

Foresight

Looking to the Future

Christian Church of Villa Park
1336 S. Villa Avenue
Villa Park, IL 60181

Phone: (630) 833-7262

E-mail: ccvp1336@yahoo.com

Pastor: Dave Holston



Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Getting to Know You(me)!



I am honored to be serving the Christian Church of Villa Park as your pastor! Your extravagant welcome over the last few weeks has made me feel welcome and at home. Over the next few months as we get to know each other, I will be reaching out to you to set appointments to get to spend individual time together either at your home, my home, or at the church, whatever works best for you.

“Called to Embody God’s Love” is the banner that is on our church web page, <https://www.ccvponline.net/>. *“A Love That Empowers, Liberates, and Empowers in Relationships with All We Encounter”* is a wonderful message to those who come to our page, but I wonder what that means to each of us? Relationships are important as we work together to serve our God and community, and my pledge to you is to work hard to get to know you and serve our community with you.

So, it is only fair you know a little about me. My wife Christi and I just celebrated our 26th wedding anniversary (both 2nd marriages). Between us we have five children, eighteen grandchildren and one great grandchild. We reside in Monee, Illinois, love to travel, love soccer, baseball, walking, and we both love learning new things! I love to fish when I have time. This is just a brief synopsis about me.

Genesis 18:1-15 tells the story of Abraham and Sarah and their hospitality to three strangers. In those days, visitors were treated with high honor, shared food and usually left as friends. I believe in hospitality, so if you come to visit our house, we will always have a beverage and snack to share, and our porch is always open. We have a front porch, a backyard patio porch and a basement porch for inclement weather. I want to get to know you and don’t mind sharing over a cup of coffee, tea, or water, as we get to know each other. I suspect we have much in common.

My sermon series in July is intended to get us focused on the tools necessary to serve our church and community, much like we tend to a garden. Good soil, plenty of seeds, hard work, weeding, and watering, can result in a bountiful crop. In the Gospel we read, “a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty” in Matthew 13:8 and 23. I can’t wait to see what we will do in our garden!

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave’s Contact Information

Street address: 5326 West Main Street, Monee, IL (to get to the porch!)

Mailing address: PO Box 342, Monee, IL 60449

Email: ccvppastor@yahoo.com

Phone: 708-288-4936 (cell)

Looking Ahead...

- Sunday school will resume on September 10.
- Love Your neighbor Day is September 16.
- Reconciliation Special Offering will be received on September 24 and October 1. Links for information and online giving will be posted on the church's website once they are available.
- The local CROP Walk to raise funds to fight hunger will be on October 1.

Love Your Neighbor Day 2023 Will Be Held on September 16, 2023 – Volunteers Are Needed!



The Christian Church of Villa Park and other area churches will be working together again this year to hold the 9th annual Love Your Neighbor Day on Saturday, September 16, 2023 (rain date September 23, 2023). This is an important ministry of CCVP which only continues with the support from our members, family and friends through volunteering. On Love Your Neighbor Day 2022 over 140 volunteers from 9 different churches in Lombard and Villa Park and the community at large came together to help a total of 23 homeowners in need of assistance in Lombard and Villa Park in doing yard work

and repairs to the exterior of their homes.

We know that God calls us to love our neighbors. LYND is an opportunity to put our love into action and show God's love by showing up at a neighbor's home and providing much needed assistance. Most of our applicants have been unable to keep up with projects around their home due to physical limitations (age or health problems) or financial limitations.

You can help these neighbors in need by filling out a volunteer sign-up sheet and agreeing to volunteer on September 16, 2023 (rain date September 24, 2023). You can return the sign-up sheet to Doris Carter or leave it in the church office. While some of the work done includes repairs to the exterior of the homes, most of the work is yard work which doesn't require any construction skills.

If you don't feel like you have the ability to do the physical work at a neighbor's home, Ruth Martin is in need of volunteers who will help with the food – setting up coffee and breakfast treats at the morning gathering and/or delivering lunches to the teams on the job site.

It would be very helpful to the LYND Planning Team to receive your volunteer commitments as soon as possible so that they can let some of our applicants know that there will be enough volunteers that their applications can be accepted. You can obtain volunteer sign-up sheets on the church website, or by e-mailing loveyourneighbor15@yahoo.com. Contact Doris Carter if you have any questions. We hope you can volunteer and encourage family and friends to join you.

Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School starts at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday, September 10 through May.

All ages are invited to gather together to hear the Bible story before we break into groups for conversation, crafts, and games.

Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook Live



Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, October 1, 2023, 1-3pm

Last year the Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk raised \$27,000 to support local food pantries and Church World Service with hunger relief efforts locally and around the world. This was more than we had raised annually in the past ten years and is a testament to the increased need for food assistance and the generosity of our sponsors and walkers.

Walkers will again meet at First Church of Lombard, 220 S. Main Street, as our starting and finishing point. The 3-mile route will remain similar to previous years along the Prairie Path and returning on the Great Western Trail.

75% of funds raised will benefit Church World Service’s “Building Global Resilience” programs, focusing on the world-wide climate crisis. For more information go to: <https://resources.crophungerwalk.org/building-global-resilience/>

25% of funds raised will benefit the following agencies with access to food through Northern Illinois Food Bank:

- Community Table, Lombard
- Disciples Food Pantry, Villa Park
- The Outreach House, Lombard

The Christian Church of Villa Park already has our page setup on the Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk website. We need walkers! Here is the link to register as a walker and/or make a donation:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/christian-church-of-villa-park>

Questions? Contact Betty Prorak at BLProrak@yahoo.com or 847-977-0797.

Support the CROP Walk Before the Walk

The Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk committee has arranged fundraising events at 3 area restaurants. At each one, as you order, show or tell the employee the information about supporting the CROP Walk. A flyer is at the end of this newsletter for the August 1 restaurant. (Flyers will be available at church and on the CCVP website for the others as the dates get closer.) Here are the dates, the restaurants, and the times you can get food and benefit the Walk:

Tuesday, August 1 – Bricks Wood Fired Pizza, 132 W. St. Charles Road, Lombard, 11:00am-9:00pm

Wednesday, August 30 – Portillo’s, 155 S. Route 83, Elmhurst, 5:00-8:00pm

Thursday, September 14 – Panera, 751 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn, 4:00-8:00pm

Disciples Food Pantry

April Stats:

149 Households served

574 People served

May Stats:

190 Households served

765 People served

June Stats:

161 Households served

636 People served

The Pantry is open every Wednesday 9:30-11:30am.

Clients enter from Villa Avenue and receive food by the parking lot door.

Foresight News Deadline

The next quarterly issue of this newsletter will come out on September 12 with a news deadline of 11am on September 11. Send anything you would like included to Betty Prorak at BLProrak@yahoo.com or mail it to the church.

We Find Joy and Give Thanks...



- that John Martin's brain surgery went well in April.
- for the years of ministry that we had together with Laura Reed and her family. From Josh's Facebook posts, the family enjoyed their trip to Paris and Spain, and recently adopted two kittens.
- for the music that Dan VanZeeland shared with us since January 2022. He will be moving soon to Florida to pursue an advanced music degree.
- for Mickey O'Brien who has been Dan's substitute and is now our regular pianist.
- that Tina Amodeo's parents bought a mini-van that can accommodate her wheelchair.
- for Cal Bloesch who preached for us on June 25 and found someone (Pastor Susan Steinmiller) to preach on July 9.
- for the First Christian Church of Downers Grove warmly welcoming us to their worship service via YouTube on July 2.
- that Randy Reid has brought Jane (his mother) to church several times recently so she could be present in person to participate in worship, meetings, and receptions.
- for your prayers during the transition as Laura Reed prepared to leave, as we interviewed potential pastors and discerned together, as Laura left, and as we welcomed Dave Holston.
- that the congregational meeting on Sunday, June 25 was a wonderful time of discussion and fellowship, AND we discerned as a group to call Dave Holston as our pastor.
- that Dave Holston answered "yes" to our call.

Please Pray for...



- the health of Tina Amodeo and her parents. They are planning a road trip soon, if all stay healthy enough.
- John Martin as doctors continue follow up and adjustments from John's surgery in April.
- Ruth Martin
- the health of Teresa Shoff (John Martin's sister).
- Carl Kagebein
- Jerry and Carol Robbins who are both in long-term care at the Springs of Monarch Landing.
- Joan Fuller's sister Gloria's health.
- Kathy Quint who recently had a stroke. Kathy is the mother of Joan Fuller's good friend Diane Quint Evans.
- Jayne Hochstetler who is still undergoing treatments for cancer. She says that she is doing okay and, "I have been very blessed that I have had no side effects from the treatments. I'm due for a CT scan next month to find out how well they are working." Jayne sends her thanks to those who have been praying for her.
- Christi Holston (Dave's wife) who had knee surgery on July 10. Her knee is doing well, but she is having issues with her pain medication.
- our church as we move forward with Pastor Dave.
- our regional church, the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) as Rev. Teresa Dulyea-Parker will be retiring as Regional Minister on September 1, 2023.
- the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Louisville, Kentucky, July 29 – August 1.

June 30, 2023 Financial Summary

	April	May	June	Year-to-date
Income for budget items:	\$8,182.35	\$5,227.26	\$5,752.69	\$41,208.48
Budgeted expenses:	\$6,994.86	\$6,669.93	\$7,650.56	\$42,319.34

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Fund-raising with Gift Cards



The next order for Jewel gift cards will be placed at the beginning of October. Please let Betty Prorak know what card(s) you would like to order by October 1 for them to be delivered on October 8. The church receives 5% of the cost of any cards we order as a group.

The RaiseRight (formerly ShopWithScrip) gift card order will be due on August 27. There are many different gift cards available, each giving the church a portion of your purchase price. If this will be your first order from <https://www.raiseright.com/>, please contact Betty Prorak (BLProrak@yahoo.com) for the church's enrollment code.

August, September, October Celebrations

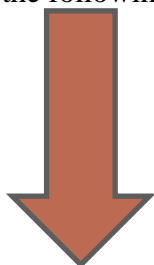
August 17	Debra Studniarz		October 8	Jerry Robbins
			11	Haley Felix
September 3	Doris Carter		21	Ed Slinkman
13	Raja Philip		28	Sofia Felix
18	James Schultz		29	Melina Felix



October 17 Susan & Ray Severino

Please consider visiting Billy Bricks at 132 W. St. Charles Road, Lombard on **Tuesday August 1st**, any time between 11:00am and 9:00pm. They will be donating 20% of all sales all day to the Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk providing you mention CROP Walk at the register or when you order online. You can dine in or order to take home.

Flyer for Bill Bricks for
Tuesday, August 1
to benefit the
Great Prairie Trail CROP Walk
is on the following page




LET'S RAISE THE DOUGH!



EAT GOOD.
GIVE BACK.

Billy Bricks will donate **20%** of each order (dine in, takeout, and delivery) to **The Great Prairie Trail CROP Hunger Walk.**

CROP HUNGER WALK
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

 BILLY BRICKS DOWNTOWN LOMBARD
132 W ST CHARLES RD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1
11 AM - 9 PM



BEFORE YOU GO:

To have your order donated back to the organization, mention the fundraiser at the register, show this flyer, or write **"CROP Fundraiser"** in the Order Notes section before checking out your online order.



@BILLYBRICKSHA



DOWNTOWNLOMBARD@BILLYBRICKSHA.COM