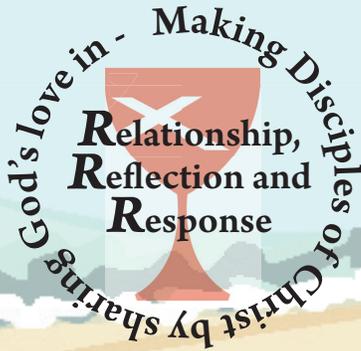


FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

View Messenger online at: www.firstchristianhopkinsville.org

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 14 AUGUST 16, 2017



The MESSENGER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sermon Series: Broken and Beloved

August 20, 2017

In God's Hands

Genesis 45:1-15; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Rev. Nathan C. Brown

August 27, 2017

What's in a Name?

Isaiah 51:1-6; Matthew 16:13-20
Rev. Nathan C. Brown

September 3, 2017

Dancing to a Different Beat

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Matthew 16:21-28
Rev. Nathan C. Brown



ARE YOU PART OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN LEGACY CIRCLE?

Have you included First Christian Church in your will or other estate plan? And, if so, may we have permission to list you as a part of the First Christian Legacy Circle? Your Permanent Fund Committee is beginning an emphasis of encouraging such gifts in the life of the church, and we are beginning the process by attempting to identify those individuals or couples who have already put plans in place. We know you probably are not seeking attention from your gift, but we'd like to add your name to the list to be an encouragement to others to remember FCC in their plans also.

Please let us know by calling the church office or Chair of the Permanent Fund Committee, Don Atwood, at 270-881-8886.

Gratefully, Your Permanent Fund Committee

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	Judy Johnson
Brenda Chambers	Betsy Ritzel	Rochelle Claitt



**CHURCH OFFICE AND
PROMISE LAND PRESCHOOL
CLOSED MONDAY, AUGUST 21st**

BUDGET REMINDER

Good Day to the Leadership Council and Ministry Table! We are half way through our financial year and, believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about our 2018 budget. I will need to have a tentative budget established prior to our stewardship campaign which will begin in early October. Please have your 2018 budget requests to me by Friday, August 25. If you need a copy of your particular team or staff budget, please let me know and I will be happy to get that to you for your decision-making process. Thank you for your assistance. Jane Wells

FCC FACEBOOK PAGES

Do you follow the FCC Facebook pages? "Like" them all for updates and information!

[First Christian Church - Hopkinsville, KY](#)

[FCC Hopkinsville Family Ministries](#)

[Challenge House #5 - Hopkinsville, KY](#)

ATTENDANCE PAST SIX WEEKS

07.09.17	121	07.16.17	152
07.23.17	172	07.30.17	160
08.06.17	222	08.13.17	191

"A Note from Nathan"

There is a difference between "joining" and "belonging," right? You've experienced this before. It's one thing to join a civic club, but another to feel like you found your place. It's one thing to move into a house in a new community, but another to feel like you are home. The same is true of the Church. Just because you join in membership does not necessarily mean you yet feel a sense of total belonging.

Which is the reason we've added "congregational assimilation" to Sara's portfolio as our Associate Minister for Youth and Congregational Life. Her work will be one way to help with the transition from visitor, to member, to feeling like FCC is one's church home. She is helping connect visitors and newer members to different ministries and small groups within the life of the church. She is planning things like a potential class about FCC for those interested in joining. Sara even gave a tour of our facility one Sunday a few weeks ago, to those who were interested. However, the most important work of assimilating new people into the life of the church falls to its lay people.

While the staff can do quite a bit to help with this transition, it means a great deal more coming from you. Have you introduced yourself to someone in worship you did not know? Have you invited new members to lunch or to your Sunday School or small group? Have you sent a note of welcome to those new people you met or who recently joined? These aren't things that require a great deal of time and energy, but they mean the world to those who are trying to find their place.

As I've mentioned before, we are fortunate to have more new members this year, thus far, than total in any one previous year—and we expect more. We have lots of folks visiting every Sunday, including many from our neighborhood, just outside our doors. When I look out at the congregation on Sunday morning, I see a very different congregation than I saw almost eight years ago when I began.

I say this often because I think it is easy for us to forget: we are so fortunate to be a congregation experiencing growth in this day and time. Most churches cannot say the same. What is most evident, to me, is not just the numerical growth, but the spiritual vitality that is so very much present. And I'm not the only one who notices.

When Sara was ordained a couple of months ago, she invited the long-time organist from Lexington Theological Seminary to play for her ordination service. The day before the service, I was at the church and met him in the sanctuary while he was practicing. He said to me, "You know, I've been to hundreds of churches throughout my career. You can tell a lot about a church just from its facility and grounds. I haven't even met anyone from this

congregation and it's obvious, this church is singing!"

First Christian Church is most certainly "singing!" It's palpable in Sunday morning worship. It's apparent in the many ministries of which we are a part. It's unmistakable in the generosity and hospitality of our congregants. Keep up the excellent work FCC! Let's build on the momentum so obviously present!

SYMPATHIES

Christian sympathy is extended to Sylvia Carver and family upon the death of her brother, Hank Harrison on July 21st.

Christian sympathy is extended to Jack Jones and family upon the death of his brother, Matt B. Jones, Jr. of Shelbyville, KY on Saturday, July 22nd. Services were held on July 26th.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Bobbie Huffman who died on Sunday, July 30th. Services were held on Friday, August 4th.

FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK & MISSION PRESENTATION

Everyone is invited to an all-church fellowship potluck on Sunday, August 27 at 5:00pm. Victoria Sisk, one of our youth, will be sharing about her mission trip to Ethiopia this summer! We will also share other joys from the church's summer activities. You won't want to miss this encouraging time together!

SAVE-THE-DATE - CCC BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 29, 8:30am

Jim Patton from Christian Care Communities will speak at a breakfast about end-of-life planning and advance directives. This is an important part of future planning, particularly for those interested in the Legacy Circle. Mark your calendars!

PRESCHOOL PAPER DRIVE

The preschool is in need of the following paper items:

- * Trifold towels (found at Sam's Club)
- * 9 oz. paper cups
- * Large paper plates
- * Paper bowls
- * Paper towels
- * Small paper plates
- * Napkins
- * Wet wipes
- * Toilet paper

These items can be turned in to the preschool or brought to church on Sunday, August 27th (Preschool Appreciation Sunday). Thank you for all your support and kindness shown to our preschool program.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed for the preschool, K-2nd and 3rd-5th grade Sunday school classes. Both teachers and shepherds are needed. Please contact Jenny Fleming at 270-881-2749 or by email at jenny.fleming@firstchristianhopkinsville.org if you would like to volunteer. Thanks and many blessings, Jenny Fleming

FCC T-SHIRTS

Due to the great success of church shirts, we are doing another order - this time with more colors available! Show your FCC pride in the community and at FCC events! Adult tees, women's cut tees, long sleeve tees, hoodies, and youth tees are all available. SHIRTS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED by August 25, so don't wait! They will arrive in September. Check the church's Facebook page for the link, or pick up an order form in the Gathering Space. See Sara if you have any questions!

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 Sandra Kilijian or Sara Fisher!

SEARCH AND CALL ASSOCIATE MINISTER

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 Dobyms, with instructions on the process itself. Since then, we have completed our congregational profile and submitted it to the Regional Office. By the time you are reading this, we are hoping to have 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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TGIW RESUMES

September 13, 2017

TGIW will begin on September 13, and run through November 8th (skipping Oct. 11th for fall break). We are working on menus now. If any group wants to have a fundraiser on one of those dates please let me know before September 1 when we will be booking our menus with Four Seasons. Also, there will not be a different children's menu each night. Please encourage your child to try the "adult fare" which is more nutritional than hot dogs and chicken fingers every week.

Two volunteers are needed each date for TGIW. Please check your calendar and consider working at ONLY one of the TGIW dinners. A sign up sheet will be available soon at church or surprise me and call me to sign up at 270-271-7000, 270-887-3618, email at skilijian@hotmail.com.

Thanks for your help with these dinners.
Sandra Kilijian

Meal at 5:30 p.m.; Program at 6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir

If your child is interested in joining the children's choir, please contact Sylvia at 931-980-6334 or Jenny at jenny.fleming@firstchristianhopkinsville.org.
6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

FALL PROGRAMS

September 13 - Kickoff Program & Dyslexia - We will have some interactive activities and hear from the Dyslexia 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.

Preschool Appreciation Sunday August 27, 2017

Mark your calendars now for our annual Pre-School Appreciation Sunday on August 27, 2017. During worship that day, the pre-school children will sing a couple of songs and we will collect a special offering for the pre-school program. Many of the pre-school families will be with us in worship that day. Let's show our FCC hospitality to our many visitors that day along with our support for this important ministry within the life of our church!



The Messenger

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

2601 South Walnut Street

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, August 24, 2017.
Thank you for your cooperation.