ok, really, it looks like a red wine glass with a big white X on it..."

They say, "OOOOHH, yes! Now I know what you're talking about.

I've seen that before!!"



I find myself repeating this conversation often. Since my husband is an Army chaplain, I meet Christians of many stripes who frequently ask about our denomination; they've heard of *Baptist* and *Methodist* and *Lutheran*, but oftentimes aren't as familiar with the *Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*. I love taking the opportunity to share about this denomination and about my church.

And that's why **THIS red cup matters**.

The red cup means that the Table is our focus. This red chalice – representative of what was used by Christ during the Last Supper – shows that we are people of the Table. We have differing interpretations of the Bible, and have differing ways of living out our faith, but the Table unifies us. By partaking of this meal together, we remember the life and teachings of Christ; we are woven together, continuing the story of God's people on earth. Disciples' churches celebrate Communion every time we gather in worship. I used to think that the frequency would make it meaningless; on the contrary, it has become the most meaningful part of my week. As we partake, we are fed and filled and sent forth into the world. And because of that...

The red cup means that ALL are welcome to the Table. We welcome all to the Table as God has welcomed us. There is no ten-page doctrinal statement to sign, no list of rules by which we must abide. We require no proof or documentation to partake. We do not tell anyone they aren't good enough – or anything enough – to celebrate the Lord's Table. Our value of inclusion does not end at the Table; as a woman, in the Disciples I am able to use *all* my gifts from God for God's people and the church. Here, *I am welcome*. We take this from our doorsteps into the ends of the earth because...

The red cup means that we are a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As an Army wife, I am ever aware of the fragmentation of our world, of the conflicts that cause blood to be shed, families to be torn apart, and people everywhere to draw lines in the sand about who is in and who is out and why. People are hurt by the church; people suffer with loneliness and suffer because of oppression. Disconnection leads to all sorts of tragedies. We are continually fragmented from the earth and the interconnectedness of all life. And yet, as people of God, we are called to bring wholeness. We are called to live into God's realm in the earth today, not only waiting for some future hope, but *making that hope a reality now*. I cannot think of any greater identity statement for a denomination. Which is why...

(Continued on next page)

On Being People of the (Red) Cup (continued)

The red cup means that I am home. Brand recognition matters. Driving through a new community, a sign that says “Christian Church” could mean almost anything. But when I see that little red chalice with St. Andrew’s Cross? I know I’m home. As I’ve written before, my husband and I have only been Disciples for about six years now, and making this shift was an intentional and prayerful decision.

We’ve been to Disciples churches all over the country, and each is remarkably different. And yet, in each, we are welcome; in each, we worship God together; in each, we celebrate communion every Sunday; in each, we are *home*.

We are diverse, we are faithful, we are God’s people but not God’s *only* people. We are the Disciples of Christ: People of the (Red) Cup.

GriefShare

FCC is again hosting GriefShare, a weekly, non-denominational grief support group. This program features biblical concepts for healing from grief after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.



GriefShare will meet here at FCC on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm–8 pm, beginning September 3, and will end on November 19. You’ll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see this group as an “oasis” on your journey through grief. There are three key parts to your GriefShare experience:

- ◆ Video Seminar – Encouraging information-packed videos featuring leading grief recovery experts.
- ◆ Support Group – Small group discussion about the weekly video content.
- ◆ Workbook – Journaling and personal study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topics.

If you are unable to attend all of the sessions or if you have to miss one, that’s okay. You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is “self-contained,” so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 12-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

The cost for this program is simply the purchase of the workbook, which is \$20. Please don’t let cost stand in your way — we have scholarships to help! If you already have a workbook, that’s all you need.

Please contact Betty Wilson 728-2291, Deb Best 728-4289, Connie Dunscomb 433-0581, or Cheri Rich 728-7808 for more information, or go to www.griefshare.org to learn more about GriefShare. If you know someone who has suffered a loss and would benefit from this program, please pass this information along to them. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Produce Pantry

A big "Thank You" to those FCC gardeners and farmers who have brought in produce to share with your church family! The "Produce Pantry" is set up in the lobby for those who have extra, and this is a great way to share your blessings with others. Items are going home with folks almost as soon as they are brought in!



Holiday Market

It's getting closer! Mark your calendars — Saturday, November 2, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm — that's the day the church will be bustling with shoppers! They'll be browsing through the shops looking for fun holiday items, tasty goodies, home décor, a chance to win prizes, plus lots more!



This year's shops are: Bakery, Christmas, Crafts & Quilters, Lunch, and Pick-A-Prize. There are approximately twenty-five local businesses that will be donating items for the Pick-A-Prize Drawings. Tickets will be \$1 each or six for \$5.

Recipes have been collected for a cookbook, "Recipes from the Heart," that will be for sale during the Holiday Market for \$10. Thank you to everyone who shared your recipes for this project.

Shoppers will also be able to purchase raffle tickets to try to win the beautiful "Sullivan Redskins" quilt made by Sharon White. The quilt is currently on display in the church Parlor. See Judy Sumner if you would like to purchase Raffle Tickets or if you would like to help sell them prior to the day of the Holiday Market. The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

Are you crafty? We hope you will consider sharing your talents; whether it's woodworking, creating jewelry, ornaments, yarn and needle crafts, seasonal items, painting, floral designs, wreaths, or any other craft to offer for sale in the Craft Shop. Please contact Judy Sumner at 972-0426 or Madeline VanKeuren at 246-0838 if you have crafts or items to donate.

Do you like to create in the kitchen? The Bakery Shop will be in need all types of candy, cookies, cakes, pies (no cream), rolls, bread, muffins, salsa, etc.

The Christmas Shop will need new or gently used Christmas decorations, including such items as wreaths, décor, lights, ornaments, etc.

As it gets closer to the date set for the Holiday Market, watch for information in the Weekly Updates and next month's newsletter regarding where help is needed and when to bring your items to the church. Please contact the church office or Judy Sumner (972-0426) if you are interested in helping or have any questions.

Thank you everyone for supporting this enjoyable event. The Holiday Market couldn't and wouldn't happen without all of you!

1st Tuesday Lunch

Everyone is invited to join Pastor Grant for 1st Tuesday Lunch on Tuesday, September 3, at 11:30 am, at Red Apple Family Restaurant. 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, September 1. Everyone is welcome!



Mending Hearts



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 meet on the last Saturday of each month to share ideas and activities with one another that help with the process of learning to live with loss and grief. Everyone is welcome to join them on Saturday, September 28, at 10:00 am, here at FCC in the Parlor.

FCC Church Choir

It's hard to believe, but summer break is over, and it's time for Choir to begin again! If you like to sing, the FCC choir would love to have you. New members are always welcome!

Choir practice resumes on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 pm. Practices are on most Wednesdays throughout the months of September through May at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. On Sunday, September 8, the Choir plans to return to singing during worship on a regular basis, and will be singing "Shout to the Lord." Welcome back, FCC Choir!



Thank You



Sullivan Fire Protection District
115 West Harrison Street
Sullivan, IL 61931-1908
Phone (217) 728-8714 FAX (217) 728-7402
Web: www.sullfire.org

Trustees:
Terry Warren, President
Dave Reed, Secretary
Elmo Weaver, Trustee

Officers:
Mike Piper, Chief
Aron Long, Asst. Chief
Larry Edwards, Captain
Chris Wright, Captain
Kelly Faulkner, Treasurer
Steve Wood, Attorney

Dear Friend and Sponsor,

We deeply appreciate your consideration and generous contribution. You have helped the Sullivan Fire Protection District provide our annual Fireup® Fire Safety and Prevention program to our community.

Each day we hear of preventable fire accidents that occur with our youngsters. The need to reach young children with accurate and vital facts and information is important, if we are to keep them safe.

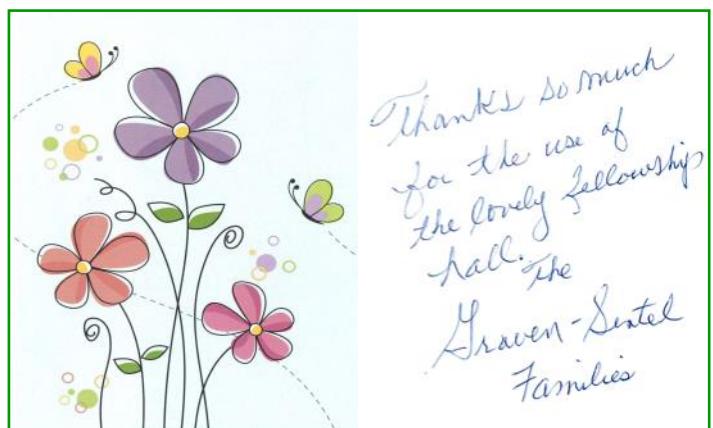
We cannot always be with our children. We must trust their intelligence and good judgment in preventing a fire. As your Chief, I feel it is my duty to teach children to be alert to the dangers fires can cause. The Fireup® program gives children the knowledge to prevent fires, and to know what to do if they suddenly find themselves confronted with the danger of a fire.

The materials and services selected for our use are provided by the National Fire Safety Council, Inc., a federal tax-exempt (I.D. #38-2292422), nonprofit organization. Contributions to our Fire Safety Program stay in our area for our children.

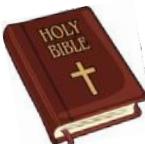
Thanks again from the Sullivan Fire Protection District, myself, and all those whose lives we touch with the help of your caring hand.

Sincerely,

Mike Piper, Fire Chief
Mike Piper, Fire Chief
Sullivan Fire Protection District



Scripture Readings for September



- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Luke 8:4-21 | 11 Psalm 15 | 21 Psalm 119:1-24 |
| 2 Luke 11:1-13 | 12 Psalm 37 | 22 Psalm 119:25-48 |
| 3 Luke 11:14-23 | 13 1 Corinthians 1:1-17 | 23 Psalm 119:49-64 |
| 4 Luke 11:24-36 | 14 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 | 24 Psalm 119:65-80 |
| 5 Luke 11:37-54 | 15 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 | 25 Psalm 119:81-96 |
| 6 Luke 12:1-21 | 16 James 1:1-27 | 26 Psalm 119:97-112 |
| 7 Luke 12:22-40 | 17 James 2:1-26 | 27 Psalm 119:113-128 |
| 8 Luke 12:41-59 | 18 James 3:1-18 | 28 Psalm 119:129-144 |
| 9 Luke 13:1-17 | 19 James 4:1-17 | 29 Psalm 119:145-160 |
| 10 Luke 13:18-35 | 20 James 5:1-20 | 30 Psalm 119:161-176 |

September Serving Schedule

Elders

Jan Dust
Dick Burcham

Worship Leaders

Sept. 1: Dan Flannell
Sept. 8: Jan Dotson
Sept. 15: TBD
Sept. 22: Darian Sparrow
Sept. 29: TBD

Deacons

Check & Serve: TBD
Serve: TBD
Serve: Ginger Voegel
Prep & Serve: Nick Voegel

Tech Booth

Media: Madeline VanKeuren
Sound: Kyle Kroll



Greeters

Sept. 1: Bob & Connie Ingram
Sept. 8: Steve & Marcia Epperson
Sept. 15: Nick & Ginger Voegel
Sept. 22: Roger & Barb Daily
Sept. 29: Joyce Edmonds & Jan Dotson

CCIW / Local Church Prayer Calendar

- Sept. 1–7: NAPAD Ministry: Korean CC, Springfield; Living Stone CC, Evanston; Chicago CC, Des Plains / New Life Church
- Sept. 8–14: Grace Myanmar CC, Moline; Happy CC, North Brook; Heavenly Gate CC, Skokie; Victory Church, Wheeling / St. Columcille Catholic Church
- Sept. 15–21: Chapin CC, Hometown CC Chicago, Jackson Blvd. CC Chicago / Smyser Christian Church
- Sept. 22–28: FCC Canton, FCC Carbondale, FCC Virden / Solid Rock Chapel
- Sept. 29–Oct. 5: Reconciliation Offering & Ministry, Worldwide Communion Sunday / Southern Baptist Church

Prayer Requests



Joys: Softball season is over, Amber (Bragg) Dufault visiting, Andrew Sparrow coming home for wedding, Janeva Schrock finally home, Anna Jane Sager back at Courtyard Estates, School supplies collected

Concerns: Sullivan Schools & College students starting/returning, Sharon Walker's brother-Greg, Betty Mode, Kim Smith's Aunt LaVern, Our world, Lavonne Graven, Mike Lane, Jack Crane, Kory Wiley, Charlotte Emel, Eva Hall, Jared Davis, Virginia Gillenwater, Helen Cole, Linda (Luse) Hood

Calendar

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

Mondays — 6:30–8:00 pm Prairie Winds Rehearsal in FH

Tuesdays — 6:00–8:00 pm GriefShare in Parlor

Thursdays — 9:00 am Weight Watchers in Fellowship Hall; 10:00 am Ladies of Faith @ 5 West

Sunday, Sept. 1	10:00 am Worship ~ "Baseball Sunday" 11:15 am Ballpark Style Lunch in Fellowship Hall
Monday, Sept. 2	Labor Day ~ Church Office Closed
Tuesday, Sept. 3	1st Tuesday Lunch at Red Apple Family Restaurant
Wednesday, Sept. 4	12:00 pm Habitat Care-A-Vanners' Lunch in Fellowship Hall
Friday, Sept. 6	5:00–9:00 pm Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall Reserved
Saturday, Sept. 7	8:30 am–12:30 pm Pavilion Reserved 3:30 pm Wedding in Sanctuary
Wednesday, Sept. 11	10:00 am Coffee & Chat at Courtyard Estates 5:45 pm Elders' Meeting in Parlor
Monday, Sept. 16	12:00–3:30 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
Thursday, Sept. 19	12:00 pm Board Reports Due
Saturday, Sept. 21	8:00 am AMEN Men's Group in Parlor
Monday, Sept. 23	3:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due
Wednesday, Sept. 25	6:00 pm Board Meeting in Parlor
Thursday, Sept. 26	5:00–7:00 pm Head Start "Parent Resource Fair" in Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Sept. 28	10:00 am Mending Hearts Group in Parlor



September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Bob Ingram	13 Shera Byers	24 Jack Crane
Debbie Seelhoefer	Diann Smith	Bob Elder
3 Molly Reeder	17 Barbara Dillner	Roger Farley
4 Julie Sims	Amanda Glazebrook	Evelyn Lane
5 Doug Graven	Betty Wilson	Hazel Sparrow
6 Dorothy Craig	18 Carol Glazebrook	26 David Elder
Susan Elder	Lara Seelhoefer-Bartels	Betty Jo Emel
Tara Sparrow	19 Mark McMahon	Bill VanKeuren
7 Brynlee Doehring	20 Roger Dudley	27 Sam Ashinhurst
Chester Ray	Claire Standerfer	Doug Dyer
8 Wilma Durbin	22 Deb Best	Dan Flannell
Lori Harbaugh	Sean Craig	30 Gabe Bowers
9 Ginger Voegel	Harry McCorkle	Norma Dolan
10 Zane Finfrock	23 Jonathan Inman	Nicole Dust
Chelsie Lindley		

Anniversaries

5 Doug & Karen Dyer
7 Bud & Caroline Brown
9 Mike & Kim Smith
14 Robert & Mika McCall
23 Roger & Amanda Farley
Marty & Lori Harbaugh
24 Ben & Sydnee Ray-Allen





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.fccsullivan.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fccsullivan