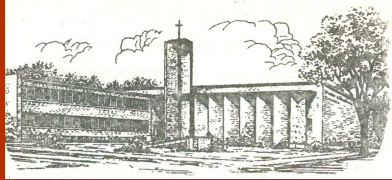




July 11, 2023



# First Christian Church News (Disciples of Christ)

VOLUME 72 NO. 13

JULY 11, 2023

## Reflection

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, notes, and calls over the past few weeks as I've wrestled with this illness. I'm still not sure the nature of what is going on but I'm thankful for healthcare providers who can help me during this time. I am especially thankful for my spouse, Traci, who has offered her tremendous support and care in this time.

Connections are important. I think you know that already. I see it lived out in your communal life together. I've told the elders this already; perhaps, it is the moment to say it to all of you. You take tremendous care of one another through the shepherding groups and your regular check-ins with one another. These acts are acts of love. I define love as seeking the spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual well-being of another. Your care for one another is love. It is my hope that you continue to embody this love of your neighbor and yourselves in all the ministry you do as God's people.

Peace,  
Dale

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**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!

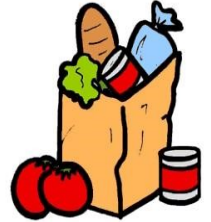
**At Home Worship on Facebook/Vimeo**



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 July, the food pantry helped **108 families** with food, plus **various other items**, including **15 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*

**Sharon Ball & Family**

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

**Joy Frevert's** Friend

**Dick Hubert**

Paul Martinez, Friend of the **Arnett's**

Hunter McCoy, **Chad & Laurie Kurzen's** Nephew,

**Jaiden & Kinzie Kurzen's** Cousin

Jennifer & Michael

**Jeanice Miller**, Kenny Miller

Jacob Ramirez Son of Sonya Ihde

JoAnn Rincon, Friend of **Marilyn Dalton**

**Dee Thompson**

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

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

**Upcoming Serving Schedule**

**July 16th, 2023**

**Elder**~ Janece Bacon

**Worship Leader**~ Jaylene Arnett

**July 23rd, 2023**

**Elder**~ Judy Moore

**Worship Leader**~ Janet Lostutter

**Attendance and Giving Record**

**ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD**

July 2nd, 2023 ~ SS 3/25 AH & IP Worship

July 9th, 2023 ~ SS 4/42 AH & IP Worship

**GIVING RECORD**

July 2nd, 2023 ~ Offering \$1,045.00

July 9th, 2023 ~ Offering \$610.00



13 Jeffry & Vicki Cole



24 Joy Frevert  
 26 Jared Johnson  
 26 Brayden Dill  
 28 Dorothy Boyce



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

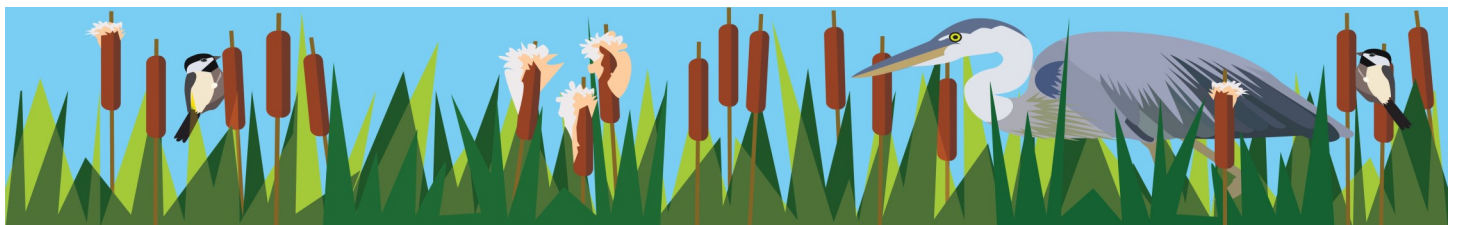
Fridays from 3:00—6:00 pm—Clothes Closet &  
 Household Hut

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

July 12, 2023 4:00pm—Stewardship Meeting

July 19, 2023 6:00pm—Board Meeting

July 24, 2023—Newsletter Deadline



# Lectionary Schedule July 16th, 2023— August 6th, 2023

## July 16th, 2023

Genesis 25:19-34  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23  
Psalm 119:105-112

## July 23rd, 2023

Genesis 28:10-19a  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43  
Psalm 86:11-77

## July 30th, 2023

Genesis 29:15-28  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52  
Psalm 128

## August 6th, 2023

Genesis 32:22-31  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21  
Psalm 17:1-7,15



**FOOD PANTRY**

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
202 E. 12TH AVE.

**Mondays, 9-11am**

*Helping families in our community!*

**CLOTHES  
CLOSET &  
HOUSEHOLD HUT**

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
202 E. 12TH AVE.

**Fridays, 3-6pm  
Saturdays, 9am-12pm**



# ATTENTION

Now that we are in the process of beginning to downsize and clean out the church building the congregation is invited to visit the church library between now and the end of July to take any of the available books for your own personal library. There are plenty of adult, young adult, and children's books to choose from. Please stop by and select the books you would like to have. Any questions please feel free to contact a member of the transition team.



First Christian Church.  
202 E. 12th Ave. Emporia, KS 66835  
620-342-1582

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

- |                         |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 16 oz Jar Peanut Butter | Ramen Noodles           | Soup                    |
| 15 oz Can Fruits        | Toilet Paper            | Pork N Beans            |
| 15 oz Can Vegetables    | 5 oz Can Tuna & Chicken | Instant Oatmeal Packets |
|                         | Mac N Cheese            | Saltine Crackers        |

*Thank you for your help!*



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

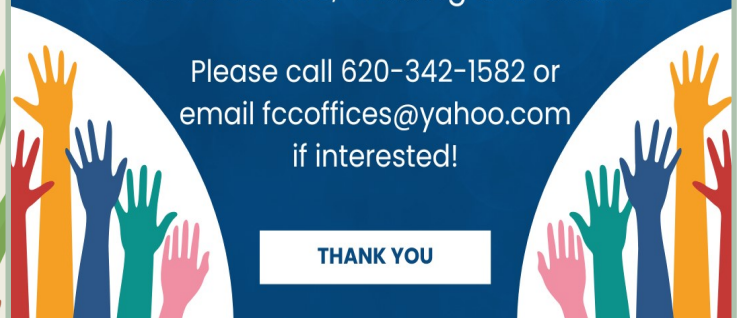


**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!  
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

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](mailto:fccoffices@yahoo.com) if interested!

THANK YOU



## First Christian Church

202 East 12th Avenue

620-342-1582 Church Office

Web Page: [www.fcemporio.org](http://www.fcemporio.org)

Email Office: [fccoffices@yahoo.com](mailto: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

July 24th, 2023 & August 7th, 2023



July 12th—July 24th, 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*

**Wednesday 12**  
4:00pm ~ Stewardship Meeting

**Wednesday 19**  
6:00pm ~ Board Meeting

**Monday 24**  
Newsletter Deadline

As you continue to reflect on and practice forgiveness, I encourage you to join with me in praying this prayer from Bishop Desmond Tutu:

I want to be willing to forgive  
But I dare not ask for the will to forgive  
in case you give it to me  
and I am not yet ready  
I am not yet ready for my heart to soften  
I am not yet ready to be vulnerable again  
Not yet ready to see that there is humanity in my tormentor's eyes  
Or that the one who hurt me may also have cried  
I am not yet ready for the journey  
I am not yet interested in the path  
I am at the prayer before the prayer of forgiveness  
Grant me the will to want to forgive  
Grant it to me not yet but soon

Can I even form the words  
Forgive me?  
Dare I even look?  
Do I dare to see the hurt I have caused?

I can glimpse all the shattered pieces of that fragile thing  
That soul trying to rise on the broken wings of hope  
But only out of the corner of my eye  
I am afraid of it  
And if I am afraid to see  
How can I not be afraid to say  
Forgive me?

Is there a place where we can meet?  
You and me  
The place in the middle  
The no man's land  
Where we straddle the lines  
Where you are right  
And I am right too  
And both of us are wrong and wronged  
Can we meet there?  
And look for the place where the path begins  
The path that ends when we forgive  
Amen.