



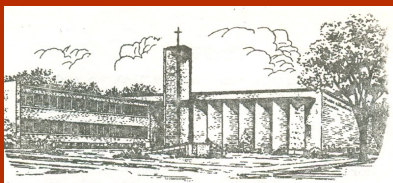
December 17, 2018

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Ugly Sweater Pics  
Special Christmas  
Offering  
SS Program Pics

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## First Christian Church News

### (Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 67 NO. 26

DECEMBER 17, 2018

#### *Reflections*

We have spent this Advent season traveling through the Calm and Bright that Christmas brings to the world. There is just something about this season that changes things. The streets are glittered with sparkling lights. Christmas music fills our homes, cars, stores, and our hearts. Planes, trains, and autos are pointed toward home where the chestnuts roast and traditions bring memories. The season is magical for children and hopes are high if they truly believe.

This is the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beloved Christmas carol, *Silent Night*. It was written by Joseph Mohr, an assistant to the priest in the small town of Oberndorf bei Salzburg, Austria in 1816. One story goes that the organ in the church was broken and Mohr asked his school teacher friend, Franz Gruber to write a simple tune with a guitar accompaniment. It was performed for the first time on that Christmas Eve in 1818.

As children gaze at sparkling Christmas trees in hopes that Santa will bring their wish, we gaze upon the babe in the manger knowing that our hopes are in the hands of God. Our hopes for peace, love, and joy in the world can only happen in light of God's beautiful and wonderful gift of God's son, Jesus Christ.

Silent nights happen because of Christmas. They happen because Christmas isn't just a holiday, it's a day of new beginnings. The work of Christmas begins in the midst of the celebration. The season of giving continues as we grow in our love and care for all of creation. We give out of our generosity and abundance of faith and God is served.

Thank you to all of you individually and as First Christian Church, Emporia, Kansas, for your dedication and perseverance to serve God in new ways. We have grown in God's Spirit and I am looking forward to our continued journey into 2019. Our hopes in what God has for us is blessed by our dedication to serving Christ.

May God's "Calm and Bright" in your lives this Christmas bring you hope, peace, joy, and love as you kneel again at the manger and gaze upon the Holy Child. May you experience a "Silent Night" once again this Christmas.

May the Peace of Christ be with you now and throughout the coming year,

*Pastor Lorraine*

## Upcoming Serving Schedule

### December 23, 2018—4th Sunday of Advent

**Candlelighter** ~ Brayden Dill

**Children's Message** ~ Lorraine Bailey

**Diaconate** ~ Richard Becker\*, Laurie Kurzen,  
Alan & Betty Richardson

**Elder** ~ Jean Miller

**Greeters** ~ (N) Barb Gimple  
~ (S) Christine Kellum

**Nursery** ~ Nicole Dalton

**Worship Leader** ~ Cameron Moore

**Children's Church** ~ Jen Dalton

### December 30, 2018—1st Sunday After Christmas

**Candlelighter** ~ Kelsey Shull

**Children's Message** ~ Jaylene Arnett

**Diaconate** ~ Jake Dalton\*, Joy Wonser  
Carl & Lana Richardson

**Elder** ~ George Arnett

**Greeters** ~ (N) Judy Moore  
~ (S) Janet Lostutter

**Nursery** ~ Briana Becker

**Worship Leader** ~ Barb Gimple

**Children's Church** ~ Rita Headrick, Nikki Simmons

### January 6, 2019—Epiphany

**Candlelighter** ~ Mikinzi Simmons

**Children's Message** ~ Nancy LeClear

**Diaconate** ~ Carl Headrick\*, Jill McGrath  
Tammie McDiffett, Nik Roth

**Elder** ~ Judy Moore

**Greeters** ~ (N) Diana Solis  
~ (S) Joan Shumate

**Nursery** ~ John Lexow

**Worship Leader** ~ Robert Chatham

**Children's Church** ~ Faith Coleman

### January 13, 2019—Baptism of the Lord

**Candlelighter** ~ Faith Idhe

**Children's Message** ~ Cameron Moore

**Diaconate** ~ Nikki Simmons\*, John Lexow  
Bonnie Denson

**Elder** ~ Gary Lukert

**Greeters** ~ (N) Marie Harding  
~ (S) Mary Volland

**Nursery** ~ Mikinzi Simmons

**Worship Leader** ~ Jean Miller

**Children's Church** ~ Faith Coleman

So far in December we have helped **32 families**, consisting of **63 people** with 32 bags of food plus **9 dozen eggs**, **calendars**, and **miscellaneous donated items**. Of those families, **13 were new to us**.



**Voices of the people you have helped this month—**  
“We really appreciate the eggs.” “Thank you for the calendars.” “Ohoooo, potholders! Thank you!!!!”

Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); Denise Calvert; Joe Denson (*stroke/rehab*); Brooke Franklin (*cancer*); Ana Gonzales (*back problems*); Amy Hossfeld (*brain tumor*); Grace Hyatt (*Betty Pierson's mother*); Brad Jones (*son of Jan Jones, heart problems*); Gale Kelley (*hospice*); Joyce Kel-lison (*health issues*); Barry Kimball (*infection*); Steve (*broken neck*) & Ramona Langley (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); Steve Martin (*stem cell cancer treatment*); Jeanice Miller (*health issues*); Pam Scheve (*daughter Jan Jones, health issues*); Sharon Shannon (*back surgery*); Joan Shumate (*health issues*); Andrea Vandruff (*kidney issues*); Liam Wagner, (*open heart surgery*); Elizabeth Wells (*cancer & recovery*); and Aubrey Wescott (*stomach & digestive problems*).  
Eric MacGregor (*Military-Deployed*)



## Attendance and Giving Record

### ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

December 9, 2018 SS 14 / Worship 72

December 16, 2018 SS 45 / Worship 85

### GIVING RECORD

Dec. 9, 2018 ~ Offering \$1,736.60 / Building \$92.00

Dec. 16, 2018 ~ Offering \$2,368.00 / Building \$20.00



### December Anniversaries

15 Bob & Torchy Duncan

### January Anniversaries

16 David & Kaari Harding

19 Jesse & Diana Solis

28 Larry & Glenna Gamblian

### December Birthdays

15 Debbie Hubert

17 Justin Richardson

18 Cindy Lexow

20 Lisa Rickabaugh

20 Sheila Steinkuhler

25 Barbara Gimple

30 Traeger Garnett



### January Birthdays

01 Ruth Ford

01 Bonnie Schaefer

04 Robert Hossfeld (Office)

04 Steven Dale Sage

06 Brad Richardson

10 Erma Mae Jones

10 Nancy Mayer

11 Kindra Garnett

12 Suzanne West

15 Treva Stuck

16 Dona Jones

18 John Lexow

### Paraprosdokians:

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (Winston Churchill loved them).

1. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
2. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
3. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

### Mark The Dates

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

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

Tue. Dec. 18—1:30 pm Blue Christmas at Presbyterian Manor  
6:00 pm Chi Rho Mission Club meets

Wed. Dec. 19—3:00 pm Emporia Place Service

Fri. Dec. 21—8:30 am CWU Friendship Coffee at Braum's on W. 6th Ave.

Sun. Dec. 23—2:00 pm Presbyterian Manor Services

Mon. Dec. 24—8:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Tue. Dec. 25—Christmas—Office Closed

Sun. Dec. 30—3:00 pm Holiday Resort Service

Mon. Dec. 31—Newsletter Deadline

Sat. July 20—Wed. July 24, 2019—General Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa

### WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT



And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them... And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.



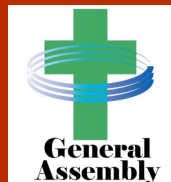
LUKE 2:9-11







Lectionary  
Readings



General  
Assembly

## Lectionary Schedule

**Dec. 23 —Dec. 16, 2018**

### December 23, 2018

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

### December 30, 2018

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Psalm 148

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

### January 6, 2019

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

### January 13, 2019

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

GENERAL ASSEMBLY **2019**

# Abide in Me

Demeurez en moi • Permanezcan en mí  
Fè youn ak mwen • 내 안에 거하라  
John 15: 1-5

**JULY 20-24, 2019 • Des Moines, IA**

Disciples.org/ga

DisciplesGA

#Abide 2019

Facebook.com/groups/docgeneralassembly

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
in the United States and Canada

**REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 1!**

- ✓ Download Bible studies on the theme text
- ✓ Find out who will be preaching Sunday evening
- ✓ See many of the educational offerings
- ✓ Check out many of the hotel and meal options

## Advent Scriptures for Worship

Dec. 23

Isaiah 9:6

Matthew 2:1-12

Dec. 30

Revelations 21:1-6



## Here They Are!!!

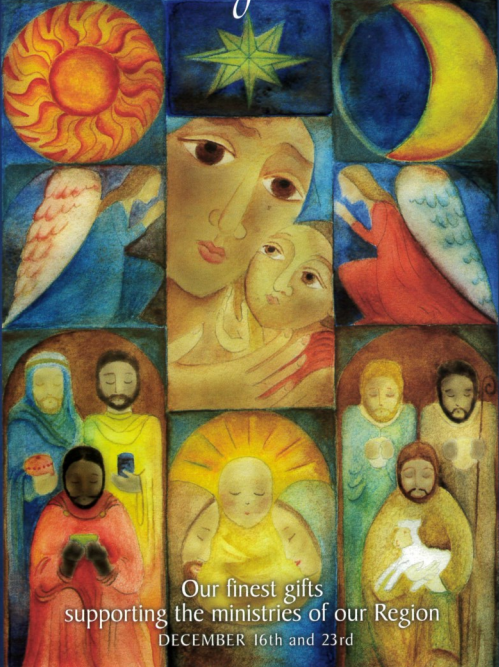
Pictures from the "UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY" on December 9, 2018.





2018 Christmas Special Offering

# COME they told me



Our finest gifts  
supporting the ministries of our Region  
DECEMBER 16th and 23rd

# REGIONS



- **Connect** congregations to each other
- **Foster** faith development
- **Gather** Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- **Nurture** the development of a new generation of pastors
- **Assist** churches in calling new ministers
- **Interpret** the global mission of the church
- **Represent** the church in ecumenical gatherings
- **Counsel** and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- **Walk** with those in conflict
- **Lead** the church to address racism and create
- **Witness** to the power of God to make things new

Your gift to the Christmas offering supports the work of your Region, sustaining the life of our church. Thank you for providing your finest gift.



## Christmas Special Offering will be December 23rd

Your gift to the Christmas offering supports the work of your Region, sustaining the life of our church. Thank you for providing your finest gift.



### New Address for member

Wilma Lindsey  
11771 Legacy Place  
St. George, KS 66535



### Sunday School Christmas Program 12/16/18



**First Christian Church**  
**Lorraine W. Bailey,**  
**Transitional Minister**



202 East 12th Avenue  
 620-342-1582 Church Office  
 Web Page [www.fcemporio.org](http://www.fcemporio.org)  
 Email Office [fccliffices@yahoo.com](mailto:fccliffices@yahoo.com)  
 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey  
 Email: [pastorlorraineb@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlorraineb@gmail.com)

***“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.”***

**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  
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**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
**Dec. 31 & Jan. 14, 2019**



**December 2018**

16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Third Sunday Advent ● 9:30am SS Christmas ● 10:30am Worship Service	Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts	● 1:30pm Blue Christmas ● 5:30pm Sertoma Banquet ● 6pm Chi Rho Mission	● 3pm Emporia Place		● 8:30am CWU Friends ● 3pm Clothes Closet	● 9am Clothes Closet
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Fourth Sunday Advent ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Service	NO SCHOOL Christmas Eve Service at 8 pm	NO SCHOOL Christmas Day Office Closed Today	NO SCHOOL ● 5:30pm Facilities Meeting	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL ● 3pm Clothes Closet	● 9am Clothes Closet
30	31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5
1st Sunday after Christmas ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Service	Newsletter Deadline NO SCHOOL New Year's Eve	NO SCHOOL New Year's Day Office Closed today	NO SCHOOL ● 6:15pm DWF Night	NO SCHOOL ● 5:30pm Youth Choir	NO SCHOOL ● 3pm Clothes Closet	● 9am Clothes Closet

**Spotlight on Disciples**

Information for this article came from Journey in Faith by Lester G. McAllister and William E. Tucker, pp.309-312.

**The Centennial Convention**

The Centennial Convention, October 11-19, 1909, in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, was something that today's Disciples could only dream of. Hotels were bursting at the seams, Pullman cars were used for housing. Today, our 4,000 plus attendees would be shocked at the 50,000 people arriving on special trains that arrived hourly from everywhere in the United States and Canada to attend the week-long celebration and business meeting. Morale could never have been higher and rightly so.

It was estimated that the "brotherhood" had 11,647 congregations with 1,250,000 members, 8,904 Bible schools enrolling 931,000 persons. There were 6,877 ministers. Enthusiasm was high.

"Congregations were challenged to enlarge Sunday schools, to encourage prayer meetings, to pay all debts, to work with the state missionary society, and to form an active men's organization. There were even general goals: 1,000 recruits for the ministry; 10,000 adult Bible school classes organized; 200,000 trained Sunday school workers; and the promotion of Christian union by its practice."

No one could foresee the social changes the industrial revolution would bring in the new century. It would be less than a decade later that the world would be shocked by World War I with ramifications that no one could imagine.