

September 7, 2021

First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

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Reflections

Labor Day was yesterday, signaling the official end of summer. Kids are back at school. ESU has been buzzing with students for several weeks now. Pumpkin flavored EVERYTHING will soon be hitting the grocery store aisles, while Christmas decorations are already making their appearance at Hobby Lobby. The changes of the seasons remind us that God is always creating and doing something new in our world, and within us. The same is true here at First Christian Church.

As I said in the Board Meeting a couple of weeks ago, COVID might have caused us to change course again this fall, but it canNOT stop us from doing God's work and spreading the GOOD NEWS. We are excited to offer several new educational and fellowship opportunities for you as you continue your walk with Christ.

Teacher Enrichment Class. We are excited to have in-person Sunday school up and going after some time off. We will be offering a Teacher Enrichment Class for all Sunday school teachers on Sunday, September 12th, after worship.

Noontime Prayers. We hope you can join us on Facebook Live at 12:15 on Tuesdays beginning September 7th for Noontime Prayers. During Noontime Prayers, we will share in prayer with one another while also learning about different ways to enhance and strengthen our prayer lives.

Facebook Storytime. We hope kids of all ages will join us for Facebook Storytime on Facebook Live at 7 pm on Thursdays beginning September 9th.

We will see you at church and on Facebook! Shalom, 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 require 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!

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.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS

During the month of September, the food pantry helped **12 families** with food, plus **various other items,** including **12 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: Isaac Arnett; Lonnie Atchison (cancer); Wanda Davis (hip rehab); Joe Denson (medical); Brooke Franklin (cancer); Joy Frevert's



brother & family; Ron Hopkins (Bill Hopkins' brother); Karla (the Hardings' daughter-in-law's mother); Diane Keylon; Joe Lozier (brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton); Steve Martin (stem cell cancer treatment); Don McDiffet, and Jeanice Miller.



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Upcoming Serving Schedule

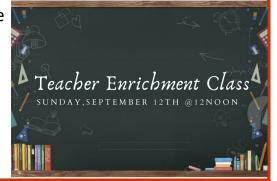
<u>September 12th, 2021</u> <u>Elder</u>~ Janece Bacon <u>Worship Leader</u>~ Nancy LeClear <u>Young Disciples</u>~ Marlene Hanson

<u>September 19th, 2021</u> <u>Elder</u>~ Jaylene Arnett <u>Worship Leader</u>~ Cameron Moore <u>Young Disciples</u>~ Judy Moore

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 Tuesdays at 12:15 pm– Noontime Prayers Thursdays at 7:00 pm – Facebook Storytime 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 Wed. Sept. 8, 2021 1:30pm- DWF Group Wed. Sept. 8, 2021 6:00pm– Stewardship Ministry Meets Thurs. Sept. 9, 2021 6:15pm- Youth Mission Club Sun. Sept. 12, 2021 2:00pm– Teacher Enrichment Class Mon. Sept. 13, 2021 11:30am– Worship Ministry Meets Tue. Sept. 14, 2021 3:30pm– Christian Ed. Meeting Wed. Sept. 15, 2021 6:15pm- Board Meeting Mon. Sept. 20, 2021– Newsletter Deadline Thurs. Sept 23, 2021 4:00pm- Elders' Meeting Thurs. Sept. 23, 2021 6:15pm– Youth Mission Club

Pastor Tara is going to present a Teacher Enrichment Class on Sunday, September 12 from 2:00 to 3:00

p.m. by Zoom. This class will help those working with Children and Youth find ways to feel confident in their role and find ways to be effective.



Lectionary Schedule September 12– October 3, 2021

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

September 26, 2021

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50

October 3, 2021

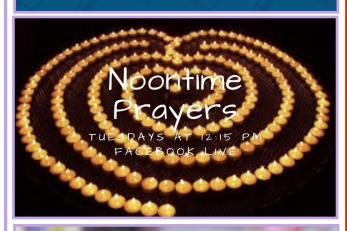
Job 1:1,2:1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16

Parables of Jesus Study Opportunity

September 12, during Sunday School at 9:30, a class is starting to study The Parables of Jesus. Jesus is a master storyteller in the Parables he told. In the Parables, Jesus takes an everyday occurrence, something everyone is familiar with and then throws it along a concept about the Kingdom of God. You might say the Parables of Jesus are stories with Christianity Illustrated. Some say they are earthly stories with a heavenly meaning. When we study the Parables, we realize Jesus is talking about struggles we face and the tremendous promise that lies ahead of us.

The study material is titled "Imagine Life God's Way". There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Parlor, or you can call the Church Office to let us know you want to attend the study. Jaylene Arnett will be leading the study. Stay up to date on what's happening at FCC through Remind. If you would like to receive updates via text, please let the office knowl

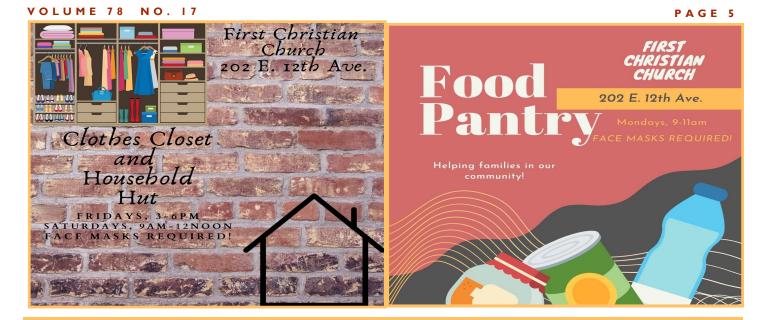
remind



Stony Time







DWF News



DWF is meeting once again in person on Wednesday, September 8th . If you would prefer to join us on Zoom instead, please let the office know so that we can send you an invitation. Judy Moore will be in charge of the Women's Group lesson. There will be no refreshments served. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Members of the corona virus task force met August 26th to review and discuss policies to assure we are taking proper precautions to prevent the spread of the virus. In August, the Church Board voted unanimously to require masks for all church activities. In consideration for the safety of all church participants, children and adults, the task force agreed that the following additional precautions be taken:

- No snacks or food consumption by groups inside the building (outside at social distance okay) •
- Funeral luncheons will be take out only

Receptions will have wrapped food so people can take with them rather than staying to eat and socialize • indoors.

No snacks indoors during DWF meetings, committee meetings, Sunday School classes or nursery during wor-٠ ship

No Potluck meals/dinners •

As an added safety measure for our youngest children, keeping in mind that those under 2 years of age are not required to wear masks, only children with masks will come from the nursery for the Young Disciples Moment. (children's message)

We are going through masks pretty quickly so please wear your own mask to church if possible. Masks will continue to be available if someone needs one. Donations of disposable masks or money toward the purchase would be welcomed!

Committee members will continue to watch Lyon County numbers and review recommendations based on those numbers and our situation here at the church. If you have suggestions or comments please contact any of the Covid Task Force members: Nancy LeClear, Alan Richardson, John Harding, Carl Richardson, Marie Harding, Janet Lostutter, Jaylene Arnett, or Pastor Tara Thompson.



Prayer of Remembrance For 9/11

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

This day does not pass in the calendar without our remembering. We remember images of death and destruction. Images that human eyes were never meant to see. We remember words our ears were never meant to hear, the tender last words of husbands and wives who would never embrace again.

We imagine the feeling of emptiness in the arms of children who at the end of the day could not find mom or dad for their welcome home hug. We remember our own feelings of emptiness as our sense of security, as our own confidence in the predictable order of life and work was radically shaken.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

We remember the heroism of the many that lost their lives in saving others. We remember all those who suffered and died, we grieve for them still, friends and strangers alike, along with their families and friends.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

And it is right that it should not pass from our memory. But today and in this prayer, along with our remembrance of profound loss, it also seems right that we give voice to our deep longing for peace, and with this prayer, commit ourselves to those actions that will draw us closer to our most ancient and most holy desire, peace among all God's children.

Dona nobis pacem.

Lord, grant us peace. Amen.