

August

August 24, 2021



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 77 NO. 16

AUGUST 24, 2021

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Reflections

Over the last several months, I have often been asked...*why Emporia? Why First Christian in Emporia?* I have been on the receiving end of this conversation from many here in Emporia. And I often think...*why not?* To share my answer with you, it is because I can feel (and see) the wonderful ways God is working through the wonderful people here at FCC Emporia.

During my conversations with the Search Committee, and others in the region, it is obvious that the beloved community lives out one of my favorite scriptures: *He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)* That is why I followed God's call here to Emporia.

As we begin our shared ministry together, there is so much to celebrate here at First Christian Church, as we also listen to the ways God is calling us to minister not only to one another but also to the Emporia of community and the world. May we open our eyes, our hearts, and our spirits to the ways God is calling us to be church...together.

Agape,
Tara

Join us for Worship

In Person Worship

We are 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. Our protocol has been updated and masks are required for worship and all church activities. Masks are available should anyone need one. Please continue to social distance and use hand sanitizer.

Currently we are not singing. We continue to use prepackaged communion. We hope to see you Sunday!

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!

With Sympathy

Member Robert Chatham, passed away Saturday, August 21st. Please keep the family in your prayers in their time of grief. A service will be held Monday, August 30th at 10:30am at First Christian Church of Emporia.



During the month of August, the food pantry helped **110 families** with food, plus **various other items**, including **44 doz. eggs**.



Our pantry continues to be a lifeline for those in our community (masks are required). 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.



Our Church Family Prayer List:

Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); **Sam Brock**; **Wanda Davis** (*hip rehab*); **Joe Denson** (*medical*); **Brooke Franklin** (*cancer*); **Diane Keylon**; **Dr. Tim & Paula Lavin and family** (*medical*); **Joe Lozier** (*brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Don McDiffet**, **Jeanice Miller**; **Karen Peterson** (*health*); and **Petra Williams**.



Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

August 15, 2021 ~ At Home/In Person Worship 42+
August 22, 2021 ~ At Home/In Person Worship 49+

GIVING RECORD

August 15, 2021 ~Offering \$2,126.00 / Building \$0.00
August 22, 2021 ~Offering \$1,500.00 / Building \$20.00

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August ANNIVERSARIES

31 Dave & Carolyn Meierhoff

September ANNIVERSARIES

02 Glenn & Barb Gimple

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

06 Kinzie Kurzen

06 Janece Bacon

06 Scott Thomas

07 Braxton Pauls

Upcoming Serving Schedule

August 29th, 2021

Elder~ Cameron Moore

Worship Leader~ George Arnett

Young Disciples~ Laurie Kurzen

September 5th, 2021

Elder~ Judy Moore

Worship Leader~ Jaylene Arnett

Young Disciples~ Nancy LeClear

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 9:30am— Sunday School

Sundays at 10:40 am—Worship Service via In Person & Facebook Live (masks required)

Mondays from 9:00—11:00 am—Food Pantry

Mondays at 7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Fridays from 3:00—6:00 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Saturdays from 9:00 am—12:00 pm—Clothes Closet (Masks required for CC&HH) & Household Hut

Thur. Aug. 26, 2021 4:00pm— Elders' Meeting

Thur. Aug. 26, 2021 5:30pm— COVID Task Force Meeting

Sun. Sept. 5, 2021 12:00pm— Diaconate Meeting

Mon. Sept. 6, 2021— Labor Day/Office Closed

Tues. Sept. 7, 2021— Newsletter Deadline

Tues. Sept. 7, 2021 10:00am— Worship Ministry Meets

Wed. Sept. 8, 2021 1:30pm— DWF Group

Wed. Sept. 8, 2021 6:00pm— Stewardship Ministry Meets

Thurs. Sept. 9, 2021 4:00pm— Elders' Study



DUE TO A FUNERAL,
THE FOOD PANTRY WILL
BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
AUGUST 30TH.
THANK YOU!

Lectionary Schedule August 29– September 19, 2021

August 29, 2021

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2,6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

September 5, 2021

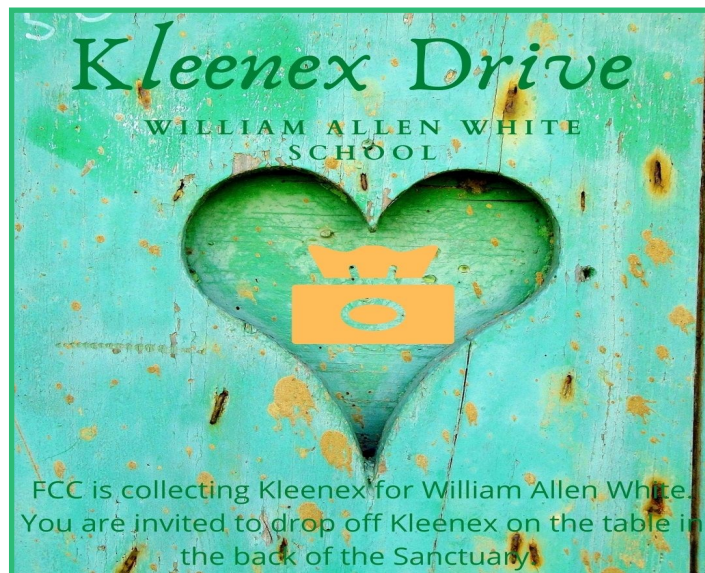
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10,(11-13),14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 12, 2021

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
Mark 8:27-38

September 19, 2021

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37



FCC is collecting Kleenex for William Allen White. You are invited to drop off Kleenex on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

First Christian Church will be getting t-shirts! You can order them by calling or emailing the church. There will also be an order form located on the table in the entryway.

FCC T-SHIRTS



S-XL:\$14, 2XL and UP: \$16

Children and Youth Sunday School Classes

<p>Nursery (Infant-age 2) 9:30-10:25am Church-Nursery Teachers: Michaela and Rachel (nursery attendants)</p>	<p>Pre-school (PreK-Kindergarten) 9:30-10:25am Church-Nursery Teachers: Rita Headrick or Sonya Lunde</p>
<p>Love Station (Grades 1-5) 9:30-10:25am 2nd room on south side of top floor Teachers: Lisa Rickabaugh or Nik Roth</p>	<p>Youth Class (Grades 6-10) 9:30-10:25am Basement behind stage Teacher: Pastor Tara Thompson</p>

According to Church Covid Policy all persons over 2 will wear masks.



First Christian Church
202 E. 12th Ave.

BUY ONE, GET ONE
(Clothes Closet ONLY)
in August!!

Clothes Closet and Household Hut

FRIDAYS, 3-6PM
SATURDAYS, 9AM-12NOON
FACE MASKS REQUIRED!!



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Food Pantry

202 E. 12th Ave.
Mondays, 9-11am
FACE MASKS REQUIRED!

Helping families in our community!

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

THE GAZETTE, EMPORIA, KANSAS

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THOMPSON NEW PASTOR AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

BY MEGAN SANDO
megan@emporia.com

Rev. Tara Thompson has always felt a pull toward ministry, and for her, the next step on her journey is serving as pastor at the First Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Emporia, the congregation that welcomed her last month.

Thompson is a Springfield, Mo., native who received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Mo. She earned her Master of Divinity Degree from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa. She moved from Salina after serving at the Belmont Boulevard Christian Church.

"I was very involved in the church back at home [in Springfield], also a Disciples of Christ church, from a young age," she said.

In her junior year at

MSSU, Thompson decided to take a summer class in France. She traveled to Grenoble for a week, and it was in Paris that she made a decision after being at a crossroads in her life about whether to go to seminary or get a master's degree in counseling.

"We were at Notre Dame, and I went to the corner, lit a candle, prayed and I felt a call to seminary," she said.

She has now been in congregational ministry for 18 years.

Over time, she said her faith has deepened.

"I have a deeper understanding that God is always there, and I've learned I experience God through other people," she said. "I experience God through the love of other people and through serving other people, and also people loving and serving me as well. We're all in this together, and when we join



TIM MOHR/GAZETTE

forces there's nothing we can't do."

Thompson said she chose First Christian Church in Emporia partly for its service to the community, such

as offering a clothes closet, household hut, food pantry and more.

"As people of faith, there is always more we can do," she said. "We each can grow

in our ways, and see how we can grow in our faith walk together, and be community, and God will show us what that looks like."

Thompson also relies on

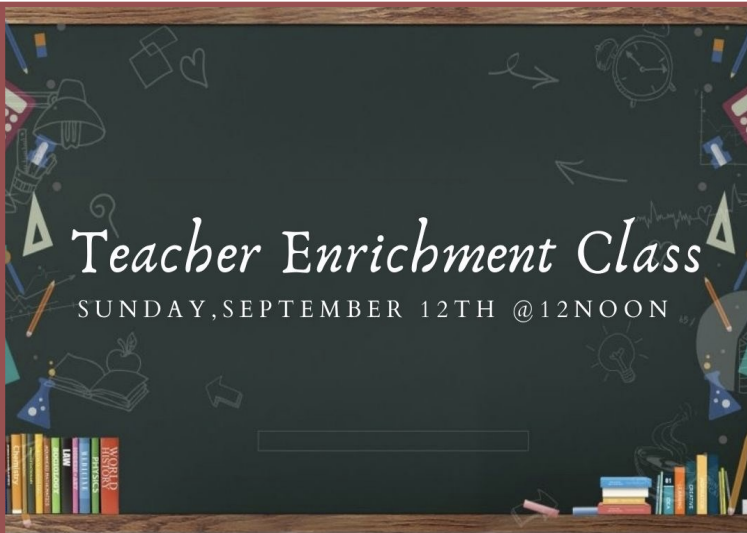
the strength and support of mentors. She attended Bethany Fellows, a four-year-long mentoring program for new clergy. Two times a year, the program met for a week-long retreat.

"I have so many mentors from Bethany," she said. "I may not talk to them for a year but somehow my mentor Mark knows when I'm going through a difficult time, and I get a text saying 'I sense something is going on, I'm praying for you.'"

She also credits Phil Snider of Springfield as an "amazing mentor and supporter" of her.

Thompson is a mother to a 2-year-old foster child to whom she devotes her free time.

"We love the zoo, Peter Pan Park, going for walks, going swimming," she said. "Really my free time is all about him and doing things with him."



Teacher Enrichment Class

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH @12NOON



Volunteers Needed!

First Christian Church is looking for volunteers on Sundays to help run the sound and PowerPoint for the church service. Training is available.

Please call 620-342-1582 or email fccoffices@yahoo.com if interested!

-Thank You

First Christian Church



202 East 12th Avenue
620-342-1582 Church Office
Web Page www.fccemporio.org
Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com



“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.”

NEW Office Hours Starting Aug. 23rd.

Monday- 8:00-11:30

Tuesday- 7:30-12:00

Wednesday- 7:30-12:00

Thursday- 8:00-11:30

Friday- 8:00-12:00

Next Newsletter Deadline
September 7 & September 20, 2021



August 22– September 11 2021

Weekly Events

Sundays at 9:30am~ Sunday School

Sundays at 10:40am~ Worship Service

Monday's from 9:00am- 11:00am~ Food Pantry

Mondays at 7:00pm~ Boy Scouts

Fridays from 3:00pm- 6:00pm~ Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Saturdays from 9:00am- 12:00pm~ Clothes Closet & Household Hut

AUGUST

Monday **23**

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday **26**

4:00pm~ Elders' Meeting
5:30pm~ COVID Task Force Meeting

Tuesday **7**

Newsletter Deadline
10:00am~ Worship Ministry Meets

Wednesday **8**

1:30pm~ DWF
6:00pm~ Stewardship Ministry Meets

SEPTEMBER

Sunday **5**

12:00pm~ Diaconate Meeting

Monday **6**

Labor Day Office Closed

Thursday **9**

4:30 pm~ Elders' Study
6:30pm~ Youth Mission Club

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. 41

The Lord's Supper: One Table Many Guests

Presiding at the Table

Unity was also why Campbell insisted that any Christian can preside at the Lord's table. "All Christians are members of the family or house of God," he wrote, and, thus, "are called and constituted a royal and holy priesthood." This understanding of unity is also a part of our identity. As members of Christ's own family, Campbell said, we "are called and constituted a holy and a royal priesthood." Thus, he continued, elders may "bless God for the Lord's table, its loaf and cup, and approach it without fear." This was not a unity of human origin, Campbell believed that the oneness Christians share with one another was the by-product of the bread and cup being commemorative of Jesus' death on the cross. "Ties that spring from eternal love," he wrote, "revealed in blood, and addressed to his senses, draw forth all that is within [Christians] of complacent affection and feeling to those joints heirs with [them] of the grace of eternal life." Campbell, therefore quotes the old chorus, "Bless be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

The oneness of the body of Christ symbolized by the love of God to which the Lord's Supper points is why celebrating it at "every stated meeting" of the church was the "capital proposition" on which Campbell was most insistent. He believed that everything else about "the breaking of the loaf" was preliminary to this purpose. Observance at every gathering was essential to the nurture of the moral health of the Christian community. From what he said about it, it was clear that for Campbell what the Lord's Supper represented made it the heart of Christian worship. For Campbell the bread and the cup were symbols of an act of God, and the institution of the Lord's Supper itself as the which no person other than Jesus could have so established.