



First Christian Church of Freedom
THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE / ESTABLISHED IN 1858



Freedom Rings

Newsletter January/February



Pastor's Thoughts

One my favorite prayers has been from the late Peter Marshall, who was chaplain of the Senate back in the late '40's and well known pastor before and after. One prayer for the New Year caught my eye as one based on faith and hope in a steadfast God. I thought it might be good for us as we contemplate 2019.

"May we who are pilgrims, conscious of life's varying scenes, learn by faith to cling to You. We know that You will be in the future as You have been in the past.

We know that You will lead us on through all the tomorrows as You have led us through the yesterdays.

We know that You will not let us go, even when we, in willful neglect and indulgence, try to wander from Your way.

As we set our faces toward the new year, we know full well that it will bring many changes. The old must give place to the new. Time does not stand still, nor the world cease from turning. Give us the courage and fortitude of mature men and women that will enable us to stand upon our faith as the spirit of the living Lord shall give us strength. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen."

May each of you have a blessed, healthy, and happy New Year! Pastor Larry

Each of us - Pastor Larry, Music Director Carolyn, Administrator Patty, and Sexton Mark - thank the congregation for the wonderful bonus at the end of the year. It is much appreciated and we're grateful for your kind thoughts.

Note that the Bible Study group which meets on Tuesdays will not be meeting during the month of January. We'll begin again on Tuesday, Feb. 4th with a breakfast at Camp Calumet at 9, followed by the Bible Study at 10.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to everyone. Good things are happening at First Christian Church. The membership, at a special meeting on December 23, 2018, approved the expenditure of \$12,036.30 to pay for the new carpeting and some flooring to be installed in the Davidson Room, Fellowship Room, the two offices, hallway and the two bathrooms in the back of the church. The work will be done in January. Thank you to the Trustees for all the time spent to get this long overdue project done. We will be seeing other work that the Trustees have proposed for the church in the near future.

Many thanks go to Dan Spear for making arrangements to get the Manger scene erected on the church lawn. Bob Smart has done it for years and he felt it was time to get others involved.

We have been lucky not to have any snow days so far this season. While Judy and I are away in Florida, Charlie Bojus and Gale Morris will make the decision to cancel church if we have snow. Also, it is always on the channel 9 news.

The new Search Committee will be meeting soon after the first of the year to organize. So far, committee members are Dan Spear, June Burt, Judy Blake, Pat Bojus and David Avery. If you would like to serve on this committee, feel free to contact myself or Gale Morris.

I hope everyone has a good winter without too many colds and no snow shoveling. I will see everyone at Easter.

Dean Robertson



We have all been involved, individually, in many of the ongoing preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas over the past few months, and that has kept us pretty busy. We will be in the process of planning a Fellowship Dinner and other activities to help pass the winter months, so keep tuned!

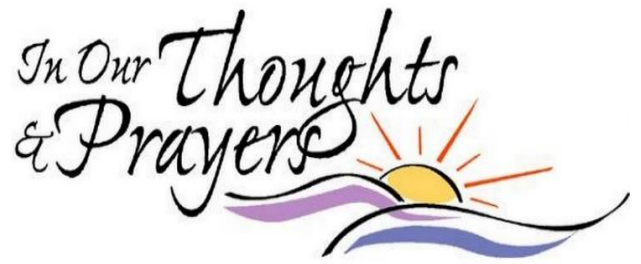
We are looking forward to the New Year, with new possibilities and the welcoming of some new members to our congregation. An information luncheon will be planned to those interested in finding out all our small, but very busy, church has to offer, through the various church committees, as well as within the our vibrant Freedom community.

May your New Year be happy, may it hold good health.....but most of all may it be KIND.

Respectfully Submitted, Sandy Boyle,
Chairperson

Sandy Boyle, Chairperson

Cindy Granahan, Barbara McEvoy, Dianna
Thurston, Clair Tracey



A thank you to Pastor, Carolyn and choir, Mark McKinley, Patty Dumas, the pageant participants, and all who made our Christmas Eve Service so lovely and memorable at FCCF. Also gratitude to Bob Smart and family for the crèche scene out front, Dan Spear for being in charge of it this year, and to Pat Bojus who arranged for a beautiful floral display for the inside of the church, with gorgeous flowers on the altar table and lush red and white poinsettias placed on the carpet to frame it all. Thank you one and all for your offerings to the Glory of God this Christmas Season. And Happy New Year!

Gale Morris, Vice President



PASTORAL VISITS

Should anyone wish to have a pastoral visit or communion, please speak to Pastor Larry, a deacon, or Patty in the church office.

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| Kathy Avery | Joanne Fuller | Carol Melvidas |
| Tarryn Balch | Jane Garnsey | Judy Michaels |
| Gerry Barnicle | Dick Gauley | Gay Mocerì |
| Lucille Bogart | Cynthia Granahan | Cindy Nason |
| Charlie Bojus | Beverly Grant | Peg & Peter Nichols |
| Ed Boyer | Marilyn Hildick | Billy Norton |
| Chris, Harold & Kevin Boynton | John Hogan | Pat & Roger Olson |
| Steve Bracci | Karen Hopkins | Anne Parker |
| Harold Brown, Jr. | Glenn Hormell | DeMott Post |
| Kathy Brownrigg | Rob Hyam | Family of Harry Potter |
| Christie Catino | Dale Johnson | Daniel Quinlan |
| Eric Chamberlain | Stephen Johnson | Virginia Quinlan |
| Carolyn Clancy | Elmer Killam | Family of Stan Rines |
| Celia Costa | Fred Kistler | Jeannie Rogers |
| Sarah D'Angelo | Nancy Koza | Kim Rose |
| Al Davidson | Susan Lander | Sally & Bill Stoops |
| Greg Dayton | Harold Libby, Sr. | Laureen Strauch |
| Eric DeCof | Sally Lord | Mike Sudak |
| Lorelei DeNisco | Jeff & Kathy MacLeod | Rosemary Traveis |
| Connie Dockham | Jean Marshall | Cheryl Vitum |
| David Eldridge | Doreen Martin | John White |
| Delores Ellis | Mary Mayhew | Joy Anna Winslow |
| Bonnie Engroff | Bill McIntire, Jr. | Donna Wogman |
| Dick & Wanda Fields | | |

all our country's military personnel and their families.



BOOK CLUB

The Book Group will start up again on Thursday, January 3rd. We shall be finishing up Braving the Wilderness by Brene Brown and starting Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks by Diana Butler Bass.

Diana Butler Bass “explores why gratitude is missing as a modern spiritual practice, offers practical suggestions for reclaiming it, and illuminates how the shared practice of gratitude can lead to greater connection with God, our world, and our own souls...There is a gap, she argues, between our desire to be grateful and our ability to behave gratefully—a divide that influences our understanding of morality, worship, and institutional religion itself...Grateful is partially an individual, emotional response to our circumstances, but research has shown that what we often miss is how much more it is a communal, actionable response...”

Come and join us on Thursday mornings in our journey at 10:00 at the church. The book costs \$15.98 in hardcover. Get it on line or pick up a copy at church.



FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

Whew....the Holidays are gone by. Now to concentrate on keeping warm!

If you have any information for the office or for me, please leave it on my desk on Sunday mornings. Office hours are Monday 9-1, Wednesday 9-1 and Thursday 9-1.

Sincerely, Patty Dumas



Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" "Because white is the color of happiness and today is the happiest day of her life," her mother tried to explain, keeping it simple. The child thought about this for a moment, then said, "So, why's the groom wearing black?"

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
				10 am Book Club Deacon's Meeting		10 am Food Pantry
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10 am Book Club 6 pm Heritage Meeting		10 am Food Pantry
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	7 pm Choir Rehearsal	7pm Council Meeting	10 am Book Club		10 am Food Pantry
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10 am Book Club		10 am Food Pantry
27	28	29	30	31		
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10 am Book Club		

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						10 am Food Pantry
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Sunday Service	9 am Ladies Guild	9am Breakfast at Calumet 10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		9am Deacons Meeting 10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Sunday Service	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		Valentine's Day 10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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The First Christian Church of Freedom

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Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman