

THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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November 2019

Rev. Rick Hamilton, Minister

Carol Clifford, Editor



*“Called to be the presence of
Christ in our community”*



Time for a Change

November is here, and that means it is time for a change. Well, time for a time change, anyway. On Sunday Morning, November 3rd, at 2:00 a.m. all of your smart devices, like cell phones and iPads will “fall back” one hour and Daylight Saving Time will end for 2019. It will get dark “earlier”. Except it isn’t really getting dark much earlier at all. Maybe a few minutes change from Saturday. But in reality, the Sun did not change at all, only our tool for measuring the day in relation to the sun.

This autumnal change is always a little easier on me. I get more sleep instead of less. I have no trouble staying up “after dark” so little shifts in my clock versus body clock aren’t so bad. Best of all: Anyone who doesn’t make the change, will show up in time for Sunday School!

Change is one of the few constants in life. Things will change. It may be the clocks or the seasons or the order of worship or fashion or the color (or quantity) of our hair. Whatever it is, change will come. So while we change our clocks which have to be changed manually, please remember this: God doesn’t change. God will still be crazy in love with you no matter what time your clock says, even if it is just flashing 12:00 incessantly. God will still love you, just the way you are.

Change your clothes, change your sheets, change your clocks, make change; but don’t ever change your love and devotion to the one who changed the world forever. And if you don’t like this particular change, hang on: March is only four months away.

I look forward to seeing you around our Lord’s Table.

Grace and Peace,
Rick





REFLECTIONS AND IDEAS

The last two months of our year are filled with activities and we have many opportunities to participate and be with each other. I am grateful for all of you who share in these events. Our yearly congregational meeting will be Sunday evening, November 24th at the church. The meeting will be at 5:00 when we will elect our officers for the coming year and vote on a budget. We thank our nominating committee and our Treasurer Marve Huizinga and his committee for their time to prepare the slate of officers and the budget.

Following the meeting we will share in our Thanksgiving dinner. Fellowship around the tables will enable us to enjoy each other's company. I like the old hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" because it helps us to focus on all we have. In the hymn we thank God for all he has done for us, for all others have done for us, and for all that our church has done for us. I hope you will all be able to come to this annual event which is very important in the life of our church.

While looking forward to Thanksgiving we also need to be thinking about December. Our first Christmas Cookie Sale will be Saturday, December 7th. See Beth Smith for more information but you might want to think about your fancy recipes that can be used for this event. Beth suggests baking ahead and freezing some cookies.

We also have our Christmas Coffee House planned for the same weekend on Sunday evening. If you have a musical talent or something you would like to do as part of the program, see Becky Daigle. This is indeed a busy time of year, and I appreciate all of you who share your time and talents with our church. Let us know if you ever have an idea or suggestion for something we might do as a group to be more like Jesus taught us.

Your Chairman, Joy Claffey

PROPERTY REPORT



COM ED ELECTRIC BILL – CHURCH

8-21 to 9-20 \$174.94

Same period last year. \$172.47

On September 30, 2019, a technician from J & R Herra performed annual maintenance on the church boiler, the annex furnace and flushed our three hot water heaters. A capacitor on the annex furnace was replaced.



DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes/updates to you church directory.

Alice Dornan - new email
amdornan@gmail.com

Karen Connery - email
kc1@comcast.net

Sam Biro - zip code correction
44056

Jennifer Gilley - new address
461 N. Edward St.
Cortland, IL 60112-4117



Christian Education

Our Christian Education group is continuing with our study of how to follow Jesus! The One with the Lord (OWL) (Kindergarten through 5th grade) is now focused on mission work and how we can follow Jesus by sharing our love with others. The Middle School (6th through 8th grade) Sunday school is continuing to stay in worship to study the sermon and then meet the following week to discuss the sermon.

Adult Sunday school is starting a study of the lesser gospels. This study will examine the gospels not included in the cannon. We will discuss what is in them and why they were excluded. The Pursuit of Peter study will then start in January. Please join us – 9:00 am Sundays!

Feed the Body and Soul is continuing Wednesday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We are enjoying a light supper, fellowship and a lively study led by Rev. Rick Hamilton. Rick is providing a new look at the gospels. We are wrapping up the Gospel of John and will soon be moving to the Gospel of Mark. Join us and also check out the opportunities to provide dinner!

The Nursery is continuing for our young ones. We continue to need volunteers! While the sanctuary has entertainment for the children, sometimes the nursery is needed. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall, if you can help!

Karen, Beth, Gail, Anka, Alice, Tammy and Angela



*For the veteran, thank you for bravely
doing what you're called to do so we
can safely do what we're free to do.*

VETERAN'S DAY, NOVEMBER 11



Join Us for Monday Intercessory Prayer (MIP)!

Prayers are being answered! Please join us for MIP Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary or dial in to join us from the comforts of your own home!

The **conference-calling** feature makes it easy to join from anywhere you are. Dial in to join us for the entire session or just to ask for your own prayer concerns. We welcome all prayer concerns!

We document our prayer concerns each week and if you provide us with your email we can send a copy to you each week.

Join us for a spiritually-enriching hour with God! You are free to join in silently or add prayers as you like!

Our Monday night sessions include:

- A brief gathering of any additional prayers and prayer priorities
- A prayer devotion
- Prayers for our joys and concerns:
 - Personal
 - Church
 - Community
 - Country
 - World
- A brief closing prayer

To Join by Conference Call:

1. Call (712) 770-3743
2. Enter the access code: 390193

For more information email Karen Johns:

johns.karen@gmail.com



Current Fund Balances --by date - As of 10/31/2019

Account	10/31/2019 Balance
Bank Accounts	
General Fund - (Operating Budget)	-4,725.74
Hope For The Future - Savings Fund	31,427.89
In-As-Much Fund	753.40
Ladies Annual Tea	0.00
Memorials	1,360.00
Pass Thru Funds	0.00
Property Reserve	1,366.14
SPECIAL Disciples Mission Outreach Funds	460.00
SPECIAL Music & Worship Fund	7.45
The Back To School Fair Fund	4,415.16
Youth Fund	1,330.77
TOTAL Bank Accounts	36,395.07
OVERALL TOTAL	36,395.07



CAN YOU HELP?



**Volunteers
Needed**

We find ourselves in need of more folks to run the Power Point for our worship services. The Power Point is the focal point for a successful worship experience. This is not a hard job.....and the more people we have involved, the greater the shared experience for the Congregation. Please talk to Martha, Becky or Barb if you want to know more about running the Power Point for our worship services.

Budget

1/1/2019 through 10/31/2019 Using Budget 2019 Annual

Category	1/1/2019 Actual	- Budget	10/31/2019 Difference
INCOME	101,507.40	121,357.00	-19,849.60
100_Income	101,507.40	121,357.00	-19,849.60
120-Identifiable Giving	100,018.00	110,437.00	-10,419.00
130-Loose offering	255.82	500.00	-244.18
140-Space Use Donations	200.00	9,000.00	-8,800.00
150_Fundraising	57.80	170.00	-112.20
160-Other Income	975.78	1,250.00	-274.22
EXPENSES	106,232.94	120,950.00	14,717.06
200-Ministry	2,240.98	3,270.00	1,029.02
210-Worship	490.98	670.00	179.02
220-Evangelism	0.00	340.00	340.00
230-Disciples Mission Fund	1,750.00	1,750.00	0.00
250-Stewardship	0.00	170.00	170.00
260-Christian Development	0.00	340.00	340.00
300-Property	17,879.57	25,770.00	7,890.43
310-Maintenance & Repair	3,505.38	4,590.00	1,084.62
330-Grounds	7,406.18	8,670.00	1,263.82
340-Utilities	6,448.03	5,840.00	-608.03
350-Improvements	519.98	6,670.00	6,150.02
400-Office Administration	10,062.86	8,850.00	-1,212.86
410-Insurance & Bonding	6,339.00	4,840.00	-1,499.00
420-Office Expense	3,030.38	3,340.00	309.62
430-Payroll Service	693.48	670.00	-23.48
500-Personnel	76,049.53	83,060.00	7,010.47
520-Sr. Min. Housing Allowance	32,500.00	32,500.00	0.00
530-Sr. Min. Pension	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
540-Sr. Min. Prof. Expenses	829.13	830.00	0.87
550-Office Manager Salary	17,920.00	17,920.00	0.00
560-Pianist Salary	10,720.00	10,720.00	0.00
570-Choir Director	0.00	6,370.00	6,370.00
580-Custodian Salary	6,400.00	6,400.00	0.00
590-Staff FICA	2,680.40	3,320.00	639.60
Net Difference:	-4,725.54	407.00	-5,132.54



is currently collecting new and gently used toys to sell at their 11th annual toy sale, Dec. 5th, 6th, 9th, and 11th. In addition to the toys, they are looking for volunteers to help on sale days. If you are interested in donating or helping, additional information is posted on the Community Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.

Did you know...?

By: Bobbie Dean



Bosnia and Herzegovina, sometimes called Bosnia-Herzegovina and often known informally as Bosnia, is a country in Southeastern Europe, located within the Balkan Peninsula. Sarajevo is the capital and largest city. Bosnia is an almost landlocked country-it has a narrow coast at the Adriatic Sea, about 12 miles long. It is bordered by Croatia to the north, west, and south; Serbia to the east; and Montenegro to the southeast. National identity for Bosnians is inextricably tied to ethnic and religious identity.

The majority of Bosnians are Muslim, and their culture bears many traces of the Turkish civilization that predominated in the region for centuries. Bosnian Muslims tend to identify themselves in opposition to Serbia and its long-standing domination of the region. Bosnian Serbs, who are primarily Eastern Orthodox and share a culture with their Serb neighbors to the south, identify less as Bosnians and primarily as Serbs. Croats, who are mostly Roman Catholic, distinguish themselves from both Serbs and Bosnians.

Before the civil war forced them into separate camps, all three groups also identified strongly as Bosnian. The entire Balkan region has historically been called the powder keg of Europe because of volatile relations both among local groups and with outside forces. Bosnia, however, has a long history of relatively peaceful coexistence among its three main ethnic groups. Before the 1990s, intermarriage was common, as were mixed communities.

When Milosevic rose to power in Yugoslavia in 1989, his extremist politics stirred latent distrust among the ethnic groups. When Bosnia declared independence in 1992, his government began a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" that has left millions dead, wounded, or homeless. While it is the Serbs, with the backing of Milosevic, who have been responsible for most of the atrocities, Croats also have persecuted Bosnian Muslims.

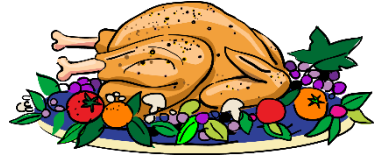
BELARUS MINISTRY



I have received the 2019 handprint towel from the Isle of Hope. Will get it framed. I also received a thank you note: "Please accept a small gift with our hand prints. Your sponsorship helped make going to camp possible for 120 children. Thanks for your continued support, Emanuel Baptist Church, Belarus" Dick



NOVEMBER LUNCH BUNCH



Lunch bunch will meet following worship on Sunday, November 17th at:

Harvest Pancake House and Grill
339 West 63rd Street,
Westmont

Please join us to celebrate time together. Look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. See you there!

Martha and Alice



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 6	Hayden Allen
Nov. 8	Christopher Misek
Nov. 12	Jim Gleichman
Nov. 28	Karen Connery



SERVING SCHEDULE



ELDERS Bread /Cup

Nov. 3	Bob Reese	Karen Johns
Nov. 10	Karen Johns	Becky Daigle
Nov. 17	Sue Huizinga	Daphne Hayes
Nov. 24	Barb Bates	Joy Claffey

DEACONS Prep and Serve Serve

Nov. 3	Galilee Flores	Gail Reese
Nov. 10	Mac Flores	Ron Smith, Jeff Igel, Jim Claffey
Nov. 17	Don Peterson	Sandy Allen, Suellen Cook, Mac Flores
Nov. 24	Gail Reese	Galilee Flores, Jim Claffey, Ron Smith

POWER POINT

Nov. 3	Dan Johns
Nov. 10	Barb Bates
Nov. 17	Marve Huizinga
Nov. 24	Bill Cook

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Nov. 3	Galilee Flores
Nov. 10, 17, and 24	Please consider volunteering for one of these dates.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Nov. 3	Gail Reese
Nov. 10	Beth Smith
Nov. 17	Karen Johns
Nov. 24	Anka Ivanisevic

COUNTERS

Nov. 3	Bobbie Dean and Martha Anderson
Nov. 10	Don Peterson and Sandy Allen
Nov. 17	Dick Anderson and Marve Huizinga
Nov. 24	Martha Anderson and Bob Reese

Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire,
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something
For it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.
During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations
Because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge
Because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes
They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary
Because it means you've made a difference.

It is easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are
also thankful for the setbacks.

GRATITUDE can turn a negative into a positive.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles
and they can become your blessings.

Author Unknown