



December 3, 2018



# First Christian Church News

## (Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 67 NO. 25

DECEMBER 3, 2018

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Ugly Sweater  
SS Program  
Service Project  
Be A Buddy

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### Reflections



**Transforming Congregational Culture** by Anthony B. Robinson. Grand Rapids, Eerdmans Publishing, 2003. **Chapter 3: From Civic Faith to Human Transformation.**

In this chapter, Robinson explores the history of the church in an era he calls “civic faith.” This is the time when the church was strong in America. The church’s identity was that of the “conscience of the community.” The church stood as the moral compass of society. “A ‘Christian’ or ‘a good Christian,’ was a morally exemplary person rather than someone whose life was defined and shaped by a particular theological perspective.” The church melded into the shape of secular society, often distorting the gospel from its message of grace into a kind of moralistic and legalistic conscience of the community.

The Civic Era promoted the church as the “primary instrument of aid and assistance to the least fortunate in the society.” The church became the “givers” and “the other” were the receivers—a bit contrary to the gospel that considers ALL of us to be givers and receivers.

Thirdly, the Civic Era church was the center for community and family life. Church was the place to gather for all kinds of festivals, holidays, and special occasions.

Now, however, society has changed and is more secular, pluralistic, and postmodern. No longer is the church the center of our multicultural society. We are part of many centers where people live amid multiple loyalties.

The church’s purpose has changed. Today’s church is taking on the renewed purpose of helping people, with God’s direction, make a change in their lives. The gospel story is a guide “. . . of grace and response,” becoming “the lens, the perspective through which [we] can see and understand all of life.”

People are longing “for depth, for meaning, for worship and spiritual practices that put a person in touch with the sacred, and for forms of engagement with others that are real and honest.”

In this postmodern world, “The church is a fellowship, a gathering of those who are in the process of being changed, of those who are being saved and made new, and who invite others to join them in this adventure and in this life.” We are a transformed people whose lives have been changed through Jesus Christ “. . . in light of God’s grace—revealed in the Exodus, the Incarnation, and the Resurrection.

This is food for thought as we continue through the journey of Advent and prepare for Christ’s birth and on into the coming year. What spiritual change are you experiencing in your life? Does the church continue to help you find purpose and meaning in your experience?

Walking together in Christ,

*Pastor Lorraine*

# Upcoming Serving Schedule

## December 9, 2018—2nd Sunday of Advent

- Candlelighter** ~ Nicole Dalton
- Children’s Message** ~ Barb Gimple
- Diaconate** ~ Carl Headrick\*, Jill McGrath  
Tammie McDiffett, Nik Roth
- Elder** ~ Marlene Hanson
- Greeters** ~ (N) Robert Chatham  
~ (S) Marilyn Dalton
- Nursery** ~ Nikki Simmons
- Worship Leader** ~ John Lexow
- Children’s Church** ~ Faith Coleman

## December 16, 2018—3rd Sunday of Advent

- Candlelighter** ~ Jaiden Kurzen
- Children’s Message** ~ Sandy Heller
- Diaconate** ~ Nikki Simmons\*, John Lexow  
Bonnie Denson
- Elder** ~ Robert Chatham
- Greeters** ~ (N) Carl Richardson  
~ (S) Lana Richardson
- Nursery** ~ Richard Becker
- Worship Leader** ~ Marie Harding
- Children’s Church** ~ Sonya Ihde

## 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 Wonsler  
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

In November we helped **54 families**, consisting of **159 people** with 54 bags of food plus **31 dozen eggs, calendars, and miscellaneous other donated food items.** Of those families, **21 were new to us.**



**Voices of the people you have helped this month—**  
“Yes, this is the first time we have been here. The Salvation Army sent us over.” “Thank you for your help.”

**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*)



### First Christian Church Members



You are invited to participate in a service project for the Thanksgiving and Christmas season along with the Disciple Women’s Fellowship (DWF Ladies) **for Shiloh Home of Hope, 615 Congress St., Emporia, KS.**

We are collecting a variety of items (see flyer on parlor table). **Bring any last minute items to the church office and we will see that they get delivered.**

Thanks for participating. It makes you feel good to give, especially during the holiday season.

## Attendance and Giving Record

### ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

November 25, 2018 Blizzard-Church Canceled  
December 2, 2018 SS 10 / Worship 64

### GIVING RECORD

Nov. 25, 2018 ~ Blizzard-Church Canceled  
Dec. 2, 2018 ~ Offering \$3,010.50 / Building \$140.00



**December Anniversaries**

15 Bob & Torchy Duncan

**December Birthdays**

- 01 Cameron Moore
- 02 Reece Johnson
- 02 Chad Kurzen
- 05 Kate Smith
- 08 Rachael LeClear
- 10 Richard Kellison
- 12 Mike LeClear
- 15 Debbie Hubert
- 17 Justin Richardson
- 18 Cindy Lexow
- 20 Lisa Rickabaugh
- 20 Sheila Steinkuhler
- 25 Barbara Gimple
- 30 Traeger Garnett



**Mark The Dates**

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Wed. Dec. 5—6:15 pm DWF Night Group (NO DAY GROUP)
- Thur. Dec. 6—5:30 pm Youth Choir practice
- Sun. Dec. 9—3:00 pm Emporia Municipal Bank Christmas Concert at the Granada Theatre
- Wed. Dec. 12—6:15 pm Stewardship meets
- Thur. Dec. 13—6:30 pm Christian Ed. meets
- Fri. Dec. 14—ESU Graduate Degree Graduation
- Sat. Dec. 15—ESU Undergraduate Degree Graduation
- Sun. Dec. 16—Sunday School Christmas Program
- Mon. Dec. 17—Newsletter Deadline
- Tue. Dec. 18—1:30 pm Blue Christmas at Presbyterian Manor  
6:00 pm Chi Rho Mission Club meets  
7:00 pm Elders meet
- Sat. July 20—Wed. July 24, 2019—General Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa

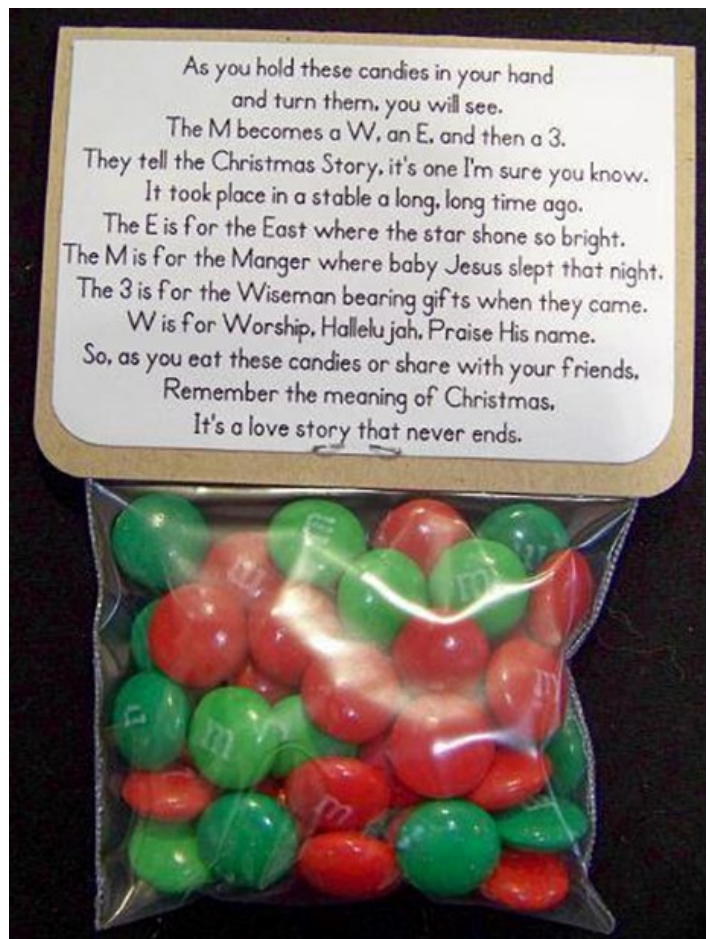
**God is like . . .**

American Express because you should never leave home without Him;  
 General Electric because He lights your path;  
 Allstate because you are in good hands with Him; and,  
 God is like Duracell batteries because there is nothing that outlasts Him.

**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. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you...but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up — we only learn how to act in public.





Lectionary Readings

**Lectionary Schedule  
Dec. 9 — Dec. 16, 2018**

**December 9**

Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

**December 16**

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Isaiah 12:6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

**December 23**

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**

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52

**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

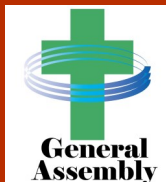
#Abide 2019

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



General Assembly

**WORDS**

**Hate has 4 letters,  
so does Love.**

Enemies has 7 letters, so does  
Friends. Lying has 5 letters, so does  
Truth. Negative has 8, so does Posi-  
tive. Under has 5, so does above.  
Cry has 3 letters, so does Joy. Anger  
has 5 letters, so does Happy. Right  
has 5 letters, so does wrong. Hurt  
has 4 letters, so does Heal. It means  
life is like double edged sword... so  
transform every negative side into  
an aura of positivity... We should  
choose the better side of the life.



**Advent Scriptures for Worship**

Dec. 2	Isaiah 2:1-4; 9:2, 6-7
Dec. 9	Psalm 86:9-11 Luke 2:8-20
Dec. 16	John 1:1-5, 14, 16-17
Dec. 23	Isaiah 9:6 Matthew 2:1-12
Dec. 30	Revelations 21:1-6



**Do You Still Have One  
In The Back Of The Closet?**

Do you still have that ugly Christmas sweater in the back of the closet? Did you forget about it? Well now you have a place to show it off. First Christian Church is having a wear your **“UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY”** on December 9. We want to see what wonderful creations you have, so come decked out, ready to strut your stuff. **Cookies & punch after church too.**



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
- Inspire leaders to experiment 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 16th & 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.

## Christian Ed.—Sunday School Program

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. on **Sunday, December 16**. Plan to attend and see what the children has been working on this holiday season. There will be cookies after the program too.

W.A. White School  
902 Exchange St.  
Emporia, KS 66801  
620.341.2294  
fax 620.341.2296

### Community Connections: Buddy Program

William Allen White School is looking for adult volunteers to eat lunch with a K-5 student once a week or to read with a K-5 student once a week. Each meeting would take approximately 30 minutes. We have several students in our school who would look forward to having weekly meetings with a "Community Buddy." If you would like to volunteer your time please submit this form to William Allen White School. If you have questions, please contact the school counselor, Mrs. Tabitha Pavlik, at [tabitha.pavlik@usd253.net](mailto:tabitha.pavlik@usd253.net)

Name of Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please share some information to help us best match you with a student. **Check all that apply.**  
I would prefer to work with a child who is:

Kindergarten or 1st Grade       Male  
 2nd or 3rd Grade                 Female  
 4th or 5th Grade

I would prefer to:

Eat lunch with a child in the cafeteria     Read with a child in his/her classroom     Either

Your availability:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Morning	Morning	Morning	Morning
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Afternoon	Afternoon	Afternoon	Afternoon	Afternoon

Kids like to know a little about their new buddy before meeting them. What are 2-3 facts about you that you could share with your buddy? (hobbies, family/pets, favorite food, likes/dislikes etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Will You Be A Community Buddy?

We are partnering with William Allen White/ Turning Point Academy Elementary School. The school is asking for volunteers to read to a student once a week and/or be a lunch buddy to a student once a week. Each meeting would take approximately 30 minutes. If this is something you would be interested in doing, fill out one of the forms found on the parlor table, or get one from the office and submit it to William Allen White School.

The students are looking forward to meeting you.

**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](http://www.fcemporio.org)

Email Office [fccoffices@yahoo.com](mailto:fccoffices@yahoo.com)

Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey

Email: [pastorlorraine@gmail.com](mailto: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**

**Dec. 17 & 31, 2018**



### December 2018

Sat  
Dec 1

● 9am Clothes Closet & H

2 First Sunday of Advent ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 5pm Advent Workshop	3 Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts	4 ● 6pm Chi Rho Mission Cl ● 6pm Choir Practice	5 ● 10:30am Lyon Co. Minis ● 6:15pm DWF Night Grou	6 ● 5:30pm Youth Choir	7 ● 3pm Clothes Closet & H	8 ● 8am Daycare Party Simr ● 9am Clothes Closet & H
9 2nd Sun. Advent-Ugly Sw ● 9:30am Sunday School ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 3pm Emp Municipal Bar	10 ● 7pm Boy Scouts	11 ● 6pm Choir Practice	12 ● 9:30am NE KS Clergy-To ● 6:15pm Stewardship Co	13 ● 6:30pm Christian Ed.	14 ESU Grad Graduation ● 3pm Clothes Closet & H	15 ESU Under grad Graduat ● 9am Clothes Closet & H ● 3pm VanFossen-Ramire
16 Third Sunday Advent ● 9:30am SS Christmas Pt ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 5pm Christmas Caroling	17 Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts	18 ● 1:30pm Blue Christmas ● 5:30pm Sertoma Board ● 6pm Chi Rho Mission Cl ● 6pm Choir Practice	19 ● 3pm Emporia Place Ser	20	21 ● 8:30am CWU Friendship ● 3pm Clothes Closet & H	22 ● 9am Clothes Closet & H

### Spotlight on Disciples

Information for this article came from Journey in Faith by Lester G. McAllister and William E. Tucker, pp.303-307.

#### Disciples in Canada

The Stone-Campbell movement in Canada had followers as early as the 1830's. Growth was slow in this large, sparsely populated country due to a variety of factors including loyalty to older institutions such as Roman Catholic. The beginnings of Disciples congregations in the Maritimes (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island) were Scotch Baptist. Ministers who were advocates of *The Christian Baptist* brought Campbell's teachings northward. Ministers and congregations on Prince Edward Island greatly influenced the Disciples movement in Canada over the years. As the country expanded to the west, Disciples took their message of unity all the way to the coast. The first annual convention in Alberta was held at Calgary in July 1909 where the Alberta Christian Missionary Society was formed. Canadian Disciples established opportunities for study and education through higher education, journals, and papers. Canadian congregations, although sparse throughout Canada, were strong in mission and were great contributors of missionaries.