



July 2, 2018



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 67 NO. 14

JULY 2, 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

“The Escape”
Grief Share Training
Focus Groups Meet

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Reflections

It’s that time of year when we celebrate America’s birthday. Surrounding the holiday, the topics of freedom and rights abound. So, what is freedom, anyway? The Oxford Dictionary defines freedom as “the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint.” When I googled freedom, I found a list of resources, one of the first being Wikipedia which says that the philosophy of freedom may refer to: free will, liberty, rights, civil liberties, political freedom, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of choice, freedom of speech, economic freedom, moral responsibility, academic freedom, intellectual freedom, scientific freedom, self-determination and autonomy. Our nation’s forefathers gave us a solid constitution and Bill of Rights worthy to be upheld.

As we look back at our history, however, we find that there have been many times when we, as a nation, have struggled with the meaning of our treasured liberties. In the past few years, we have seen restrictive laws changed so that more people have access to their freedoms, but we still have a long way to go.

That brings us to another cherished freedom of Christians—the freedom we have with Christ. What blessings we have when we live to find the fruit of the Spirit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Sometimes we may wonder how we know if we are living as though we are free in Christ. Paul sums it up: “For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment. “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Galatians 5:13-14).

The freedom comes as we give ourselves to Christ—letting him embrace our burdens to free us, by the grace of God, from our brokenness. “Everything that shrinks our world, imprisons us in the past, and ties us to habitual reactions must be jettisoned for the values of God’s realm.” (Bruce Epperly) When we get rid of that which impedes our spiritual growth, we will find a freedom that is beyond all measure.

To celebrate our freedoms this year, my brothers and sisters, let us give ourselves completely to the One who gave himself so freely for us. A closing thought with which to give us something to chew on comes from the theologian David Grant Smith:

“Whatever we do, whatever we say, and however we treat one another is always being received into God.”

This notion says that God takes in all of who we are—all of creation—in us and around us and throughout the entire world. God truly gives us FREEDOM in CHRIST. Thanks be to God.

Happy Independence Day,
Pastor Lorraine

Upcoming Serving Schedule

July 8, 2018—7th Sun. after Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Jaiden Kurzen
- Children’s Message** ~ Barb Gimple
- Diaconate** ~ Richard Becker*, Laurie Kurzen,
Alan & Betty Richardson
- Elder** ~ Jean Miller
- Greeters** ~ (N) Jim & Melissa Tilton
~ (S) Joy Wonser
- Nursery** ~ John Lexow
- Worship Leader** ~ John Lexow
- Children’s Church** ~ Faith Coleman

July 15, 2018—8th Sun. after Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Jayden Johnson
- Children’s Message** ~ Marie Harding
- Diaconate** ~ Jake Dalton*, Joy Wonser
Carl & Lana Richardson
- Elder** ~ George Arnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) Carl & Lana Richardson
(S) Judy Moore
- Nursery** ~ Kat Dorcus
- Worship Leader** ~ Judy Moore
- Children’s Church** ~ Jen Dalton

July 22, 2018—9th Sun. after Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Nicole Dalton
- Children’s Message** ~ Lorraine Bailey
- Diaconate** ~ Carl Headrick*, Jill McGrath
Tammie McDiffett, Nik Roth
- Elder** ~ Judy Moore
- Greeters** ~ (N) Richard Becker, Robert Chatham
~ (S) Jean Miller
- Nursery** ~ Nikki Simmons, Mikinzi Simmons
- Worship Leader** ~ Marlene Hanson
- Children’s Church** ~ Rita Headrick, Nikki Simmons

July 29, 2018—10th Sun. after Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Kelsey Shull
- Children’s Message** ~ Jaylene Arnett
- Diaconate** ~ Nikki Simmons*, John Lexow
Joe & Bonnie Denson
- Elder** ~ Gary Lukert
- Greeters** ~ (N) Guy & Janece Bacon
~ (S) Christine Kellum
- Nursery** ~ Marilyn Dalton
- Worship Leader** ~ Anita Imhoff
- Children’s Church** ~ Sonya Ihde

In June we helped **46 families**, consisting of **112 people** with bags of food plus 13 dozen eggs, cookies and travel size toiletries. Of these 46 families, **22 were new to us.**



Voices of the people you have helped this month—
“We just moved here from Texas. Really appreciate the information about the town & various locations.”

Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); **Chandler Bolen** (*health issues*); **Denise Calvert**; **Joyce Cress** (*cancer & recovery*); **Bonnie Denson** (*stone in neck*); **Joe Denson** (*stroke*); **Ana Gonzales** (*broken back*); **Amy Hossfeld** (*brain tumor*); **Luella Hush**; **Grace Hyatt** (*Betty Pearson’s mother*); **Myrna Jensen** (*sister of Sharon Ball, cancer surgery*); **Brad Jones** (*son of Jan Jones, heart problems*); **Gale Kelley** (*hospice*); **Joyce Kellison** (*health issues*); **Steve** (*broken neck*) & **Ramona Langley** (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); **Nathan McDonald & Family** (*motorcycle accident*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Juliana Martinez** (*health issues*); **Nathaniel Pearson** (*friend of Tammie McDiffett*); **Pam Scheve** (*daughter Jan Weeks, health issues*); **Sharon Shannon** (*back surgery*); **Betty Smith** (*mother of Rita Headrick, hip surgery*); **Andrea Vandruff** (*health issues*); and **Elizabeth Wells** (*cancer & recovery*).
Eric MacGregor (*Military-Deployed*)



Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

June 24, 2018 SS 16 / Worship 46
July 1, 2018 SS 13 / Worship 52

GIVING RECORD

June 24, 2018 ~ Offering \$1,726.50 / Building \$215.00
 July 1, 2018 ~ Offering \$1,415.00 / Building \$15.00



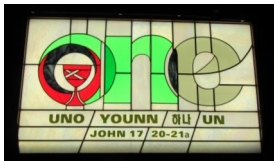
July Anniversaries

13 Jake & Jennifer Dalton

July Birthdays



- 01 John Harding
- 01 Joyce Kellison
- 02 James Ayers
- 02 Bronte Bailey (1994)
- 02 Allison Harding (1994)
- 02 Janet Lostutter
- 05 George Ford
- 07 Suzanne MacGregor
- 07 Alan Richardson
- 08 Seth Tilton
- 08 Judy Moore
- 09 John Kuhn
- 13 Jessica Alexander
- 13 Jill McGrath
- 15 Nicholas Kuhn
- 18 Lola Walker
- 18 Sarah Wyrick
- 24 Joy Frevert
- 25 Addison Lee (Garnett) Oulette
- 25 Corey Giger
- 26 Ty Michael Barrett
- 26 Jared Johnson
- 26 Brayden Dill
- 27 Janet Parks
- 28 Dorothy Boyce
- 28 Melissa Tilton
- 29 Jeremy Dalton
- 30 Lorraine Bailey

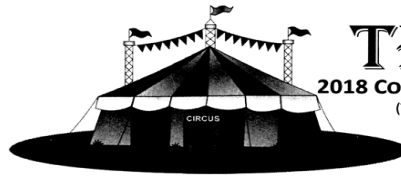


Thought to Ponder

There are some questions that can't be answered by Google.

Mark The Dates

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Tue. July 3—1:30 pm Grief Share Training
- Wed. July 4—Office Closed today for Holiday
- Thur. July 5—9:00 am "Discovering Disciples"
- Fri. July 6 to Sat. July 7—8:00 pm to 9:00 am GS Sleepover-FH
- Tue. July 10—1:30 pm Grief Share Training
—6:00 pm Focus Groups meet in FH
- Wed. July 11—6:15 pm Stewardship Committee meets
- Wed. July 11—TX Scout Group stay overnight
- Thur. July 12—6:30 pm Christian Ed. committee meets
- Mon. July 16—Newsletter deadline
- Tue. July 17—1:30 pm Grief Share Training
- Tue. July 17—Sertoma board meets
- Wed. July 18—3:00 pm Emporia Place Services
- Wed. July 18—5:00 pm Worship Ministry meets
- Wed. July 18—6:15 pm Board Meeting



THE ESCAPE!

2018 CONGREGATIONAL ESCAPE AND MISSIONFEST
(The event formerly known as Regional Assembly)

Saturday, August 11
Disciples Center at Tawakoni
Between Andover and Augusta
Under the Big Top

Disciples Men & Women Fellowship Dinner:

6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 10
Hillside Christian Church, 8330 E Douglas
Taco Salad and Ice Cream
Cost: \$8

Admission:

Gates open — 9 a.m.
Opening — 9:45 a.m. Closing by 3 p.m.
\$10/person, \$25/household
Registration opens in early June at kansasdisciples.org
Food booth donations go to Disciples Men Cooking for Mission.

Lodging:

The Marriott Hotel & Convention Center, (316-651-0333)
9100 E Corporate Hills Drive — \$89/night
Comfort Inn (316-686-2844)
9525 E Corporate Hills Drive — \$79/night
RV Parking (limited)

Activities:

- Bouncy Castle
- Displays
- Fair food
- Mission Grant Awards
- Swimming
- Voting booth
- Workshops
- Worship

Call each hotel for reservations. Group rates reserved under "Mission Fest." The deadline is July 27.

Children:

This is a family-centered event. A cooling and napping area will be in the Training Lodge with attendant available during workshops. Play area will not be supervised.



Worship Design Studio's Marcia McFee will lead opening worship and a workshop. Renew your worship skills and connect with visitors, new members, and new Christians. With support from Kansas Bible Chair, this will launch a 1-year partnership between the region and local churches to subscribe to the Worship Design Studio's webinar service.





Lectionary
Readings

Lectionary Schedule July 8 — July 29, 2018

July 8

2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 15

Psalm 24
2 Samuel 6:1-5,12-19
Mark 6:14-29
Ephesians 1:3-14

July 22

2 Samuel 7:1-14
Psalm 89:20-37
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21



Who
Me?



Who Me, An Elder?

Information for this article came from *Your Calling as an Elder* by Gary Straub, p. 19. Here is Straub's continued brief interpretive summary of the biblical qualifications for elder leadership:

The Biblical Duties of an Elder

At least 14 responsibilities can be found in scripture specifically mentioned as duties of the office.

1. Take Heed. Acts 20:28

"Keep watch, pay attention beware, be on the lookout, don't let your guard down." Be "cognizant the salient and unsavory features of one's own shadow side—those areas of temptation, weakness, and vulnerability that blindside us and render us almost helpless before sin and cause us to fall." Surrender these sins to God's Spirit (1 Corinthians 9:27).

Who Me, A Deacon?

Information for this article came from *Your Calling as a Deacon* by Gary Straub and James Trader II, p. 67-68.

Five Forms of Encouragement

1) Encourage by welcoming.

A Deacon can invite others into the family of God—"welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God" (Romans 15:7).

2) Teaching

Another way deacons can encourage is through teaching. Look to Jesus as the model. Others look up to us as we live our lives for God.

3) Warning

Deacons can come along beside another and speak the truth about danger.



Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

GriefShare is a support group that meets weekly. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. There are three key parts to your GriefShare experience:

Video seminar

Encouraging, information-packed videos featuring leading grief recovery experts.

Support group

Small group discussion about the weekly video content

Workbook

Journaling and personal study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topics.

Join Us

GriefShare will begin on **Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 1:30pm** in the Multi-purpose Room. We are offering the class as a pilot program for our members free of charge. Join us for a 13-week cycle on "Your Journey from Mourning to Joy."

Facilitators

Nancy LeClear, Mary Volland, Lorraine Bailey

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
202 E. 12th Ave.
Emporia, KS 66801
(620) 342-1582
www.fccemporia.org

Have You Filled Out One of These?

We are in the process of updating members records and contact information, so if you haven't filled one of these out, please do so and leave it in the membership box in the parlor or return to the office. Thanks

Individual Membership Record

(C=cell, H=home, W=work. Please circle where appropriate) Record Updated _____

Full Name _____

Phone _____ (C) (H) (W) Phone _____ (C) (H) (W)

Phone _____ (C) (H) (W) Phone _____ (C) (H) (W)

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ (H) (W) Email _____ (H) (W)

Name of Employer _____

Birthdate _____ Birth Place (City, State, Country) _____

Baptism Date _____ Place of Baptism (Church, City, State) _____

Date Joined First Christian Church, Emporia _____

Marital Status: Married _____ Single _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____

Full Name of Spouse _____ Birthdate _____

Anniversary Date _____ (Date of Spouse's death) _____

Mother's Name (Maiden) _____

Father's Name _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthdate _____

Emergency Contact Information

Name	Relationship	Address/Phone

Church Involvement

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.fcemporiamin.org
 Email Office fccliffices@yahoo.com
 Email Pastor Lorraine Bailey at
pastorlorraineib@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.



Next Newsletter Deadline
July 16 & 30, 2018



July 2018

Sun Jul 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 2pm FH-N. Simmons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1:30pm Grief Share Tr 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OFFICE CLOSED TODAY ● Independence Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Study-Discovering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3pm Clothes Closet & ● 8pm Girl Scout Sleepo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Girl Scout Sleepover en ● 9am Clothes Closet &
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Serv 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7pm Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDGA Jr. Disc Golf Worl ● 1:30pm Grief Share Tr ● 6pm Focus Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDGA Jr. Disc Golf Worl ● 6pm TX Scout Troop S ● 6:15pm Stewardship C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDGA Jr. Disc Golf Worl ● 6:30pm Christian Ed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDGA Jr. Disc Golf Worl ● 3pm Clothes Closet & 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDGA Jr. Disc Golf Worl ● 9am Clothes Closet &
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Serv 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1:30pm Grief Share Tr ● 5:30pm Sertoma Boar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3pm Emporia Place Se ● 5pm Worship Ministry ● 6:15pm Board Meeting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8:30am CWU Friendshi ● 3pm Clothes Closet & 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Clothes Closet & ● 6pm TX Scout Troop S

Upcoming Focus Groups—July 10th and 24th at 6:00 p.m.

At the listening session we held in April, those present gave us a wealth of ideas and suggestions to complete in a six-month period. From these comments, we’ve come up with five areas of concentration: Visibility, Spiritual Growth, Nurture, Membership, and Fellowship. **Clear your calendar** so that you can attend a focus group and have your voice heard on these topics! We want to hear from YOU! **See you on July 10th in Fellowship Hall! at 6:00 p.m. for a light sandwich supper!**

SPOTLIGHT ON DISCIPLES

A conservative group grew to believe that because the New Testament lacked explicit authorization for use of instruments in public worship, that instruments were unwarranted in a body that claimed to restore the apostolic Christianity. This became a “hot topic” as Disciples congregations began to purchase organs around 1860. The battle raged on in Disciples’ publications and among congregants throughout the 1870’s and 1880’s. A division was coming as folks lined up with one of the two contending parties.

Another log in the fire was an apprehension (even resistance) to The American Christian Missionary Society, founded in 1849. Legalists argued that societies were “destructive of the liberty of the churches and mankind.” The scriptures were silent. “Beware, for according to our canon, you may not do it,” was the plea. Neither side budged an inch.

Interestingly, it was during this time of dissention and division that the Brotherhood had their most explosive growth. Go figure! Stay tuned for the final results . . .