



**THE VINE  
STREET**

# VISITOR



**Vine Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Telephone: 217/543-2292; Email: vscc@mchsi.com**

**January 2018  
2018, No. 1**

## **DETACHING FROM WORLDLY STUFF ~ RE-ATTACHING TO GODLY STUFF**

Wednesday night I laid out a template for the board, and the church, to use as a blueprint to move forward in 2018. I asked them to consider some new ideas about how the administration of the church gets done and the language we use to describe it. I asked them to re-imagine, through the eyes and ears of Jesus, the things they do and the words they use.

I shared this gospel story about Jesus and a Rich Young Man to help prepare their hearts and minds for moving forward.

*Mark 10:17-31 ~ The Rich Young Man*

*17 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" 20 And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." 21 And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

Many people think this story is just about being rich, and the challenge that rich people will have inheriting eternal life. Of course, Jesus is teaching us a much bigger and more important lesson than this. The focus of this story is really on the things we get attached to in our lives! Often, without even realizing how attached to them we've become!!

This rich young man has "great possessions" we are told. He clearly is a devoted man of religion who has kept all the commandments since his youth. He has done well in the world, but still, with all this, he knows there is an emptiness in his life that none of these things he possesses can fill. Bottom-line: he has attached himself, and his life, to all the good things of the world, and in so doing he has left behind the only thing that really matters ~ Jesus.



Churches can be like this rich young man. We can keep going through the motions of the "way things have always been" and never really notice that we may be leaving behind the most important thing ... the only thing that really matters!

I believe that if we all come into 2018 with an open heart and open mind ... we will see how God is speaking to us as we begin a new year ... all for the glory of God!

In His Grip, I Am,

Pastor Bob

## *Christian Formation is Reimagining Sunday School!*

The rest of the quarter will be **Jesus Led Jesus Fed!** Christian Formation would like to invite young and old to Sunday School. We will be trying out a “Family Style” layout. We will meet in the gathering room. Breakfast will be provided. Young and old are encouraged to participate!



Here is a glance at the layout:

**9:00-9:10**-Welcome/Meal (Yes, breakfast will be provided)

**9:10-9:30**-Teaching (This time will be led by Pastor Bob)

**9:30-9:45**- Question and answer time

### **Jesus Led Jesus Fed- Sneak peek at some topics**

January 14 - Lord's Prayer

January 21 - Offering



## ***CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH***

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with our Community Christmas Day Lunch. This special outreach ministry included the planners, the cooks, food donations, money donations, the delivery crew, advertising, decorations and servers for the lunch. We served 130 meals (including take outs). This is always our most blessed meal of the year served at VSCC.

## **January Nursery Schedule**

January 7 ~ Kendra Watkins and Charley Condill

January 14 ~ Mary Huffman and Mackenzie Condill

January 21 ~ Jama Ray and Karaline Vanausdoll

January 28 ~ Macy Thomas and Lilee Thomas

[Nursery Help:](#) The Nursery coordinators are asking for people to work in the nursery. It is a paid position and a background check is required. Please contact Kendra Watkins and Jama Ray if you are interested.



## **JANUARY MEALS ON WHEELS**



January is the month that VSCC helps to deliver Meals on Wheels. We still have some days to fill at the end of the month. Please talk with Sandy Dolan if you can help with this important outreach to our community.

## **DEDICATED DEACONS**

Brianne Eads

Treston Eads

John Watkins

Jo Watkins

Carol Huffman

Rich Buckler

Jordan Watkins

Kendra Watkins

Heather Wienke

John Wienke

Debbie Howell

Marie Norvell

Jessica Vanausdoll

Shawn Vanausdoll

Anne Pate

Debbie Collier

Jama Ray

Linda Keiss

Dan Abercrombie

Phyllis Hafer

Mark Yoder

Cara Blaudow

Jared Blaudow

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 BOARD!

<b>Elders:</b>
<b>Susan Bursa</b>
<b>Kevin Huffman</b>
<b>Bruce Condill</b>
<b>Bryan Thomas</b>
<b>Ed Coller</b>
<b>Mac Condill</b>
<b>Sara Abercrombie</b>
<b>Sandy Dolan</b>
<b>Laury Scott</b>
<b>Jerry Ray</b>
<b>Dale Maycroft</b>
<b>Beth Jones</b>
<b>Becky Harrer – Sub.</b>

<b>Moderator:</b>	<b>Ed Coller</b>
<b>Vice Moderator:</b>	<b>Kevin Huffman</b>
<b>Trustees:</b>	<b>Rodney Kauffman</b>
	<b>Rich Harrer</b>
	<b>Jerry Ray</b>
<b>Administration Chairman</b>	<b>Jared Blaudow</b>
<b>Christian Formation Tri-Chairman</b>	<b>Jessica Vanausdoll, Suzi Berkich and Sandy Dolan</b>
<b>Nurture Co-Chairman</b>	<b>Stephanie Alexander, Bruce Condill</b>
<b>Mission Outreach Co-Chairman</b>	<b>Bryan Thomas and Candi Thomas</b>
<b>Personnel Chairman</b>	<b>Jerry Ray</b>
<b>Pastoral Relations Chairman</b>	<b>Sharon Buckler</b>
<b>Board Secretary:</b>	<b>Ginny Condill</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Rich Buckler</b>
<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	<b>Sharon Buckler</b>
<b>Historian:</b>	<b>Sandy Dolan</b>
<b>CWF President:</b>	<b>Linda Keiss</b>
<b>Elder Chairman</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Diaconate Chairman</b>	<b>Jo Watkins</b>



## **Gearing Up for the Arthur Community Backpack Program!**

**Looking for a way to help out the kids of Arthur?**

**It's Not Too Late to Become a volunteer for the Arthur Community Backpack Program.**

An organizational meeting was held last week at the junior high school for the volunteers for the Arthur Community Backpack Program which was initiated by the Arthur Ministerial Alliance. It is a program that sends nonperishable food items home with children, who may not have enough to eat on weekends, on Fridays so they have food for the weekend. The food is purchased through community donations. The shopping and packing are done by volunteers. The teachers place the food bags discreetly into the children's backpacks. The assistant principal and principal of the Arthur grade school are coordinating the effort. At the time of the organizational meeting, \$6,500.00 had been donated. \$100.00 feeds one child every weekend through the end of school in May. Vine Street Christian Church is responsible for the month of March. Volunteers will be placing the food order and picking it up at Sam's Club at the end of February. The food is stored in a conference room at the junior high. This same room is used to pack the bags. Our volunteers will meet at the junior high every Thursday in March to pack the bags for Friday's take home. At this time VSCC has seven volunteers: Susan Bursa, Mary Beth Condill, Cherryl Conlin, Sandy Dolan, Beth Jones, Janice Schmidt and Candi Thomas. What an important ministry to feed children so they can do their best in their academic life!

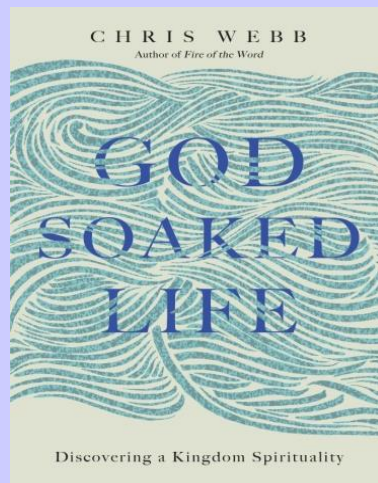
### **ARTHUR COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

The Arthur Ministerial Association is sponsoring the Blood Drive on Thursday, **January 18** from 1:00 – 6:00 pm at the Arthur United Methodist Church.

### **PULPIT EXCHANGE**

We will be welcoming Rev. John Stewart from the First Baptist Church to our pulpit on Sunday, January 21. Once again, we are part of a "round-robin" pulpit exchange among the pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity gives Christians an annual opportunity to continue their quest for the unity they already share in Christ. Pastor Bob is filling the pulpit at the First Baptist Church.

**THE VSCC PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE INVITES  
YOU TO JOIN THEM IN A BOOK CLUB STUDY OF:  
“GOD SOAKED LIFE:  
DISCOVERING A KINGDOM SPIRITUALITY”  
BY CHRIS WEBB**



The “God Soaked Life” book club will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the first 8 months (Jan. – Aug.) of 2018. We will meet from 6:00 – 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary overflow gathering space.

We will cover one chapter (approx. 20 pages) every month. Pastor Bob will facilitate the class and the six members of the PRC will be the “commentators.” All attendees will be invited to participate in the discussions. The book is available on Amazon and for Kindle ... and I will be ordering a few books for distribution at the church as well. Isn’t it time you went back to school in 2018? Make plans now to attend the VSCC “School of Love”!

**IN OUR PRAYERS...**

**Harry Bell      Mary Bell      Philo Schrock  
Shelia Crowe      Rita Goodman      Ben Miller  
Hewitt Hafer      Shirley High  
Joyce Harpster, Jeannene Yantis' mother  
Kara Kuhns and her family  
Gina Larry and Pat Michels, Laury Scott's cousins  
Wileva Williams      Mary Heddin  
The family of Nancy Bell, Debbie Howell's aunt  
The family of Bonnie Jaeger, Estline Crowe's sister  
Terry and Nancy Dolan, Sandy Dolan's brother and sister-in-law  
Joyce Weatherholt, Sue Wells' sister-in-law  
Service men and women and their families**

***JANUARY  
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES***

1-Marcia Lowder Stiff	18-Kendra Watkins
4-Kristianna Bursa Myus	18- Alice Watkins
8-Matthew & Juliana Jones (A)	20-Justin Tinkle
10-Haley Crist	21-Mary Beth Condill
10-Richard Buckler	21- Jordan Watkins
10-Liam Bursa	21- Aubrey Kingery
11-Austin Abercrombie	21- Rob & Sandy Fustin (A)
11-Bill & Bev Dean (A)	24-Brianne Eads
13-Kynlee Durbin	24- Wally Willoughby
13-Loretta Grant	25-Randa Carson
14-Ayla Condill	26-Matthew Jones
17-Sue Wells	28-Mary Heddin





## January 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	Jan 1 Office Closed	2	3 9:00 am Pray It Forward 10:00 am Worship Team mtg. 7:00 pm Admin. mtg.	4	5 10:30 am CWF Bingo @ Arthur Home	6
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Elder's mtg. in Genesis Room	8	9 10:00 am Worship Team mtg.	10 9:00 am Pray It Forward 10:00 am CWF mtg. 7:00 pm Board mtg.(Pastor's Roundtable)	11	12	13 9:00 am CWF Breakfast @ Yoder's
14 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm God Soaked Life Study Group	15	16 10:00 am Worship Team mtg.	17 9:00 am Pray It Forward	18 1:00-6:00 pm AMA and Arthur Lion's Club Blood Drive @ AUMC	19	20
21 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship (Pulpit Exchange-Rev. John Stewart)	22	23 10:00 am Worship Team mtg.	24 9:00 am Pray It Forward	25 7:00 pm Mission Outreach mtg.	26	27
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	29	30 10:00 am Worship Team mtg. 7:00 pm Photography Group	31 9:00 am Pray It Forward	Feb 1	2	3



**Operating Fund: Monthly Target ~ \$14,806.00**

**Received thru 12/31/2017 ~ \$ 22,966.33**

**Attendance for December**

**12/03 ~ 111    12/10 ~ 92**

**12/17 ~ 90    12/24 ~ 132    12/31 ~ 64**

**VINE STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**249 South Vine Street**  
**Arthur, IL 61911**

**SERVING IN JANUARY 2018**

Elders: Susan Bursa  
Bryan Thomas

Greeters: 7 Deb Howell  
14 Ann Singer, Marilyn Watkins  
21 Janice Daugherty, Ann Huffman  
28 The Thomas Family

Deacons: Brianne Eads  
Treston Eads  
Jessica Vanausdoll  
Shawn Vanausdoll

Children's Moment: 7 Jared Blaudow  
14 Mac Condill  
21 Susan Bursa  
28 Sandy Dolan

CWF Monthly  
Co-Chairmen: Beth Singer, Melissa Yoder

Worship  
Leader: Jared Blaudow

