



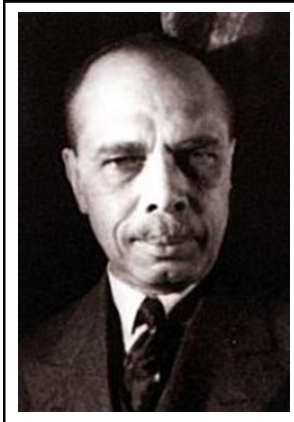
SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Meeting Time Changes
Audio Video Equipment

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Reflections

Hymns are powerful faith builders for Christians. Through the ages, congregations continue to sing the songs of faith in good times, in times of peril, and in times that challenge us to the core. As part of a three-part series, today's hymn, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," rings with hope today as when it was written.



James Weldon Johnson¹ (June 17, 1871 – June 26, 1938) studied literature at Atlanta University (graduated 1894, MA 1904), and went on to become a song writer, anthologist, teacher, and lawyer.

Another side of James was his talent at songwriting. He and his composer brother, John, wrote songs for musical theater on Broadway.

By the time he was 30 years old, he became the first African-American to pass the bar in the state of Florida and the author of the lyrics of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" to honor Booker T. Washington as part of an elementary school tribute to Abraham Lincoln's birthday. The song became known as the "Negro National Anthem," promoted by the NAACP.

**1) Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling
sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun
Of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.**

**2) Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn
had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our
people sighed?
We have come over a way**

Blessings along the Way,
Pastor Lorraine

**that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaugh-
tered;
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the bright gleam of our
bright star is cast.**

**3) God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
You who have brought us thus far
on the way;
You who have by your might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we
pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met you;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the
wine
of the world, we forget you;
Shadowed beneath your hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native
land.**

¹Sources: Hymnary.org and Wikipedia.

Join us for Worship

In Person Worship

We are now meeting back at the church for worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays! We care about the safety of our congregation and have taken many precautions during this time. We are wearing masks, social distancing, using pre-packaged communion items, and using alternative methods for our music worship that do not include singing, so as to help ensure a safer environment for everyone joining us. We hope to see you there!

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. Leave a comment on our worship service to let us know you are with us!

At Home Worship via Email

You are encouraged to open your email at 10:30 a.m. to be part of our worshipping community. 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!

So far in the month of August, the food pantry has helped **77 families** with food, plus **various other items**, including **13 doz. eggs**.



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

During this time, we have implemented a no contact method for providing food to the community and have reduced our food pantry hours to Mondays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); **Lea Beers** (*medical*); **Wanda Davis** (*hip rehab*); **Brooke Franklin** (*cancer*); **Brad Jones** (*heart problems*); **Steve & Ramona Langley** (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); **Dr. Tim & Paula Lavin and family** (*medical*); **Joe Lozier** (*brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Jeanice Miller** (*back pain*); and **Andrea Vandruff** (*kidney issues*).



Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

August 16, 2020 At Home/In Person Worship 43+
August 23, 2020 At Home/In Person Worship 48+

GIVING RECORD

Aug. 16, 2020 ~ Offering \$900.00 / Building \$0.00
 Aug. 23, 2020 ~ Offering \$1,345.00 / Building \$0.00



August Anniversaries

31 Dave & Carolyn Meierhoff

September Anniversaries

02 Glenn & Barbara Gimple
02 Harold & Joy Wonsler

August Birthdays

26 Marilyn Dalton
27 Carl Richardson



September Birthdays

01 Marlene Hanson
01 Rita Headrick
03 Dick Hubert
04 Jack Dalton
05 Jaiden Kurzen



Mark The Dates

Until further notice, the method of meeting (In Person, via Zoom, E-mail, etc.) will be determined on a meeting by meeting basis.

Sundays at 10:30 am—Worship Service— In Person, via Facebook Live, & E-mail

Fri. Sept. 4, 2020—Newsletter Deadline

Mon. Sept. 7, 2020—Labor Day

Tues. Sept. 8, 2020 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Wed. Sept. 9, 2020 1:30 pm—DWF Group

Wed. Sept. 9, 2020 6:15 pm—Stewardship Committee

Thur. Sept. 10, 2020 4:00 pm—Elders’ Study

Thur. Sept. 10, 2020 5:00 pm—Leadership Team Meets

Sun. Sept. 13, 2020 12:00 pm—Diaconate Meeting

Tues. Sept. 15, 2020 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Wed. Sept. 16, 2020 5:00 pm—Worship Ministry Meets

Wed. Sept. 16, 2020 6:15 pm—Board Meeting

Thur. Sept. 17, 2020 5:00 pm—Christian Education

Upcoming Serving Schedule



August 30, 2020—13th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Marie Harding

Worship Leader ~ Marie Harding

Children’s Message ~ Judy Moore

September 6, 2020—14th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Cameron Moore/Nancy LeClear

Worship Leader ~ Nancy LeClear

Children’s Message ~ Jaylene Arnett

September 13, 2020—15th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Judy Moore

Worship Leader ~ Jean Miller

Children’s Message ~ Cameron Moore



Thoughts to Ponder

- No burden is too heavy when carried with love.
- If you only pray when you’re in trouble . . . you’re in trouble.
- Don’t unsubscribe from God.
- One thing you can give and still keep is your word.
- If you want to make it easier to be happy, make it harder to be offended.

Lectionary Schedule

Aug. 30—Oct. 4, 2020

August 30, 2020—13th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15
 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
 Romans 12:9-21
 Matthew 16:21-28

September 6, 2020—14th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14
 Psalm 149
 Romans 13:8-14
 Matthew 18:15-20

September 13, 2020—15th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31
 Psalm 114
 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
 Romans 14:1-12
 Matthew 18:21-35

September 20, 2020—16th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15
 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
 Philippians 1:21-30
 Matthew 20:1-16

September 27, 2020—17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7
 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
 Philippians 2:1-13
 Matthew 21:23-32

October 4, 2020—18th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
 Psalm 19
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 Matthew 21:33-46

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Wanda Davis with a prayer shawl made by a member of our Prayer Shawl Ministry.



If you like to knit, crochet, or quilt, you are more than welcome to join our Prayer Shawl Ministry! If you cannot do any of those things, there are still other ways you can help. If you would like to donate yarn, please contact the church office. You can also help with this powerful ministry by keeping our home-bound members in your prayers.

Meeting Time Changes

We have a couple of regular meetings that have changed to different times, so make sure you get these new times marked in your calendars!



DWF Group

2nd Wednesday of the month
1:30 p.m.

Diaconate Meeting

1st Sunday of the month
12:00 p.m.



Audio/Video Equipment Update:

Join us on Facebook Live!

A huge thank you to members of First Christian Church who have made donations to our audio-video project. (There's still room for donations if you are so inclined). The equipment has arrived and with the help of a very generous tech person at First Congregational Church, the pieces are in place to upgrade our Facebook live stream on Sunday mornings. Now the people who will be running the camera are educating themselves and hope you will be patient with them as they learn the ropes. If you'd like to be part of this team, call Barb Gimple. On those Sundays when you can't make it to church be sure to join us on Facebook.

As a reminder, you can join us on Facebook Live even if you don't have a Facebook account. Just go to our website at www.fccemporiam.org and click on the Facebook icon on the top right corner of the webpage. It looks like this:



Also, if you join us on Facebook, make sure to leave a comment or like our worship service so that we know who is joining us!

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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 Web Page www.fcemporio.org
 Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com
 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey
 Email: pastorlorraine@gmail.com

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
Sept. 4, 2020 & Sept. 21, 2020



August-September 2020

23 • 10:30am Worship Service	24 Newsletter Deadline • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	25	26	27	28	29
30 • 10:30am Worship Service	31 • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	Sep 1	2 • 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance	3	4 Newsletter Deadline	5
6 • 10:30am Worship Service	7 Labor Day • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	8 Acts Bible Study	9 • 9:30am NE KS Clergy-Topeka • 1:30pm DWF Group • 6:15pm Stewardship Committee Meets	10 • 4pm Elders' Study • 5pm Leadership Team	11	12

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. 24-27.

Covenant: Freedom with Accountability (part 7)

In the final paragraphs of this chapter on “the freedom that is ours in Christ,” Kinnamon and Linn want to make known some concerns that come along side of these freedoms. They remind us that a healthy church will allow “the ‘three d’s—*dialogue, diversity, and dissent.*” The authors warn us that right now there are some missing pieces in our covenant:

- the absence of mutual accountability
- the absence of authoritative teaching by the church (authorized curricula, Assembly-approved studies, etc.)
- the absence of structures and processes of mutual accountability

Kinnamon and Linn remind us that in our society today, there is a deep hunger for a faith that demands discipline that will guide us to make a difference in the way we live and our witness to society. “To demonstrate disciplined community that yet values diversity, dialogue, and dissent—to model responsible freedom—requires real spiritual maturity.” The authors warn that without mutual accountability and authoritative teaching, we run the danger of becoming “clubs of culturally formed individuals” concerned with psychic distress relief and institutional maintenance. How does this affect our congregation?

Next time—a conversation about scripture . . .