



January 24th, 2023



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 72 NO. 2

JANUARY 24, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Join Us For At Home Worship	2
Serving Schedule	2
Food Pantry	2
Prayer List	2
Giving	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Mark the Dates	3
DWF Meeting	3
Welcome New Member	3
Food Pantry	4
Clothes Closet & Household Hut	4
Valentines Luncheon	4
Transition Team	5
Notes From The Board	5
Church Contacts Information	6
Calendar	6
Family Promise	6

Reflection

Dear Friends,

We had a great experience with the first half of our Appreciative Inquiry on Sunday, January 22. Next Sunday, January 29, we'll complete the second half of this exercise. As we finished up yesterday, the group decided to modify worship again to include prayers and communion followed by the Appreciative Inquiry. This second half of this exercise calls for your imagination and creativity to be engaged. I hope you will come with both ready to contribute to the ongoing conversation.

In case you missed it, we began with paired interviews framed with this opening statement:

We find ourselves, like many churches across the country, at a pivotal point in time. Aging congregations, shrinking numbers, and stretched too-thin budgets leave us asking what comes next. What we know is that all of us have found connection, compassion, and spiritual grounding/growth as a result of being a part of this congregation, and none of us wants to lose that. We have lived the benefit of such a community; we know the value and want to continue to share that with others. At a time when transitions among community institutions come at an exponentially increasing pace, perhaps it is time for us to step back and explore together what we are being called to now. What does our transition look like? How might we increase our relevance and impact in the Emporia community? How might we expand our circle of connection, compassion, and spiritual growth in ways that reach community members where they are? Instead of focusing on holding on to what seems to be slipping away, our conversations today will be about possibility. This interview invites you to tap into the non-material heart of our congregation and faith, and draw upon your creative thinking and knowledge about the community so we can explore how we might keep that heart vital and serving our deepest purpose.

This statement continues to frame our next steps. Next Sunday, we'll begin with a recap of last Sunday's work and then continue with the next steps:

1. Dream - create shared images of a preferred future.
2. Design - innovate ways to create the shared future.
3. Destiny - live out your design and make changes as needed.

Please plan to participate in this energizing conversation.

Peace,
Dale

Join us for Worship
In Person Worship

We are meeting at the church for worship at 10:40 a.m. on Sunday mornings! We are using pre-packaged communion. We hope to see you Sunday!

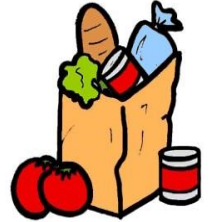
At Home Worship on Facebook/Vimeo



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! Find us on Vimeo at **First Christian Church— Emporia.**



During the month of January , the food pantry helped **108 families** with food, plus **various other items**, including **5 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.

Church Family Prayer List

Mark Davis, **Marilyn Dalton's** Cousin

Joy Frevert's Friend

Dick Hubert

Marla, Friend of **Anita's**

Max- **Janece Bacon's** Brother

Jennifer & Michael

Jeanice Miller, Kenny Miller

Jacob Ramirez Son of Sonya Ihde

JoAnn Rincon, Friend of **Marilyn Dalton**

Dee Thompson & Bill Simpson

Brooklyn Quick, **Jeanice Miller's** Great-Granddaughter

~The church as we go through the transition process
 with Pastor Dale Matherly~

Upcoming Serving Schedule

January 29th, 2023

Elder~ Janece Bacon

February 5th, 2023

Elder~ Janis Thogmartin

Worship Leader~ Nancy LeClear

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

January 15th, 2023 ~ SS 17/50 AH & IP Worship

January 22nd, 2023 ~ SS 10/32 AH & IP Worship

GIVING RECORD

Jan. 15th, 2023 ~ Offering \$1,395.00/ Building \$5.00/
 Special Offering \$50.00

Jan. 22nd, 2023 ~ Offering \$1,245.00/ Building \$20.00



Birthdays and Anniversaries

JANUARY Anniversaries

28 Larry & Glenna Gamblian

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

05 Jim & Judy Moore

JANUARY Birthdays

- 26 Curtis Rhoades
- 27 Ginger Blades
- 29 Ed Mercer Jr.
- 29 Joe Witten
- 29 Tim Norton

Mark The Dates

Sundays at 9:30am— Sunday School

Sundays at 10:40 am—Worship Service
via In Person & Facebook Live

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 & Household Hut

Feb. 6, 2023—Newsletter Deadline

Feb. 6, 2023 1:30pm—Worship Ministry Meets

Feb. 6, 2023 4:00pm—Elders’ Meeting/Study

Feb. 8, 2023 1:30pm—DWF Group

Feb. 8 2023 4:00pm—Stewardship Meeting

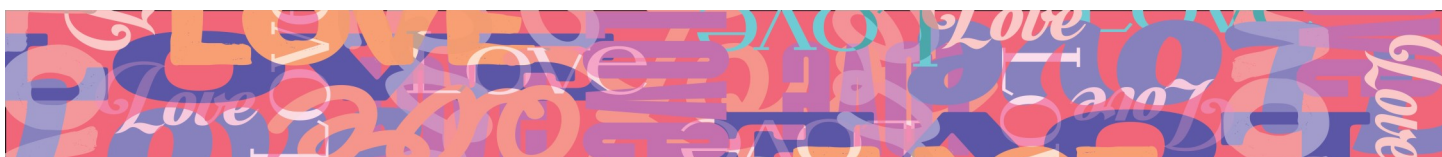
WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY

WE WILL BE
GLAD
TO SEE YOU!

DWF MEETING
IN PERSON
FEBRUARY 8TH
1:30 PM



First Christian Church
would like to welcome
new member
Mimi Roux



**Lectionary Schedule
January 29th, 2023—
February 19th, 2023**

January 29th, 2023

Micah 6:1-8
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12
Psalm 15

February 5th, 2023

Isaiah 58:1-9a(9b-12)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)

February 12th, 2023

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37
Psalm 119:1-8

February 19th, 2023

Exodus 24:12-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9
Psalm 2



From the Transition Team

- **Thanks** to all who completed the energy assessment form! We know it was quite a task and appreciate your time and thought in filling it out and returning it. We are in the process of compiling the information.
- **Thanks also** to those who attended the first session of the Appreciative Inquiry last Sunday. A lot was accomplished through sharing stories, thoughts, and using that information to consider what is important to our church family.
- **To finish this important activity, please come this coming Sunday, January 29.**
 - * The format will be the same
 - * Sunday School as usual
 - * A brief but meaningful worship time
 - * Move to the Parlor for lunch (provided by Diana Solis and Lisa Rickabaugh) and continuation of the activity.
 - * We will be finished by 1:30 or before



Notes From The Board

Upcoming events/items:

Feb 19 – Lenten devotionals will be available

Feb 12 – Valentine luncheon following worship, for all, with games to play

Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday – 11:00 – 1:00 – come and go with prayer stations

Feb 27 – 11:00 am first Lenten Adult Study led by Pastor Dale; study will continue each Monday for 6 sessions, ending on April 3

Mar 10 – We will host the Ministerial Alliance Friday Lenten soup luncheon and devotional; Other churches will host the other Fridays during Lent; a schedule will be provided

- Crosswinds Therapeutic Preschool lease is now month-to-month as they will move to their new building later in 2023.
- Check out the display case in the Parlor prepared by Marilyn Dalton with Valentine decorations which list caring ministries of the church.
- A Nominating Committee is being formed; those appointed so far: Marlene Hanson, Janece Bacon, Joy Frevert and Lana Richardson
- Due to Pastor Dale being gone on the date of the February Board meeting (15th), and no particular business anticipated, it was decided there would not be a February Board meeting unless it was necessary to call one.

Next scheduled Board meeting is March 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Parlor

Marie Harding, Board Secretary

First Christian Church

202 East 12th Avenue

620-342-1582 Church Office

Web Page: www.fcemporio.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."

Office Hours

Monday- 8:00-12:00

Tuesday- 8:00-12:00

Wednesday- 8:00-12:00

Thursday- 8:00-12:00

Friday- 8:00-12:00



Next Newsletter Deadline

February 6th, 2023 & February 20th, 2023



January 9—January 23rd, 2023

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

*Even through troubled waters
God is with you*
Isaiah 43:2

FEBRUARY

Monday **6**

Newsletter Deadline
1:30pm ~ Worship
Ministry Meets
4:00pm ~ Elders' Meeting/Study

Wednesday **8**

1:30pm ~ DWF Group
4:00pm ~ Stewardship Meets



2022 was a year of growth and adaptation.

In 2022, Family Promise of the Flint Hills switched shelter models and launched new programs to be able to serve more people in the community. We served 35 families, comprising 119 individuals. 17 of those families were served in the Prevention program that we launched in May and 18 were served in the shelter program. Family Promise of the Flint Hills was able to successfully help 84% of our families maintain or gain stable housing.

Important Data from 2022

Average cost to shelter a family: \$1,770.31

Average cost to put a shelter family into housing: \$1,203.46

Total nights of shelter provided: 696 nights

Average length of shelter stay for families: 37 days

Average cost of prevention services for a family: \$685.61

You can make a difference in 2023!

As noted above, Family Promise of the Flint Hills experienced a lot of growth in 2022 and we anticipate even more growth in 2023. Our goal is to serve more families in every capacity. However, we can't do it alone!