



FIRST CHRISTIAN
disciples of christ

HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

March 11, 2020

Κoinῶνία (Koinonia)

koinḗ' nēā, noun: Christian fellowship

He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-12, CEB)

As many of you know by now, First Christian Church is now on the search for the next associate minister. I would like to communicate on behalf of the search committee what our work entails during this time.

We are not looking for a “youth pastor” just quite yet. The next most appropriate minister for this congregation is one that can help build capacity and accommodation for our rapid growth. All areas of the church's mission need organization, communication, resources, training, encouragement, follow-up and support. This includes worship, outreach, senior adult ministries, Christian education, children and youth ministries, and others.

The call that we are extending now, for an associate minister, is designed to work closely with all staff and lay leadership to design, organize and execute programmatic ministries. This person will oversee volunteer recruitment, training and support, taking much of the burden of organization off the shoulders of our dedicated church members. This minister will be a pastor to all of you, children and youth included, and a compliment to the gifts I offer to the community, so that we together can empower FCC to make disciples who make a difference.

Because children and youth are so important to all of us, I am eager to mention that the job description as written identifies that special priority is given to young people's ministries. This means that the programs we design, organize, recruit and train volunteers for, are to be first focused on our children and youth. The ideal person we are seeking is qualified and experienced in this strategy.

As for the very near future, I believe that the next hire after our associate could be a dedicated, part-time children's or

youth pastor. Of course, this is up to the congregation to discern according to God's will and wisdom for the church, but for what it's worth, this is my feeling.

There are a couple of things that I would like to ask of all of you. First, pray. I'm serious. Take a little time in your routine to say a prayer for this congregation to find the person God has already selected for us. Second, feel free to talk to the personnel team about the job description, the search committee about the process, or to me about what I see as our vision for the exciting future of First Christian. Elder John Funkhouser is the chair of the personnel team and Elder Cheryl Gibson is the chair of the search committee.

One thing that I absolutely must mention is about confidentiality in the search process: the process is open. Your questions are welcomed and invited. The team is sure to keep us up to date as things occur through the newsletter, bulletin, worship announcements and electronic media, including email. However, any information about the candidates whatsoever is strictly confidential. Name, gender, age, race, experience, location, churches served, the color of their hair, the name of their pets, the kind of car they drive... you get the idea. The search team cannot disclose anything, not even to the board, elder or deacon chairpersons until the process is complete. We are bound to a covenant of strict confidentiality and we are obligated to honor it. This is to protect the candidates we encounter. Adhering to such a policy ensures that we will get the best candidates referred to us. We greatly appreciate your respect also for this confidentiality.

Undoubtedly, this is an exciting time. The church has grown rapidly and wants to grow more both in attendance numbers and individual spiritual depth, but it cannot happen effectively unless we faithfully build the capacity for that growth. I hope all of you are as excited as I am. Thank you all for your trust and dedication to this church.

Shalom,
Joey Pusateri

Inside...

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News & Events

Associate Minister Search Committee

If you have not completed the four question survey (online or hard copy) provided by the Associate Minister Search Committee, please do so by this Sunday, March 15. You may drop it in the offering plate or brown envelope located on the welcome table or church office.. Please continue to pray for our church and the members of the search committee: Julie Jones, Joey Kirk, Patrick McClure, Jennifer Pusateri, Joey Pusateri (ex officio), and Cheryl Gibson, Chairperson.

Lenten Lunches

Don't miss our Lenten Lunches series with Messages of Hope. Lunch is served at 12 Noon followed by a speaker and concludes by 12:55 pm. Make sure to invite your friends, family, and co-workers. Below is the remainder of the Lenten Lunches schedule:

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 17 | Speaker: Rev. Caroline Kelly Cook: Harry Mercer |
| March 24 | Speaker: Rev. Jason Kilby Cooks: Brian Calvert/John Funkhouser |
| March 31 | Speaker: Elder Tom Huckleberry Cook: Brian Darnell/Ben Guerrant |
| April 7 | Speaker: Rev. John Powell Cook: Lyle & Mary Ann McGlothlin |

Backpack Kids Offering

We will collect an offering this Sunday, March 15 for the Backpack Kids Weekend Food Supply. FCC has been involved in this program for 17 years and currently, there are five churches participating.

New Art Exhibit

Don't miss the new art exhibit by photographer, Nick Lacy. Nick has been riding all over the Commonwealth for the last seven years taking photos of all walks of life. The photography art exhibition is located on the 2nd floor hallway. Prints can be purchased directly from Nick with half of the donation going to FCC's Maxine Maxey Endowment Fund.

Open Gym

Take advantage of using our gym and walking track this early spring. It is open to the community on Wednesdays 5-8 pm.

4 Cans 4 Others

There were 46 cans collected in February bringing a total of 31,615. The Salvation Army is very appreciative of every item received in which they give to someone in need in our community. Keep bringing those cans and let's reach a goal of 32,000 by Easter Sunday.

Donations needed for Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt at FCC needs donations of individually wrapped bags of candy. Please place candy in blue containers in Narthex by March 30th.

Pre-Easter Church Cleanup

Come help spruce of the church before Easter on Saturday, April 4 from 9 am -12 pm. For questions, contact Steve Cline (859-319-4332).

Disciples Women's Conferences

Women's Spring Conference - April 18th at Central Christian Church, Lexington (Cost \$35; Registration Deadline April 1)

KY Disciples Women's Quilt/Knit/Craft Retreat - July 6-9, Jabez, KY (Cost is inclusive to room, meals and registration of \$25 non-refundable; Deadline is June 22)

For more information and for online registration go to ccinky.net

Easter Flowers

Place your order for Easter flowers in memory or in honor of someone. Cost is \$10. Place your money or check with order form in the designated box on the welcome table. Flowers can be picked up after 10:45 worship on Easter Sunday, April 12.

Backpack Kids Packing Team

The Backpack Kids Team will pack food bags on Wednesday March 25th at 9:30 am at Indian Hills Christian Church. If you would like to help with this outreach, call Nancy Robertson @ 239-8317.

Kids Corner

Upcoming Events

(Children)

March 17-God's Family

March 20-21-Lock-in (Children & friends 3rd-5th grade) 6pm-Will help that morning with Soups on Us

(Middle/HS Youth)

March 27-28- Lock-in

DYC (Middle/High School Youth) Sundays at 5:15 pm at FCC in March.

DYC (Senior High) Devotions at the Hub-Wednesdays at 7:15 am.

Prayer Concerns

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Bill Barker | Julian Mitchell |
| Janice Bohannon | Peggy Mitchell |
| Jerry Boyd | Susan Montgomery |
| Steve Bruce | Bill Morgan |
| Lynne Dean | Jim Page |
| Peyton Guerrant | Betty Ramey |
| Odell Hines | Mike Swain |
| Jack Kaiser | Bonnie Wilson |
| Marianne Kirby | Jeff Withers |
| Marilyn Marlowe | Mary Lou Withers |
| Margaret Ann Milburn | |
| Mike Miller | |

In Sympathy

To Ken Clark and family on the passing of his father, Williams "Bill" Clark, on March 3.

To Darell Rickmers and family on the passing of his mother, Janet Rickmers, on March 7.

Attendance

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----|
| March 1 (Recovery Sunday) | March 8 | | |
| Attendance | 350 | Attendance | 140 |
| Last Year | 350 | Last Year | 133 |

Easter Services and Events

March 3 – Lenten Lunches (Every Tuesday @ Noon)
 April 5 – Palm Sunday Service 10:45 am
 April 9 – Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service 7:30 pm
 April 10 – Good Friday Prayer Vigil 6 am - 6 pm
 April 11 – Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 am @ FCC
 April 12 – Easter Sunrise 7:30 am
 Easter Worship 10:45 am

Weeks Ahead

| Week of March 15 | | Week of March 22 | |
|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Sunday | 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Service 5:15 DYC at FCC | Sunday | 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Service 12:00 Elders Lunch 5:15 DYC at FCC |
| Monday | 9:00 Body Recall 6:30 PALS (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Support Group | Monday | 9:00 Body Recall 6:30 PALS (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Support Group |
| Tuesday | 7:00 Boy Scouts 6:30 Assoc. Minister Search Committee (parlor) 7:15 DYC Hub Devotions 9:00 Body Recall 10:00 Healthy Back Class 5:00 Open Gym (5-8) 5:30 Grace Notes Hand bells 6:30 Ladies AA Group | Tuesday | 7:00 Boy Scouts 12:00 Lenten Lunches |
| Thursday | 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Magnet Bible Study Group 4:00 Centering Prayer Group 6:30 Living Word Bible Study 7:00 Church Board | Wednesday | 7:15 DYC Hub Devotions 9:00 Body Recall 10:00 Healthy Back Class 5:00 Open Gym (5-8) 5:30 Grace Notes Bells 6:30 Ladies AA Group 7:00 Sanctuary Choir |
| Friday | 9:00 Body Recall 10:00 Healthy Back Class 6:00 Children (3rd-5th) Lock-in 7:30 AA Meeting 8:00 Al-Anon | Thursday | 9:30 Magnet Bible Study Group 4:00 Centering Prayer Group 6:30 Living Word Bible Study |
| Saturday | 7:30 Soups on Us 10:30 Al-Anon | Friday | 9:00 Body Recall 10:00 Healthy Back Class 6:00 Youth Lock-in 7:30 AA Meeting 8:00 Al-Anon |
| | | Saturday | 10:30 Al-Anon |

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Service Roster March 15

Deacons Jay Reynolds (Team Coordinator), Patty Castle, Laura Hoffman, Nancy Mahan, Jenny McClure, Patrick McClure, Connie McVicker, Alice Reynolds, Lynn Tye, Tom Tye, Jeff Withers **Elders at the Table** Joey Kirk, Butch Pass **Elders Serving Shut-in** Jane Boyd, Julie Jones, Nancy McMurry **Worship Leader** Gigi Biles **Communion Preparer** Linda Dachenhaus **Steward** John Caywood **Greeters** Linda & Terry Dachenhaus **Ushers** David & Edie Cottrell, Lucille Lemmon **Welcome Table** Kathryn Ensor **Children Worship & Wonder** Patricia Calvert, Jackie Fowler

Service Roster March 22

Deacons Jay Reynolds (Team Coordinator), Patty Castle, Laura Hoffman, Nancy Mahan, Jenny McClure, Patrick McClure, Connie McVicker, Alice Reynolds, Lynn Tye, Tom Tye, Jeff Withers **Elders at the Table** John & Kendra Funkhouser **Elders Serving Shut-in Communion** Patricia Calvert, Cheryl Gibson, Tom Huckleberry **Worship Leader** Jan Scott **Communion Preparer** Jeanette Barbour **Steward** John Caywood **Greeters** Elmer & Suzi Jackson **Ushers** Mary McKitric, John & Martha Caywood **Welcome Table** Becky Whited **Children Worship & Wonder** Kandi Williams, Sueann Rice

Next newsletter publication is March 25. Please submit any information by March 20.

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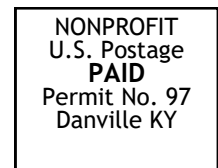
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First Christian Church

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publication*

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Return Service
Requested



a season of renewal