



April 20, 2020

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST
A Friend Is...
A note from your Treasurer
Congregational Meeting

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First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 69 NO. 9

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Reflections

During the last 3 years, we have explored “Adaptive Change” according to several different authors and have implemented some technical changes that are part of adaptive change. Much of what happens to us while we are learning to adapt to changes is transformation. Most of the time, we do not notice ourselves learning to adapt, but the Holy Spirit is working to make inner changes in us that lead us to new ideas and eventually to new ways of doing things.

The coronavirus pandemic is an excellent example of adaptive change for everyone. Like it or not, we have to adapt to the changes the pandemic has brought upon us—we need to follow the mandates to wash our hands and to shelter in place, for example. Society has had to adapt to these changes so that we can help lower the virus’ chances of spreading.

Adaptive change is about doing things differently from now on. Even as people get “cabin fever” and want to quicken the speed of returning to “normal,” we will find that “normal” will be very different than before. The church will experience this as well.

We have been learning to adapt to attending church differently. As for me, I have had to go outside of my comfort zone to start broadcasting on Facebook LIVE. People can attend worship on their own terms—in the comfort of their homes, on a different day, or at a different time. In addition, there are those who are learning how to use the Zoom platform. As we learn more about this virtual program, we will find that it is a great way for us to connect as a congregation because we can see each other and participate together. We also send out the worship service in an email and through snail mail to everyone so those without any other way to “attend” worship can do so, even if in written form.

The question for the future is, “How do we continue to use these broadcasting methods as we return to physical church?” How many people attend worship through these virtual methods? Will people who are “shopping” for a church find us and worship with us virtually? How can we use technology for small group Bible studies and meetings? Who could participate in the life of the church who isn’t able to right now because of limiting factors? Who can we invite? Right now, two of my friends in two different states are attending worship with us! That’s a dream I’ve had for years that has been impossible up until now. Is there someone you can invite to worship or Bible study that is outside of our normal purview? Is there someone you know that might get a chance to be with us on one of the platforms who normally would not step foot in a church?

Adaptive change. What lies ahead?

Shalom,

Pastor Lorraine

Join us for At Home Worship

At Home Worship on Facebook

Find us on Facebook at **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Emporia, KS** to join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays!

At Home Worship via Email

You are encouraged to open your email at 10:30 a.m. to be part of our worshiping community. Just sign-in and let us know you are with us. If you would like to be added to our e-mail worship service, send us an e-mail at fccoffices@yahoo.com to let us know!



Upcoming Serving Schedule



Apr. 26, 2020—3rd Sunday of Easter

Elder ~ Jean Miller

Worship Leader ~ Faith Coleman

May 3, 2020—4th Sunday of Easter

Elder ~ Cameron Moore

Worship Leader ~ Diana Solis

Thoughts to Ponder

Peace is not the absence of trouble, but the presence of God.

Pray like you're the third monkey trying to get on Noah's ark.

Put your troubles in holy pockets and they will fall away.

The proof is in the putting—putting your faith in God.

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*); **Steve & 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*); **David Smith** (*cousin of Jeanice Miller, diabetic amputation*); **Andrea Vandruff** (*kidney issues*); and **Aubrey Wescott** (*stomach problems*).



Keeping the World in prayer

The Coronavirus continues to spread throughout our communities and states in the United States. The U.S. is now third in the world in the number of cases of the COVID-19. Please pray for the hundreds of thousands of people who are infected, the thousands who are in serious condition and for the families and friends of the tens of thousands who have already died. Please give thanks to God for God's presence as governments seek to protect their people through safety measures and please remember to give God thanks for the tens of thousands of people who have recovered. Please keep each other in prayer.

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

April 12, 2020 At Home Worship 33+

April 19, 2020 At Home Worship 36+

GIVING RECORD

Apr. 12, 2020 ~ Offering \$875.00

Apr. 19, 2020 ~ Offering \$565.00



May Anniversaries

- 17 Jeffry & Vicki Cole
- 24 Kurt & Sheila Steinkuhler

April Birthdays

- 20 Jim Siebert
- 21 Tammie McDiffett
- 22 Kohlby Ketchum
- 24 Kara Horton (Office)
- 24 Betty Richardson
- 25 Andy Kuhn
- 30 Wanda Davis



May Birthdays

- 02 Brooke Douglas
- 04 Shelby Fuller
- 06 Maddie Roth
- 06 Bob Duncan
- 07 Joan Shumate
- 08 Michelle Harding
- 08 Jan Jones
- 10 Lincoln Roth
- 10 Jay Schaefer



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!**



Mark The Dates

Until further notice, all scheduled “in-person” meetings are cancelled. Alternative meeting methods such as conference calls, meetings on Zoom, meetings through email, etc. will be used.

Lectionary Schedule

April 26—May 31 , 2020

Apr. 26, 2020—3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 1 Peter 1:17-23
 Luke 24:13-35

May 3, 2020—4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25
 John 10:1-10

May 10, 2020—5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
 1 Peter 2:2-10
 John 14:1-14

May 17, 2020—6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
 Psalm 66:8-20
 1 Peter 3:13-22
 John 14:15-21

May 24, 2020—7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
 John 17:1-11

May 31 2020—Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30
 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21
 John 20:19-23; 7:37-39



A FRIEND IS.....

A friend is one who is not hard to find when you are penniless.

A friend is one who makes your grief less painful, your adversity more bearable.

A friend is one who joyfully sings with you when you are on the mountaintop, and silently walks beside you through the valley.

A friend is one with whom you are comfortable, to whom you are loyal, through whom you are blessed, and for whom you are grateful.

A friend is one who warms you by his presence, trusts you with his secrets, and remembers you in his prayers.

A friend is one who gives you a spark of assurance when you doubt your ability to fulfill your noblest aspiration, climb your special mountain, or reach your secret goal.

A friend is one who helps you bridge the gaps between loneliness and fellowship, frustration and confidence, despair and hope, setbacks and success.

A friend is one who is available to you, understanding of you, and patient; no less a treasure than life itself.

Friends are the fruitcake of our lives. Some are nutty, some are soaked in alcohol, some firm, some sweet, but altogether, they are great to have in our lives. I didn't find my friends. God gave them to me.

Good friends help you find important things when you have lost them....things like your smile, your hope and your courage.

A friend is: A push when you're stopped; A work when you're lonely; A guide when you're searching; A smile when you're sad; A song when you're glad.

May your joys be added, your sorrows subtracted, your friends multiplied and your enemies divided.

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.

If God had a wallet, your photo would be in it.

He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning.

When you want to talk, He will listen.

He could live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.

Anonymous

DWF News

DWF is collecting recipes for a cookbook to help support the new Jones cabin at Camp Tawakoni. They will be sent in at the end of April. If you have some recipes that you would like to share for this, you can e-mail them to Judy Moore at sewjam@hotmail.com.

A note from your Treasurer

- First, thank you to those who have mailed their offerings to the Church or to me!
- Everyone is encouraged to mail their offerings weekly, every other week, or monthly, whatever works.
- We miss being together in person for worship, but we still have the opportunity to give our offerings to support the ministry and work of the church; to return to God some of what he has given to us.
- Please contact me if you need to know the status of your giving.
- Also, contact me if you have questions about the Church's finances.

We are all missing our in-person worship services and our Church family but are thankful for Facebook live worship, Zoom worship, and the printed worship services for those who don't have access to internet. Take care, stay well, and keep in touch with each other by phone or email!

Love in Service, Marie Harding, Treasurer
1725 W Wilman Ct, Emporia, KS 66801
620-340-9404; email: marieharding59@gmail.com



NOTICE: Date Change!

Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 12:00 noon.

The meeting was to be held on April 26 but had to be rescheduled to May 31 due to the extension of the Stay-at-Home order. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important annual meeting for election of officers and approval of a budget for FY2020-2021. Members are receiving a Slate of Officers and the budget proposal with this newsletter.

Marlene Hanson, Moderator

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.”

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 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey
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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
May 4, 2020 & May 18, 2020



April-May 2020

19 • 10:30am At Home Worship	20 • Newsletter Deadline • 1:30pm Emily Prouse Cooking Class	21 • 4:30pm Bible Study	22 • 5:30pm Facilities Meeting	23 • 5pm Elders Meeting	24	25
26 • 8:30am Diaconate Meets • 10:30am At Home Worship	27 • 1:30pm Emily Prouse Cooking Class	28 • 4:30pm Bible Study	29	30 • 5pm Christian Ed.	May 1 • 8:30am Church Women United - May Friends	2
3 • 10:30am At Home Worship	4 • Newsletter Deadline	5 • Cinco de Mayo • 4:30pm Bible Study	6 • 10:30am DWF Day Group • 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance • 5:30pm DWF Night Group	7 • 5pm Leadership Team	8	9 • ESU Spring Graduation

Spotlight on Disciples

Information for this article came from the book, *Disciples: Who We Are & What Holds Us Together* (2019) by Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn, St. Louis: Christian Board of Publication, pp.

Why We Are Disciples

The authors begin their book with five points that make up our Disciple identity. 1) the importance of the Lord’s Supper; 2) we are bound by covenant, not creed; 3) human intelligence is a factor in discerning God’s will; 4) emphasis on believer’s baptism; 5) recognition of ecumenism and other people of God.

There is hope in our Disciples’ sense of unity, wholeness, and healing amid a universal church that historically has been theologically divided, and in a world broken by war and injustice. While appreciating specific gifts that other denominations offer, the authors point out that “Our contention is that Disciples, too, have particular gifts that can help to build up the body of Christ and give powerful demonstration of God’s reconciling grace” (p. 3).

As Disciples gather with a commitment to a mission of unity, Alexander Campbell’s (one of our founders) statement “We are not the only Christians, but Christians only,” has been a paradox that runs deep through our Disciples’ history. Yet, we have a distinctive identity that pulls us all together that the authors will explore more in depth.