

The Church Bell

January 6, 2021

VOL. 77, ISSUE 1



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

Pastoral Ponderings

God's Beloveds,

Happy Epiphany!

If you are reading this on Wednesday January 6, it is officially the last day of the Christmas season with Epiphany, the day we remember the Magi who visited Jesus and his parents after following a star.

There is a lot of wisdom to be gained from the story of the Magi, found in chapter 2 of the gospel of Matthew. For example:

*The Magi were outsiders to the Jewish faith and to Jerusalem and the Roman Empire. And yet, they still were recipients of the message of Jesus' birth and his importance.

*The Magi followed the star, a guiding light best seen when it was dark outside. It was in the darkness that they were able to see and follow the sign from God. Darkness was important to their journey, not a difficulty.

*The Magi looked outside of themselves to follow the star, but after seeing Jesus and his parents, they looked inside and followed the guidance in their dreams that told them to not go back to King Herod because he had lied about wanting to worship Jesus.

We will be talking more about Epiphany, the Magi and what they can teach us about God in Bible Study this week, so I hope you will join us at 11AM or 5:45PM Thursday January 7th on Zoom. Regular Bible Study will resume next week.

As we enter this new calendar year, I offer my prayers for each of you, for our congregation, for our community, country, and world. May we seek God's will this year, faithfully following and giving generously just as the Magi did.

*With grace and peace for the journey,
Rev. Sarah Kingsbery*



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for these

Beverly Anderson, Reba Brandenburg, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Richard Carroll, Wilma Collins, Gibson Archer Dudenhoeffer, Ken Dykes, John & Barbara Gulick, Norma Hasselman, Philip Hawkins, Jeanette Hickman, Shirley Jarrett, Angie Kellard, Harold Libbert, Virginia Masters, Toni McNeal, Karen Meade, Dan & Sandy Meade, Vivian Murphy, Milo Mutz, Jackie Possinger, Joe Robey, Jessie Schell, Betty Schramm, Sue Steppelman, Barbara Walker, Sharon Williams, Janice Wood, Doris Yelton, Eileen, Dennis, Debbie

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

THE ARBORS AT WESTBROOK TERRACE PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Rita Connell

Norma Hasselman

Reba Brandenburg

BLUEGRASS TERRACE

Wendell & Myra Hubbs

Mariam Craddock,

Glenda Crow

Jessie Schell

Terry Fockler

HEISINGER

ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

Richard Carroll

Doris Yelton

Betty Schramm

Shirley Ferguson

SUMMIT VILLA

Betty Schulte

Barbara Nikodyn

Shirley Jarrett

Norma Woodson

THE TIMBERS

JC MANOR

Mae Oehring

Jackie Possinger

The 2021 Flower Chart is available on the bulletin board across from the office for you to choose a Sunday for flowers on the chancel. For our new members not familiar with this process, you may choose a Sunday "In Honor of" or "In Loving Memory of" a family member or loved one. We ask that each Sunday have only one basket of flowers, so all Sundays are chosen. The cost for a basket of flowers is \$29.95. If you would like to give Kathy a call in the office 573-636-5157, she will secure a Sunday for you.

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

JANUARY	8	15	23	29
1	Norma Hasselman	Donna Cook	Katy Ramirez	Marsha Graham
Missy Mann	9	16	David Reeves	John Kuebler
2	Allen Posz	Cindy VanCamp	24	Abbigale Ramirez
John Giles	Richard Vaughan	17	Dan McClard	30
3	Stephen Waters	18	Sandy Zimmerman	Lisa Ramirez
Raven Ballard	10	Cecile Landrum	25	Olivia Wood
4	11	Hayden Markway	Lauri Woodruff	31
Melody Boling	12	19	26	Ethan Snyder
Val Dunn	Sara Amick	20	27	Sue Tussey
5	13	Nancy Hequembourg	28	
Talia Jackson	Jon Miller	Leslie Murphy	Chris Graham	
6	14	21	Jana Millard	
John & Nancy	Carolyn Dahm	Andrew Schramm	Jacqueline Natsch	
Hequembourg	Jeff Huedepohl	22		
7	Millie Jones			
Ken Littlefield	Jon & Amy Schwartz			

An Update from Alexis, Our Youth Director

If you are the parent or guardian of youth from 6th-12th grade, please take a few minutes to complete this survey: <https://forms.gle/Hf6kwQ13SfLUmtor8> Thank you to those who already took the time to do so.

This survey will provide me with information that will help me in my planning and efforts to be a source of support for your youth and family.

There will be a gathering for 8-12th graders on January 10 at 6:45PM. Then, we'll begin a new four week intergenerational series (6th grade through adults) the following week on prayer. We'll explore the theology of prayer using the LORD's Prayer in Matthew's Gospel during part one of what will be a two part series. 6-12th grade participants will receive a copy of *The Teenage Prayer Experiment Notebook* by Miranda and Noah Threlfall-Holmes. **In order for youth to have what they need in time and for me to confirm the schedule, please complete this form by Monday, January 11:** <https://forms.gle/RoLRrav1DmTaFTrF9>

After Ash Wednesday, we'll begin a special intergenerational six week Lent series - stay tuned for how you can be part of that.

You are also welcome to contact me if you have questions or information that might be helpful.

Much thanks to those who participated in the Intergenerational Advent Experience. As we approach the new year, may we continue to pursue how we can both experience and be God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. It is an honor and joy to explore these themes with you.

With you on the journey,

Alexis

alexis@firstchristianchurchjcmo.org

Invitation to RSVP for an Intergenerational Series on Prayer for 6th Grade and Beyond

Based upon interest expressed in a follow up survey from the Advent experience, I'm excited to offer a four week series on prayer, followed by a Lent experience. We'll return to the topic of prayer after Lent.

Our first series of prayer will use The LORD's Prayer in Matthew to explore the theology of prayer - in other words, we're going to learn why we say what we say when we pray. Participants in the 6th-12th grade will receive a copy of *The Teenage Prayer Experiment Notebook* by Miranda and Noah Threlfall-Holmes, and there will be ways they will share their "experiments" with the group. **In order to have what you need in time and for me to confirm the schedule, please complete this form by Monday, January 11:** <https://forms.gle/RoLRrav1DmTaFTrF9>

If you have a prayer partner, this would be a wonderful way to connect and support each other. The prayer series following Lent will be about the different types of prayer and will include the creation of what I think will be a really special project.

If you are interested in engaging in this material together as a family, but cannot make the Zoom session options, please email me so you can participate in a way that is both enriching and possible.

I hope to see you soon!

Alexis

alexis@firstchristianchurchjcmo.org

Joy!

Congratulations to Brian and Kara Knight who welcomed a baby boy into their family on December 21st. Our whole church community has prayed for their adoption journey, and we are thrilled by this wonderful news!

The family is doing well and those wanting to offer support are encouraged to coordinate food deliveries by contacting the church office.

Our Condolences

To Myra and Wendell Hubbs on the loss of Myra's brother, William R. Bollinger, who passed away Tuesday, January 5th in St. Charles, MO.

Cards for Our Heroes!

Help us thank the employees of Capital Region Hospital!

You are invited to join us in making and writing or just writing notes to employees of Capital Region Hospital, so they know we are thankful for their work.

We will gather on Zoom on Wednesday January 27th at 6:30PM and Saturday January 30th at 3PM to share instructions for using the simple card making kits and to brainstorm ideas for notes to write for different departments. Come to one or both Zoom meetings for a time of fellowship and ministry for the community.

We will have plenty of supplies of both card making kits and premade cards available that can be picked up or mailed to you from the church office.

Please contact Rev. Sarah or the church office if you are interested in helping with this project or have any questions.

We will collect all the cards and give them to Chaplain Tammy, a Disciples of Christ pastor, who will distribute the cards throughout the hospital.

Rev. Sarah Kingsbery

Dr. J. Todd Billings, author of [The End of the Christian Life](#), will speak with us about his book and life via Zoom on Tuesday, February 2nd at 5:30PM. Join us for this exciting opportunity to think deeply about a faithful life, the truth of our mortality, and the resurrection hope we profess. Please [RSVP](#) if you are interested, so we know we have a critical mass for meaningful conversation.



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.

East School Christmas Gifts

Dear FCC Friends,

Once again, you have shown your great love and concern for others. With the great help of our very own Missy Mann, who is a teacher at East Elementary school, along with the school counselor, Ruthie Eichholz, three families were identified for some extra TLC at Christmas this year. We asked and you came through!

Because of your generosity, all of the items on their wish lists were granted, plus extra donations and a Gerbes grocery card for each family. The adults from each family received these gifts with much gratitude and humbleness. Their joy was evident. Thank you for being witnesses of our Savior's love in this way and at this time.

Happy New Year!

Mission Committee

Worshipping Virtually? Join us in the Zoom Room!

If you are worshipping with us virtually on Sunday mornings via Facebook Live, we would love to have you join us in the [FCCJCMO Zoom Room](#). The room opens at 9:30AM to allow time for before worship fellowship and those who are interested stick around after worship too.

Worshipping this way allows us to see one another and remember that we are not worshipping alone. It is engaging and has already been a wonderful way to reconnect with other participants.

Come as you are! We would love to have you join us, even if you just rolled out of bed.

Because we share the Facebook Livestream directly, this is a great option if you have trouble with the Facebook site or app.

If you are able to use a laptop or desktop computer with Zoom, we have learned this provides the best opportunity to see the livestream and others who are worshipping with you simultaneously, but tablets and cellphones work too.

Let Rev. Sarah know if you have any questions or would like to schedule a practice or troubleshooting time.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Our offering envelopes have arrived! You may pick yours up in the church office Monday through Friday 8AM to 5PM, or on Sunday mornings. If you are unable to come to the church and pick yours up, give Kathy a call at 573-636-5157, and she will have someone deliver yours to you.

SENIOR MINISTER
 Rev. Beau Underwood
 Beau@firstchristianjcmo.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER
 Rev. Sarah Kingsbery
 Sarah@firstchristianjcmo.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
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 firstchristianjcmo.org

FINANCIAL
 Finance@firstchristianjcmo.org

 Login with Facebook

facebook.com/fccjcmo


AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:
 Please contact Rev. Underwood at 815-303-1990. **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 January 20, 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, Rev. Beau at 815-303-1990, or one of our leaders. To join in on our free conference calls, dial (712) 775-7270 and enter access code 444928.

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/>

"The Church Bell" (UPS 110-580) by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Jefferson City, Missouri, is published bi-weekly and there is no issue the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Periodicals paid at Jefferson City, Missouri. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Editor/Church Secretary, First Christian Church, 327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.