



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Stewardship
- Grief Share
- DWF Potato Bar
- Valentine Dinner
- The Walk
- Cereal Sunday
- Ash Wednesday

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Reflections

In first section of Chapter 5, "The Practice of Risk-Taking Mission and Service" in Robert Schnase's book, *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (2018), we discovered how the five practices intertwine. They complement each other and as they overlap, ministry teams take on new relationships with each other. In the next section, Schnase discusses different ways congregations take their ministries into the community. This is an important vision while we work to improve and strengthen the outreach ministries we have. We have wonderful people serving in many capacities, but the question always remains, "How do we get more people involved?"

Currently, the Nominating Committee is working to "call" people to leadership positions within the congregation. This "calling" process asks for the committee itself to be in prayer for the congregation and for those they are considering for leadership positions. They are looking for people with gifts and talents and a heart for the ministry they are seeking. The committee then will ask people to be in prayer as they consider God's calling for them concerning a particular position.

The same is true for everyone in the congregation. We need to be in prayer as to how God can touch our hearts and use our gifts and talents to be in service for Christ. We have some important on-going outreach ministries that always need more workers. The Clothes Closet/Household Hut Ministry, Food Pantry Ministry are two that are the most noticeable. Elders visit shutins. **What other ministries do you see or are involved in? How can we improve our existing ministries? How can we each use our gifts and talents to help in these ministries or to start new ones?** "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38).

Schnase reminds us, "Making ourselves useful for the purpose of building the body of Christ imbues our lives with purpose and connects us to others. Genuine and generous service makes a difference" (p. 110). As our lives change, so do our ways of serving. We each have our own personal circumstances that bring about a change in how we can serve God. Opening ourselves to new possibilities of serving can be exciting and fulfilling.

Our Clothes Closet/Household Hut outreach ministries reach others in the community who, in turn, rely on these resources. People from the community donate items which is a wider involvement. Are there deeper ways these ministries can impact the community?

Schnase invites us to practice Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, and Extravagant Generosity to become good stewards of Christ's mission. When we work together using our gifts and talents, building on scripture and guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission efforts will far exceed our vision to become the church God wills us to be. As always, please keep our church and its mission in prayer as we walk and work together for Christ.

Blessings on the journey,

Pastor Lorraine

Upcoming Serving Schedule



So far in February the Food Pantry has helped **40 families**, consisting of **85 people** with food, plus **various other items**. Of those families, **7 were new** to us.



Our pantry continues to be a lifeline for those in our community.

Mar. 1, 2020—1st Sunday in Lent

Candlelighter ~ Brayden Dill
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Cameron Moore
Diaconate Captains for March
 Carl Richardson & Richard Becker

Elder ~ Robert Chatham
Greeters ~ (N) Richard Becker
 (S) Lisa Rickabaugh
Worship Leader ~ Judy Moore

Mar. 8, 2020—2nd Sunday in Lent

Candlelighter ~ Barb Gimple
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Joy Frevert
Diaconate Captains for March
 Carl Richardson & Richard Becker

Elder ~ Marlene Hanson
Greeters ~ (N) Robert Chatham
 ~ (S) Marilyn Dalton
Worship Leader ~ Marlene Hanson

Mar. 15, 2020—3rd Sunday in Lent

Candlelighter ~ Judy Moore
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Barb Gimple
Diaconate Captains for March
 Carl Richardson & Richard Becker

Elder ~ Jean Miller
Greeters ~ (N) Carl Richardson
 (S) Lana Richardson
Worship Leader ~

Mar. 22, 2020—4th Sunday in Lent

Candlelighter ~ Kelsey Schull
Young Disciples' Moment ~ Judy Moore
Diaconate Captains for March
 Carl Richardson & Richard Becker

Elder ~ Cameron Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Barb Gimple
 ~ (S) Christine Kellum
Worship Leader ~ Marie Harding



Lonnie Atchison (cancer); **Lea Beers** (medical); **Glenn Boyce** (medical); **Lisa Cress** (uterine cancer); **Lynn Cress** (heart surgery); **Marilyn Dalton** (sprained ankle); **Wanda Davis** (hip rehab); **Joe Denson**, (hip surgery); **Brooke Franklin** (cancer); **Brad Jones**; (heart problems); **Jan Jones** (hip replacement); **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); **Jeanice Miller** (sciatic nerve pain); **Betty Pierson** (medical, no calls please); **Pam Scheve** (health problems); **David Smith** (cousin of Jeanice Miller, diabetic amputation); **Jacque Umholtz** (pneumonia); **Andrea Vandruff** (kidney issues); **Leonard Wagner** (house fire); **Liam Wagner**, (open heart surgery); and **Aubrey Wescott** (stomach problems).



LEAP YEAR

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

February 16, 2020 SS 6 / Worship 72
February 23, 2020 SS 10 / Worship 71

GIVING RECORD

Feb. 16, 2020~Offering \$1,236.00 / Building \$10.00
 Feb. 23, 2020~Offering \$2,085.00 / Building \$180.00





March Anniversaries

- 01 Guy & Janece Bacon
- 03 Bill & Carol Hopkins
- 22 Glenn & Dorothy Boyce

February Birthdays

- 27 Shelby Pederson
- 28 Roycean Garnett



March Birthdays

- 02 Glenna Gamblian
- 02 Parker Simmons
- 06 Breann Johnson
- 10 Sarah Roth
- 11 Robert Chatham
- 11 Imegene Marsh
- 14 Harold Wonser
- 21 Nikki Simmons
- 21 McKinzi Simmons
- 29 Dorothy Matile
- 31 Mary Volland



Mark The Dates

- Tuesday's 4:30 pm—Bible Study in the library
- 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
- March 28, 29, and April 4, 2020—Spirit Fest
- Wed. Feb. 26, 2020 7 pm—Ash Wednesday Service
- Thur. Feb. 27, 2020 5 pm—Elders' Meeting
- Sun. Mar. 1, 2020—Commitment Sunday
- Sun. Mar. 1, 2020—Food Pantry Day—Cereal Sunday
- Tues. Mar. 3, 2020 5:30 pm—Youth Choir
- Tues. Mar. 3, 2020 6pm—Lenten Study Series
- Wed. Mar. 4, 2020 10:30 am—DWF Day Group
- Wed. Mar. 4, 2020 3 pm—Emporia Place Service
- Wed. Mar. 4, 2020 5:30 pm—DWF Night Group
- Thur. Mar. 5, 2020 5 pm—Leadership Team Meeting
- Tues. Mar. 10, 2020 6 pm—Lenten Study Series
- Wed. Mar. 11, 2020 6:15 pm—Stewardship Team Meeting
- Thur. Mar. 12, 2020 5 pm—Elder's Study
- Sun. Mar. 15, 2020 12 pm—DWF Potato Bar
- Thur. Mar. 19, 2020 5:00 pm—Christian Ed.



THE SECRET PLACE

Devotions for Daily Worship
 The Spring 2020
 (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!**



Thoughts to Ponder

Christians are the light of the world, but the switch has to be turned on.
 Why do our sins seem small, and "theirs" seem big?
 Do bad and remember. Do good and forget.
 We all should plant some trees we will never sit under.
 When you're down to nothing, God's up to something.



Lectionary Readings

Lectionary Schedule

Mar. 1—Apr. 5 2020

Mar. 1, 2020—1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

Mar. 8, 2020—2nd Sunday in Lent

Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Mar. 15, 2020—3rd Sunday in Lent

Lent

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

Mar. 22, 2020—4th Sunday in Lent

Lent

1Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

Mar. 29, 2020—5th Sunday in Lent

Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

Apr. 5, 2020—6th Sunday in Lent

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Matthew 21:1-11

Cereal Sunday!

Bring boxes of cereal on Sunday, March 1st to donate to the food pantry!



Ash Wednesday Service

Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on February 26, 2020 at 7:00 pm.



Stewardship Pledge Drive

If you have already returned your pledge card, thank you for your commitment to our church and to God for this coming church year starting July 1, 2020. If you haven't returned it, please return it to the church by March 1 or place it in the offering tray on Sunday. At that time we will dedicate all of the pledges to the church operating fund for the 2020-2021 church year. We appreciate your faithful service and financial commitment.

The Stewardship Ministry Team

Grief Share

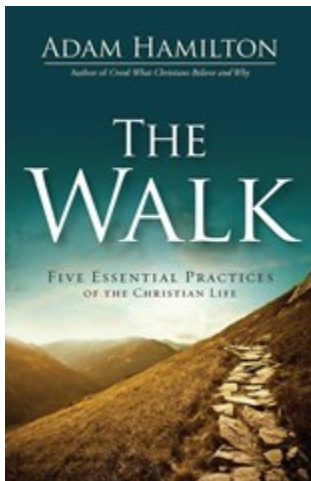
A grief recovery video series and support group will meet at First Christian Church, 202 E. 12th Avenue in Emporia each Thursday at 6:30pm for 11 weeks beginning March 19th. GriefShare is a program for those who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Participants will find information, encouragement and comfort in the grief journey. Cost is \$15 for the workbook. To register, call First Christian Church at 620-342-1582 or for more information, go to www.griefshare.org.

Valentine Dinner February 9, 2020



The Walk

Study Series—Tuesdays March 3-April 7
6:00 Soup Supper 6:30-7:30 Study



It's not too late to sign up for *The Walk*! Books are \$13.99 or are available on Kindle for \$9.99. Please let us know if you need financial assistance for purchasing the book. Be sure to sign up in the parlor or church office by calling (620) 342-1582 or e-mailing (fccoffices@yahoo.com). We look forward to seeing you there!



DWF Potato Bar

After services on Sunday, March 15, DWF will sponsor a Potato Bar. For a freewill offering you will receive a baked potato with your choice of numerous toppings, dessert, and drink. Please sign up on the sheet in the parlor. If you would like to sign up to furnish a topping or dessert, a sheet will be available. If you have any questions, please contact Janece Bacon or Janet Lostutter.

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: pastorlorraineb@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 ap-



Next Newsletter Deadline
Mar. 9, 2020 & Mar. 23, 2020



February 2020

23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Week of Compassion Special Offering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Diaconate Meets 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 2 more 	Newsletter Deadline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Boy Scouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30pm Bible Study 	Ash Wednesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Ash Wednesday Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Emily Prouse Cooking Class 5pm Elders Meeting 6pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet & Household Hut

March 2020

SUN Mar 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
Confirmation Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Boy Scouts 	Super Tuesday (regional holiday) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Youth Choir 6pm Lenten Study Series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am DWF Day Group 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance 3pm Emporia Place Service 5:30pm DWF Night Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Leadership Team 6pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am World Day of Prayer - Church V 3pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet & Household Hut
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Saving Time starts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 	Newsletter Deadline Spring Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Boy Scouts 	Spring Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30pm Bible Study 6pm Lenten Study Series 6:30pm Christian Ed. 	Spring Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am NE KS Clergy-Topoka 6:15pm Stewardship Committee Meet 	Spring Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm Elder's Study 6pm Choir Practice 	Spring Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Spotlight on Disciples

In 2019, Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn wrote the book, *Disciples: Who We Are & What Holds Us Together*, published through Christian Board of Publication. I've decided to use this space to summarize its content for you in hopes that it will bring about conversation as to who we are as Disciples. This book is chock-full of historical and forward visioning information as to why we call ourselves Disciples.

It's important to know who these authors are as we embark upon this journey together. Next week, we will begin exploring content.

Michael Kinnamon has been a leader in the forefront of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for years. He is a retired seminary and university professor and author. He is a scholar and leader of the ecumenical movement and is a frequent speaker at Disciples events.

Jan Linn is an author, retired professor at Lexington Theological Seminary, and retired pastor of a new church start. He now writes full-time and guest lectures across the country.