



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST
 Parking Reminder
 Ministry Opportunities
 Family Sunday School At Home
 Reconciliation Ministry
 Special Offering

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Reflections

After several months of prayer and consideration, I have come to the decision that it is time for me to retire.

My retirement date is set for March 1, 2021 which means that my last Sunday with you will be February 28, 2021. This date falls just two months short of my expected term that would have ended in April. My decision is primarily due to an ongoing health concern.

Having said that, I would like to express my deep appreciation for allowing me to serve as your Transitional Minister since May 2017. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve such a faithful, loving, caring, and devoted congregation. Together, I believe, we made significant spiritual growth that will continue to move the church forward in its mission for Jesus Christ.

You made me feel so at home here and very much a part of your long history. My prayer for you is that you will pause often to see how far the church has transformed itself already. You gained strategies and ideas that you have added to your toolkit. Look to find where God is opening doors to new ways of serving through mission and be aware of how the Holy Spirit is breathing new life into the church every day with God's help.

Thank you for your warm hospitality, your gracious compassion, and your loving spirit. God bless you as you look to a future of new opportunities for mission and service.

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7).

Shalom,
Pastor Lorraine

Join us for Worship

In Person Worship

We are now meeting back at the church for worship at 10:40 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 10:40 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 10:40 a.m. to be part of our worshiping 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 September, the food pantry has helped **67 families** with food, plus **various other items**.



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*); and **Jeanice Miller** (*back pain*).



Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

Sept. 13, 2020 At Home/In Person Worship 43+
Sept. 20, 2020 At Home/In Person Worship 50+

GIVING RECORD

Sept. 13, 2020 ~ Offering \$1,646.60 / Building \$82.00
 Sept. 20, 2020 ~ Offering \$1,455.00 / Building \$4.00



September Anniversaries

30 Lane & Shelby Fuller

September Birthdays

23 Joe Denson
 24 Glenn Boyce
 24 Karen Shumate
 26 Jeanice Miller
 27 Justin Wilson
 28 Alberta Brinkman
 29 Ann Brown



October Birthdays

01 Richard Becker
 05 Julia Giger



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 10:40 am—Worship Service— In Person, via Facebook Live, & E-mail

Tues. Sept. 22, 2020 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Thur. Sept. 24, 2020 4:00 pm—Elders’ Meeting

Thur. Sept. 24, 2020 5:30 pm—Friends of Troop 157 Meeting

Fri. Sept. 25, 2020 6-7:30 pm—Take ‘n Go Barbecue

Sat. Sept. 26, 2020 9 am—12pm—Sales in September

Sun. Sept. 27, 2020—Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering

Tues. Sept. 29, 2020 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Thur. Oct. 1, 2020 4:00 pm—Leadership Team Meets

Fri. Oct. 2, 2020 7:00—9:00 pm—KDW Virtual Retreat

Sat. Oct. 3, 2020 9:00 am—12:00 pm—KDW Virtual Retreat

Sun. Oct. 4, 2020—Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering

Sun. Oct. 4, 2020 12:00 pm—Diaconate Meeting

Mon. Oct. 5, 2020—Newsletter Deadline

Tues. Oct. 6, 2020 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study



Upcoming Serving Schedule



September 27, 2020—17th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Nancy LeClear

Worship Leader ~ Barb Gimple

Children’s Message ~ Barb Gimple

October 4, 2020—18th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Marlene Hanson

Worship Leader ~ Marie Harding

Children’s Message ~ Judy Moore

October 11, 2020—19th Sunday after Pentecost

Elder ~ Marie Harding

Worship Leader ~ Diana Solis

Children’s Message ~ Nancy LeClear

Thoughts to Ponder

- The world is changed by example, not opinion.
- When life gets too hard to stand, just kneel.
- Wearing a cross will not make you a disciple. Carrying your cross does!
- Sleep peacefully. God is awake!
- Worrying doesn’t stop bad things from happening, it just stops you from enjoying the good.

**Lectionary Schedule
Sept. 27—Nov. 1, 2020**

**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

**October 11, 2020—19th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

**October 18, 2020—20th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

**October 25, 2020—21st Sunday
after Pentecost**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

**November 1, 2020—22nd Sunday
after Pentecost**

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Parking Reminder

Just a note from facilities committee, when coming up to the church during the week, you will need to stop by the office and get a red chalice emblem to put in your back window. This helps ESU Police Department, so they know you can park in the parking lots without getting a parking ticket. If you would happen to get one, take it to the church office. Also this brings up the handicap parking and if you need to park in one of the stalls please use your handicap parking placard so they know not to ticket your vehicle. Just a reminder. Our parking lot is used by several people.



Worship Service Time Change

We are moving our Worship Service back 10 minutes, so we will be starting at 10:40 am instead of 10:30 am each Sunday morning.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



Since the COVID19 pandemic started we have found several different ways to worship. Thank you to all who have contributed to our audio visual fund so some can join worship through Facebook Live. We are still collecting donations for this ministry so send your checks to the church and indicate in the memo it is for the AV fund.

Another form of at home worship is by receiving a written copy of the service either through an email or through the postal service. Sending the written services and our newsletters by mail requires postage so we could also use your help by providing stamps. If you want to participate in this way, please drop off or mail your postage stamps to the church office. We hope you find the ministry that brings blessings to you and others.

Lana Richardson, Treasurer

Family Sunday School at Home



Sunday School has not happened for children and youth at First Christian Church for 6 months because of the Corona Virus restrictions. Christian Learning does not stop. We found a way for Families to have Sunday School at Home.

Wednesday, October 7, families with children and youth will receive an email with the first lesson. The lessons are family oriented and will have the same theme for several mailings. There will be different approaches to the theme including Bible study, cooking, art, science, and games. There are short videos in some lessons. The lessons will take about 30 minutes if done all at once. Families will decide what works best for them in using the materials. Lessons will be emailed first and third Wednesday each month.

The first theme is The Lord's Prayer. Prayer is vital in this time of pandemic. We are looking forward to Family Sunday School at Home starting October 7.

Christian Education Ministry Team



Take ‘n Go Barbecue

Friday, Sept. 25th from 6 to 7:30 pm

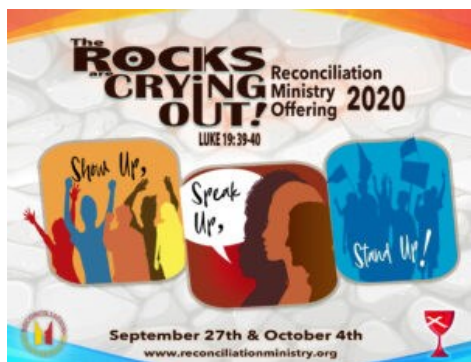
KDW Virtual Retreat

Friday, Oct. 2nd from 7 to 9 pm

Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 9 am to 12 pm

Christian Movie Group

Sunday, Oct. 11th at 3 pm



Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering

The Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering is used to fund our Church’s mission imperative to become a pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship, and intentional dialogue. Our efforts to promote healing, relationship, and restoration in the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities.

Recent events have reignited the conversation about human brokenness evidenced in the sin of racism and perpetuated in our institutional structures and systems. Your generous giving to Reconciliation Ministry is transforming lives and strengthening Christ’s witness in the world showing that we love one another, even as Christ continues to love us!

Donations on behalf of emergency grants to support impacted communities and congregations toward healing of racial unrest can be directed to the Reconciliation Annual Fund/Racial Justice Response.

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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 Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com
 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
Oct. 5, 2020 & Oct. 19, 2020



September—October 2020

20 • 10:40am Worship Service	21 Newsletter Deadline • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	22 • 10am Acts Bible Study	23	24 • 4pm Elders' Meeting • 5:30pm Friends of Troop 157 Meeting • 6:30pm Youth Mission Club	25 • 6pm Take 'n Go Barbecue	26 • 9am Sales in September
27 Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering • 10:40am Worship Service	28 • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	29 • 10am Acts Bible Study	30	Oct 1 • 4pm Leadership Team	2 • 7pm KDW Virtual Retreat	3 • 9am KDW Virtual Retreat
4 Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering • 10:40am Worship Service • 12pm Diaconate Meeting	5 Newsletter Deadline • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts - Offsite	6 • 10am Acts Bible Study	7 • 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance	8 • 4pm Elders' Study • 6:30pm Youth Mission Club	9	10

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. 30-34.

Kinnamon and Linn raise the awareness that there is a troubling silence of the Bible in church. It is not a new problem, but a prevalent one. Disciples' Biblical competence is falling silent mainly because of 2 factors: 1) the use of historical criticism in the study of the Bible has scared people away from study and 2) "Some of those who emphasize the Bible's authority sound as if there is only one way it can be interpreted—namely, theirs."

One of our founders, Alexander Campbell, left us with something rich—he gave us a genuinely critical spirit. His rules for study were grounded in a historical-critical approach to scripture, and "were intended to enhance its authority by enabling *all* church members to have a fresh hearing of the gospel." Campbell believed that all Christians could participate in study of the Bible—study was not reserved for clergy alone.

The authors reaffirm Disciples' stand on biblical authority. "At best, Disciples have known that the Bible is the book of the church, to be read and studied within the community of those who seek to stand 'within the understanding distance.' We have believed that the essential meaning of scripture, while we may disagree about parts of it, is not beyond our grasp, especially when guided by the best available biblical scholarship. We have felt no need to protect the Bible's authority from 'the most prying inquiry.' We have known that it does not lessen scripture's authority to acknowledge that it can become an idol if we venerate *it* instead of the God to whom it bears witness. And to receive that witness, we need to have knowledge of its contents."

Next time, *Recommendations for Disciples Practice . . .*