



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

August 2025

Matthew 6:33 **But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.** 34 **Therefore do not worry about tomorrow...**

August is quintessential summer. The dog days of summer once held open roads and family gatherings over its last carefree days. Now, from teens to the elderly, high anxiety has reduced being carefree to distant memory.

What if. What if I lose my job. What if this bump becomes a catastrophic diagnosis causing hardship on the family while depleting our modest savings leaving my elderly wife destitute. What if family and friends scorn my bi-racial engagement. Today, anxiety is all around. From global events to personal challenges, anxiety and worry continuously try to take root in our heart. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the uncertainties that are more prevalent now than at any prior time. Anxiety was once experienced like the coming and going of waves. Now it feels as though it never recedes, only continually increasing until drawing breath feels impossible.

The psychology journal, Behavior Therapy, Vol. 51, Issue 3, May 2020, contains an article, "Exposing Worry's Deceit: Percentage of Untrue Worries in Generalized Anxiety Disorder Treatment", pages 413-423. Penn State researchers Lucas LaFreniere and Michelle Newman conducted a study which produced eye popping results. In the comprehensive study, only 8.6% of all anxiety is concerned with real and present problems. In my opinion, it's the other 91.4% grinding us to the bone.

6:25 **"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes, ?"** Jesus doesn't dismiss our concerns; rather, he invites us to shift our focus. He points us to the natural world – the birds of the air, the lilies of the field – as living testaments to our God's divinely meticulous care.

If God so faithfully provides for the birds and clothes the flowers with such splendor, how much more will God care for us as beloved children so taught by the Bible we are?

The core of Jesus's message here is not a call to inaction, but a call to trust. When we worry, we are, in essence, doubting God provision and sovereignty. We are trying to carry burdens that the Lord has promised to bear.

This is where gratitude becomes our powerful weapon against anxiety. When we intentionally cultivate a heart of thankfulness, we begin to see God hand in every detail of our lives. Instead of focusing on what we lack or what might go wrong, we acknowledge and appreciate what we have and what God has already done.

Consider these ways gratitude dissolves anxiety:

- ☐ Gratitude redirects our focus: It pulls our attention away from our fears and places it on God's faithfulness.
- ☐ Gratitude reminds us of God's past provision: Recalling how God has come through before builds faith for the present and future.
- ☐ Gratitude fosters contentment: When we appreciate what we have, the desire for more and the fear of not having enough both diminish.
- ☐ Gratitude invites peace: A thankful heart is a peaceful heart, resting in the knowledge that God is in control.

Jesus concludes with a profound directive: 6:33 **"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."** When we pursue God just a fraction of how hard God's pursues us, anxieties fade. We trust that as we honor God, God will faithfully provide for our needs.

Inside...August Birthdays, Events, News

Rev Colby Smith

FCC KIDS CORNER

Kid's Club Fall Events

Save the Dates!

Aug 10th Trip to Malibu Jack's

Kid's Club Resumes Sunday, Aug 17th



Vacation Bible School at FCC-July 10-17th

We had a GREAT time at VBS this year as we learned about and shared God's love with our community!

We rediscovered the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 and collected 208 items for the Salvation Army food pantry, got to get inside an ambulance and made thank you bags for our Boyle County First Responders while learning more about the Good Samaritan. Then we learned a new story about Ruth and Naomi and spread the love about the importance of loving our elders with residents at Parkview Assisted Living. They loved our singing and the craft we made for them.



With 34 attendees, we needed volunteers and these FCC youth and adult volunteers gave up four evenings to help! Martha Bryant, Jacob and Molly Cooper, Terry and Linda Dachenhaus, Stephen and Trista Hinkle, Kate and Becca Hoffman, Sherrie Horn, Julie Jones, David May, Mary Ann McGlothlin, Connie McVicker, Sueann Rice, Lillian Russell, Darell Rickmers, Becky Whited, Jenny Wilson, and Penny Vaught. As you can see VBS really does take a village and this group was amazing!



Photos courtesy of Trista Hinkle

For questions about Children's programs, contact Patti Wright

Email patti@firstchristiandanville.com or text (812) 483-9004

Please Keep the following in your Prayers

John Caywood	Melodee Quinn
Gary Gibson	Bonnie & Tyler Traschel
John Taylor Ross	Danielle Fields
Jan Sheffield	Pat Mallard
Bill Morgan	Butch Pass
Trevor & Lucy Graham	Ruth Sigler
Darell Rickmers	David & Nancy Robertson
Lauren Newman	Mindy Carter
Wanda Huffman	The McMurry Family
Mary Sebring	The Talley Family
Mary Lou Withers	Lucille Lemmon
Jim Routin	
Marlena Ellis	

Remember our Shut-ins

Martha Akin	Lucille Lemmon
Pat & Steve	Margaret Milburn
Bruce	Bonnie Wilson
Mindy Carter	Georgianne Smith
Hugh & Mary Jo	Johnetta Gibson
Coomer	



August Worship Roster

August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Worship Leader– Margo Clark	Worship Leader– Jacob Cooper	Worship Leader– Evelyn Guerrant	Worship Leader– Jan Scott	Worship Leader– Terry Dachenhaus
Elder– Elmer Jackson	Elder– Lyle McGlothlin	Elder– Tom Huckleberry	Elder–Julie Jones	Elder–Joey Kirk
Elder & Counter– Suzie Jackson	Elder & Counter– Mary Ann McGlothlin	Elder & Counter– Martha Caywood	Elder & Counter– Mary Ann McGlothlin	Elder & Counter– Margo Clark
Children's Chat– Rev Colby Smith	Children's Chat– Kendra Funkhouser	Children's Chat– Scott Walker	Children's Chat– Martha Bryant	Children's Chat– Patti Wright
Worship & Wonder– Combined with Children's Church	Worship & Wonder– Combined with Children's Church	Worship/Wonder– Combined with Children's Church	Worship/Wonder– Connie McVicker / Penny Vaught	Worship/Wonder– Combined– Labor Day Holiday
Children's Church– Penny Vaught/Jenna Walker	Children's Church– Kendra Funkhouser/ Patti Wright	Children's Church– Patricia Calvert/ Patti Wright	Children's Church– Martha Bryant/ Patti Wright	Children's Church– Patti/need volunteer
Nursery Volunteer– Mary McKitric and Jessica Maynard	Nursery Volunteer– Edna Prall and Jessica Maynard	Nursery Volunteer– Kris Hamlin and Jessica Maynard	Nursery Volunteer– Trista Hinkle and Jessica Maynard	Nursery Volunteer – Jessica Maynard/need volunteer
No Kid's Club (Summer Break)	Youth/Kid's Club trip to Malibu Jack	Kid's Club- Asst- need volunteer	Kid's Club Asst- Martha Bryant	No Kid's Club (Labor Day)
Parkview– Vince				

Four Cans for Others

297 cans were donated during July. Which give a total of **771**. Let's keep bringing in those cans so we can beat our total for 2024 of **1,421** cans!



News & Announcements

*Thank
You*

Dear Members of First Christian Church:

I would like to express my thanks to the members of First Christian Church for the gift given to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky for Camp Wakon' Da-Ho. This over and above outreach gift will help strengthen and expand our service to children, youth and adults.

We appreciate the many ways that the church is involved in witness and serves through the Christian Church of Kentucky. We claim your ministry as our ministry together in the name of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, II

Dear FCC,

Thank you for the generous scholarship, blanket and the Bible. They will all help me in unique ways throughout my life. More importantly, however, thank you for creating a nurturing environment where I can grow spiritually.

Sincerely,

Henry Pennington

School Supply Drive

Once again we are hoping to fill 72 backpacks with school supplies for our area schools!

You can pick up a backpack at worship on July 27 and August 3rd and return them filled with school supplies by August 10th. They will be given to the resource centers at Danville and Boyle County schools to be used as supplies wear out. Pick up a backpack and a list of MOST needed items on Sunday mornings or at the church office anytime during office hours. Contact Patti with questions. Thank you!



Office & Walking Track Hours

Monday— Friday

8:00 a.m.— Noon & 1:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.

Dear Rev. Colby & Congregation,

Thank you so very much for your generosity, kindness and friendship. We received your donation to the Voices Inside Program on 6/25/2025. Your choice to be a part of the Pioneer Playhouse family and to help us continue our outreach programs mean a great deal to us! Thank you for helping keep the performing arts alive!

We could not continue to bring a unique theatre experience to our community without help from friends like you!

Again, many thanks for your continued support! We are gearing up for our 76th season and can't wait to see you this summer... under the stars!!

Sincerely,

Heather Henson— Managing Director

Robby Henson- Artistic Director

Dear Church Family,

We are deeply humbled and grateful for the love and support you've shown us during our time of loss.

Nancy's mom lived 92 full and meaningful years. In the end, her body (worn down by the effects of Parkinson's) finally gave out. Doug's dad lived an active and vibrant life, and while his cancer wasn't discovered until it was too late, we're thankful that he passed quickly and without much pain. For that, we rejoice.

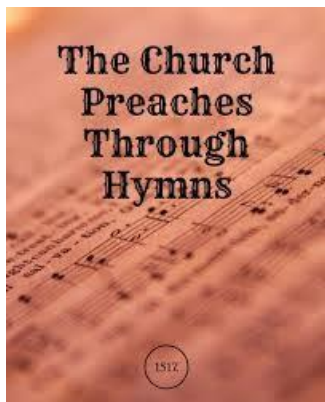
Thank you for the cards, texts, meals, hugs and most importantly – prayers. We truly felt them all. Our church family means the world to us, and we are so blessed to walk through both sorrow and joy with you.

With love and gratitude,
Doug and Nancy

Marilyn Lusk Highfield

Marilyn Lusk Highfield died at home under hospice care on June 24, 2025. She had just moved back to Alabama and found out she had stage 4 lung cancer. She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Charlie Highfield. She leaves behind her daughter Jennifer Highfield and her son Johnathan Highfield.

Thank you so much for all the care and love you showed both Marilyn and Rev. Charles— you were a blessing to us— Jennifer Highfield



Most Christian worship services don't just have one sermon—they have three, four, five, or even six.

Here's what I mean: it's not just the pastor's message that preaches.

The hymns and songs we sing together as a congregation are also proclaiming the Word of God.

Each hymn is a miniature musical sermon. As we sing, we're not just expressing emotion or filling space in the service—we are declaring God's Word to one another.

This isn't just a New Testament idea. Not only do we have the 150 psalms in the Old Testament, God commanded Moses to teach Israel a song. We know it as the Song of Moses in Deuteronomy 32, which we read in the Bible in One Year.

God intended that song to be a witness to his people. It was, in that case, largely a warning, but still a proclamation of the Word through singing—meant to be remembered and passed on through the generations.

So when you gather next time with the body of Christ and lift your voice in song, remember this: you're not only worshiping God—you're preaching to your neighbor. And as the person next to you sings, they're preaching to you too.

The Word is going forth in melody,
in harmony, in truth.

Chad Bird



Calling all Middle School Youth!

Back to School Lock In

Friday, August 8th-Saturday, August 9th

6 p.m.-7 a.m.

At First Christian

Bring a friend and join the fun before heading back to school this fall!

Games, food, scripture and more!

Contact Stephen to register and for what to bring.



Volunteers Needed!!

Do you enjoy being with children? Two-three volunteers are needed to be Greeters for Worship & Wonder one Sunday every 4-6 weeks.

The Greeter role is to greet the children, help with nametags, get out snacks and assist the storyteller so no experience is necessary.

Open to high school students and adults.

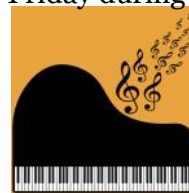
Contact Patti for more information.



We are over halfway to our Goal!!

Thank you to all who have already donated to the Sanctuary Piano Fund!

If you are planning to donate you can put a check into the offering plates or bring it by the office Monday-Friday during office hours.



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Monthly newsletter publication

August 2025



The Sanctuary Choir returns on August 3rd and we need YOU! We will be rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 9:00 so you won't have to give up an evening! If you love to sing, we need YOU! Contact Tim, Harry or any Choir member and come join us!

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