



November 4, 2019



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Reflections

Thank You for helping at the Rummage Sale

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Serving Schedule 2
- Food Pantry 2
- Prayer List 2
- Attendance & Giving 2
- Church Directory 2
- Birthdays and Anniversaries 3
- Mark the Date 3
- Thoughts to Ponder 3
- Thank You 3
- Lectionary 4
- DWF News 4
- Grief Share 4
- Thanksgiving Dinner 4
- Electronic Giving 4
- Best Choice Labels 4
- Home Business/ Craft Expo 4
- Reflections (con't) 5
- Church Contacts 6
- Calendar 6
- Spotlight Disciples 6

Reflections

"15 Minutes for God"

We have reached a point in Robert Schnase's book, *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (2018) where we must pause and try to make sense of the important information that has been presented. There is so much to digest.

Some of our members attended a "Small Groups Workshop" with Ken Marston back in June that helped us to realize our strengths and areas of growth. In that seminar, we identified the following already existing, on-going "Small Group Ministries" in the life of our church. Are you part of one of these?

Disciples Women's Fellowship	Clothes Closet	[I've added the following]
Sunday School Classes (2 adult, preschool, 2 children)	Elders	Church Board
Chi Rho Missionary Club	Deacons	Bible Study Group (as of 10/22)
Choir	Food Pantry	Prayer Group (as of 10/6)
	Grief Support	Ministry Groups
	Parlor Group	

It's important to recognize that the existence of these groups is a strength for us. We are now at a place where it's time to recognize the **growth potential** in each one.

Back in Chapter 2, "*The Practice of Radical Hospitality*," Schnase suggests that people "need to know" that a faith community can provide for the needs in their life. He says,

(continued on page 5)



Upcoming Serving Schedule



Nov. 10, 2019-22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Thanksgiving Special Offering

- Candlelighter** ~ Mikinzi Simmons
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Marlene Hanson
Diaconate Captains for November
 Jill McGrath & Janece Bacon
Elder ~ Jean Miller
Greeters ~ (N) Guy Bacon
 (S) Janece Bacon
Nursery ~ Briana Becker
Worship Leader ~ Nancy LeClear

Nov. 17, 2019-23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Thanksgiving Special Offering

- Candlelighter** ~ Jaiden Kurzen
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Laurie Kurzen
Diaconate Captains for November
 Jill McGrath & Janece Bacon
Elder ~ Cameron Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Karen Garnett
 ~ (S) Debbie Hubert
Nursery ~ John Lexow
Worship Leader ~ Jill McGrath

Nov. 24, 2019—24th Sunday after Pentecost

- Candlelighter** ~ Karen Garnett
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Barb Gimple
Diaconate Captains for November
 Jill McGrath & Janece Bacon
Elder ~ Judy Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Jim Tilton
 ~ (S) Melissa Tilton
Nursery ~ Nikki Simmons
Worship Leader ~ Marlene Hanson

Dec. 1, 2019—1st Sunday of Advent
World AIDS Day

- Candlelighter** ~ Jack Dalton
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Marie Harding
Diaconate Captains for December
 Carl Richardson & Richard Becker
Elder ~ Jaylene Arnett
Greeters ~ (N) Richard Becker
 ~ (S) Lisa Rickabaugh
Nursery ~ Rita Headrick
Worship Leader ~ Robert Chatham

For the month of October the Food Pantry helped **57 families**, consisting of **128 people** with food, plus **16 dz. eggs and various other items**. Of those, **17 were new** to us.



Our pantry continues to be a lifeline for those in our community. Thank you for your response to the Peanut Butter need and supporting this food pantry.

Don Allen (*tumor*); **Lonnie Atchison** (*cancer*); **Bob Beers**, (*Lea's husband—went on hospice*); **Lynn Cress** (*heart surgery*); **Wanda Davis** (*hip rehab*); **Bonnie Denson** (*stroke*); **Joe Denson**, (*hip surgery*); **Brooke Franklin** (*cancer*); **Robert Hossfeld**, (*health issues, Topeka Stormont Vail, ICU*); **Brad Jones**; (*heart problems*); **Jan Jones** (*hip replacement*); **Gale Kelley** (*hospice*); **Joyce Kellison** (*health issues*); **Steve** (*broken neck*) & **Ramona Langley** (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); **Joe Lozier** (*brain tumor, Father of Jen Dalton*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Tammie McDiffett**, (*broken leg, rehab*); **Jeanice Miller** (*sciatic nerve pain*); **Pam Scheve** (*health problems*); **Sharon Shannon** (*health issues*); **Davis Smith** (*cousin of Jeanice Miller, diabetic amputation*); **Andrea Vandruuff** (*kidney issues*); **Liam Wagner**, (*open heart surgery*); **Aubrey Wescott** (*stomach & digestive problems*); **Joy Wonser** (*back surgery*).



Changes to

The New Church Directory

The updated church directories are on the parlor table. Pick up a copy today.

- Changes that need to be made are:
 Sharon Ball, 1531 Wheeler St., #114, Emporia, KS 66801
 Dorothy Boyce, Presbyterian Manor Jones Unit
 David Harding, 1714 Old Manor Rd., Emporia, KS 66801
 Bill & Dee Simpson, 1325 Merchant #110, Emporia, KS

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

- October 27, 2019 SS 14 / Worship 49
November 3, 2019 SS 16 / Worship 63

GIVING RECORD

- Oct. 27, 2019~Offering \$1,712.00 / Building \$80.00
 Nov. 3, 2019~Offering \$1,565.00/ Building \$55.00



November Anniversaries

None 😊

November Birthdays



- 01 Jaylene Arnett
- 02 Glenn Greenlee
- 03 Vicki Thornton
- 04 George Arnett
- 04 McKenna LeClear
- 04 Carol Rhoades
- 07 Susan Webb
- 08 Adam Harding
- 08 Jerry Marshall
- 10 Vicki Cole
- 14 Carolyn Meierhoff
- 14 David Meierhoff
- 15 Anita Imhoff
- 16 Jacque Umholtz
- 19 Karen Monroe
- 21 Randi Dalton
- 21 Shirley Pearson
- 23 Marie Harding
- 23 Laurie Kurzen
- 25 Dana Witten
- 28 Richard Headrick
- 30 David Harding
- 30 William Hopkins

Mark The Dates

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Thurs. at 6:00 pm—Choir practice
- Tue. Nov. 5—5:30 pm Youth Choir
- Wed. Nov. 6—10:30 am DWF Day Group in the parlor
10:30 am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance meets
3:00 pm Emporia Place service
5:30 pm DWF Night Group in parlor
- Thur. Nov. 7—5:00 pm—ESU Eat Well Class in FH Kitchen
5:00 pm Leadership Team
- Nov. 8-10—Youth Conference, Grades 6-12 at Hutchinson
- Mon. Nov. 11—Veterans Day, Parade at 9:30 am
- Tue. Nov. 12—6:30 pm Christian Ed.
- Wed. Nov. 13—9:30 am NE KS Clergy in Topeka
6:15 pm Stewardship meets
- Fri. Nov. 15—8:30 am CWU Friendship Coffee
- Sun. Nov. 17—Noon Thanksgiving Dinner in FH
- Mon. Nov. 18—Newsletter
- Wed. Nov. 20—5:00 pm Worship Ministry
6:15 pm Board Meeting
- Thur. Nov. 21—5:00 pm Elders meet
5:00 pm ESU Class—FH Kitchen
- March 28, 29, and April 4, 2020—Spirit Fest

Thoughts to Ponder

- Real people are never perfect, and perfect people are never real.
- The fact that there's a *Highway to Hell* and only a *Stairway to Heaven* says a lot about projected traffic numbers.
- "Pray" is a four-letter word that you can say anywhere.
- You'll never be old and wise if you aren't young and crazy first.
- There's always free cheese in a mousetrap.
- A sunrise is God's way of saying, "Lighten up."
- Dusty bibles lead to dirty lives.
- Live the life you love, love the life you live.
- We're supposed to have character, not be one.
- The brook would lose its song if God removed the rocks.

RUMMAGE SALE



A BIG Thank You

goes out to all the people who helped at the Rummage Sale. It is a huge undertaking to conduct this massive event.





Lectionary Readings

**Lectionary Schedule
Nov. 10—Dec. 15, 2019**

Nov. 10, 2019—22nd Sun. after Pentecost-Thanksgiving Offering

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or 98
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Nov. 17, 2019—23rd Sun. after Pentecost-Thanksgiving Offering

Isaiah 65:17-25; 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Nov. 24, 2019—24th Sun. after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79; 23:33-43
Colossians 1:11-20

Dec. 1, 2019—1st Sun. of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

**Dec. 8, 2019--2nd Sun. of Advent
Christmas Special Offering**

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

**Dec. 15, 2019-3rd Sun. of Advent
Christmas Special Offering**

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or
Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11



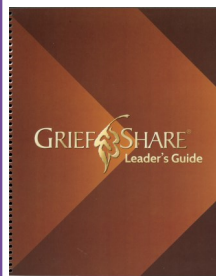
Interested in Electronic Giving?

Download the free app from the Apple's App Store or Google's Play Store. You are not charged a fee to make donations using the app.



DWF News—

The next meeting is **Wednesday, November 6 at 10:30 am and 5:30 pm** in the parlor. Hope you can come and join us.



Grief Share

Anyone (men or women) interested in being a facilitator for Grief Share please let Janet Lostutter or Nancy LeClear know so they can do a training session before we have a class in the spring. Thanks



Sunday, November 17—After Worship
Save the date of November 17, noon for the **All Church Thanksgiving Dinner.**

There is a sign up sheet in the parlor for dressing, salad, vegetable, potatoes and/or dessert. Just make sure you save the date.

Remember These?

DWF is still collecting Best Choice labels as a fund raiser. So, cut the UPC code off any **Best Choice** can, bag or other Best Choice item and drop them by the office or put in the Best Choice Label Box in the parlor kitchenette. Thanks for your help.



**Home Business /
Craft Expo**

Do you have a home business or know someone who does? Are you crafty and have items to sell?

The church will be hosting a Home Business/Craft Expo on December 7th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Booth spaces are 15 x 15 and rent for \$20.00. Tables and chairs will be furnished.

For more information contact Janet Lostutter at 620-343-0337.



(continued from front page)

People need to know: (p. 27)

- that **God loves them**, that they are of value. They want to live a life that matters, and to belong to a community that makes a difference.
- that **they are not alone**; that when they face difficulties, they are surrounded by a community of grace; and that they do not have to figure out entirely for themselves how to cope with family tensions, self-doubts, periods of despair, economic reversal, and the behaviors that hurt themselves or others.
- the **peace** that runs deeper than an absence of conflict, the **hope** that sustains them even through painful periods of grief, the **sense of belonging** that blesses them and stretches them and lifts them out of their own preoccupations
- how to **offer and accept forgiveness**, how to **serve and be served**, how to **love and be loved**. They need relationships that remind them that life is not having something to live on but something to live for, **life comes not from taking for oneself but by giving of oneself**.
- a **sustaining sense of purpose**.

As a community of faith, we need to pass these things on—**INTENTIONALLY**. We need to be deliberate and loving in the faith development of our existing membership, but just as importantly, in the hospitality and faith development of newcomers.

In Chapter 4, "*The Practice of Intentional Faith Development*," Schnase suggests that as people come in the front door of the church, people are warmly welcomed. **But often, the middle doors of the church are not as accessible and it becomes way to easy for people to exit out the back door without anyone knowing what happened and we never see them again** (pp. 88-89).

One of the "middle doors" is caring for people through small groups. I would like to suggest that we start with the groups that we already have while seeking out new ideas for new groups to begin. **Our focus is to innovatively meet the needs of people inside the congregation and to get to know people in the neighborhood and find ways to respond to needs in the community** (pp.92-93).

All of the above small groups in our church need to incorporate Scripture and Prayer (some already do) into their time together. I would like to suggest simply reading aloud with the group the Gospel lesson for the week from the Lectionary (listed in the newsletter) followed by prayer.

For example, the helpers in the Clothes Closet could arrive 15 minutes early to read the scripture and pray for the church, the ministry of the Clothes Closet, the people who come to buy clothes, the helpers who work there, etc. **Just 15 minutes!** An on-going discussion through the 3 hours together could be discussion about the scripture—what does it say that is relevant for that particular ministry and other ministries in the church?

The same can happen for **each** of our existing small groups listed above. Reading scripture together and praying together for the church, its people, its ministries, and our community changes things. God **IS** in the midst of changing **us**. Let's all do our part and reciprocate. As God is faithful, so we are faithful.

Blessings along the Way,
Pastor Lorraine

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.fccemporia.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
Nov. 18 & Dec. 2, 2019



November 2019

3 Daylight Saving Time e ● 9:30am Sunday Scho ● 10:30am Worship Ser	4 Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts	5 VOTE--Election Day Lo ● 4pm Bible Study ● 5:30pm Youth Choir	6 ● 10:30am DWF Day Gr ● 10:30am Lyon Co. Mi ● 3pm Emporia Place S ● 5:30pm DWF Night G	7 ● 5pm ESU Cook Healt ● 6pm Choir Practice	8 ● 3pm Clothes Closet 8	9 ● 9am Clothes Closet 8
10 ● 9:30am Sunday Scho ● 10:30am Worship Ser	11 Veterans Day ● 7pm Boy Scouts	12 ● 4pm Bible Study ● 6:30pm Christian Ed.	13 ● 9:30am NE KS Clergy ● 6:15pm Stewardship	14 ● 6pm Choir Practice	15 ● 8:30am CWU Friends ● 3pm Clothes Closet 8	16 ● 9am Clothes Closet 8
17 ● 9:30am Sunday Scho ● 10:30am Worship Ser ● 12pm Thanksgiving D	18 Newsletter Deadline ● 7pm Boy Scouts	19 ● 4pm Bible Study	20 ● 5pm Worship Ministr ● 6:15pm Board Meetin	21 ● 5pm ESU Cooking Cla ● 5pm Elders Meeting ● 6pm Choir Practice	22 ● 3pm Clothes Closet 8	23 ● 9am Clothes Closet 8
24 ● 8:30am Diaconate Me ● 9:30am Sunday Scho ● 10:30am Worship Ser ● 2pm Presbyterian Ma ● 6pm Movie Night	25 ● 7pm Boy Scouts	26 ● 4pm Bible Study	27 ● 5:30pm Facilities Met	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Black Friday ● 3pm Clothes Closet 8	30 ● 9am Clothes Closet 8

Spotlight on Disciples Information for this article came from Journey in Faith by Lester G. McAllister and William E. Tucker, pp. 438-441.

Toward a Restructured Church (part 2)

The work of restructure was a painstaking process. The Commission on Restructure, beginning in 1962, laid out four guidelines which became the foundation for the development of the Provisional Design. The guidelines were consistent with the traditions and historic practice of the Disciples and provided a firm theological understanding on which to build a restructured church.

1. The structure will be designed so that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in all its manifestations at all levels reflects its oneness and the unity of the church.
2. The Christian Church will follow the principles of representative government through the structuring of delegate bodies.
3. The Christian Church in its national manifestation will have representation from local congregations and from regions (states or areas).
4. The Christian Church will express its unity of purpose and mission through the adoption of declarations which express a covenantal relationship in the various manifestations of the church and all its separate parts.

With these guidelines in mind, the concept of “churches” and ‘agencies’ would give way to the recognition of “one church.”