



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
March Newsletter

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NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)
March 1, 2023

Pastor's Note

Psalm 32:1 says “happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.” Lent, while somber and reflective, actually invites all of us into that state of happiness that forgiveness brings. Lent invites us into the awareness and confession of sins so that we can experience the incredible gift of the joy and energy that follows true forgiveness. I pray each of you are having a meaningful season of Lent as we walk closer to the cross and then to the joy of Easter.

Lenten worship sermon series: Encounters with Jesus

During the four Sundays in March, we will be using the gospel reading in John to guide us in a series of exploring encounters people had with the living Christ. The readings are longer than normal, so the actual reading during worship will focus on a particular part of the story. To help you prepare for the Bible study and also as part of your Lenten devotions, here are the full readings and the person we will be studying who encountered Jesus in person.

March 5 - Nicodemus John 3: 1-17
March 12 - Samaritan Woman John 4: 5-42
March 19 - Blind Man John 9:1-41
March 26 - Lazarus John 11:1-45

Psalms for Lent

Even though we will not be preaching on the Psalm reading, many people find the Psalms very helpful for personal meditation and reflection at any time, and especially during Lent. Here are the lectionary choices for the Psalms this Lent - hopefully they can guide you in your own Lenten journey reflections.

March 5 - Psalm 121
March 12 - Psalm 95
March 19 - Psalm 23
March 26 - Psalm 130

Also in March 2023

March 3 – World Day of Prayer

March 12 – Daylight Savings Time begins – set your clock forward 1 hour

March 18 – Disciples Women Spring Fellowship Day @ 10 AM (see Judee Mitchell for an application)

Looking ahead for April:

Sunday, April 2 – Easter Offering for Disciple Mission Fund

Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday Communion Service – 6pm

Sunday, April 9 - Easter Service – 11am

Easter Offering for Disciple Mission Fund is Sunday, April 2nd. The Easter Offering supports General Ministries of the Church. General Ministries serve across the United States and Canada, and around the world. General Ministries also partner in ministry with a variety of far-reaching and unique organizations.

Fresh Flowers on Easter Sunday, April 9, has become a tradition at our Church. If, you can bring fresh flowers, we will cover our cross in the front yard with flowers, following our Worship Service. There will be containers at each entrance to the building for you to put your flowers in. This tradition is our way to celebrate our risen Christ with our community.

DWF News

DWF is happy to report where their monies have been donated for the 1st quarter:

January – Southeastern Children’s Home

February – Week of Compassion (Regional)

March – Senior Life Center

March 18 – Disciple Women Spring Fellowship Day @ 10 am (see Judee for an application)

March 18th – Trash to Treasure Sale

UPDATES

DISCIPLE MISSION FUND OFFERINGS

To date our Congregation has collected \$1,202.00 for the Week of Compassion Offering. This is a TREMENDOUS display of the love that First Christian Church has toward helping others in their time of need. Thank you to all who participated for your generosity and support!

Creation of New Church Directory

We have begun the new Church Directory!

We will be setting up appointments for you to come to the Church to have your picture taken, or if you have a favorite photo of yourself, it can be submitted and a picture of the picture can be used for the new directory.

It will also be necessary to confirm your information, such as name, address, phone numbers, birthday and anniversary dates in order to have current and correct information for use in the new directory.

We hope everyone will be available to help with this as it is an important tool that we use to stay in touch with each other.

Moving forward? (Responses requested)

During the Covid shut downs, we made many changes to our worship time and protocols. One change was to email the bulletin out each week. We are re-evaluating that, and other than sending them to the Facebook part of our congregation, wondered if it was still helpful to email it weekly to the congregation as a whole. **Please let Lynn know of your preference by responding to this email by 3/14, saying either Yes (meaning I'd like to continue receiving the bulletin) or No (receiving the bulletin is no longer necessary, if no response is received we will remove you from the list.**

Choir Practice Returns

You are invited to join the choir! If interested, please join Isaac and other singers for rehearsal Sunday after church in the Sanctuary.

Missions Opportunity

To make it easier to donate to **ACTS** and **Walking Tall Ministries**, we will be placing a basket for each ministry in the Sanctuary. These baskets will also be gentle reminders of our on-going commitment and connection to these two local ministries.

ACTs donation for March: Peanut butter & jelly

Walking Tall donation for March: Vienna Sausages and 39 gallon trash bags



Happy Birthday to:

Mike Wilson - March 12

June Wilson - March 21

Paula Jones - March 31

Prepare now - Coming in July 2023

KINDOM OF GOD WITHIN US AMONG US

GENESIS 11:1-9 • LUKE 17:20-21 • 2 PETER 1:3

July 29 - August 1, 2023 - Louisville

General Assembly 2023: Save the Date Social Media Copy

Edited: May 25, 2022 Theme: Kindom of God: Within Us, Among Us Scripture(s): Genesis 11:1-9; Luke 17:20-21; Peter 1:3

Campaign Summary

The theme for the General Assembly of the Christian Church for July 2023 is based on Luke 17:20-21, Genesis 11:1-9 and 2 Peter 1:3. The focus of the theme is “Kindom of God within us, among us.” This theme is a call for Disciples to strengthen their relationship to God in both individual and communal ways through an expansive in person and digital gathering of the church in Louisville.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The family of Frank Boule, Kelly Jones, Paul Wilson, Laura Kraft, Christian Boening, Caroline Hale, Chuck Johnston, Elaine Johnston, Julia Dyer, Tyler DeLosantos (Lynn’s grandson), those impacted by gun violence, for the Ukraine, those experiencing effects of tornadoes, winter storms and other natural disasters.

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR: *Bryan Malone, Paul & Pam Owen, Susan Poster Ullmann, Pastor Irene, Millie Clarke, Martha Albritton, Carol Kettel, Linda Cheadle, Tom and Connie Moomjy, Wanda & Jerry Doleshall, Robin Brooks, Sabrina, Eliza Husser Cave, Dr. Walter Allen, Elsie Smith, Connie Santee, Austin and Sharon Moede, Tatyana Yatsenko, Ella Shakibatabar our Regional Church, those in public service, military service and for our Country.*

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