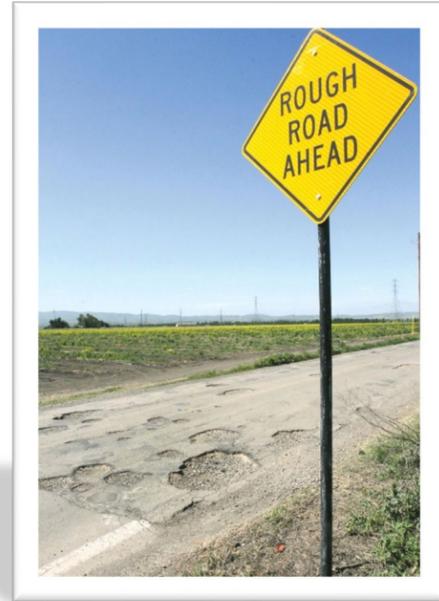


**Rough Roads**  
by James Wertz

Traveling down the road the other day I saw a sign that said, "Next ten miles rough road." Wouldn't it be nice if we could get some kind of warning at the beginning of each month telling us what to expect? Would make life a lot easier, don't you think? I know I'd like that. Knowing if my vehicle was going to breakdown or major expenses for the house. The list could go on. And each one of us would have a different list of items we'd want to know about. The struggles each of us deal with and how we deal with them differ from one person to another. If we are a Christian, we'll look at problems differently than a nonbeliever will. We know a nonbeliever may say that God is just tempting them. But we know that isn't true. James 1:13 tells us, "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God;' for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone."



Back to the sign I saw...This rough road I was traveling on was an interstate, and there were two lanes to choose from. I moved over to the other lane, and it was smoother. Not much, but better than the first lane. And life is like that. We can choose to follow Christ and life may be a little easier at times. Not always because our faith will be tested. But then, we also know where to turn. When we put our faith in man, it's not going to work out very well. However, let's remember what Jesus said in Matthew 19:26, "And looking at them Jesus said to them, 'With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

This verse is where the rich young man had told Jesus that he'd followed all the commandments. What else does he need to do to obtain eternal life? Then Jesus tells him: sell everything you have and give the money to the poor. Then come follow me. Scripture tells us the young man went away

sad because he was very wealthy. A lot of people are like this young man. They would rather stay in the rough lane in life instead of following Christ. With Christ it's all or nothing. No middle ground.

Paul tells us in Colossians 2:6-8, "Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ."

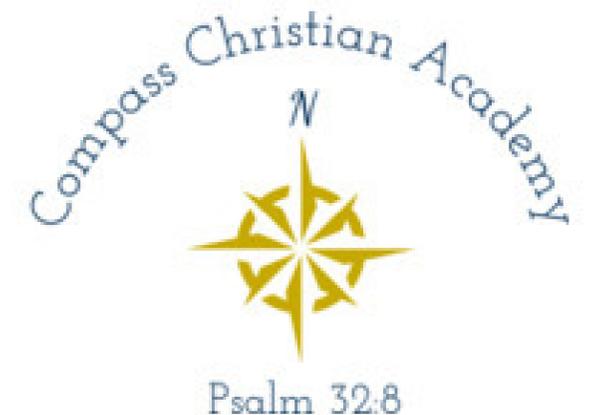
So remember, just because we've excepted Christ doesn't mean life is going to always be smooth, like driving in the smooth lane on the highway. From time to time, we'll move over into the rough lanes and get bounced around. But if we're planted firmly in our faith and walk in Christ we'll get back into the smooth lane.

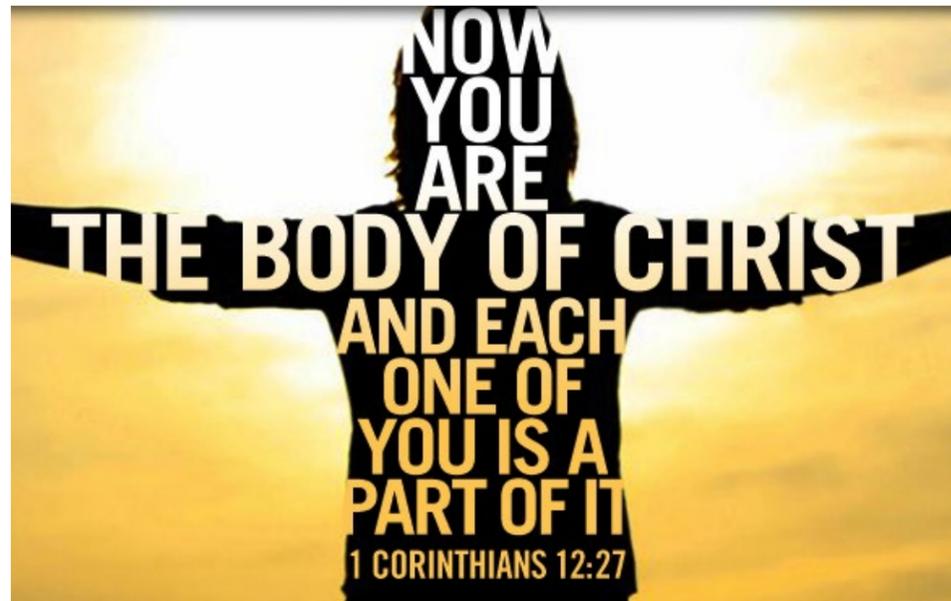
Warning...rough lane ahead for next ten miles. Which lane are you going to choose?



**Here's an update on the Compass Christian Academy launch for Fall 2021!**

- Enrollment for 2021-2022 is now narrowed to K5-4<sup>th</sup> Grade. Other grades will be added in the future.
- As of now, we have 14 K5-4<sup>th</sup> Grade applicants...and there's room for more! To apply, please visit <https://compasschristianacademy.com/student-application>.
- Our teaching team is coming together! The full team of teachers will be announced by the end of July.
- CCA Preview Nights are a great way to learn about the school and begin the application process. Upcoming CCA Preview Nights are scheduled as follows:
  - Wednesday, July 14, 6 pm
  - Sunday, July 25, 6 pm
- The CCA Advisory Committee is meeting regularly and is a big help! Thank you! Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in July and August, 4:30 pm in the Friendship Room.





# The Christian Sentinel



July/ August 2021



July Memory Verse: Proverbs 15:1  
*A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
 but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

August Memory Verse: Psalm 135:3  
*Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
 sing praise to His name, for that is pleasant.*

+

## Places in the Bible

### Word Search

+

P	U	M	X	M	P	B	O	D	Z	H	T	D	Q	H
J	N	A	Y	K	E	H	Z	B	N	E	O	B	T	J
V	E	M	S	I	C	L	H	T	G	A	N	K	H	J
D	C	T	O	I	B	V	A	E	W	V	E	E	A	A
O	Y	Y	R	D	I	P	T	S	V	E	D	K	R	R
V	Q	E	P	X	O	H	S	O	U	N	E	K	R	B
C	J	Y	S	R	S	S	Y	H	B	R	K	U	O	C
U	Y	B	R	E	U	L	E	B	A	B	E	Z	M	J
Z	T	T	M	S	C	S	T	B	D	Z	T	J	O	B
F	U	A	M	E	H	E	L	H	T	E	B	R	G	I
V	N	Z	P	X	I	U	H	Q	X	C	D	S	X	W
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Y	A	B	A	A	S	H	S	F	N	Q	E	D	T	Y
Y	B	I	E	L	I	P	J	B	Z	O	J	B	O	K
C	X	X	V	R	C	Z	I	S	R	A	E	L	A	C

BABEL  
 BETHLEHEM  
 CYPRUS  
 EDEN

GETHSEMANE  
 GOMORRAH  
 HEAVEN  
 ISRAEL

JERICHO  
 JERUSALEM  
 JORDAN  
 SODOM

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**First Christian Church**

1001 S. Cherry St.  
 West Frankfort, IL 62896  
 Website: [fccwf.org](http://fccwf.org)  
 Facebook: @fccwf03  
 Church Phone: 618-932-6360

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am-4pm; Closed Friday  
 Senior Minister: Dr. T. J. Gentry ~ [tgentry@fccwf.org](mailto:tgentry@fccwf.org)  
 Administrator: Trent Grider ~ [tgrider@fccwf.org](mailto:tgrider@fccwf.org)  
 Student Ministries Director: Analisa Woods ~ [awoods@fccwf.org](mailto:awoods@fccwf.org)  
 Worship Director: Ashton Gentry ~ [agentry@fccwf.org](mailto:agentry@fccwf.org)

# A Senior Saint's Perspective

What a blessing to introduce a new insert section of *The Christian Sentinel*, entitled "A Senior Saint's Perspective." Each installment will offer insights and counsel from one of First Christian Church's Senior Saints. For our first installment of "A Senior Saint's Perspective," we are blessed to read the wise and charitable counsel of Jo Ann Mondino.



These are the lyrics to a hymn that I heard almost every day when I was very young. (Now you know that it was an old hymn.) Every morning in my preschool years my mother listened to a devotional program on the radio. The gentleman who gave the devotions sang this hymn as his

theme song. As I remember his name was Frank McHugh. I listened so often that I memorized the words, and it has stayed in my memory. Many times in my life the words have come back to me when I most needed to hear them. I am truly thankful for that time I spent with mother as she explained to me what I might not understand in those devotions. There is a scripture in Ephesians, chapter 4 verses 25 to 31, which also I have recalled many times. I did not learn it word for word, but I learned what it was saying. As I think about what Paul is saying there, I know how important it was for me to be taught by those principles. I have tried to carry those into each phase of my life.

**An Evening Prayer**  
Charles Hutchinson Gabriel, 1911

1. If I have wound-ed a - ny soul to - day, If  
2. If I have ut - tered i - dle words or vain, If  
3. If I have been per - verse or hard, or cold, If  
4. For - give the sins I have con - fessed to Thee; For -

I have caused one foot to go a - stray, If I have walked in my own  
I have turned a - side from want or pain, Lest I my - self shall suf - fer  
I have longed for shel - ter in Thy fold, When Thou hast giv - en me some  
- give the sec - ret sins I do not see; O guide me, love me and my

will - ful way, Dear Lord, for - give!  
through the strain, Dear Lord, for - give!  
fort to hold, Dear Lord, for - give!  
keep - er be, A - Lord, for - give!  
men.

Public Domain  
Courtesy of the Cyber Hymnal™

absorb in early years and retain forever, both good and bad things. Today our children are subjected to so many things with which people my age never contended. Technology has made

vast changes in our lives, and they definitely are not all bad. However, there are always those forces in society that use these things to their advantage and may not be what advances Christian thinking in our lives and in the formative years of youngsters. How do we find the right way to lead our next generations? The first step should be good grounding in the teachings of Christ, the principles of Christianity.

My generation is now called “the greatest generation” but that does not translate as the “best” generation. World War Two brought many changes; many wives and mothers had to go to work, both for the income and war effort. Many fathers were no longer in the home. Daycare centers were born to help mothers. Schools took over some things that some parents no longer had time for, at least in their thinking. Many of us left to the church the Christian training. Children attended Sunday school an hour one day a week. Not much time for the training but it was a right step. However, it did not always have “good carryover.” I use quotation marks because those words were used in my junior high years to remind us of what we learn in one class can carry over to other phases of life. In that instance it meant we should carry over good penmanship to each class. A small certificate, called GCO, was given by a teacher when he or she felt we did carry over our penmanship. The more GCOs a student one could bring a small reward. I do think it taught us good lessons in how to use what we learned.

Back to my point. Many homes today are households of both parents working. Often family time suffers. Sometimes, definitely not in all homes, Bible study and Christian principles are not given priority. We depend a lot on teaching by example, but that does not preclude the study of God's word together as a family. Family time is precious, and it is a phenomenon to learn that if we are trying hard to find time for sharing God's word and teaching Christ's love, somehow the time is there for us. With God we can accomplish more than we ever can alone.

This brings another important thought. Our church is taking a new, very needed action: Compass Christian Academy. It will be an expensive but much needed extension of our church and will mean each of us can help to make it a success. Not only in our physical presence and action, but in prayer for the school and also prayer for each person involved in the working of it. We do not ever lose the need for supplication for God's guidance in every undertaking. This is a chance for us to bring our community to a place for children to learn not only the 3Rs, but to open their minds to this wonderful universe God created and his plan for their lives in it. We want them to learn to live by the teachings of Christ and how to be good citizens of this great nation. May God truly bless our undertaking.

*- Jo Ann Mondino*

# July @ FCC

This Month's Memory Verse: Proverbs 15:1  
 A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
 but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Nominations Period Opens	2 Cookout and Fireworks, 6:30 pm	3
4 Happy Independence Day! Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	5 Church Office Closed Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	6 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	7 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	8 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	9 Church Office Closed	10
11 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	12 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	13 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	14 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm CCA Preview Night, 6 pm	15 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Young and Rested Canasta, 9:30 am	16 Church Office Closed	17 Young and Rested Trip to Olive Garden and Fabulous 50s Show (leave church parking lot at 10 am)
18 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am Elders' Mtg., 11:45 am Good Shepherd Academy, 3 pm Deep Dive Discussion, 5 pm One Year Bible Fellowship, 6 pm	19 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	20 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Bell Choir Leaves for Branson	21 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm CCA Advisory Cmte. Mtg., 4:30 pm Missions Cmte. Mtg., 5:30 pm Enquiring Minds Q&A with T. J., Facebook Live, 7 pm	22 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am CCA Preview, 6 pm Bell Choir Returns from Branson	26 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	27 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	28 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	29 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	30 Church Office Closed	31 Nominations Period Closes

Church Phone: 618-932-6360 ~ Church Website: fccwf.org ~ Regular Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 4 pm

# August @ FCC

This Month's Memory Verse: Psalm 135:3  
 Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
 sing praise to His name, for that is pleasant.

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	2 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	3 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	4 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	5 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	6 Church Office Closed	7
8 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	9 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	10 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	11 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	12 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	13 Church Office Closed	14
15 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am Elders' Mtg., 11:45 am Good Shepherd Academy, 3 pm Deep Dive Discussion, 5 pm One Year Bible Fellowship, 6 pm	16 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	17 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	18 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm CCA Advisory Cmte. Mtg., 4:30 pm Missions Cmte. Mtg., 5:30 pm	19 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Young and Rested Canasta, 9:30 am	20 Church Office Closed	21 FORGE SI Men's Bible Study, 8 am
22 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	23 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	24 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	25 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	26 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am	30 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm Kids Martial Arts, 5:15 pm Youth/Adult Martial Arts, 6 pm	31 Church Office Open 9 am – 4 pm				

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