

March
Is
Blowing In!

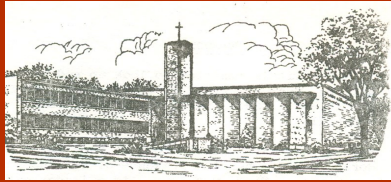
March 12, 2018

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

*Soul Feast Supper
every Thurs. at 6:00
*Need Camp Supplies
*Good Friday Walk

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Serving Schedule	2
Food Pantry	2
Prayer List	2
Secret Place	2
Attendance & Giving	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Thought to Ponder	3
Mark the Date	3
It's Camp Time	3
Bible Translations	3
Good Friday Walk	3
Lectionary	4
"Who Me?"	4
Camp Supplies	5
Soul Feast	5
Birthday Boy	5
CWU Pictures	5
Church Contact	6
Calendar	6
Spotlight on Disciples	6



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 67 NO. 6

MARCH 12, 2018

Reflections

As our Lenten journey brings us closer to the events leading up to Jesus' death on the cross, we might think about our personal discipleship. We might ask ourselves, "Have I been able to take a little more time to spend in quiet with Jesus?" or "As I spend time with my family, have I taken time to share my faith with them?" or "Am I finding time to just ponder how wonderful it is that I am loved so much by God?"

Some of us are taking part in a study of spiritual disciplines by Marjorie J. Thompson, *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. We're learning about ways in which to spend more time with God. Thompson says that "The spiritual life invites a process of transformation in the life of a believer. It is a process of growing in gratitude, trust, obedience, humility, compassion, service, and joy. As we deepen our relationship with God, we begin to choose God's ways and purposes as our own. . . It should be clear that Christian spirituality begins with God, depends on God, and ends in God" (p.8).

The exploration of a course on spiritual disciplines may seem overwhelming as they are put in front of us quickly. The important thing to remember is to continue spending time with God and to try a new discipline as it feels comfortable to do so. It often takes time and adjustment to try and add something new to our devotional time. It's all personal and however fast or slow your pace is, it's alright!

As we grow together in our Christian spiritual lives, we rest in the assurance that we are being formed into ones who can "receive, reflect, and respond to the Spirit of God" on a path that leads us to a deeper relationship with our Creator.

Whether or not you are taking this course, know that you are deeply loved by God. God longs to be in relationship with you and sent the Son to walk and talk with you along the journey. The practices of spiritual disciplines like prayer, reading the Bible, fasting, reclaiming Sabbath time, self-emptying and others are only tools to help us along the way to find ways to be with God more deeply.

May we each continue to be in prayer for each other and the church as we continue down the path of transformation. May God bless each of us in our growing and becoming as we practice building each other up in God's love.

Blessings on the journey,

Pastor Lorraine

Upcoming Serving Schedule

March 18, 2018

Candlelighter ~ Mikinzi Simmons
Children's Message ~ Laurie Kurzen
Diaconate ~ Carl* & Rita Headrick
 Tammie McDiffett, Joy Frevert
Elder ~ Judy Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Dorothy Matile & Lola Walker
 ~ (S) Wanda Davis & Marilyn Dalton
Nursery ~ John & Cindy Lexow
Worship Leader ~ George Arnett
Children's Church ~ Jennifer Dalton

March 25, 2018

Candlelighter ~ Faith Ihde
Children's Message ~ Cindy Lexow
Diaconate ~ Jake Dalton*, John Lexow
 Betty & Alan Richardson
Elder ~ Jaylene Arnett
Greeters ~ (N) Carl & Rita Headrick
 (S) Janet Lostutter
Nursery ~ Kat Dorcas & Rita Headrick
Worship Leader ~ Judy Moore
Children's Church ~ Sonya Ihde

April 1, 2018

Candlelighter ~ Gavin LeClear
Children's Message ~ Sandy Heller
Diaconate ~ Larry Gamblian*, Joy Wonser
 Cameron Moore, Carol Rhoades
Elder ~ Cameron Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Carl & Lana Richardson
 ~ (S) Barb Gimple
Nursery ~ Nikki Simmons & Mikinzi Simmons
Worship Leader ~ Marlene Hanson
Children's Church ~ EASTER-No Children's Church

April 8, 2018

Candlelighter ~ Kinzie Kurzen
Children's Message ~ Marie Harding
Diaconate ~ Nikki Simmons*, Elizabeth Brown
 Joe & Bonnie Denson
Elder ~ Jean Miller
Greeters ~ (N) John & Cindy Lexow
 ~ (S) Marie Harding
Nursery ~ Marilyn Dalton & Jennifer Dalton
Worship Leader ~ Anita Imhoff
Children's Church ~ Faith Coleman
Preaching ~ Steve Martin

So far in March (only 2 days) we have helped 6 families, consisting of 19 people with 6 bags of food. Of these 6 families, 1 was new to us.



Voices of the people you have helped this month—"Boy if I need to know something, I just ask you!" "Thanks for the information on shred days." "That was good to know about the vegetables at Abundant Harvest. Please keep us in the know!"

Lonnie Atchison (cancer); Tom Bell; Chandler Bolen (health issues); Denise Calvert (broken leg); Joyce Cress (cancer & recovery); Marla Darby (spine surgery); Diane (sister of Joyce Cress, breast cancer); Ana Gonzales (broken back); Amy Hossfeld (brain tumor); Luella Hush; Grace Hyatt (Betty Pearson's mother); Myrna Jensen (sister of Sharon Ball, cancer surgery); Jim Johnson (Jean Miller's nephew); Brad Jones (son of Jan Jones, heart problems); Wes Jones (health issues); Gale Kelley (hospice); Joyce Kellison (health issues); Steve (broken neck) & Ramona Langley (brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson); Jeanice Miller (knee replacement); Pam Scheve (daughter Jan Weeks, health issues); Becky Shannon (daughter of Sharon Shannon, health issues); Jim Siebert (son of Janice Miller, back pain); and Elizabeth Wells (cancer & recovery)



Eric MacGregor (Military)



THE SECRET PLACE

Devotions for Daily Worship
 The Spring 2018 (March, April, May)
 Secret Place daily devotional books
 have arrived and are located on
 the hall table.

Still only \$1.00 per copy so get yours today!

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

March 4, 2018 SS 6 / Worship 78
 March 11, 2018 SS 7 / Worship 82

GIVING RECORD

March 4, 2018 ~ Offering \$2,940.00 / Building \$110.00
 March 11, 2018 ~ Offering \$1,971.60 / Building \$84.50



March Anniversaries

- 03 Bill & Carol Hopkins (1973)
- 18 George & Ruth Ford
- 22 Glenn & Dorothy Boyce

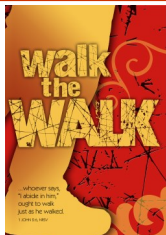
March Birthdays

- 02 Glenna Gamblian
- 02 Rosemary Robinson
- 02 Parker Simmons
- 06 Breann Johnson
- 06 Tina McCurdy
- 11 Robert Chatham
- 11 Imegene Marsh (1922)
- 20 Bertha Kelly
- 21 Nikki Simmons
- 21 McKinzi Simmons
- 29 Dorothy Matile
- 29 Craig Richardson
- 31 Randy Kelley
- 31 Mary Volland



Mark The Dates

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Tue. March 13—6:30 pm Chi Rho Mission Club
- Tue. March 13—7:00 pm Christian Ed
- Wed. March 14—1:30 pm DWF Day Group in Parlor
- Wed. March 14—3:30 pm Leadership Team meets
- Wed. March 14—6:15 pm Stewardship
- Thur. March 15—Soul Feast at 6:00 pm
- Fri. March 16—CWU Friendship Coffee 8:30 am Braum's 6th
- Sat. March 17—10:30 am Carolyn Kuhn Memorial Service
- M-F March 19-23—Spring Break ESU, USD 253
- Wed. March 21—5:00 pm Worship Ministry
- Wed. March 21—6:15 pm Board Meeting
- Thur. March 22—6:00 pm Girl Scouts
- Thur. March 22—6:00 pm Soul Feast in FH
- Sat. March 24—Noon Ihde Baby Shower
- Sunday, March 25—Palm Sunday
- Sunday, March 25—2:00 pm Presbyterian Manor Service
- Mon. March 26—Newsletter Deadline
- Mon. March 26—8:00 am College Coffee in N. Parking Lot



Good Friday Community Walk

Join in the community walk. Meet at noon on Friday, March 30 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and walk to Grace Methodist Church observing Stations of the Cross on the way. There will be a service at Grace Methodist following the walk.

We use various translations of the Bible in our Worship Service—same message different ways.



Thoughts to Ponder

Freedom is a state of mind.

It's Camp Time

Have you checked out the poster in the parlor? There are a variety of camp experiences to enjoy over the summer including: Grand Camp, Music & Drama Camp, Equestrian Camp and New this Year is an Adult Canoe Trek.

The theme for this year is *"Beyond Belief: The Universe of God"*.

You qualify for an Early Bird discount if you register before April 30, 2018.

All camps are held at Camp Tawakoni, near Augusta, KS.

So, pick up a registration form, pick out your favorite camp, ask a friend to attend too, and get signed up today. You will be glad you did.



Lectionary Schedule

March 18 — April 15, 2018

March 18, 2018
 Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 51:1-12 or
 Psalm 119:9-16
 Hebrews 5:5-10
 John 12:20-33

March 25, 2018
Palm Sunday
 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
 Mark 11:1-11 or
 John 12:12-16

April 1, 2018
Easter Sunday
 Acts 10:34-43 or
 Isaiah 25:6-9
 Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or
 Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

April 8, 2018
 Acts 4:32-35
 Psalm 133
 1 John 1:1-2:2
 John 20:19-31

April 15, 2018
 Acts 3:12-19
 Psalm 4
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36b-48
 John 20:1-18 or Mark 18:1

Who Me, An Elder?

Information for this article came from Your Calling as an Elder by Gary Straub, p. 15. Here is Straub's continued brief interpretive summary of the biblical qualifications for elder leadership:

13. Children Who Are Believers. Titus 1:6

Every Christian parent has the spiritual duty of passing the faith on to their children by both words and example so that children naturally come to confirm and claim the faith on their own terms. In Ephesians 6:1-4, Paul is adamant that just as children are to honor their parents, parents should not provoke their children to anger. Elder's should keep their children in prayer as they go through their adolescent years and attempt to keep the family system spiritually and emotionally healthy and "in keeping with biblical principles."

Who Me, A Deacon?

Information for this article came from *Your Calling as a Deacon* by Gary Straub and James Trader II, pp. 53-55.

What? Another Meeting?

"The diaconate should gather together to pray and to study the scripture. They should meet to learn what is going on with other deacons and with the members of the church. They should be discussing the activities of the other groups in the church and where they might help. Members of the diaconate should be active participants in both the church and the groups within the church. They should be a conduit for information to flow between all of those groups . . . At the core of all of our gatherings should be the worship of the living God. It should be our focus both when we are together and when we are apart. Prayer is essential to the act of worship, especially when we are attempting to speak or act out the word of God. In both our words and deeds we should seek to witness to the word. Our very actions are a prayer when they are done to the glory of God . . . When we are united and pray through our words and deeds, our needs will be satisfied."

Camp Supplies Needed

Camp Tawakoni, our Church Camp near Augusta, KS is in need of the following supplies.

Greatest Need:

- Paper towels
- Napkins
- 13 & 33 Gal. Trash Bags
- Toilet Cleaner
- Flour Sack Dish Towels
- Dish Cloths

Other Needs:

- Soft Scrub Comet
- Trash Bags 33 or 55 gal.
- Zip-lock bags—quart & gallon sizes
- Crock Pot liners

You may send these items with your camper, or bring them to the church by **May 1** and we will see that they get to Camp Tawakoni.

Happy 99th Birthday Curtis Rhoades



SOUL FEAST

You are invited to join us for **Soup for the Soul each Thursday evening, March 1 to March 22 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.** Following supper we will take part in the four-week study of Marjorie J. Thompson’s Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life. Pastor Lorraine will lead the discussion. Please read **Chapter 3** to be prepared for our first class (you also may find the forwards and introduction helpful).



So, we provide: a crockpot of soup, veggies & bread, light dessert & drink. You provide: yourself-(just come), a \$2 donation for supper and time for fellowship and study.

Even if you missed the first session you can still come and join in. See you Thursday!

CWU World Day of Prayer Friday, March 2, 2018



Held at First Christian Church



First Christian Church
Lorraine W. Bailey,
Transitional Minister



“The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

202 East 12th Avenue
 620-342-1582 Church Office

Web Page www.fcemporio.org

Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com

Email Pastor Lorraine Bailey at

pastorlorraine@gmail.com

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Office Hours

8 a.m. until Noon, Monday through Friday.

Pastor Lorraine—8:00 am to 11:00 am, Tuesday through Friday. Afternoons by appointment.

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Next Newsletter Deadline
March 26 & April 9, 2018



March 2018

11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Daylight Saving Time st.	Newsletter Deadline	● 6pm Choir Practice	● 1:30pm DWF Day Grou	● 6pm Soul Feast Suppe	● 8:30am CWU Friendsh	● 9am Clothes Closet &
● 9:30am Sunday Schoo	● 7pm Boy Scouts	● 6:30pm Chi Rho Missio	● 3:30pm Leadership Te		● 3pm Clothes Closet &	● 10:30am C Kuhn Mem
● 10:30am Worship Serv		● 7pm Christian Ed.	● 6:15pm Stewardship C			● 5pm BD Party-M Simm
● 12pm Chili Fundraiser						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
● 9:30am Sunday Schoo	● 7pm Boy Scouts	● 6pm Choir Practice	● 5pm Worship Ministry	● 6pm Girl Scouts	● 3pm Clothes Closet &	● 9am Clothes Closet &
● 10:30am Worship Serv			● 6:15pm Board Meeting	● 6pm Soul Feast Suppe		● 12pm Ihde Baby Show
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Palm Sunday	Newsletter Deadline	● 6pm Choir Practice	● 5:30pm Facilities Meet	● 8am College Coffee/S	Good Friday	● 9am Clothes Closet &
● 9:30am Sunday Schoo	● 8am College Coffee/S	● 6:30pm Chi Rho Missio		● 7pm Maundy Thur Ser	● 3pm Clothes Closet &	
● 10:30am Worship Serv	● 7pm Boy Scouts	● 7pm Elders Meeting				
● 2pm Presbyterian Man						

SPOTLIGHT ON DISCIPLES

Information for this article came from Journey in Faith by Lester G. McAllister and William E. Tucker, pp. 181-182.

Toward a National Organization (part 2)

After the first national convention in 1849, the Disciples enjoyed steady growth. By the 1850's, Disciples counted an estimated 190,000 members mostly on account of the following factors: 1) The widespread circulation of *The Christian Baptist*, *The Millennial Harbinger*, *the Christian Messenger*, and *The Evangelist*, publications by the founding fathers; 2) Baptist members left Baptist churches to form Disciples congregations; 3) Disciples' views paralleled the enthusiastic attitudes of frontier America; 4) New communities and towns were being formed; 5) Settlers migrated west; 6) A cooperative attitude was bolstered by the formation of new congregations; 7) Visits by Alexander Campbell, Barton W. Stone and the other founders played a large roll in the start of new congregations.