

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 2017



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 17, 2017

Greater Things: Who is stopping you?

Psalm 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

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

You may or may not be aware that several weeks ago, one of our old water fountains burst in the middle of the night, flooding the hallways and classrooms on the preschool wing of the church. Thankfully, our custodians get here early enough in the morning that they, along with Gary, were able to stop the water flow before more damage was incurred. However, the flooding did warp and damage the flooring in these hallways. This, unfortunately, requires that we replace all the flooring. The flooring must be up for a few days before it can be replaced. It will be an eyesore for a little while, but should be completed in the next couple of weeks. Thanks for your patience and understanding during this project.

TGIW FALL PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 20, 27, & OCTOBER 4

MODERN MONSTERS

This three-week series will look 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 20th Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Catered by: Four Seasons

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

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

Witches and The Fear From Within

What do The Wizard of Oz and the biblical story of Jacob and Esau have in common? How do we go on "witch hunts" today? And why oh why are clowns so scary? In the first study of this series, we'll consider these questions... and how their answers might lead us to live out God's calling in a more faithful way.

Chancel Choir - 7:00 p.m.

September 27th Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Catered by: Four Seasons

Mexican chicken and beef fajitas, rice, chips and salsa and mixed cookie bars

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

The Devil Made Me Do It (and other lies)

Is Satan even real, or just a figment of our imagination? And why does that matter for the way we live our lives? In the second study, we'll think about Satan's role in temptation, and how our view of Satan has changed since the Bible was written.

Chancel Choir - 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS ON THE ATTENDANCE CARDS EACH WEEK IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND or BY CALLING OR E-MAILING THE CHURCH OFFICE BY NOON EACH MONDAY. WE ARE NO LONGER MAKING STANDING RESERVATIONS. THANK YOU!

ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN!!!

TGIW has started back. Join us Wednesday nights for children's choir, games, arts and crafts, and much more! See Jenny Fleming, Sylvia Carver, or Marie McCourt if you have any questions. Hope to see you this Wednesday!

“A Note from Nathan”

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]

If you keep up with Facebook, you have probably noticed some recent postings to our First Christian Church page regarding our stewardship theme, “Greater Things.” One post was a picture of the communion set our elders and deacons use to serve communion to the homebound. Another was of Bibles we place at Challenge House #5 for kids to read when they are done with their homework. A third was of plaques that our FCC volleyball and softball teams won last year for being runners-up in their respective YMCA leagues.

At first glance, these hardly seem like the “greater things” Jesus is referencing in our theme verse from the gospel of John. After all, we aren’t walking on water or raising people from the dead. However, I don’t think when Jesus says, “greater works,” he is talking about miracles. Rather, that we are always attempting to choose the greater thing, which is love.

We are faced with such decisions every day. What is the greater thing to which I am giving, beyond myself? What is the greater good I can be spending my time, energy and resources on? What is the greater work I can be doing today? These are the questions upon which we will be reflecting during our stewardship emphasis these next several weeks.

The truth is, some pretty great things are happening at FCC. We have children and youth programming that is exploding with young people. We have more new members thus far this year (23), than we have had total in any single year previously, in the time I have been here. Our Elders are taking communion to inmates at the Jail. We are one step away from welcoming a new Challenge House Ambassador. We have a new Youth Minister coming on board and are searching for a new Full-Time Associate Minister.

Keep watching Facebook, looking to your newsletters and bulletins and visiting the church website. There is more to come. Jesus says, we are capable of even greater things! Can you imagine? Try. Then decide to give yourself to it. In doing so, I think you will find that Jesus is right, after all.

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!

VOLLEYBALL BEGINS!

The FCC Volleyball team is looking for new players for the October-December league. See Trent Haddock (trenthaddock@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up!

NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

We will be spotlighting our newer members as a way to get to know them better!



Kelly Campbell

Kelly Campbell joined our church in July, and we are thrilled to have her! Kelly is joining her parents Curtis and Diane Pyle in membership. Kelly’s husband Steve tragically passed away earlier this year, and she felt loved by members of FCC during that difficult time.

She is a District Manager of Cato Fashions. In addition to her “day” job, Kelly works as a consultant for Lipsense/ Senegence and loves helping people feel good about themselves!

Kelly has a passion for helping people, especially women. She has experience in many ministries and is excited to plug in to FCC! You can email her at campbellskincare@yahoo.com to let her know you’re glad she’s with us!



**SAVE THE DATE
AUTUMNFEST
OCTOBER 29, 3-5PM**

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 Pastor Sara!

SEARCH AND CALL ASSOCIATE MINISTER UPDATE #3

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. We have now contacted candidates of interest regarding their interest in the position here at FCC. We will be setting up interviews soon. 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.

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. 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

- 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...

NOTE OF THANKS

To our church family,

Words cannot express our appreciation for the visits, food, flowers and prayers provided by you all during Kahle and my illnesses. It means so much to be apart of a church that is so caring.

Kahle and I are on the road to recovery - please pray for Texas and Louisiana or anyone affected by Hurricane Harvey - the power of prayer is mighty.

Thank you again,

Kahle and Gay Morris

First Christian Church Members,

Promise Land Preschool wants to thank the church for allowing us to take part in the special church service on August 27th. We are so grateful for all the monetary donations as well as all the paper products. We are blessed to be part of such a giving and kind church that always thinks of ways to help our preschool program be successful.

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. The next Table Talk will be October 19th.

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!

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
Mark Roseberry	Mike Powell	Betsy Ritzel
Oakley Haddock	Karon Zimmerman	Rochelle Claitt
Gary and Nita Satterfield	Kelly Campbell	

ATTENDANCE PAST SIX WEEKS

08.06.17	222	08.13.17	191
08.20.17	290	08.27.17	223
09.03.17	163	09.10.17	169



The Messenger

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(Disciples of Christ)

2601 South Walnut Street

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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 21, 2017.
Thank you for your cooperation.