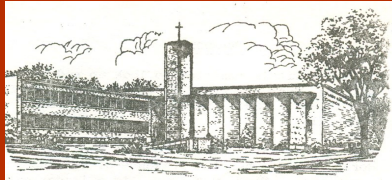




April 23, 2018



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 67 NO. 9

APRIL 23, 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Graduation Sunday
New Choir Director
CWU Breakfast
May Soul Feast
Thank You Nik

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Reflections

In the introduction to his book, *Spiritual Formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit*, Henri Nouwen speaks of the "movements" of spiritual formation. Specifically, he says, "Spiritual formation, I have come to believe, is not about steps or stages on the way to perfection. It's about the *movements* from the mind to the heart through prayer in its many forms that reunite us with God, each other, and our truest selves." Nouwen's introduction about spiritual formation and prayer give way to definition which may be helpful to us as we take a look at our own spirituality. He says that he really does not know if through the years of living the spiritual life if his spirituality has advanced. He asks, "Do I love God more now than earlier in my life?" – "Have I matured in faith since I started on the spiritual path?" These are good questions for all of us as we live day to day.

Nouwen spends some time describing what is meant by "heart," as in "the heart of God" or our own hearts. He uses the "full biblical meaning" of heart as "... that place where body, soul, and spirit come together as one." It's meaning is much more than the sentimental soft feeling we give to the word today. He says, "... the word *heart* in Jewish-Christian tradition refers to the source of all physical, emotional, intellectual, volitional, and moral energies. It is the seat of the will; it makes plans and comes to good decisions. Thus the heart is the central unifying organ of our personal life."

It is from our hearts where we find communion with God through prayer. "Prayer," says Nouwen, "is standing in the presence of God with the mind in the heart—that is, in the point of our being where there are no divisions or distinctions and where we are totally one within ourselves, with God, and with others and the whole of creation." It is through prayer that we find our spiritual center.

Finally, Nouwen uses this story of a sculptor to capture the essence of spiritual formation:

A little boy was watching a sculptor at work. For weeks this sculptor kept chipping away at a big block of marble. After a few weeks he had created a beautiful marble lion. The little boy was amazed and said:

"Mister, how did you know there was a lion in the rock?"

What is your answer? How was the sculptor able to envision such a sculpture? In what ways does the Holy Spirit guide your mind's eye to the gifts you have been given? What disciplines do you follow in order to *move* what is in your mind to your heart? We each have our own path. God bless you on your journey.

Shalom,

Pastor Lorraine

Nouwen, Henri with Michael J. Christensen and Rebecca J. Laird. *Spiritual Formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit*. HarperCollins, 2015.

Upcoming Serving Schedule

April 29, 2018

- Candlelighter** ~ Jaiden Kurzen
- Children's Message** ~ Jaylene Arnett
- Diaconate** ~ Carl* & Rita Headrick
Tammie McDiffett, Joy Frevert
- Elder** ~ George Arnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) Karen Garnett
~ (S) Judy Moore
- Nursery** ~ Cindy Lexow & John Lexow
- Worship Leader** ~ Robert Chatham
- Children's Church** ~ Cindy & John Lexow

May 6, 2018

- Candlelighter** ~ Jayden Johnson
- Children's Message** ~ Nancy LeClear
- Diaconate** ~ Jake Dalton*, John Lexow
Alan & Betty Richardson
- Elder** ~ Judy Moore
- Greeters** ~ (N) Richard Becker, Robert Chatham
~ (S) Jean Miller
- Nursery** ~ Rita Headrick, Kat Dorcus
- Worship Leader** ~ Jean Miller
- Children's Church** ~ Faith Coleman

May 13, 2018 Mother's Day—Youth Choir

- Candlelighter** ~ Nicole Dalton
- Children's Message** ~ Joy Frevert
- Diaconate** ~ Larry Gamblian*, Joy Wonsler
Cameron Moore, Carol Rhoades
- Elder** ~ Jaylene Arnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) Guy & Janece Bacon
~ (S) Christine Kellum
- Nursery** ~ Nikki Simmons & Minkinzi Simmons
- Worship Leader** ~ Cindy Lexow
- Children's Church** ~ Faith Coleman

May 20, 2018 Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Kelsey Shull
- Children's Message** ~ Cameron Moore
- Diaconate** ~ Nikki Simmons*, Elizabeth Brown
Joe & Bonnie Denson
- Elder** ~ Cameron Moore
- Greeters** ~ (N) Dick & Debbie Hubert
(S) Joan Shumate
- Nursery** ~ Jennifer Dalton & Marilyn Dalton
- Worship Leader** ~ Janece Bacon
- Children's Church** ~ Joy Frevert


So far in **April** we have helped **34 families**, consisting of **86 people** with **34 bags** of food plus 9 dozen eggs, 4 packages of celery, OJ and cookies. Of these 34 families **12 were New to us.**



Voices of the people you have helped this month—
"Thank you for all the information and help. Bless you!"
From Susan: The biggest increase of new people have been Senior Citizens trying to get by on a fixed income and can't make it through the month without food help.

Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); **Chandler Bolen** (*health issues*); **Denise Calvert** (*broken leg*); **Joyce Cress** (*cancer & recovery*); **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*); **Malory Mitchell** (*heart attack, friend of Tammie McDiffett*); **Pam Scheve** (*daughter Jan Weeks, health issues*); **Becky Shannon** (*daughter of Sharon Shannon, health issues*); **Tyler Tilton** (*surgery*); and **Elizabeth Wells** (*cancer & recovery*).
Eric MacGregor (*Military*)





The Church extends its sympathy to the family and friends of **Georgia Taylor** who entered new life February 18, 2018. A Celebration of Life Service will be held Saturday, April 29, 2018 at 3:00 pm at First Christian Church.

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

April 15, 2018 SS 8 / Worship 63
April 22, 2018 SS 13 / Worship 72

GIVING RECORD

April 15, 2018 ~ Offering \$1,913.00 / Building \$10.00
 April 22, 2018 ~ Offering \$2,406.50 / Building \$25.00



April Anniversaries

29 Richard & Joyce Kellison (1951)

May Anniversaries

17 Jeffry & Vicki Cole

24 Kurt & Sheila Steinkuhler

April Birthdays

24 Gale Kelley

24 Bill McClellan

24 Betty Richardson

25 Andy Kuhn

25 Mark Shumate

29 Wilma Lindsey

30 Wanda Davis



May Birthdays

02 Chris Parsons

06 Bob Duncan

07 Joan Shumate

08 Michelle Harding

08 Jan Jones

10 Jay Schaefer

11 Shelley Findlay

11 Cindy Kuhn

15 Jami LeClear

15 Grant McClellan

16 Slay'tn Davis

17 William Calvert

18 Tracie Bauer

21 Bob Foster

23 Brandon Hopkins

25 Robert Hush

26 Brittany McWilliams

26 Alexa Sunderman

27 Robert Wells

27 Joseph Wright

28 Larry Gamblian

28 Nathan LeClear

31 Dennis Kelly



Mark The Dates

Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open

Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut

Tue.-Thur.-April 24-25-26-Clergy Retreat-at Camp Tawakoni

Tue. April 24-5:30 p.m. Chi Rho Mission Club

Tue. April 24—7:00 pm Elders Meet

Tue. April 24—7:00 pm Girl Scouts

Wed. April 25—5:00 pm Worship Ministry meets

Wed. April 25--5:30 pm Facilities meets

Thur. April 26—8:00 am ESU College Coffee, N. Parking Lot

Thur. April 26—5:00 pm Simmons PC Party-FH

Sunday, April 29—Catered lunch at noon followed by the Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Sun. April 29—3:00 pm Holiday Resort Service

Sun. April 29—3:00 pm Georgia Taylor Memorial Service

Wed. May 2—10:30 am Lyon County Ministerial Alliance meet

Wed. May 2—6:15 pm DWF Night Group—Parlor

Thur. May 3—8:00 am ESU College Coffee, N. Parking Lot

Thur. May 3—5:30 pm Youth Choir

Fri. May 4—CWU Breakfast 8:30 am Sacred Heart Church

Sun. May 6—Graduation Recognition Sunday during Worship

Mon. May 7—Newsletter Deadline

Tue. May 8—6:30 pm Chi Rho Mission Club

Wed. May 9—1:30 pm DWF Day Group

Wed. May 9—6:15 pm Stewardship meets

It's Camp Time

There are a variety of camp experiences to enjoy over the summer including: Grand Camp, Music & Drama Camp, and Equestrian Camp.

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

All camps are held at Camp Tawakoni, near Augusta, KS. It is a beautiful place with lots of activities and things to do.

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

Thoughts to Ponder

Never say anything which doesn't improve the silence.



Lectionary Readings

Lectionary Schedule April 29 — May 20, 2018

<u>April 29</u>	<u>May 6, 2018</u>	<u>May 13, 2018</u>	<u>May 20</u>
Acts 8:26-40	Acts 10:44-49	Mother's Day	Pentecost
Psalms 22:25-31	Psalms 98	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	Acts 2:1-21
1 John 4:7-21	1 John 5:1-6	Psalms 1	Psalms 104:24-34
San Juan 15:1-8	John 15:9-17	1 John 5:9-13	Romans 8:22-27
		John 17:6-19	John 15:26-27

CALLING ALL GRADUATES, CALLING ALL GRADUATES

If you have a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter or other relative graduating from kindergarten, middle school, high school, technical college or a university, please fill out a form (found on the parlor table), so they may be recognized **Graduation Sunday, May 6, 2018** during our Worship Service.



Celebrating OUR GRADUATES



Who Me?

Who Me, An Elder?

Information for this article came from Your Calling as an Elder by Gary Straub, pp. 16-17. Here is Straub's continued brief interpretive summary of the biblical qualifications for elder leadership:

Six Negative Traits

When calling persons for eldership, matters of six negative traits need to be taken into careful consideration *before* the call is made. "The point is: Elders need to exhibit balanced spiritual maturity that allows them to contribute their unity to the bond of peace that holds at the core of the congregation." Every elder's wisdom needs to be part of the solution rather than contribute to the problem.

2. Not Self-willed (Arrogant). Titus 1:7

An Elder needs to be able to keep his or her ego in check and not insist on his or her own way with the common good of the congregation in mind. The insistence to be in control can create an "unavoidable adversarial atmosphere that keeps this particular ego at the center of the storm of most controversy." Being in a position of spiritual leadership requires self-control.

Who Me, A Deacon?

Information for this article came from Your Calling as a Deacon by Gary Straub and James Trader II, p. 58.

One way to keep spiritually focused is to practice the basic spiritual disciplines.

4. Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Because Jesus forgave our sins (Lk. 23:34) so we should forgive ourselves and others. "If the first and last thing on Jesus' mind was the reconciliation of spirits human and holy, what should deacons be about?"

5. Hospitality

As Paul urged us to "welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God" (Rom. 15:7), A deacon needs to "take the initiative and serve as a gracious host in the house of God." Deacons are initiators of hospitality through introductions and welcome at all the tables of fellowship in the house of God. "A deacon's ministry to strangers may even put you in touch with angels." (Heb. 13:2)

**Camp Supplies Needed
LAST CALL FOR DONATIONS**

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.

SOUL FEAST

We will work on the next three Chapters in Marjorie J. Thompson's Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life **on May 17, 24, & 31 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.** Pastor Lorraine will lead the discussion.



We are collecting the following for William Allen White School / Turning Point Academy (our adopted school): **Facial tissue (Kleenex), Hand Sanitizer, Sanitizing Wipes (Lysol), and Hot Glue Guns & glue sticks.** Plus—they would like volunteers to go have lunch with the children and to read to children—be a buddy to a child. So, if you have 30 minutes a week and could do this, please contact Tabitha at WAW school at 341-2294. Thank you for caring about children.



Meet Our New Choir Director

Martín Cuéllar enjoys an active and successful career as performer, educator, clinician and composer. He holds degrees in piano performance from *The University of Texas at Austin* (DMA, MM) and *The Royal Conservatory of Music* in Madrid, Spain (performance certificate) where he studied as a Rotary Scholar. Dr. Cuéllar has also conducted research and piano studies on the music of Enrique Granados at the *Marshall Academy of Music* in Barcelona (formerly the *Grandos Academy*).

As a performer, Dr. Cuéllar has played concerts in the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Paraguay, Spain, Germany, South Korea and China. He is also nationally recognized as a composer of pedagogical piano pieces and is published by the FJH Music Company — publisher of not only his pedagogical compositions, but academic editions as well. Dr. Cuéllar serves as Professor of Piano at *Emporia State University*.

Church Women United Friendship Breakfast is **Friday, May 4, 2018 at 8:30 am** at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish Hall. The cost is \$5. Please contact Judy Moore if you plan to attend.



LAST CALL TO DONATE

DWF Collecting for CWU Job Corp Ditty Bags

Both our day and night DWF groups are collecting the following items to be put in the Church Women United Ditty Bags that are donated to the Flint Hills Job Corp in Manhattan, KS. **Please bring your items to the church office during the month of April.** Needed items: toothbrush & toothpaste, comb, shampoo and bar soap. Optional items: hair conditioner, lotion, band aids, sewing kits, stationery & stamps, tissues, deodorant, and small address book & pens.



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.

Follow us on
 Twitter



Like us on
 Facebook



Next Newsletter Deadline
May 7 & 21, 2018



April/May 2018

22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 2pm Presbyterian Manor Serv 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am College Coffee/Snacks 7pm Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clergy Retreat 5pm Chi Rho Mission Club 6pm Choir Practice 7pm Elders Meeting 7pm Girl Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clergy Retreat 5pm Worship Ministry Meets 5:30pm Facilities Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clergy Retreat 8am College Coffee/Snacks 5:30pm N Simmons Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glass Blown Open Disc Golf 3pm Clothes Closet & Househ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glass Blown Open Disc Golf 9am Clothes Closet & Househ
Sun 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Catered Lunch-FH 12pm Annual Church Meeting-FH 3pm G. Taylor Memorial Service-FCC 3pm Holiday Resort Service 	X					
		May 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am College Coffee/Snacks 7pm Boy Scouts 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> End Early Bird Camp Registratio 6pm Choir Practice 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial J 6:15pm DWF Night Group 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am College Coffee/Snacks 5:30pm Youth Choir 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Clothes Closet & Househ Cinco de Mayo Cinco de Mayo Block Party 9am Clothes Closet & Househ
6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter Deadline 7pm Boy Scouts 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Chi Rho Mission Club 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am NE KS Clergy-Topeka 1:30pm DWF Day Group 6:15pm Stewardship Commit 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am College Coffee/Snacks 6:30pm Christian Ed. 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Clothes Closet & Househ 6pm Emporia Children's Choir 6pm ESU Grad Commencement 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESU Undergrad Graduation 9am Clothes Closet & Househ 3pm Music Recital-Area Piano
13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother's Day 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Susan gone today 7pm Boy Scouts 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Choir Practice 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Emporia Place Service 5pm Worship Ministry Meets 6:15pm Board Meeting 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Soul Feast-Our Comm 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am CWU Friendship Coffe 3pm Clothes Closet & Househ 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet & Househ FHTC Graduation



Thank You!!!!

A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to **Nik Roth** for donating lawn equipment to help with our church yard work this summer.

SPOTLIGHT ON DISCIPLES

Westward Ho!

In 1848, Mexico ceded the area now known as California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico to the United States. When James W. Marshall found gold at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California on January 24, 1848, the frenzy known as the Gold Rush brought 300,000 new settlers to California. Among them were Disciples. The first congregation in California was organized in the winter of 1850-51 in Stockton. However, they were not the first Disciples to arrive in the west. In 1843, a train of 1,000 people arrived in Oregon by train and Disciples were among them. Other Disciples traveled overland to Oregon and Washington. The Disciples congregations were formed in 1845 and 1846. The Oregon Christian Missionary Society was formed by 1860. Statistics show that by 1860, the little denomination of Disciples boasted no more than 195,000 members located in 2,100 congregations with 1,800 ministers from sea to sea and from Upper Canada to the Deep South. Trouble was waiting in the wings. The nation would soon be divided and at war.