

THE BIBLE SAYS...

In Acts 2, we witness the narrative of the early church generously providing for ministry in such a way that they "earned the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." When the church lives out what it means to be the church, those outside of the church look favorably on the church. This paves the way for the Lord to add daily to those who are being saved!

Together, at First Christian Church, we are thankful for the countless ways God uses us to earn favor with our community that more might come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is our vision to continue this mission of the church started in Acts 2.

THE VISION

The First 10% for other churches to THRIVE

It is the practice of First Christian Church to generously give to ministry and mission outside of our church. (The annual percentage given away is actually 23%!) Giving 10% reflects the standard of generosity we are called to practice in our individual households.

Our commitment in the 2018-19 **THRIVE** Campaign is to give away the first 10% of monies received to help other churches around our country "thrive" in their communities.

In 2018, First Christian Church accepted the responsibility for leadership of Disciple Heritage Fellowship (DHF). Through DHF, we are charged to support these churches with leadership development, mission, and vision clarification. We provide strategic planning to best steward the ministry opportunities God has given them. The first 10% of monies received through Thrive will go directly to leading other churches around the country. Your gift will help other congregations thrive!



Debt Elimination for First Christian Church to THRIVE

The ability to lead other churches effectively starts with leading ourselves purposefully. For decades, First Christian Church has stepped out in faith to generously fund new ministry opportunities in our community. A linchpin in allowing us to put more resources into new ministries is the freeing up of resources through debt elimination.

Through your generosity in our 2015 campaign, EMPOWER, we celebrated reducing our debt from \$2.7 million to \$1.9 million. Our commitment in the 2018-19 **THRIVE** Campaign is to eliminate the remaining \$1.9 million debt, freeing First Christian Church to "thrive" in new ministry opportunities.

"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
ACTS 2:47

Indebtedness
of First Christian Church

May 2015
\$2.6 million

April 2018
\$1.9 million

December 2019
- debt free -

GET INVOLVED

Pray!

We have a prayer heritage at First Christian Church. Our trust in God is our highest priority. To ensure prayer moves beyond a nice thought to action, please pray daily for the **THRIVE** Vision throughout the month of May.

Place this window cling in a place where you will see it daily and be reminded to pray, such as a bathroom mirror or window above the kitchen sink.



I urge you first to **PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE**

**This is good, and pleases
God our Savior, who wants
all people to be saved.**

1 TIMOTHY 2:1,3-4

Pray for **First Christian Church,
Disciple Heritage Fellowship** (churches across
the country), and for **yourself to THRIVE** in reaching
and developing devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Name(s)	MY COMMITMENT Enclosed is my special one-time THRIVE gift of \$ <input type="text"/> . My commitment to THRIVE is \$ <input type="text"/> per month over the next 18 months (through December 2019). <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to set up an automatic, recurring donation. <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to make a donation of stock, real estate, or other assets. I am excited to be a part of THRIVE ! Signature(s) <input type="text"/>
Address	
City / State / Zip	
Phone	
Email	

MAKE A GIFT

**Give a one-time offering to
Thrive the weekend of May
19/20, 2018. Then determine
what your recurring gift will
be throughout the 18-month
campaign (June 1, 2018 -
December 31, 2019).**

The Apostle Paul gives us direction on the opportunity to practice generosity. In 2 Corinthians, Paul has requested a gift beyond the people's regular tithes and offerings for the mission of reaching more people for Christ both in Corinth and throughout the known world. Paul states,

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7-8

Make 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 your prayer. Ask God to lead you in what to give. From there, trust the Holy Spirit will lead you. Then, give cheerfully, without reluctance or under compulsion.

We trust that, "God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things and at all times, (you will have) all that you need."

We are part of God's mission and believe our generosity will help our congregation "abound in every good work."



3350 N MacArthur Rd | Decatur, IL 62526 | 217.875.3350

   firstdecatur.org/give