

The Church Bell

March 31, 2021

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

Pastoral Ponderings

God's Beloveds,

We have been wandering together this Lent and we aren't done yet. As we move ever closer to Easter, we are reminded that the journey to the upper room, to the cross, to the tomb was not straightforward.

It starts with a trip into Jerusalem. An intentional entrance designed to contrast with the arrival of Roman Governor who was surrounded by the trappings of power and war. Chosen instead a young horse, crowds with cloaks and branches. One who comes not to conquer but to proclaim peace.

It continues with a visit to the temple, with calling out corruption and abuse of power.

Then other plans begin to be made. One wanders away and makes plans for betrayal. Others are sent out to prepare for the Passover meal.

The conversation at the meal wanders – to what it means to serve one another, what is to come in the days ahead, to how those present will betray and deny Jesus.

In the garden, Jesus wanders away to pray as the disciples drift off to sleep. And the one who is to betray him, returns. Forgetting the path of peace Jesus set before them, one pulls out his sword.

It is a week of questions, of doubts, of confusion. It is a story of shortcomings and outright betrayal as the disciples – those closest to Jesus – find themselves struggling to understand, to stay awake, to put away their swords.

It is also a week of gathering together, of serving and being served, of preparing for what comes next.

Even when in the moment, what came next was hidden from view.

Tomorrow night we will gather on Zoom for our Maundy Thursday service at 6:30PM. We will gather at our individual tables that God will join together to make one table, one holy space, as we pause in our wanderings. At this table, as the disciples did, may we find spiritual nourishment to carry us forward into the days ahead. Into the grief and despair of Good Friday, the hopelessness of Saturday, and the bewilderment of Easter Sunday. *(continued)*



MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 1, 6:30PM via Zoom

This is an interactive service, and a "Special Delivery" will show up soon to encourage your participation.

Pastoral Ponderings *(continued)*

As we move towards Easter Sunday and the hope and promises we find in the empty tomb, let us also remember the disciples' journey did not end there, and neither does ours. Let us continue to follow, to seek the path God is laying before us as individuals and as a community.

*Grace and peace for the journey,
Rev. Sarah Kingsbery*

40 Days of Prayer for First Christian Church Jeff City

- April 1 For the gift of community in difficult times
- April 2 For the fears we carry about the future**
- April 3 For patience when faced with the unknown
- April 4 For the experience of Easter hope in the midst of good-byes**
- April 5 For wisdom to ask the right questions of one another
- April 6 For the process of gathering and sharing important information**
- April 7 For understanding that the coming months will require all of us to step up in service and love
- April 8 For leadership from unexpected sources within our congregation**
- April 9 For creative ideas, inspiring dreams, and faithful hopes for our future
- April 10 For faithful discernment of God's will for us**
- April 11 For reminders of God's presence with us on this journey
- April 12 For the continued work of the search committee and strategic planning team**
- April 13 For the work of our Ministry Team and Administrative Board
- April 14 For the Holy Spirit to reveal to us the gifts of our congregation**
- April 15 For the Holy Spirit to reveal to us the gifts of our community
- April 16 For the Holy Spirit to reveal to us the needs of our congregation**
- April 17 For the Holy Spirit to reveal to us the needs of our community
- April 18 For our faithful stewardship of what the Holy Spirit reveals to us**
- April 19 For comfort as we face times of uncertainty
- April 20 For all who are in need of healing in our congregation**
- April 21 For the work of the Worship Team and all who help us Worship God together
- April 22 For the many ways we continue to Grow in Faith together**
- April 23 For the individuals and ministries who help us Serve All in Need
- April 24 For a sense of completion and renewal as we approach the end of Rev. Beau's ministry**
- April 25 For Rev. Beau, Casey, and Jesse as we say Good-Bye
- April 26 For First Christian Church and our future ministry**
- April 27 For comfort as we experience both grief and hope
- April 28 For the right person to be available to become our Senior Minister**
- April 29 For the work of our incoming Interim Minister and our church staff
- April 30 For the continued prayerful work of this church**

From the Search & Call Committee—

The Search Committee held its weekly meeting on Sunday, March 28th, and discussed interview questions for two candidates for interim minister whose profiles were provided to the Search Committee by our Regional Minister, Rev. Paul Koch. The interim minister would serve during the search for a new full-time pastor for First Christian Church.

Recognizing that *The Church Bell* only comes out every other week, the Search Committee is going to establish a page within the church's online presence that will indicate the status of Search Committee work, both accomplished and future plans, in an effort to be as "real time" as possible.

Best wishes at this special season of the year: He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed!!

Thank you all for your prayerful support!

David Durbin, Chair

10:00AM Worship and Goodbye Lunch, Sunday, April 25 at Riverside Park

Sunday, April 25th, we will have ONE Worship Service at 10:00AM at Riverside Park, 1425 Riverside Dr., followed by a Goodbye lunch to say our farewells to Rev. Beau, Casey and Jesse.

To ensure we have an accurate count for lunch, please let us know if you plan to attend by RSVP'ing [here](#). You may also call the church office (573-636-5157) and Kathy will sign you up. Thank you!

East School Cards of Appreciation

Thank you to everyone who picked up blank cards to write notes of appreciation for East School Staff! Please return completed cards by Sunday, April 18th. You can place them outside Rev. Sarah's office door or in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you for helping us share love and encouragement with the hardworking staff at East School as they finish out this challenging school year.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for these

Beverly Anderson, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Richard Carroll, Wilma Collins, Gibson Archer Dudenhoeffer, Nancy Dunwiddie, Ken & Karen Dykes, Marilyn Gross, John & Barbara Gulick, Norma Hasselman, Philip Hawkins, Jeanette Hickman, Shirley Jarrett, Emily Lane, Vivian Murphy, Mae Oehring, Janice Wood, Doris Yelton, Our Country

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

JC NURSING & REHAB

Mae Oehring

PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Norma Hasselman

Wendell & Myra Hubbs

Jessie Schell

OAK TREE VILLA

Sue Cobble

ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

Marilyn Gross

Doris Yelton

SUMMIT VILLA

Shirley Jarrett

VILLA MARIE

Terry Fockler

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Mariam Craddock,

OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

Betty Schramm

Betty Schulte

Our condolences to Reid Millard and family on the loss of their brother, Mark Millard, Sr., who passed away Wednesday, March 24.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

APRIL			
1	Jim Jones	17	25
Braden Millard	Joe Payne	Vivian Murphy	Sarah Kingsbery
3	12	Nancy Priddy	26
Sharon Williams	Heather Giles	Tom Rackers	Nermina Harris
4	Reid Millard	18	Charles Highland
Tyler Fishback	Nikole Peek	John Bennett	<i>Mike & Cathy Crocker</i>
Emma Gregory	<i>Hugh & Deanna McKay</i>	Amanda Prouty	28
Meghan Hagenhoff	13	<i>Steve and Pat Amick</i>	Judy Naught
Noah Schwartz	Roxie Hawkin	20	29
5	Ryan Mullen	Nicholas Faddell	30
Sherry Fitzpatrick	14	21	Eva Pratt
Patty Osman	Bobbi Enslen	Sandy Coffin	Betty Schramm
<i>John & Barbara Gulick</i>	Kelly Leveron	22	31
7	16	Gene Enslen	
Lyric Kroeger	Bailey Barnett	Greg Wood	
8	Marilyn Gross	<i>Doug & Jenny Hagenhoff</i>	
Pat Amick	Seth Huedepohl	23	
Joyce Keitel		Darlene Charles	
		Amy Jones	
		Ed Powers	

MUSIC MINISTRY

UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSIC:

April 1, 6:30 p.m. (Maundy Thursday) – Though the service will be virtual only on Zoom, a considerable amount of planning and effort on the part of staff and church volunteers has gone into making it happen. Rev. Beau's idea for service elements to be delivered "ala Blue Apron," while being described as fun and creative, is far more than that. With intentionality behind your participation, you will also find it a meaningful time of remembrance of the Upper Room and meal Jesus shared with His disciples shortly before His death, a reflection on Jesus' unfathomable love for others, and a witness to His servant obedience, even to the cross. Music, though pre-recorded, will nonetheless also be meaningful for this important week in the life of Christians. I'm grateful to Curtis Sudduth, Kelsie Slaughter and Jack DeArmey for sharing it with the congregation.

*April 4, Easter – Both services, whether at the church or at Riverside Park, will feature the traditional Easter hymns we love to sing, accompanied by a wonderful brass quartet, which will also offer "The Hallelujah Chorus." In addition, Forever Faithful ensemble, comprised of Sandra Troutt, Laura Avery, Charlotte Middleton, Sherry Jordan, Karla Denny and Carolyn Green, will provide an upbeat anthem. Sandra Troutt will also lead congregational song as we celebrate Jesus' victory over death.

Again, holding the service outdoors requires volunteers to ready the worship space by moving picnic tables and transporting, setting up and tearing down needed equipment and worship materials. A lot happens before the congregation arrives! I'm indebted to these volunteers, particularly my husband without whom I couldn't have accomplished what has been required to conduct worship during the pandemic.

*April 11 – Jubilant Sound Handbells will share two anthems at the 8:20 service as the Easter season (6 weeks!) continues. The group will offer arrangements of two favorite songs of many – the traditional hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" and the contemporary hymn, "In Christ Alone." Beginning April 11, our talented worship team will resume playing weekly at the 10:40 service.

To our crucified and risen Savior be all the glory!

Gretchen Huedepohl
Director of Music

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At the Congregational meeting on March 14th, 2021, the following items were approved: 2021 voting member list, a bid for tuckpointing/waterproofing parts of the sanctuary building, a bid for concrete repairs around the building, and funding for several mission priorities. If you missed the meeting, please contact Steve Waters, 2021 Board Chair, or Rev. Beau with any questions.

An Update from Alexis, Our Youth Director

YOUTH UPDATE

Reminder to Save the Date: An Afternoon with Dr. Warren Carter and Alexis

New Testament scholar, Dr. Warren Carter, will be Alexis' guest for a special Zoom session on Sunday, April 18 at 3 PM. Dr. Warren Carter has kindly agreed to answer questions regarding what we have discussed in our intergenerational groups. While the timing of his session with us is to mark the end of our LORD's Prayer series in April, participation in the LORD's Prayer Lab series is not required to attend - all First Christian Church members and friends are welcome. Please email Alexis to let her know you plan to attend: Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org

Open Invitation for an Intergenerational Reading and Writing Prayer Lab from our Youth Director

Members from 6th grade and beyond are invited to participate in the last intergenerational series we will host before summer break. The grandchildren, grandparents, and grand people in your life are welcome to join us as well - contact Alexis to learn more about how such an invitation can be arranged.

The four week series on prayer will be offered via Zoom from April 25 - May 30 (dates are currently tentative and will be finalized after receiving RSVPs - the groups will not meet every weekend in May). We'll introduce the theology of prayer and learn about different types of prayer through various activities. 6th-12th grade participants will use a copy of *The Teenage Prayer Experiment Notebook* by Miranda and Noah Threlfall-Holmes. *In order to have what you need in time, please complete this form by Monday, April 12:* <https://forms.gle/HV2ZYKp2kh16vgF88>.

This can be a very busy time of year for families. There is an option to receive the materials without committing to the Zoom sessions so you can engage with the material in a way that supports your family life. I'm happy to schedule a time to talk with you about how that might work, and to learn how I can support you in your efforts.

If you have questions, please email Alexis: alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org

*With You On the Journey,
Alexis
alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org*

Can you find the Alleluia Butterfly?

Stop by the church during office hours or for worship in April to see what participants of all ages in the Intergenerational Lenten series created. A picture of our Easter Butterfly will also be posted on Facebook.



Summer Camp 2021

The Mid-America Region is working on how to have a safe summer camp season. Camp Directors (including Rev. Sarah) are meeting on a regular basis and regional staff is coordinating with camp locations to determine best practices. Online registration will be available soon.

Please save the dates for the following camps and watch for more information as it becomes available. We are also working on a tentative plan for an online camp opportunity. Camp scholarships will be available. Try-It Camp for PreK-1st with adult family member - August 6-8 at Camp Jo-Ota
Combo Camp for 2nd - 5th graders- June 12-16 at Camp Jo-Ota
Chi Rho Camp for 6th-7th graders - August 1-6 at Camp Jo-Ota
Our Bodies, Our Faith for 8th&9th grade - July 11-16 at Shannondale (Rev. Sarah Co-Directing)
CYF Camp for 9th-12th grade - June 6-11 at Camp Jo-Ota
Canoe Camp for 6th-12th grade - July 11-15 at Shannondale

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 at 573-636-5157, she will secure a Sunday for you.

1ST SUNDAY APRIL 4

8:20AM
ELDER
Ann Littlefield
LITURGIST
Sally Robuck
USHERS
Doug Hagenhoff
Milinda Dawson
10:40AM-RIVERSIDE
ELDER
Cecile Landrum
LITURGIST
Laura Avery/
Karla Denny
USHERS
Jim & Russ
Dunwiddie

2ND SUNDAY APRIL 11

8:20AM
ELDER
Steve Waters
LITURGIST
AVAILABLE
USHERS
Joe Payne
Nike Thompson
10:40AM-FCC PL
ELDER
Wanda King
LITURGIST
AVAILABLE
USHERS
Debi Wells
Georgia Griffith

3RD SUNDAY APRIL 18

8:20AM
ELDER
David Avery
LITURGIST
Bobbi Enslin
USHERS
Greg & Sherry
Fitzpatrick
10:40AM-FCC PL
ELDER
Laura Avery
LITURGIST
AVAILABLE
USHERS
Morris Woodruff
Stephen Foutes

4TH SUNDAY APRIL 25

**ONE SERVICE
AT RIVERSIDE PARK**
10:00AM
ELDER
J.T. Yarnell
LITURGIST
Bobbi Enslin
USHERS
Marsha & Alan Posz

SENIOR MINISTER
 Rev. Beau Underwood
 Beau@firstchristianjcmo.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER
 Rev. Sarah Kingsbery
 Sarah@firstchristianjcmo.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
 Gretchen Huedepohl
 Gretchen@firstchristianjcmo.org

YOUTH DIRECTOR
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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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 April 14, 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.

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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