

# The Church Bell

September 15 2021

VOL. 77, ISSUE 19



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

## A Future With Hope

*Dr. Jim Hill*  
*Interim Senior Minister*

This Sunday we will begin our annual Stewardship Emphasis. Our theme this year is a Future with Hope. As we think about our personal stewardship, we are going to explore passages of scripture that focus upon periods of "exile" and opportunities to "return." Most of us feel like we have been in exile as we have tried to cope with the pandemic for more than a year and a half. It has been tough to not be able to do everything we want to do. Even though we are still having to take precautions to protect our congregation and community, I am glad many of our members have been able to resume in-person worship. Obviously, some are continuing to worship online because of health concerns or a compromised immune system.

The truth is that life has always been a rhythm of separation and togetherness, exile and return. We may prefer the "return" bit, the "bring you back to this place" bit, but that doesn't mean separation isn't part of the story. Over the next three weeks during our Stewardship Emphasis, we will examine three stories from scripture where people had to deal with exile. This week we will look at Joseph's forced exile in Egypt when his brothers sold him into slavery. I hope you will plan to join us each Sunday for this special series.

We will only have one worship service on Sunday, September 19, and we will be meeting at the North Jefferson Park for worship at 10:00 a.m. In addition to beginning our Stewardship Emphasis, we will also have a special presentation and discussion led by our Strategic Planning Committee. Lunch will be provided immediately following the worship service, and following the lunch, the committee will share a brief report on the progress of their work. The committee members will lead small group discussions to provide an opportunity for our members to provide feedback on the committee's work on a list of proposed "core values" and the "mission" and "vision" statements. It will not be a long session, and I hope you will make a special effort to be present. There will be picnic tables, but plan to bring your lawn chair if you have one.

This special session with the Strategic Planning Committee fits perfectly with the beginning of our Stewardship Emphasis and our theme: A Future with Hope. Sometimes circumstances are beyond our control. The pandemic has certainly reminded us of that reality. Joseph never expected to find himself in Egypt, but he discovered that even during the times of separation and hardship God is always present. He never forsakes us. He is always faithful. I hope to see you Sunday at the park.

**REMINDER:** As you know Missouri, and specifically our community, continues to see many COVID cases. I want to thank you for being responsive to the Worship Committee's recommendation: First Christian Church strongly recommends that everyone worshipping with us wear a mask to protect yourselves and more importantly out of respect for others. As you know, 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

**W**e pray for these

Gene Adkison, Beverly Anderson, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Nellie Campbell, Richard Carroll, Darlene Charles,, Doug Defreese, Nancy Dunwiddie, Ken Dykes, 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](mailto: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

*Shirley Jarrett*

*Emily Lane*

### PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

*Norma Hasselman*

*Wendell & Myra Hubbs*

*Jessie Schell*

### ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

*Doris Yelton*

### THE TIMBERS

*Marilyn Gross*

### HOMEBOUNDED MEMBERS

*Mariam Craddock*

### OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

*Betty Schramm*

*Betty Schulte*

## September Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

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

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

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

## Updates from Rev. Alexis

### Coffee House Open Office Hours for September

You're invited to stop by during my Open Coffee Hours on Tuesdays from 8:30 AM-10:30 AM at the Coffee Zone (130 E. High Street) for coffee and casual conversation at any point during that time frame on 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](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org) to arrange another time to meet.

### New Small Group Series + Intergenerational Option: The Sermon on the Mount

You're invited to be part of a new series that will begin the week of October 10. We'll delve into the Sermon on the Mount, also known as the Beatitudes.

New Testament Scholar, Amy-Jill Levine, has created small group material I am adapting for our time together. Her book *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* is not required reading, although many of you will enjoy it and appreciate the way it will enhance our examination of Jesus' teachings.

Here is a 12 1/2 minute video with Dr. Amy-Jill Levine introducing the first session: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQgohLUDKP>.

To express your interest and availability, please complete this RSVP form: <https://forms.gle/pnpqEnCALjZWC3uy6> by Sunday, September 19 so the groups can be arranged and the schedule finalized on September 20. Families with 6th-12th graders are encouraged to check out the possible intergenerational sessions in the form.

You're welcome to email me if you have questions.

With You on the Journey,

*Rev. Alexis*

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

## Condolences

Our condolences to Sharon Fockler and family on the loss of her husband, Dean Fockler, who died September 1, 2021.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Georgiale Dallas who died September 8, 2021. Services will be Wednesday, September 15 at 11AM at the church.

## 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**

## 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.

## Thank You!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Many thanks to all who helped with the Tour of Historic Worship Places on Sunday, September 12th! We estimate about 100 people came through our church and learned more about our building and our ministry.

Thank you to Bob Priddy who did much of the coordination, set up, hosting, and sharing his passion for history with the community! We are thankful for his drive to make our participation in the event happen.

Thank you to Scott Campbell, Drew Gonder, and Kevin Strobel as our facilities team! They went above and beyond in their efforts and dedication both before and during the event. Please thank them for their hard work the next time you see them!

Thank you to Rev. Alexis, Tony McNeal, Elizabeth Coffman, and Georgia Griffith for serving as our greeters! They provided a warm welcome to our visitors and we are grateful for their presence and hospitality.

Thank you to Jeanne and Alan Nelson for sprucing up our landscaping and Charlotte Middleton and Carolyn Green for preparing the gathering area and other décor!

## Leave of Absence Approved

The pandemic has certainly been and continues to be a stressful time for all of us. Obviously, it has been a significant challenge to prepare for and lead worship during this time. We are grateful for the music leadership provided Gretchen and all of our worship leaders as they helped us worship both online and in-person under difficult circumstances. In light of all of these challenges and personal considerations, the Personnel Committee has approved a three month leave of absence for Gretchen Huedepohl beginning October 1, 2021. We encourage you to pray for Gretchen as she uses this time for both personal and spiritual renewal. We also encourage you to pray for ministers, worship leaders, and other musicians who will be leading our worship while Gretchen is away.

## Parent/Guardian Check-In and Faith Conversation Sessions

Erin Lepper, who serves as FCC's Faith Formation Chair, and Rev. Alexis are excited to offer two ways for parents and guardians to support and learn from one another on a monthly basis.

Starting Sunday, October 17 at 3:00 PM, we'll resume our Parent and Guardian Faith Conversations via Zoom. The questions we'll explore together will be shared in upcoming newsletters and by email. These Faith Conversations will be offered the third Sunday of every month. You don't have to attend every session to be part of these groups—we'll be happy to welcome you when you can join us.

Beginning Tuesday, November 2, Rev. Alexis will host casual check-in Zoom sessions during which parents and guardians can sign in at any time between noon and 1:00 PM. These check-in sessions will be offered the first Tuesday of every month and at noon via Zoom.

Please email [Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org) to receive the Zoom link for these gatherings and/or to learn more.

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.

Adjustments to the schedule and format may occur in the months to come based upon participation and feedback.



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](mailto: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

### **"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](#)

*"An Evening of Jazz" with  
Hermon Mehari, trumpet  
Peter Schlamb, piano*



**Tuesday September 28 at 7 p.m.**  
**First Christian Church - 327 East Capitol Ave.**  
A free-will offering will be taken

# 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](mailto: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.

### 3RD SUNDAY SEPT 19

#### 10:40AM

#### ELDER

Steve Waters  
Ann Litterfield

#### LITURGIST

Marsha Graham

#### DEACONS

N/A

#### USHERS

Morris Woodruff  
Stephen Foutes

### 4TH SUNDAY SEPT 26

#### 820AM

#### ELDER

Alan Nelson  
David Avery

#### LITURGIST

Pat Amick

#### DEACONS

Doug Hagenhoff  
Jenny Hagenhoff  
Barb Gage  
Kathy Cavender

#### USHERS

Kathy Cavender  
Rick Vaughan

#### COMMUNION PREP

Sandy Robinson

#### 10:40AM

#### ELDER

Barb Kuebler  
Wanda King

#### LITURGIST

Elizabeth Coffman

#### DEACONS

Stephen Foutes  
Brenda Foutes  
Sherry Anderson  
Ashley Crisp

#### USHERS

Marsha & Allen Posz

### 1ST SUNDAY OCT 3

#### 820AM

#### ELDER

Patty Osman  
Bob Priddy

#### LITURGIST

TBD

#### DEACONS

Marsha Posz  
Kathy Brown  
Venita Jackson

#### USHERS

Doug Hagenhoff  
Milinda Dawson

#### COMMUNION PREP

Virginia Lister

#### 10:40AM

#### ELDER

Ann Littlefield  
Laura Avery

#### LITURGIST

Drew Bell

#### DEACONS

Jon Prouty  
Amanda Prouty  
Leigh Love

#### USHERS

Jim Dunwiddie  
Russ Dunwiddie

### 2ND SUNDAY OCT 10

#### 820AM

#### ELDER

Ann Littlefield  
Laura Avery

#### LITURGIST

Alan Nelson

#### DEACONS

Ken Littlefield  
Nancy Samp  
Linda Ringo  
Nancy Hequembourg

#### USHERS

Joe Payne  
Nike Thompson

#### COMMUNION PREP

Meghan Andrews

#### 10:40AM

#### ELDER

Ray Miles  
Cindy Leveron

#### LITURGIST

TBD

#### DEACONS

Blair Johnson  
Steven Claycomb  
Barb Cage

#### USHERS

Debi Wells  
Georgia Griffith

**INTERIM MINISTER**  
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 Jim@firstchristianjcmo.org

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER**  
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 Sarah@firstchristianjcmo.org

**ASSISTANT MINISTER**  
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 Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**  
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**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
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 firstchristianjcmo.org

**FINANCIAL**  
 Finance@firstchristianjcmo.org

 Login with Facebook

[facebook.com/fccjcmo](https://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 29, 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](http://www.cgcb.org).



## You may also give online at [firstchristianjcmo.org/donate](http://firstchristianjcmo.org/donate)

### Financial Records and Questions

Questions related to giving and church finances should be sent to Carol Kaylor at [finance@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto: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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