



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Kenji in Concert
Soul Feast
Grief Share
DWF Meets

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Reflections

Our Church Board has agreed to read and discuss Robert Schnase's *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (2018) over the course of the next few months. The following highlights some of the ideas presented in Chapter 2, "Radical Hospitality."

Schnase discusses the Hebrew tenet, "For you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 10:19) as a grounding for Christian hospitality (p. 19). Even as the disciples tried to keep people away from people, Jesus continued to cross barriers and dined with tax collectors and sinners and gather children around him. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:2). An important point of Schnase's is that "Churches change when they form relationships with newcomers and accept their spiritual gifts and faith experiences. Ministry expands. God uses newcomers to breathe new life into communities of faith" (p. 20).

Some important questions to remember: "Why do people need Christ? Why do people need the church? And why do people need this particular congregation? . . . What do those of us who belong to a community of faith receive that our neighbors need? . . . How do we express with integrity and clarity what we hope others receive by belonging to a faith community?" (pp. 26-27). These are questions we need to ask ourselves again and again as we walk through the transformation process.

Schnase writes, "Radical Hospitality shapes the work of everyone who offers Christian service and leadership in the faith community. Everyone prays, plans, and works so that their specific ministries with children, missions, the facility, worship, music, outreach, and study are done with excellence and with special attention to newcomers and to reaching out to others wherever they are . . . Radical Hospitality means we offer our utmost and highest, and we do it joyfully and authentically, not grudgingly or superficially, because our initiative represents the initiating love of Christ" (pp. 31-32).

If we want newcomers, we need to step back and try to see what they see. What does the facility look like? Is it updated? Does it look and feel like the 21st century? What does the environment feel like? Is there a sense of the Holy Spirit in the air? Is there someone who will greet and introduce guests to others without overwhelming them? Schnase gives suggestions for upgrading our responses whether we answered yes or no.

"A faith community changes its culture one person at a time." It starts with loving hearts forming genuine relationships reflecting the hospitality of Christ (p. 42). It continues with continued commitment, dedication, and integrity. What would it mean to form a "genuine relationship" with a newcomer?

These are a few ideas Robert Schnase brings forth in this chapter. Pray about them. It is enough for conversation among us. Please ask a Board member for more information and better yet, have coffee or a meal with a Board member and/or Pastor Lorraine to discuss these concepts and more from the book! Enjoy!

Continuing along the journey,

Pastor Lorraine

Upcoming Serving Schedule

February 24, 2019—7th Sunday after Epiphany Week of Compassion

Candlelighter ~ Nicole Dalton
Children's Message ~ Marie Harding
Diaconate ~ Jake Dalton*, Joy Wonser
 Carl & Lana Richardson
Elder ~ Nancy LeClear
Greeters ~ (N) Jim Tilton
 (S) Melissa Tilton
Nursery ~ Briana Becker
Worship Leader ~ Judy Moore
Children's Church ~ Sonya Ihde

March 3, 2019—Transfiguration Sunday

Candlelighter ~ Jaiden Kurzen
Children's Message ~ Lorraine Bailey
Diaconate ~ Carl Headrick*, Jill McGrath
 Tammie McDiffett, Nik Roth
Elder ~ Marlene Hanson
Greeters ~ (N) Richard Becker
 ~ (S) Lisa Rickabaugh
Nursery ~ John Lexow
Worship Leader ~ John Lexow
Children's Church ~ Faith Coleman

March 10, 2019—1st Sunday of Lent

Candlelighter ~ Brayden Dill
Children's Message ~ Jaylene Arnett
Diaconate ~ Nikki Simmons*, John Lexow
 Bonnie Denson
Elder ~ Robert Chatham
Greeters ~ (N) Robert Chatham
 ~ (S) Marilyn Dalton
Nursery ~ Mikinzi Simmons
Worship Leader ~ Marie Harding
Children's Church ~ Faith Coleman

March 17, 2019—2nd Sunday in Lent

Candlelighter ~ Kelsey Shull
Children's Message ~ Barb Gimple
Diaconate ~ Richard Becker*, Laurie Kurzen,
 Alan & Betty Richardson
Elder ~ Jean Miller
Greeters ~ (N) Carl Richardson
 ~ (S) Lana Richardson
Nursery ~ Juliana Martinez
Worship Leader ~ Cameron Moore
Children's Church ~ Jen Dalton

In January we helped **43 families**, consisting of **109 people** with 43 bags of food plus **18 dozen eggs** and various miscellaneous donated items. Of those families, **8 were new to us.**



So far in February we have helped **48 families**, consisting of **115 people** with 48 bags of food plus **9 dozen eggs**, corn tortillas, various coupons, magazines, calendars and books. Of those families, **17 were new to us.**

THE SECRET PLACE

Devotions for Daily Worship
 The Spring 2019
 (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!

Don Allen (*tumor*); Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); Alberta Brinkman, Denise Calvert; Joe Denson (*fall & 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 Kellison (*health issues*); Barry Kimball (*infection*); Steve (*broken neck*) & Ramona Langley (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); Joe Loger (*brain tumor, Father of Jen Dalton*); Steve Martin (*stem cell cancer treatment*); Pastor Andrew McHenry & wife Hillary (*Paradise, CA fire*); Austin Moore (*lymphoma*); Pam Scheve (*daughter Jan Jones, health issues*); Sharon Shannon (*back surgery*); 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

February 3, 2019 SS 13 / Worship 68
February 10, 2019 SS 1 / Worship 49
February 17, 2019 SS 11 / Worship 59

GIVING RECORD

Feb. 3, 2019 ~ Offering \$1,646.50 / Building \$32.00
 Feb. 10, 2019 ~ Offering \$1,243.60 / Building \$82.00
 Feb. 17, 2019 ~ Offering \$1,915.00 / Building \$30.00



March Anniversaries

- 01 Guy & Janece Bacon
- 03 Bill & Carol Hopkins
- 18 George & Ruth Ford—68th
- 22 Glenn & Dorothy Boyce

February Birthdays

- 21 Guy Bacon
- 27 Shelby Pedersen
- 28 Roycean Garnett



March Birthdays

- 02 Glenna Gamblian
- 02 Parker Simmons
- 06 Breann Johnson
- 08 Dianna Lewis
- 10 Sarah Roth
- 11 Robert Chatham
- 11 Imegene Marsh (1922) 97th
- 14 Harold Wonser
- 21 Nikki Simmons
- 21 McKinzi Simmons
- 29 Dorothy Matile
- 29 Craig Richardson
- 31 Randy Kelley



THOUGHTS TO PONDER

Grandparents—so easy to operate even a child can do it.

Pray before you overthink.

Get rid of your pride before you have to swallow it.

You might not like me, but Jesus thinks I'm to die for.

You were born as an original. Don't die as a copy.

Don't stop payment on your reality check.

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

Mark The Dates

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Thursday's at 6:00 pm—Choir practice
- Sun. Feb. 24—2:00 pm Presbyterian Manor Service
- Tue. Feb. 26—6:00 pm Chi Rho Mission Club meets
6:00 pm Nominating Committee meets
- Thur. Feb. 28—5:00 pm Elders meet
- Sun. Mar. 3—3:00 pm Kenji Bolden Concert—Sanctuary
- Tue. Mar. 5—6:00 pm Chi Rho Mission Club meets
6:00 pm Nominating Committee meets
- Wed. Mar. 6—1:30 pm DWF Day Group in parlor
5:30 pm DWF Night Group in parlor
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- Thur. Mar. 7—5:30 pm Youth Choir practice
- Sun. Mar. 10—1st Sunday of Lent
Daylight Saving Time Begins
Spring Break ESU & USD 253
- Tue. Mar. 12—1:30 pm Grief Share starts (Parlor)
6:00 pm Soul Feast begins
- Wed. Mar. 13—6:15 pm Stewardship Committee meets
- Thur. Mar. 14—6:30 pm Christian Ed. meets
- Fri. Mar. 15—8:30 am CWU Friendship Coffee
- Tue. Mar. 18—George & Ruth Ford —**Happy 68th Anniversary**



- Tue. Mar. 19—1:30 pm Grief Share
6:00 pm Soul Feast
6:00 pm Chi Rho Mission Club meets
- Wed. Mar. 20—Newsletter Deadline
3:00 pm Emporia Place Service
5:00 pm Worship Ministry meets
6:15 pm Board Meeting

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



Lectionary Readings

**Lectionary Schedule
Feb. 3 —Feb. 24, 2019**

February 24, 2019

Genesis 45:3-22
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

March 3, 2019

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2
Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

March 10, 2019

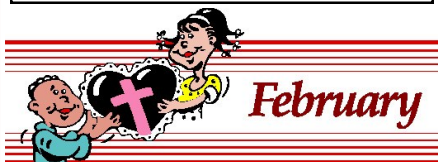
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

March 17, 2019

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17—4:1
Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)



General Assembly



GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019

Abide in Me

Demeurez en moi • Permanezcan en mi
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

Soul Feast

An Invitation to the Spiritual Life
By Marjorie Thompson

A Study for our Lenten Spiritual Journey
with
“Soup for the Soul” Suppers
(Soup and Bread Suppers)
Tuesday evenings,
March 12 — April 9, 2019
6:00-7:30 P.M.
First Christian Church

Grief Share Starting in March

Have you lost someone close and are going through the grief process?

Grief Share is a program designed to help understand and cope with the feeling of loss and grief.

A new Grief Share will be starting March 12, 2019 at the First Christian Church on Tuesday afternoons.

If you are looking for a safe and confidential place to share your journey through the grief process please consider joining us.

To sign up, please call the church office at 342-1582.

Nancy Hopper LeClear and Janet Willard Lostutter
Facilitators

DWF News

DWF (Disciple Women's Fellowship) . . .

March will soon be here so mark your calendars!

Day Group meeting information

Wednesday, March 6 at 1:30 pm in the Parlor
Hostess & Study Leader – Janet Lostutter

Night Group meeting information

Wednesday, March 6 at 5:30 pm in the Parlor

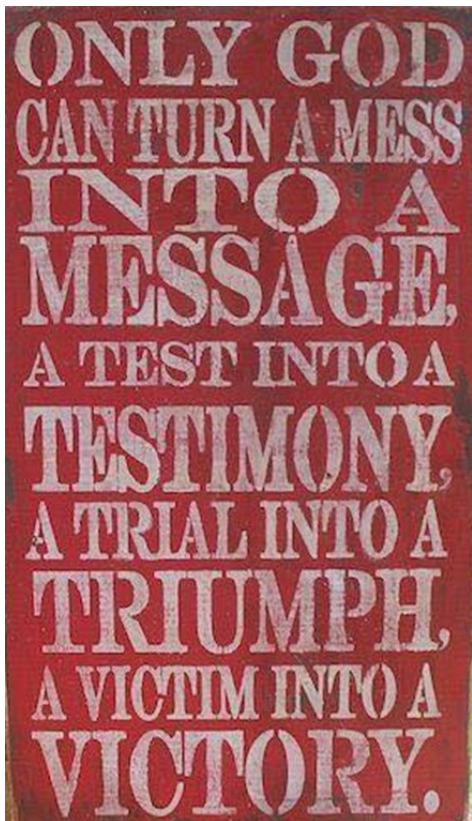
- *Please plan to stay for Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm*

Hostess & Study Leader: Judy Moore
Lesson 2 – Abigail, woman of wisdom and action

Scripture to read – 1 Samuel 25:1-42

All women are invited and encouraged to attend either of the group meetings. Come and enjoy the fellowship and study. Invite someone to one of the meetings and offer to give them a ride.

Karen Garnett & Marie Harding, Co-Leaders



Kenji Bolden
in concert

March 3 at 3:00 p.m.
First Christian Church Sanctuary
202 E. 12th, Emporia

A free-will offering will be taken

World Day of Prayer

Church Women United will host the **World Day of Prayer** on Friday, March 1, 2019, 9:30 am at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

All women are invited to attend this event.



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
 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey
 Email: 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.



Next Newsletter Deadline
March 20 & April 8, 2019



February / March 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Feb. 24	25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2
7th Sun & Commitment Susan gone 2/24-3/13 9:30am Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:00 Presby Manor Service	7pm Boy Scouts	6pm Chi Rho Mission 6pm Nominating Con	5:30pm Facilities Me	5pm Elders Meeting 6pm Choir Practice	St. David's Day 3pm Clothes Closet	9am Clothes Closet
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Transfiguration Sunday 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 3pm Kenji Bolden Concert	7pm Boy Scouts	6pm Chi Rho Mission 6pm Nominating Con	Ash Wednesday 7 pm : 10:30am Lyon Co. Mi 1:30pm DWF Day Gro 5:30pm DWF Night G	5:30pm Youth Choir 6pm Choir Practice	3pm Clothes Closet	9am Clothes Closet
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
First Sunday of Lent Girl Scout Sunday Daylight Saving Time s 9:30 SS & 10:30 Worship	SPRING BREAK 7pm Boy Scouts	SPRING BREAK 1:30pm Grief Share 6pm Soul Feast	SPRING BREAK 9:30am NE KS Clergy 6:15pm Stewardship	SPRING BREAK 6pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Christian Ed.	SPRING BREAK 8:30am CWU Friends 3pm Clothes Closet	9am Clothes Closet
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2nd Sunday of Lent St. Patrick's Day 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	7pm Boy Scouts	1:30pm Grief Share 5:30pm Sertoma Boa 6pm Soul Feast 6pm Chi Rho Mission	NEWSLETTER DEADLII 3pm Emporia Place S 5pm Worship Ministr 6:15pm Board Meetin	6pm Choir Practice	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. 355-356

Development and Unification (part 2)
National City Christian Church

Disciples in Washington D.C. first met in homes and rented halls and by 1871 worshipped in a small frame building on Vermont Ave. President James A. Garfield called this congregation home. It embarrassed his coachman to deliver the President to such an undignified building. A new structure was dedicated in 1884. Disciples continued to dream of a “national” building. Funds were raised through a nationwide campaign and a beautiful building on Thomas Circle was dedicated in October 1930. It was finished during the Great Depression and many of the pledges were never paid. Years of debt followed and eventually paid. The building is owned by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) but is maintained by the congregation.

To be continued . . .