

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 15 AUGUST 30, 2017



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 3, 2017

Dancing to a Different Beat

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Rev. Nathan C. Brown

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TGIW RESUMES

September 13, 2017

FALL PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 13TH

Kickoff Program & A Dyslexia Experience

What is it like to have dyslexia and related learning disabilities, such as dysgraphia? Dyslexia Association of the Pennyryle will provide a hands-on simulation that will provide a lively, thought-provoking activity to help better understand the lives of children with dyslexia. Vicky Waggoner Jones, currently a member at Cadiz Christian Church, will lead this informative and interesting program!

SEPTEMBER 20, 27, & OCTOBER 4

MODERN MONSTERS

Everyone knows monsters aren't real, right?! Or are they? Where do we find monsters in the Bible? How are images used today to portray groups of people as modern-day monsters? Sara will be leading this three-week series, looking at a different kind of monster each week... and how they're more real than we might have imagined.

TGIW MEAL MENU & WEEKLY SCHEDULE

September 13th Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Fundraiser for Dyslexia

Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Bread
and Desserts

Program & Children's Choir - 6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir - 6:45 p.m.

September 20th Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Catered by: Four Seasons

Baked Ham, Hashed Brown Casserole, Fruit Salad,
and Carrot Cake

Program & Children's Choir - 6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir - 6:45 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 2017

GREATER > THINGS

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these... [John 14:12]

Jesus can't be serious, right? Those who believe in him will do greater works? Yet, here it is, in what many argue is the most important chapter in the Gospel of John. What does Jesus mean? That is the question upon which we will be reflecting during our stewardship emphasis in worship during the month of September. This year's theme is "Greater Things!" As people of faith, we are always called to be doing greater things—using our gifts to further God's Kingdom on Earth.

September 10, 2017

Greater Things: What are you doing?

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16; John 14:12-14

Rev. Nathan C. Brown

September 17, 2017

Greater Things: Who is stopping you?

Psalms 103:1-13; Matthew 18:21-35

Rev. Sara Nave Fisher

September 24, 2017

Greater Things: Have you had your fill?

Matthew 20:1-16; Exodus 16:2-15

Rev. Nathan C. Brown

"A Note from Sara"

It has been a busy summer at FCC! While we have all enjoyed the warm weather, time with our friends and families, and a different pace these past few months, there have been some significant events at the church! We shared about these at the Fellowship Dinner this past Sunday night, but if you weren't able to be there, here are some highlights! I would be the first person to tell you that growth and success are not measured in numbers, but sometimes numbers are helpful to understand the tremendous impact of our ministry.....

~ Longest Night of Play Family Fun Night: About 75 people attended, of all ages - including several of our newer families as well as long-time church members. The kids played with water games and the adults enjoyed each other's company!

~ VBS: About 60 different kids participated in VBS this year! We had many kids from the Challenge House neighborhood, which was a great opportunity to integrate the CH ministry with the life of our church in a new way. Dozens of youth and adults shared their time and energy with this great group of kids!

~ Challenge House Back-to-School Bash: Around 100 people from the community came for dinner and school supplies to CH5! We had a great team of church members who came out to help provide a meal and get to know our neighborhood better.

~ Prayer Partner Party: 88 people, from kindergarten up, invested in intergenerational relationships at August's PPP. The kids learned about the Armor of God and worked with their adult partners to build their own "armor!" The adult partners continually impress me with all they do to build into the lives of our kids.

~ Youth Group Kickoff: 22 youth (grades 6-12) and 4 adults were at our fall kickoff in August! The youth group is in a season of building and momentum. These young people are energetic, thoughtful, caring, and did I say energetic??? We had a lot of fun and look forward to picking back up with our fall studies on September 10.

And that is not even all of what Family Ministries did this summer. In addition, our adult Sunday School teachers faithfully shared lessons, our hospitality team provided bereavement meals for several families, our Salvation Army crew continues to volunteer every Wednesday to serve the community, our deacons and elders serve homebound communion each week, and new members have joined - just to name a little of what goes on around here. Thank you, each and every one of you, who have given of your time in some way this summer!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Are you being remembered by your church family on your birthday and anniversary? If not, please call the church office or Donna Chapman (270-886-0197) to update us on your special days!

CHALLENGE HOUSE NEWS!

CHALLENGE HOUSE TUTORING

If you have a heart for children, please consider tutoring at Challenge House 5 this year. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30, beginning September 12. After snacks and a short devotional, we help students with their homework and skills practice. We end with some some games. Come join us: once a week, once a month, as a substitute, whatever works for you...

Call Karen Shields at 270-839-0426 if you are interested.

FALL EVENTS AT CHALLENGE HOUSE 5

- "Who wants to learn chess?" will begin on September 11 from 5-6 pm with staff from MLK in charge.
- Tutoring begins on September 12 and is every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-4:30.
- Natalie Riggs will conduct an etiquette class for youth from 4-4:30 on Thursdays beginning September 14.
- "Corn Hole and Conversation" will be on September 16 from 5-6 pm with Andy Riggs leading.
- "Mystery Movie Night" is October 13 beginning at 6 pm with Outreach in charge.

And that is just the beginning...

YOUTH MEALS

We had our youth group kickoff on August 13, and had TWENTY-TWO middle- and high-schoolers and FOUR adults present. Isn't that wonderful!?! We are looking forward to another great year of youth group, and one important way we build relationships with each other is by sharing a meal together. Because the size of our group has grown, we are looking for others to help provide meals. You could even sign up with a friend to work together for one meal! Please contact Sara if you're willing to serve in this way!

FCC MUSIC MINISTRY - RICH, INCLUSIVE, MULTIGENERATIONAL AND FUN

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Director of Music at FCC with its talented and dedicated staff, ministerial team, church leadership and growing congregation. I am indeed honored and blessed. First Christian Church, Hopkinsville holds an enviable history of a long-standing, rich musical tradition and heritage. Considering music is regarded as a universal language, I wonder how so many people with diverse backgrounds, cultures, experiences, and perspectives can be so easily moved by sound. I wonder how many of us have been able to take a close look at the beautiful, rich threads that continue to be woven into musical tapestry at FCC?

Music at FCC embraces diversity and inclusivity on so many levels. For instance, did you realize how multi-generational our music ministry is? Our music ministry includes participants spanning eight decades of life: the Music Makers (K - 2), the Young Disciples (grades 3 - 5), The

Continued on back

GREEN TEAM

We are beginning the process of becoming a Green Chalice Congregation within the Disciples of Christ! Would you be interested in becoming part of a team to help our congregation become better stewards of creation? If so, contact Saundra Kilijian or Sara Fisher!

SEARCH AND CALL ASSOCIATE MINISTER - UPDATE #2

You will be pleased to know that First Christian Church is officially in search and call for a new Associate Minister. We had an initial meeting with our West Area Minister, Rev. Beth Dobyns, with instructions on the process itself. Since then, we have completed our congregational profile and submitted it to the Regional Office. We are currently sifting through papers from potential candidates. The next step will be contacting candidates of interest regarding their interest in the position here at FCC. Please pray for the search process and for the search team as we discern whom God may be calling to be our next Associate Minister. The search team members are as follows: Scott Ross (Chair), Spencer Kilijian, Linda Ledford, Marie McCourt, Lauren Roberts, Sara Camp, Jeff Chapman (ex-officio), and Rev. Brown (ex-officio). If you have any questions along the way, please do not hesitate to contact the team. Look to your newsletter for more updates on the process.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Fall is fast approaching and that means our Fall programming will soon be here! Our Children's Choirs will begin on September 13 when our TGIW program starts back up. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the choir program and children's activity time follows from 6-7 pm. I want to invite ALL CHILDREN of our church, ages older 4's through 5th grade to join us on Wednesday nights beginning September 13. I am excited about the music we will be working on this semester! We will begin working on some Christmas music right away (hard to believe, I know) and also a project I plan to use in the Fall and Spring semesters called "Learn a hymn...Teach a hymn." Come and join in the excitement of music making on Wednesday nights, beginning September 13th! Sylvia Carver

NEW ARRIVAL

Cooper James Cayce

Born: August 16, 2017

7 pounds 11 ounces and 20 inches long

Parents: Lucas and Laura Cayce

Grandparents: Mike and Helen Cayce

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 4th for the Labor Day Holiday. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, September 5th.

NOTE OF THANKS

To my church family,

There are not enough words in the English language that can express my sincere gratitude and thankfulness for all the prayers, calls, cards, food and use of equipment from the church's Medical Supply Closet to help me through the recovery process of my accident. I am so blessed to be a member of this wonderful family. My recovery is coming along and it is my hope I will be back at church and in the choir soon. Sincerely, Karon Zimmerman

First Christian,

Thank you so much for the incredible lunch you all fixed for us. It was all delicious and so thoughtful of you. Thank you all for all the kindness you showed to my aunt and my family. I know that she enjoyed your visits to her at the nursing home.

Thank you. The family of Roberta Huffman

TABLE TALK RESUMES

All women are invited to our monthly Table Talk gatherings! The fall kickoff will be at Black Patch Steak & Seafood on Thursday, September 21 at 6:00pm. Please let Sheila DeMoss know if you plan to attend no later than Monday, September 18, at 270-839-2544 or ssdemoss@bellsouth.net

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kelly Campbell who resides at 200 Flowers Road, Crofton, KY 42217, joined First Christian Church on Sunday July 16, 2017.

Greg and Kandy Fear who reside at 474 Mount Vernon Church Road, Hopkinsville, KY 42240, joined First Christian Church on Sunday, August 20, 2017.

Please join in welcoming them into the life of our church.

REMEMBER IN DAILY PRAYER

(Names will remain on prayer list for one month, unless the office is otherwise notified.)

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| David Turner | Teresa Combs | Aneta Mitera |
| Eleanor Rogers | Sue Cummins | Hanson Williams |
| Jim Noffsinger | Donna Bolton | The Frost Family |
| Rasnake Family | Helen Damron | Sharon McGee |
| Mary Emma Thompson | Mark Roseberry | Mike Powell |
| Oakley Haddock | Karon Zimmerman | Rochelle Claitt |
| Kahle and Gay Morris | Brenda Chambers | Betsy Ritzel |
| Gary and Nita Satterfield | | |

ATTENDANCE PAST SIX WEEKS

| | | | |
|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| 07.23.17 | 172 | 07.30.17 | 160 |
| 08.06.17 | 222 | 08.13.17 | 191 |
| 08.20.17 | 290 | 08.27.17 | 223 |

Sept. Birthdays

1. Bradley Bardwell
Neil Ritzheimer
Mark Roseberry
Grace Shannon
Dottie Simmons
Nancy Wolff
2. Kate Sweeney
3. Brittainy Cansler
4. Mary Emma Thompson
5. Jackson Cotthoff
6. Donna Bolton
Lenora Fisher
Lori Harper
7. Janice Bruce
8. Mary Jane Orange
9. Betty Adair
10. Andy Macdonald
11. Blake Meade
12. Cori Welliever
13. Ann Grover
14. Dudley Seale
15. Donna Cotterill
16. Catherine DeMoss
17. Shiloh Haddock
18. Peter Macdonald
19. Dawn Sowell
20. Taylor Chapman
21. Brian Harton
22. Steven Chapman
23. Brock Kilijian
24. Nolan Long
25. Betsy Fox
26. Donna McGee
27. Amy Peters
28. Grayson Dixon
29. Saralyn Kingsolver
30. Heath Chambers

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
|       | SEPTEMBER 2017 | | | | | |
| 8:30 am Early Seekers Class 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday School 10. | Church Office Closed Labor Day 11. | 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 12. | 4:30 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 13. | 11:00 am Exercise Class Noon - Prayer Shawl Min. 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Zumba 14. | 6:30 pm Cub Scouts Community Room 15. | 5:00 pm Corn Hole and Conversation @ Challenge House 16. |
| STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 8:30 am Early Seekers Class 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Youth Group 17. | 11:00 am Exercise Class 5:00 pm Dyslexia School 5:30 pm Zumba 18. | 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 p.m. Bunco 19. | 4:30 pm Prayer Group 5:30 pm TGfW Meal - Dyslexia Fundraiser 6:00 pm TGfW Program 6:45 pm Chancel Choir 20. | 11:00 am Exercise Class 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Zumba 21. | 6:30 pm Cub Scouts Community Room 22. | 23. |
| STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 8:30 am Early Seekers Class 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Youth Group 24. | 11:00 am Exercise Class Noon - Finance Meeting 5:00 pm Dyslexia School 5:30 pm Zumba 25. | 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 26. | 4:30 pm Prayer Group 5:30 pm TGfW Meal 6:00 pm TGfW Program 6:45 pm Chancel Choir 27. | 11:00 am Exercise Class 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Zumba 6:00 pm Table Talk @ Black Patch 28. | 6:30 pm Cub Scouts Community Room 29. | 30. |
| STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 8:30 am Early Seekers Class 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday School Noon - Elders Meeting 5:00 pm Youth Group 24. | 11:00 am Exercise Class 5:00 pm Dyslexia School 5:30 pm Zumba 7:00 pm Leadership Council 25. | 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 26. | 4:30 pm Prayer Group 5:30 pm TGfW Meal 6:00 pm TGfW Program 6:45 pm Chancel Choir 27. | 11:00 am Exercise Class 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Zumba 6:30 pm Duplicate Bridge 28. | 6:30 pm Cub Scouts Community Room 29. | 30. |

Sept. Anniversaries

1. James and Casey Monroe
3. Curtis and Diane Pyle
7. Gayle and Brenda Chambers
- John and Donna Cotterill
- Cody and Christi Stephenson
- Quentis and Betsy Fuqua
30. Joby and Trina Brown

continued from page 2 (Music Ministry)

Youth Choir (grades 6 - 12), college students and adults sing with the Chancel Choir. Sometimes we mix the generations and sing together. How refreshing and what fun!

The choirs vocal and instrumental soloists and ensembles have had participation from multiple ethnicities. This includes Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, and Asian American.

The music represents an array of styles and genres. At some point, we have sung or played anthems, hymns, spirituals, gospel, contemporary and more. This has been music from a wide selection of composers with different nationalities. We hear wonderful American music as well as including European. One year the Children sang a South African song "Siyahamba" in the Zulu language. We have used music of male and female composers; Caucasian and African American. Music of more than 30 African American composers have been used in our services in recent years.

A notable number of the composers are either from Kentucky or have ties to one of its seven border states. Did you know that during 2016 Advent, the choir sang "Creation will be at Peace" by Anna Laura Page, a native Kentuckian, educated at the University of Kentucky, and is married to the former president of Austin Peay State University? Did you know the beautiful setting of "The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" based on Psalm 8 that the choir purchased in memory of Jack and Donna Dunlap and sang June 11 was composed by Tom Fettke, who lives with his wife in Brentwood, Tennessee? Some music has personal connections. Did you know that the special ending of "I Surrender All" that the choir sang Sunday, was arranged by Mary Lacy Moore, who was the organist at the Presbyterian church I attended as a child and youth in Washington, D. C.?

The music ministry team abides by Psalm 150 and lets everything that has life and breath praise the Lord. We have incorporated almost every instrument in the standard orchestra and more into the morning service as an enhancement to the worship experience. This includes the violin, viola, cello, string quartets, solo instruments, flute, oboe, bassoon in a wind ensemble, brass quartet, brass quintets, solo French horn, trumpet, timpani, bagpipes, harp, piano, organ, guitar (acoustical and electric), hand bells, Orff instruments, hand chimes, and miscellaneous percussion instruments including djembe, bongos, and Congo drums.

We have provided a platform for every level of musical development and expression, from beginning and budding, to advanced and professional, with each level sharing musical gifts to a receptive congregation. What breadth and vibrancy we have witnessed!

I would love for more people to participate. It is fun and meaningful. We sing, have pot luck meals, and gather for a fish fry. We check on one another and pray for the well - being of all. Please come and share your talents with us! We would enjoy weaving the gift of each person, no matter the age or the level of talent, into a tapestry for a meaningful worship experience. Come Sunday morning at 8:30 and observe the preparation or participate. Feel free to call me with any questions or fears.

Gail Robinson-Oturu, Ph. D., Director of Music
202-390-3895



The Messenger
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(Disciples of Christ)
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Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240

Periodicals
Hopkinsville, Kentucky
USPS 004-990

MESSENGER - DEADLINE
If you have information that you would like included in the next messenger. The information needs to be submitted to the church office in writing, by Thursday, September 7, 2017
Thank you for your cooperation.