



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

March 2026

“Christ Bids us Look When We Prefer Nothing to See Here”

Nothing is more crippling to our souls than working at hiding our shame. We lock up more and more doors, sealing off more and more rooms of the heart to prevent our true selves from being discovered.

At the center of the Easter Gospel is the proclamation that the risen Christ has come looking for the disciples behind locked doors. He walked right through them, showed them his wounds, and said: “Peace be with you.” You are forgiven, peace is restored to your troubled hearts.

A new creation takes place in that upper room in which forgiveness is firmly lodged. This is the miracle of Easter, that whatever is bound, chained, enslaved, or unfree can be loosed, liberated and freed through the power of forgiveness.

In this first portion of the season of Lent, I am reminded of an instance recorded by Leonardo da Vinci. He was working on his famous painting, “The Last Supper.” He experienced an exchange with a friend in which he became angry. He “lashed out” at the man with bitter words and threats. Returning to his work, he attempted to paint the face of Christ, but was unable to do so. He was so filled with anger he was unable to compose himself for the work at hand. Finally, he put down his brush and sought out the man he had harmed and asked for forgiveness. Only then was he able to finish painting the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the power of the gospel, to assuage our fear, to cover our shame, and to heal our anger. Without forgiveness, we hold each other in bandage; without being forgiven, we are not free. You and I share in the eternal priesthood of Christ through baptism. If we do not forgive those who hurt us, the only alternative is to “retain” the sins.

To retain the sins means to hold, and to hold into the hurts is to lock ourselves into the identity of a victim. When we forgive we set a prisoner free; and the prisoner is too often ourselves. So Lent challenges us to be either a priest or a victim. To be a priest is to free others of shame and ourselves of hurt. To be a victim is to hold onto the hurt which like refusing to drop a hot rock no matter how much deeper it burns.

Please notice the Christian community in the Easter gospel while viewed from the Lenten landscape. Though cowered behind locked doors with fear and shame, the disciples are still the community to which the risen Christ appears.

Thomas was absent from Jesus’ initial appearance. His predicament was the result. He scoffs at the resurrection news. He declares that he will not believe without first touching Christ’s wounds. “Doubting Thomas” reminds us that doubt is a constituent of faith. His weakness is not a failure of love, but inability to release faith into life. Thomas must have felt pulled into two directions: unable to believe unreservedly, yet unable to leave the community called by Christ. By remaining in the community in spite of his inability to believe, he is brought to the point where his faith is finally released in wonderful affirmation: “My Lord and my God.”

Some of us are like Thomas, struggling to release the faith within us. Some of us are like the disciples who lock themselves behind the doors of old failures, hurt, guilt and shame. During the Lenten period of repentance and preparation may we realize that we are like all of them who must learn that faith comes to us through locked doors with wounds apparent.

Rev. Colby Smith

Inside...March Birthdays, Events, News and Announcements, Prayer Requests and more!

FCC KIDS CORNER

Kid's Club March Schedule

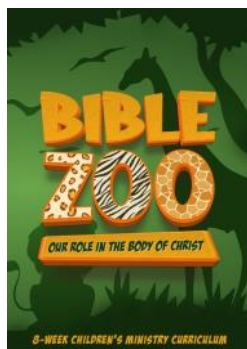
March 1st-Bible Zoo
March 8th-Bible Zoo
March 15th-NO Kid's Club
March 22nd-Bible Zoo
March 29th Easter Egg-Stravaganza
(see details right)



FCC Easter Egg-Stravaganza

Toddlers-5th graders are invited to the Easter Egg-Stravaganza on March 29th Immediately following Worship

We will have an Easter snack, make a craft and then hunt eggs in the FCC Garden.



Kid's Club Spring Theme Bible Zoo

Lions and tigers and bears!!

Just as a zoo is made up of many animals, the body of Christ is also called to live with one another.

This series will show us how!

Kid's Club Donuts and Disciples

Kid's Club Winter theme was Donuts and Disciples. We had fun making Donuts from old CD's, building with Donut holes and more while learning about Jesus and Nicodemus and Counting the Cost from Luke 9. A sweet time was had by all!



FCC Spring Sunday Morning Children's Programs

During Worship, Children Birth-5th grade are invited to leave the sanctuary after the Children's Chat to worship in a way that is developmentally appropriate to their age. All programs are staffed with background checked volunteers.

Church Nursery -Newborns through age 4

Worship & Wonder-Children age 4-2nd Grade

Children's Church-Children in 3rd-5th Grade

After Worship, children K-5th grade are invited to Kid's Club. We eat lunch together and then explore a bible story through games, art, science experiments, and more. For questions about FCC Children's programs, contact Patti.

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

News & Announcements

Thank you

Dear First Christian Church,

What an incredible year it has been. Through every challenge— even our building crisis—God faithfully carried and sustained us. Because of your generosity, more than 700 individuals in our community received care, support, and hope. Thank you for making missions possible and for helping families experience compassion in action. As we look toward 2026, we are prayerfully seeking God's guidance, renewal, purpose, and hope.

May we release what we cannot control and trust God to shine through every part of this ministry. Thank you for partnering with us.

Blessings,

Haven Care Center

Dear FCC Family,

Thank you so much for your gift to Loaves & Fish, Paducah TX. Your support helps us provide nutritious meals and vital assistance to about 50 people weekly in our community of Paducah. Our hope is that folks receive healthy meals, as well as comfort and encouragement feeling known and cared for.

Your generous gift helped us serve about 11,000 meals in 2025!!

On behalf of everyone at Loaves & Fish and the community of Paducah, thank you!! We are deeply thankful for your partnership!!

With sincere appreciation,

Mona Gregory, President

Day Light Saving Time Starts On March 8th



Office & Walking Track Hours

Monday— Friday

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

Church Women United,

Our March Human Rights Celebration will be held on Friday, March 6th @ 9:30am at Shawnee Run Baptist Church, [2452 Shakertown Road](#).

Debbie Thurnell will be the speaker. She founded the mission at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Danville for the unhoused/homeless population in Danville, has worked personally with the unhoused population, and has current information about the Boyle County Homeless Coalition.

BRING A FRIEND!



A Pot Luck breakfast begins @ 9:30, with Debbie speaking, followed by a brief business meeting, and then the Celebration/Worship Service.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Wendy Hood, 859 613-2575 Linda Castle 720-218 -9007 or Judy Morgan 859-583-3261.

Dear First Christian Church,

Because of you, CASA of the Bluegrass can continue to support children who have experienced abuse or neglect with by working with a volunteer who has their best interest at heart. By being that caring and consistent adult, CASA Volunteers are the certainly in uncertain times for the children we serve.

Thanks to you, we will be in a stronger position to advance our mission of helping the children we serve by giving them the opportunity to thrive in a safe, permanent, and loving home.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for enabling CASA of the Bluegrass to give these children hope for a brighter future.

Together, we can change a child's story

Sincerely,

Tami Wilson, Executive Director

News & Announcements

Holy Week at FCC:

Sunday March 22nd– Lenten Recital Series @ 3pm

Saturday March 28th–Community Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday March 29th– Palm Sunday– Palm Procession and jubilant music in worship featuring the choir... Easter Egg-Stravaganza immediately following Worship

Thursday April 2nd– Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Supper @6pm, Worship @ 7pm

Friday April 3rd– Good Friday/Prayer Vigil. Come to the Sanctuary anytime from 7am - 7pm for quiet meditation

Sunday April 5th– Early Easter Service- 8am outside, weather permitting Easter Service– 10:45 am

We are blessed to have two new babies in our church family and two new toddlers!



Mary McKitric is in the nursery every week and needs at least one extra person to care for the youngest in our congregation. Please contact Patti if you can help one Sunday a month!

Community Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 28th Time TBD

Millenium Park

We will once again be partnering with Parks and Recreation and other churches to bring kids in our community together! You can help by . . .

- Purchasing candy and large plastic eggs
- Helping stuff eggs with candy on Tues. March 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- Volunteering at the event!
- Contact any member of the Outreach Team



Easter Flowers



It's time to order Easter Flowers in Honor or in Memory of someone special. The cost is \$15. Order forms will be available on the Welcome Table or in the church office. The last day to order will be March 29th.

Connections Ministry Team Events

- March 26th– Lunch at the Bread of life in Liberty, KY. Meet at the church at 10:30am to depart.
- March 27th,28th and 29th- Production of “Newsies Junior” at Danville High School. Darell Rickmers and Scott Walker are directing the Musical “Newsies”!
- April 5th- Easter Breakfast will be provided after Sunrise Service
- All-Church Outing to Keenland Spring Meet. Go to the website for individual ticket/s: <https://tickets.keenland.com/racing-events/>. Plan to meet at the church at 11:00am to depart. There will be a sign up sheet for those who are planning to attend.

THANKS EVERYONE FOR ALL YOU DO TO
KEEP OUR CONGREGATION “CONNECTED”

GOD BLESS,

Margaret Clark

2026 Baptism Class

This class is offered to those 3rd grade and older and takes place Sunday mornings, February 15 thru March 22nd.

Those who choose to will be baptized on Palm Sunday, March 29th.

News & Announcements

Salvation Army Pantry Coordinator, Jordan, brought to our attention these specific needs:

They could use **Hamburger Helper** (along with the appropriate canned meats to accompany), & **powdered/dry milk**. She mentioned they get a lot of cereal but clients don't often have milk to go along with it.

She's anxiously awaiting our food drop off as their shelves are getting thin! Thanks for participating with us!

We need your help!!!! Trista is doing her best to accommodate the many requests from your new Treasurer. One of the requests is for her to give the

Financial reports to me the 2nd week of the month for Finance Committee to be able to review the week before the Board meeting. In order to make this happen, this is where We need your help. Trista is not able to close out the month's end books without RECEIPTS..... We must know where and how to post the expenditures.

This is sooooo important for many reasons. If you are spending on behalf of FCC, please bring or email the receipt so that Trista is able to complete the reports in a timely manner and not have to chase down the necessary receipts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. We are on a tight budget and need to track every expenditure. The SNOW/ICE wasn't kind to us and the cost was great to have the parking lot cleared.

In Service,

John A Funkhouser

Book Club will meet to discuss *Midwives* by Chris Bohjalian. Come and enjoy a light lunch and discuss with the group immediately following church on Sunday, March 1st in the Fellowship Hall.



New Online Member Directory Login

Our Online Member Directory has moved to a new platform. Because of this change, all members must create a new username and password to access the directory.

You can access the directory by:

- ☐ Clicking the directory link on our website, or
- ☐ Going directly to app.onlinememberdirectory.com

If you have not yet logged in to the new system, please follow the steps below:

First-Time Login Instructions

1. Click "**First Time Login from Old System.**"
2. Enter your **first and last name** in the required fields.
3. The system will locate your account and either:
 - o Ask you to enter your email address, or
 - o Ask you to confirm the email address already on file.
4. Enter or confirm your email address on the next page.
5. A verification code will be sent to your email. Enter the code when prompted.
6. Continue to the next page and create a new password that meets the updated security requirements.

Once completed, you will be logged in and can begin using the directory.

Important: Please make note of your new username and password. For future visits, simply use the standard login button.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please let us know.

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you very much for allowing the basketball team to practice at the church's gym. We are so grateful!

Thank you,
Michael Overmyer

Please Keep the following in your Prayers

Gary Gibson	Mindy Carter
John Taylor Ross	Barb Webie
Jan Sheffield	Ben Guerrant
Bill Morgan	Lucille Lemmon
Darell Rickmers	Patsy McClure
Lauren Newman	Ann Pennington
Wanda Huffman	Shelby Pass
Mary Sebring	Barabara C. Rankin Family
Mary Lou Withers	
Jim Routin	
Janet Henson	
Bonnie Traschel	
Butch Pass	
David & Nancy Robertson	

Remember our Shut-ins

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



March Worship Roster

March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Worship Leader– Margaret Clark	Worship Leader– Jan Scott	Worship Leader– John Funkhouser	Worship Leader– Tom Huckleberry	Worship Leader–?
Elder– Margaret Clark	Elder-Nancy McMurry	Elder–Elmer Jack- son	Elder– Martha Bry- ant	Elder– Evelyn Guerrant
Elder & Counter– Larry Scott	Elder & Counter– Doug McMurry	Elder & Counter– Suzi Jackson	Elder & Counter– Bart Gover	Elder & Counter– Jan Bradshaw
Children’s Chat– Kendra Funkhouser	Children’s Chat– Darell Rickmers	Children’s Chat– Jacob Cooper	Children’s Chat– Martha Bryant	Children’s Chat– Carter Northcutt
Worship & Wonder– Alice & Jay Reynolds	Worship & Wonder– Alice & Jay Reynolds	Worship & Won- der– Kandi Wil- liams/Sueann Rice	Worship/Wonder– Patricia Calvert /??	Worship/Wonder– Kandi & Brent Williams
Children’s Church– Kendra Funkhouser	Children’s Church– Jenna Walker	Children’s Church– Molly & Jacob	Children’s Church– Linds Dachenhaus	Children’s Church– Patti Wright
Nursery Volunteer– Mary McKitric	Nursery Volunteer– Edna Prall	Nursery – Kris Hamlin	Nursery– Trista Hinkle	Nursery-Need vol- unteer
Kid’s Club Lunch Asst.Kendra/Shartzer	Kid’s Club Asst/ Lunch-Darell Rickmers/Welch	Shut In Comm.– Evelyn Guerrant/ Bart Gover	Kid’s Club Asst/ Lunch-Martha Bryant/Patti Wright	Children’s Egg- Stravaganza and Egg Hunt –NO Kid’s Club
Parkview– Martha Caywood				
Greeters– Evelyn & Woodie	Greeters– Reid & Melissa	Greeters– Susan & Youth	Cook / Devotion– Tom Huckleberry Greeters– Jeff & Libby	Greeters– Julie & Ann

Even MORE Cans for Others

76 cans were donated during February. Keep bringing those cans so we can beat our total for 2025 of 1994 cans.



Rev. Colby Smith
Senior Pastor
(816) 527-6001
colby@firstchristiandanville.com

Patti Wright
Children's Ministry Director
(812) 483-9004
patti@firstchristiandanville.com

Stephen Hinkle
Youth Ministry Director
(859) 913-7581
stephen@firstchristiandanville.com

Harry Mercer (MSM) Organist
(502) 550-2698
Skeeterportch.harry@gmail.com

Tim Glasscock
Music Ministry Director
(502) 235-0771
sglasscock@bellarmine.edu

Jacob Cooper
Congregational Care Coordinator
(270) 590-6951
Jacob@firstchristiandanville.com

Trista Hinkle
Business Administrator
trista@firstchristiandanville.com

Yvonne Brand
Front Office Manager
yvonne@firstchristiandanville.com

FCC Contact Information
(859) 236-4006

Community Lenten Recital Series

All Recitals are FREE to the Danville Community

Sunday March 1st @ 3pm- Trinity Episcopal Church

Zach Klobnak, Asst. Professor of Music at Centre College

Sunday March 8th @ 3pm– Presbyterian Church

Schuyler Robinson, DMA , Professor of Emeritus, Organ

Sunday March 15th @ 3pm– Presbyterian Church

Lisa Hall, Associate Cathedral Organist, Jana Flygstad, Flutist

Sunday March 22nd @ 3pm– First Christian Church

Bellarmino University Schola cantorum with Special Guest Owen Sammon. Conducted by S. Timothy Glasscock

First Christian Church

555 E. Lexington Ave.
P.O. Box 1398
Danville, KY 40423

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