

The Church Bell

September 1, 2021

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327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101-3003 (573-636-5157)

A God Who Draws Us

Dr. Jim Hill
Interim Senior Minister

School is starting, and summer is drawing to a close. The days are starting to get shorter, and our normal schedules are resuming with the necessary pandemic precautions. The summer season is often a time when we break out of our normal routines. Many people take vacations and trips, and we find time for a variety of summer activities. It is good to have a break from our normal routines. While I enjoy summer, the fall has always been my favorite time of the year. I enjoy the changing of the seasons. The cooler evenings and the changing leaves seem to draw me to the fall each year. We are all drawn by a variety of things in our lives. Sometimes we are drawn to a season or by a particular event or by a special occasion.

When I was just a boy, I began to sense God's presence, and I began to sense him drawing me to him. I grew up in the church. My father was called to a small mission congregation in north Missouri just prior to my birth. Obviously, as the son of the pastor, I was involved in everything that happened at church. I learned all the traditional Bible stories as a child, and I was one of the children the teachers could always call on for all the right answers. But, one Sunday during a worship service I began to sense something new. I began to understand that the stories I knew were not merely interesting stories. They were stories about God, but they were also stories about me. I began to see myself in the stories, and I began to sense God speaking to me from the stories. I began to sense God tugging on my heart and life. I shared my thoughts and experiences with my parents, and they provided wise and patient encouragement without rushing my decision. One evening at home several months later following a revival meeting at church I shared with my father that I wanted to accept Jesus as my personal Savior. We prayed together, and as a boy I invited Christ into my heart and life.

Someone once told me that becoming a Christian is committing all you know about yourself to all you know about God and letting your commitment grow. Obviously, I know more about God today than I did as a boy. I have also learned a lot about "Jim" that I did not know as a child, but my commitment of my life to Christ was real and life changing. That first tugging upon my heart and life that I felt as a child was not the only time God has drawn me to himself. Many times throughout my life God's Spirit has used circumstances or scripture or the words of a friend to speak to me. He used the words of a friend in college to help me begin the process of discerning my call to ministry. He has often spoken to me with fresh words from the pages of the scripture.

The Christian life is a journey of faith. With each new day he speaks to us in so many ways, helping us to know him more deeply, and leading us to discover his will for our lives. He "draws" us to himself. Sometimes we are listening, and we sense his Spirit drawing us. Sometimes we miss his invitations. I hope you will join us for worship on the Lord's Day as bring our praise and we listen for his call.

REMINDER: We are working to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. It is out of care that First Christian Church highly recommends that all worshiping with us wear a mask to protect yourselves and more importantly out of respect for others. This is the current recommendation of the CDC and other medical experts for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people when indoors in high infection areas, like Cole County.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for these

Gene Adkison, Beverly Anderson, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Nellie Campbell, Richard Carroll, Darlene Charles, Georgiale Dallas, Doug Defreece, Nancy Dunwiddie, Marilyn Gross, John & Barbara Gulick, Cheryl Hanson, Norma Hasselman, Jeanette Hickman, Venita Jackson, Brooks Jarrett, Shirley Jarrett, Jessica Kozlen, Emily Lane, Vivian Murphy, Jackie Possinger, Kathy Speidel, Elaine West, Doris Yelton, Our Country and our men and women serving our country, the world, safe travels

*Individuals will be kept on our prayer list for **four weeks** at a time. At the end of four weeks, please give Kathy a call at 573.636.5157 or email her Kathy@firstchristianjcmo.org, if you would like continued prayers for an individual. Thank you!*

Members in Care Centers

BLUEGRASS TERRACE

Glenda Crow

HEISINGER

Richard Carroll

Shirley Ferguson

Barbara Nikodyn

Norma Woodson

JC MANOR

Jackie Possinger

OAK TREE VILLA

Georgiale Dallas

Shirley Jarrett

Emily Lane

PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Norma Hasselman

Wendell & Myra Hubbs

Jessie Schell

ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

Doris Yelton

THE TIMBERS

Marilyn Gross

VILLA MARIE

Terry Fockler

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Mariam Craddock

OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

Betty Schramm

Betty Schulte

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

SEPT
3
Benjamin Huedepohl <i>Rich & Carolyn Green</i> <i>Matt Tollerton & Casey Gentry</i>
4
Steven Claycomb Michael Crocker Jim Wells Jordan Woodson
5
Marge Blosser
6
Taylor Mann Tony Ramirez
7
Steven Brown Dean Love
9
Bruce Wibberg

10
Max Cook Kara Knight Keith Krueger Ryan Nolte Jesse Underwood
11
Sherry Anderson Lynleigh Lane Lejla Williams <i>Jon & Jane Beetem</i>
13
Otis Baker Casey Underwood
14
Sally Robuck
15
Alexis Engelbrecht-Villafane Bill Fallert Jeanne Ruth <i>Cecile Landrum</i> <i>Steve Waters</i>
16
Evelyn Ward

17
Kay Newberry Nora Veglard
18
Linda Heller
19
Willadean Jackson <i>David Durbin & Carrie Colvin</i> <i>Bill & Gabee Fallert</i>
20
Emmett Bryant <i>Jim & Diane Jones</i>
21
Emma Love <i>Richard & Catherine Vaughan</i>
22
Haris Williams
23
Rick Andris Matthew Woodson

24
Timothy Ramirez Tara Vegiard
25
Sherry Jordan Dustin Kuebler Virjean Martin <i>Terry & Sharon Fockler</i>
26
Greg Francis Bob Jordan Ed Legge <i>Casey Gentry</i>
27
Rebecca Baker-Bey Venita Jackson Ann Littlefield Martha Jo Roberts
29
Stan Humphreys John Oehring <i>Jeff & Gretchen Huedepohl</i>
30
Kathy Dunwiddie

Updates from Rev. Alexis

Coffee House Open Office Hours for September

My Open Coffee House Hours will resume next week on Tuesday, September 7 from 8:30 AM-10:30 AM at the Coffee Zone (130 E. High Street). You're welcome to join me for coffee and conversation at any point during the time frame on September 7, September 14, September 21, and September 28. As weather and space permit, I plan to be sitting at one of the tables outside.

While RSVP's are not required, it helps to know if you plan to stop by so I can look forward to seeing you.

You can also email me at Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org to arrange another time to meet.

Learning Opportunity from the Mid-America Region

Israel and Palestine: Toward a Greater Understanding

I have been preparing a special webinar with our Mid-America Regional Ministers, Rev. Paul Koch and Rev. Ron Routledge that will provide information for our region about the ongoing complexities in Israel and Palestine on Wednesday, September 1 from 7-8:15 PM via Zoom. Both individuals and church groups are welcome to attend. You may submit questions in advance using this form:

<https://forms.gle/EFjcQ8ZLhg8an4wm9>.

You can learn more and access the Zoom link here: <https://www.mid-america-disciples.org/upcoming-events/2021/7/30/israel-and-palestine-toward-a-greater-understanding>

You're also welcome to contact me if you have questions. I would love to know if you plan to attend, although you do not have to RSVP in advance.

Invitation for Youth Parents

Erin Lepper, who serves as FCC's Faith Formation Chair, and Rev. Alexis are excited to continue to offer Parent and Guardian Faith Conversations. Parents and Guardians are invited to join them for a special meeting on Saturday, September 11 at 3 PM via Zoom. During this time, they will share how those conversations might look in the future and receive your input regarding how and when to offer such conversations.

Please email Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org to receive the Zoom link for this informational gathering. If you are interested but are not available that day or time, please let Rev. Alexis know.

Adolescence is a time when young people are asking themselves: "Who Am I? Where do I fit? What difference can I make?" We'd like to be a source of support and care for you as you provide support and care for your youth as they navigate those questions.

There will be intergenerational opportunities, including a Series on the Sermon on the Mount and Advent, so look for Bell updates in the weeks to come.

With You on the Journey,

Rev. Alexis

[*Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org*](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org)

Condolences

Our condolences to the family of Sue Cobble who died August 26, 2021. A private graveside service was held earlier this week.

Congratulations

Blessings to Meghan Hagenhoff and Joe Andrews who were married on August 28, 2021!

New Phone Number for our Weekly Prayer Call

Every Wednesday at 9:15 AM we gather via conference call to share our prayer concerns and our celebrations and to lift them up to God together. Starting in September we have a new call in phone number for our Free Conference Call account. Please update your records and plan to join us!

Call In Phone Number: (716-427-1083)
Access Code: 444928

Memorial Gifts Dedication

Sunday, September 12th we will dedicate items and projects that have been purchased and completed thanks to memorial gifts — our pulpit and communion table, the gathering area remodel, and the new landscaping in front of the church. The dedication will be included in both worship services and you are invited to join us in person at 8:20 AM or 10:40 AM, or on the Facebook livestream at 10:40 AM. Join us as we express gratitude for the gifts and families that made these possible and as we dedicate them to God.

Bible Study

Join Rev. Sarah and Rev. Alexis for Bible Study Wednesdays at noon in the Activities Room. We discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday.

HISTORIC CITY OF JEFFERSON PRESENTS

TOUR OF HISTORIC PLACES OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI




Self-paced walking/driving tour featuring several historic places of worship in Jefferson City. Learn about the history of the congregations and how they have impacted our community over the past 200 years.

Tour will feature several historic places of worship including:

<small>Central Church First Christian First Presbyterian First United Methodist Grace Episcopal</small>	<small>Immaculate Conception Quinn Chapel Temple Beth El and more!</small>
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Advance Tickets: \$15 Day-of Tickets: \$18

Available online at www.historiccityofjefferson.org or at the following locations:
Capital Arts/Carrie's Hallmark/Click2Sell4u/Hyvee
J Street Vintage/Samuel's/Schaefer House/Schulte's/ShopGirl



For sponsorship or tour information, please contact hcjexec@gmail.com

A couple more volunteers are needed to welcome the community to First Christian Church the day of this event. If you would like to volunteer, please give Kathy a call at 573-636-5157.

Update on Children's Sunday School and Parent/Guardian Conversation from Erin Lepper, Faith Formation Chair

We really enjoyed our youth Sunday school opportunities this summer! There was much joy in crafting and cooking with our congregation's youth and talking about the amazing faith in the Moses and Daniel stories, and reflecting on prayer this month, with Jesus, as he teaches us how to pray.

In an abundance of caution, youth Sunday school will not meet during September so that we can evaluate the COVID situation as our youth transition back to school. As the team develops plans for October, we're preparing for multiple venues to meet (virtually or in person), build community, and learn together, regardless of the COVID situation. We look forward to faith foundation building in the coming months!

Parents and guardians - please remember that we're here for you too, as you walk in and model faith for the youth in your lives. We'll meet again for parent and guardian conversations on the fourth Sunday in August at 9:30 AM. These conversations are provided, most importantly, to share support for one another in our role as parents, guardians and faith leaders for our kids. They also provide an opportunity to share stories and learn from each other. Well experienced parents and guardians are also welcome!! Those of us with young kids at home appreciate those with adult kids who can share their experiences!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM
AT THE NORTH JEFFERSON CITY PARK PAVILION
Worship will be followed by lunch and discussion led
by our Strategic Planning Committee
Please RSVP to the church office

The Strategic Planning Committee invites you to stay for lunch and conversation around the draft Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and proposed Core Values. We are seeking your input to help guide the remainder of our planning conversations. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend: barbara@firstchristianjcmo.org or 573-636-5157.

If you are unable to or uncomfortable joining us in person, we will be scheduling an opportunity to join in the conversation via Zoom after the 19th. Please contact Brenda Foutes or Rev. Sarah if you are interested.

Music

UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSIC

***Sept. 5, 8:20 a.m.**—Rescheduled from earlier this summer, trumpeter Dan McClard will share two pieces during worship. The first is “People Need the Lord,” arrange by David Winkler; the second is an interesting arrangement of “The Old Rugged Cross,” arranged by John Carte.

***Sept. 12, 10:40 a.m.**—Forever Faithful, comprised of Sandra Troutt, Sherry Jordan, Charlotte Middleton, Karla Denny and Carolyn Green, will sing “You Are,” an energetic anthem which extols God as our Light, Way, Truth, Refuge, Rock, Shield, and Shepherd, the Lord of everything. In response to all that God is, we are invited to sing praise and share the grace we’ve been given with our whole life.

JUBILANT SOUND HANDBELLS resumes weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 7:00 p.m. Terry Lloyd has carefully devised a plan for rehearsals that will allow the group to play more of its regular repertoire while still being more socially distanced from one another. The group will also mask during rehearsals. It will be wonderful to once again hear the ensemble, to experience its various handbill playing techniques, and for the players to enjoy all the positives of assembling again!

“AN EVENING OF JAZZ” WITH HERMON MEHARI, TRUMPETER

Plan to enjoy the music of the oh-so-talented Hermon Mehari in our sanctuary on Tuesday, Sept. 28, at 7:00 p.m. Hermon will share the stage with pianist Peter Schlamb.

Hermon began his trumpet studies with FCC’s Tim Alexander, then graduated with a degree in Jazz Performance from the UMKC Conservatory of Music. He is the founding member of the award-winning jazz group Diverse. He has two albums, the latest recorded in 2020 when in lock down due to the pandemic. While he still holds deep ties to the Kansas City jazz scene, the past several years Mehari has been based in Paris, France. In addition to performing, Mehari dedicates himself to being a serious educator and has participated in clinics and panels around the world. You can read more about the performer by following this link [About Hermon Mehari](#)

Baby Clothes

The church has begun collecting CLEAN, GENTLY USED baby and toddler clothes, ages Newborn to 5. If you have clothes in these size ranges you would like to donate, please bring them to the church office. If you know someone who could benefit from these clothes, please give us their name and phone number so we can arrange a time for them to come look through them. First priority will be given to our congregation families.

Ann Littlefield

OFFICE NOTES

Temporary Office Changes

Kathy Speidel had surgery on Thursday, August 26. She was in the hospital for a few days and is now recovering at home for a few weeks. Please be in prayer for Kathy and her surgery and recovery.

The Personnel Committee approved the hiring of Barbara Heller to serve part-time to help cover Kathy's work responsibilities while she is recovering from surgery. Barbara retired a few years ago after serving many years as a Legal Coordinator with the State of Missouri. Barbara has filled a similar temporary role with First Baptist Church when their long-term secretary retired. She has excellent secretarial skills and experience working in a church office. Barbara will be working Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We will have volunteers from our church family helping to answer phones in the church office during the afternoon hours from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Temporarily, the church office hours will be Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The staff appreciate your patience as we deal with these temporary changes. You may communicate with Barbara at barbara@firstchristianjcmo.org. If you have questions or need assistance you may also contact any of the ministers. Thank you for your support and patience as we make these changes.

1ST SUNDAY SEPT 5	2ND SUNDAY SEPT 12	3RD SUNDAY SEPT 19	4TH SUNDAY SEPT 26
<u>8:20AM</u>	<u>8:20AM</u>	<u>8:20AM</u>	<u>8:20AM</u>
<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD
<u>LITURGIST</u> Patty Osman	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD
<u>DEACONS</u> Allen Posz Marsha Posz Kathy Brown Venita Jackson	<u>DEACONS</u> Ken Littlefield Nancy Samp Linda Ringo Nancy Hequembourg	<u>DEACONS</u> Lauren Eichelberger Chris Lloyd Marsha Graham	<u>DEACONS</u> Doug Hagenhoff Jenny Hagenhoff Barb Gage Kathy Cavender
<u>USHERS</u> Doug Hagenhoff Milinda Dawson	<u>USHERS</u> Joe Payne Nike Thompson	<u>USHERS</u> Greg & Sherry Fitzpatrick	<u>USHERS</u> Kathy Cavender Rick Vaughan
<u>COMMUNION PREP</u> Virginia Lister	<u>COMMUNION PREP</u> Meghan Hagenhoff	<u>COMMUNION PREP</u> Karen Shroyer	<u>COMMUNION PREP</u> Sandy Robinson
<u>10:40AM</u>	<u>10:40AM</u>	<u>10:40AM</u>	<u>10:40AM</u>
<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD	<u>ELDER</u> TBD
<u>LITURGIST</u> Barbara Kuebler	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD	<u>LITURGIST</u> TBD
<u>DEACONS</u> Jon Prouty Amanda Prouty	<u>DEACONS</u> Blair Johnson Sally Moore Charles Highland Steven Claycomb	<u>DEACONS</u> Missy Mann Jessica Bivin Shaun Crisp Leigh Love	<u>DEACONS</u> Stephen Foutes Brenda Foutes Sherry Anderson Ashley Crisp
<u>USHERS</u> Jim Dunwiddie Russ Dunwiddie	<u>USHERS</u> Debi Wells Georgia Griffith	<u>USHERS</u> Morris Woodruff Stephen Foutes	<u>USHERS</u> Marsha & Allen Posz

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 Jim@firstchristianjcmo.org

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ASSISTANT MINISTER
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 Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
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FACILITY & GROUNDS COORDINATOR
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 firstchristianjcmo.org

FINANCIAL
 Finance@firstchristianjcmo.org

 Login with Facebook

facebook.com/fccjcmo

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:
 Please contact Rev. Kingsbery at 573-690-2480 **Non-emergency** church-related items after working hours, Monday thru Friday 8AM to 5PM, we have voice mail. Please feel free to call the church (573-636-5157) at any time and leave a message. **NOTE: IF YOU LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE ON FRIDAY (AFTER 5PM), SATURDAY, OR SUNDAY, IT WILL NOT BE CHECKED UNTIL MONDAY MORNING. THANK YOU.**

 The next *Church Bell* will be sent September 15, 2021.
 (Articles are due by noon the Monday before)



MOBILE GIVING
 -TEXT 4842368 TO
 715-803-4772
 AND FOLLOW THE
 PROMPTS ON YOUR PHONE

-DOWNLOAD THE "GIVERS APP"
 (FROM CONTINUE TO GIVE)



Zoom Meeting Room meeting ID is **2202286773**.
 If you need the password, please contact the church office at 573-636-5157 or one of our leaders. To join in on our free conference calls, dial (716) 427-1083 and enter access code 444928.

Please email or call Tina Mollenkamp tinamollenkamp@cgcb.org/573-522-4314, if you would like to be on Common Grounds email newsletter list, regular mailing list, or both. As an alternative, you can also sign up for the email newsletters on our website at www.cgcb.org.



You may also give online at firstchristianjcmo.org/donate

Financial Records and Questions

Questions related to giving and church finances should be sent to Carol Kaylor at finance@firstchristianjcmo.org. We have contracted with CALD services, a local accounting firm specializing in religious non-profits, to provide these critical functions.

Who Are We? We call ourselves Disciples, a community of believers who follow Jesus by *worshiping* God, *growing* in faith, and *serving* all in need. Bound to each other in Christ's love, we discover our life together through *sharing* life with the world.

WEBSITES YOU NEED TO STAY CONNECTED

Mid-America Updates: <http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/newsletter-signup/>
 Disciples News Service Updates: <http://disciples.org/dns/subscribe-to-dns/>

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