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## August 2017

Here we are in the late months of summer! Our kids have already started shopping for school supplies, as much as they dread the thought of going back soon. We have enjoyed our summer together and it's always a little hard to get back in the routine. In July, we had a very successful Hero Central VBS program where we averaged 60 kids per day. In total, we shared God with 75 different children. How awesome is that! During our 4-day VBS program our children voted on where they would send their offering. Lifeboat Alliance Homeless Shelter received the most votes and FCCWC youth presented them with a check of \$433.82. We took a small tour and the friendly staff were happy to answer our many questions. In the past year Lifeboat Alliance housed over 640+ people. They are a non-profit, Church funded program that is based in Mt. Vernon, IL. If you are looking for a worthy cause to donate to, please consider them!



The Sunday following VBS we hosted a Summer Celebration Party with several area churches so that we could connect with our Community. I believe that it was a huge success! Spreading the Love of Jesus Christ is always worth the effort and hard work! We had many new children come through our doors this VBS!



### Upcoming Events

- 8.2 150' Banana Split Party
- 8.4 Men's Meeting  
6:30pm @Randall's
- 8.6 Bridal Shower for  
Gabrielle Barnard 2pm
- 8.13 Leadership Meeting  
3pm
- 8.17 Ladies Meeting  
6pm @ Shawntell's
- 8.20 E.P.O.A.F. Sunday
- 8.27 Fellowship Potluck  
After Morning Service



- 8.2 George Smith
- 8.4 Rachel Bailey  
Austin (AJ) Scott
- 8.5 Chad Dickey
- 8.17 Barb Greene
- 8.25 Doris Smith
- 8.31 Kaylee Seymour



- 8.3 Gary and Judy Bailey
- 8.5 Ferrell and Charlene  
Barnard

First Christian Church  
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Wayne City, IL  
62895  
618-895-2450

Pastor:  
Steve Griswold  
618-553-9648

Join us on any of the  
following services!

### Sunday's

Sunday School 9:30a  
Worship 10:30 am  
Evening Worship 6pm

### Wednesday's

Bible Study 6:00pm  
Adults

Impact Youth/Young  
Adults

Kids

**Nursery provided for  
all Services**

### **August Nursery Workers**

8.6 Jayla P and Austin S

8.13 Donna Clark

8.20 Barb Greene

8.27 Shawntell Desch

On Wednesday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00pm we will be enjoying our very first Giant Banana Split Party here at FCCWC. The youth are sponsoring this event and are excited to dig in! Invite your friends and family to help us eat all this yummy ice cream! This is a kickoff event for our 150 days of Prayer which begins on August 4<sup>th</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. We are focusing on asking God to bless us with courage and great faith as we prepare for the upcoming year!



If you haven't been to church for a while, we warmly welcome you to come join us and meet our new Pastor and wife, Steve and Rhonda Griswold. Come see what they are all about! They will be relocating to Wayne City as soon as possible, and are eager to connect with the community. God put us together here to support, encourage and love one another. We have a place right here waiting for you!

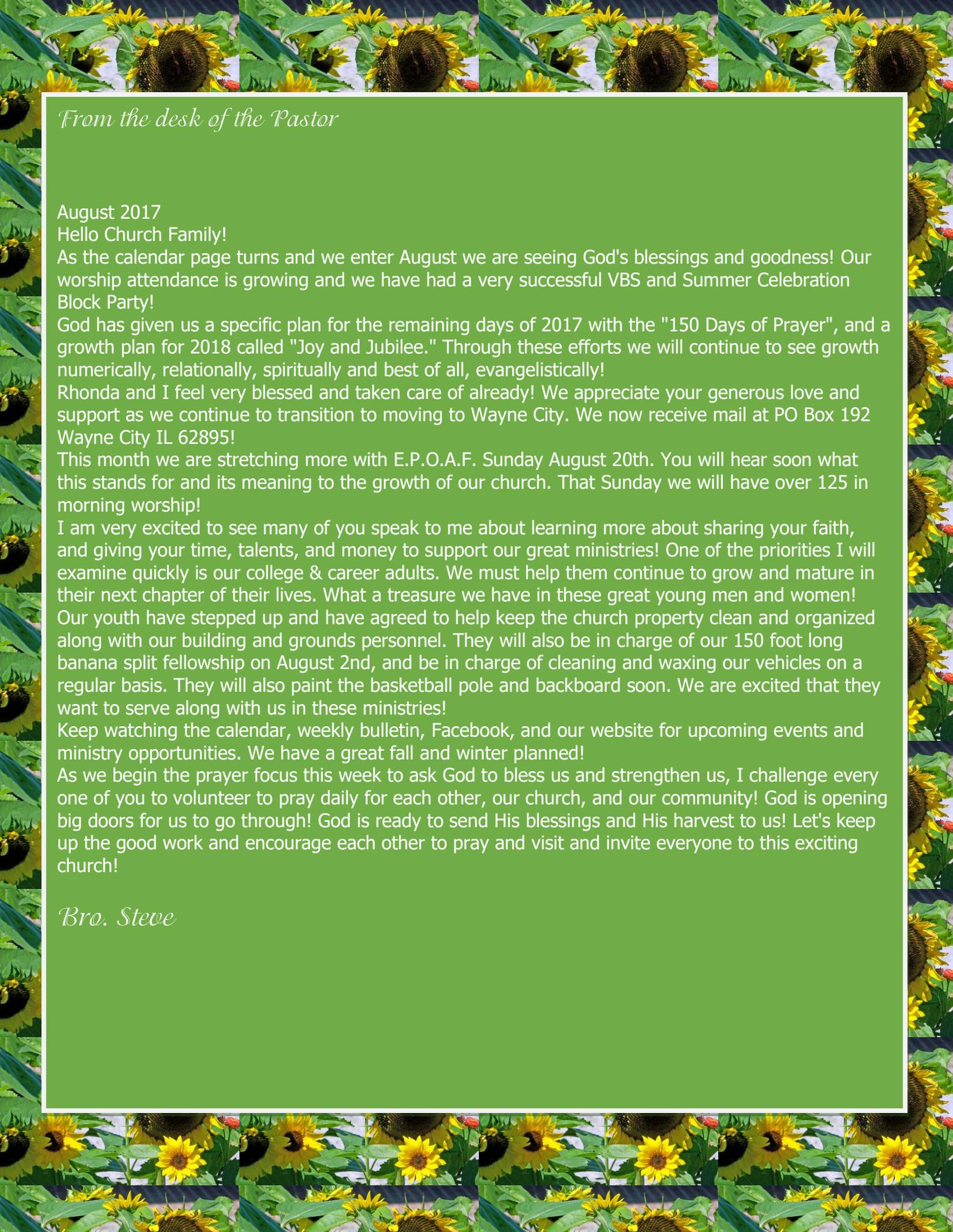


You are invited to a College and Career meeting this Wednesday night August 2nd after the Giant Banana Split Party to organize a small group ministry especially for your age! This meeting will be at the First Christian Church in Wayne City. Anyone who has graduated High School and young adults single or married are invited to attend! Come at 6pm and enjoy the Banana Splits with us too!

## **A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS**

DEAR GOD,  
THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF  
EDUCATION IN EVERY FORM.  
AS OUR CHILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR  
MAY CONFIDENCE BE THEIR FOUNDATION,  
MAY GRACE BE THEIR GUIDE AND  
MAY HOPE BE THEIR COMPASS TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE.  
I PRAY THEY WOULD HAVE EYES TO SEE  
THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM  
AND A HEART TO LOVE WELL.  
MAY THEY FACE EACH DAY WITH POSITIVITY  
KNOWING THAT NO MATTER  
WHAT COMES THEIR WAY,  
THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.  
AMEN

**GRACEFORMOMS.COM**



*From the desk of the Pastor*

August 2017

Hello Church Family!

As the calendar page turns and we enter August we are seeing God's blessings and goodness! Our worship attendance is growing and we have had a very successful VBS and Summer Celebration Block Party!

God has given us a specific plan for the remaining days of 2017 with the "150 Days of Prayer", and a growth plan for 2018 called "Joy and Jubilee." Through these efforts we will continue to see growth numerically, relationally, spiritually and best of all, evangelistically!

Rhonda and I feel very blessed and taken care of already! We appreciate your generous love and support as we continue to transition to moving to Wayne City. We now receive mail at PO Box 192 Wayne City IL 62895!

This month we are stretching more with E.P.O.A.F. Sunday August 20th. You will hear soon what this stands for and its meaning to the growth of our church. That Sunday we will have over 125 in morning worship!

I am very excited to see many of you speak to me about learning more about sharing your faith, and giving your time, talents, and money to support our great ministries! One of the priorities I will examine quickly is our college & career adults. We must help them continue to grow and mature in their next chapter of their lives. What a treasure we have in these great young men and women! Our youth have stepped up and have agreed to help keep the church property clean and organized along with our building and grounds personnel. They will also be in charge of our 150 foot long banana split fellowship on August 2nd, and be in charge of cleaning and waxing our vehicles on a regular basis. They will also paint the basketball pole and backboard soon. We are excited that they want to serve along with us in these ministries!

Keep watching the calendar, weekly bulletin, Facebook, and our website for upcoming events and ministry opportunities. We have a great fall and winter planned!

As we begin the prayer focus this week to ask God to bless us and strengthen us, I challenge every one of you to volunteer to pray daily for each other, our church, and our community! God is opening big doors for us to go through! God is ready to send His blessings and His harvest to us! Let's keep up the good work and encourage each other to pray and visit and invite everyone to this exciting church!

*Bro. Steve*

## THE OLD CHURCH BELL RINGS AGAIN!!!

Back in the time, over 125 years ago, things were much different than they are today. The best means of transportation was horse and buggy. The best means of keeping foods chilled and fresh was to hang them deep down into the water well. And not only was the best grocery store the Old General Store, but it was the only retail store for groceries, hardware, and farm supplies. The time period was 1889.

The First Christian Church of Wayne City probably started earlier in homes or in people's barns but the original First Christian Church building was built and dedicated in 1889. This same year was when the old church bell was made. In 1889, the old Buckeye bell was made in Cincinnati, Ohio and installed in the original First Christian Church the same year. The bell hung high in the bell tower and was rung by a long rope, which could be heard all across the community of Wayne City. The old Buckeye bell would ring weekly to let the people know that church is about to begin. So, from 1889 to 1979, the First Christian Church was open for business and everyone knew when the worship service was going to begin on Sunday mornings. The original church building seated approximately 100 attendees. As the church body fluctuated in size like most churches did and still do, the decision was made to build a larger church just to the north of the old one. This took place in 1979.

In 1979, the new church building was built and the old one demolished. There are still many memories around the town about the old original church building and the installation of the new and existing church building. When the new building was built, which seated around 200-250, a new and advanced version of a church bell was installed in the steeple of the new church. This new technology was powered by electricity and had a variety of chimes it could play at any set time when programmed from one dedicated location inside the building. The old Buckeye bell was placed in a brick and mortar shelter just a few feet south of the new building, in memory of the Gurley family. Around that time frame of the new church building going up and the old church building coming down the clanger or clapper was removed from the old bell. So, it is possible that the old Buckeye bell has not rang since 1979. After many years have passed and it is now 2017, the brick and mortar shelter for the old bell has deteriorated and began to lean to the west. The old shelter for the Buckeye bell was removed and the bell was salvaged in July of 2017.

The old Buckeye bell has now been brought back to life. A new steel structure has been custom made by Danny Bailey, a Deacon, and Randall Shively, an Elder. The bell has been cleaned up and a new clanger or clapper has been installed. The old bell that was made originally for the old church building in 1889, then removed from service in 1979, and now is alive again, ready to be put back into service. The bell will ring again!!! The old bell is now new once again. It will be securely mounted at the north main entrance of the existing church building. Everyone who enters our place of worship will see a piece of history connected to this church family from the beginning of its birth. No electricity needed to operate the old Buckeye brass bell, only a willing hand to let the community know that we are open for business. Every Sunday morning, when the bell rings, everyone will know that our worship service is about to begin. Hopefully everyone will know that they are invited and there is no place like church on any Sunday morning.

Randall Shively  
Elder - FCCWC