



FIRST CHRISTIAN
disciples of christ

HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

March 25, 2020

Koinōnia (Koinonia)

koinō' nēə, noun: Christian fellowship

"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? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"
(Matthew 6:25-26, NIV)

Don't worry. Easier said than done, isn't it?

It's hard not to worry when there is so much to worry about! Now that we are in the middle of The Great Pandemic of 2020 currently making an enormous imprint in the history books of the future, we are confronted daily with a dizzying array of anxiety-creating headlines.

We obviously worry about those who are infected with the novel coronavirus, particularly those who are in the vulnerable demographics. We obviously worry about those who are standing at the front lines of our hospitals and essential services, tasked with the unwelcomed duty of preserving our society. We obviously worry about those who have lost their jobs, as well as all the rest of us who will be affected by an economy damaged by the pandemic. And yet Jesus has the audacity to tell us not to worry. Doesn't he know what we are going through?

Let us first take a deep breath. We as a congregation, community and nation will get through this. Next, let us remember that history is littered with stories of great challenges and great triumphs. And lastly, keep in mind that Christian faith was custom-made for adversity.

When Jesus was telling his followers not to worry, he knew what he was doing. He was speaking to a group of people who were being persecuted by the government, ostracized by the religious establishment, and rejected by their own families. Furthermore, they lived in a world that was far more violent and far more precarious than today's world. Disease, famine, war, these were a part of daily life. In oth-

er words, the early disciples of Jesus, and virtually every generation since, had a lot to worry about! So we are by no means alone.

And Jesus says to them and to us: "don't worry."

So here's what Jesus doesn't say that I think we need to recognize: Jesus doesn't say, "don't care." In other words, we are not called to be apathetic. After all, Jesus was caring and compassionate, so too should we be. Jesus doesn't say, "don't take action." In other words, Jesus isn't telling us to be passive. When Jesus says that we shouldn't worry about what we should eat or what we should wear, he's not saying that all we need to do is sit still on a rock and let food and clothing come find us. We are expected to be proactive and get to work. In this crisis, there is much that we can and must do. We are all in this together and we will only emerge on the other side as a community.

Jesus says, "don't worry." This simply means that we are to bring a certain attitude to our compassion and our action. Instead of being anxious as we help one another, we should be faithful in our work. This comes from recognizing that the things that we have no control over are ultimately in God's hands. And only when we faithfully put our worries in his hands, we are liberated and empowered to take action on those things we can control.

We are going to emerge from this and we are going to be stronger for it. But as we sail this ship through these stormy, uncharted waters, we need to throw our worries and fears overboard so that they don't sink us. We need to work together and look after each other. Here's one thing everyone can do: pick up the phone. Pick up the phone every single day and call someone. It will give you a little bit of accountability, but it will also strengthen our bonds so the winds of this pandemic don't blow us apart.

And pray.

Shalom,
Joey Pusateri

Inside...

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*Children's Worship at
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DYC Virtual News

*April Birthdays &
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News & Events

All on-site services, activities & events are suspended including the following but not limited to:

Youth Lock-in
Lenten Lunches
Community Easter Egg Hunt
Body Recall
Healthy Back Class
PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Support Group
Boy Scouts
Grace Notes Handbells
Women's AA Group
Sanctuary Choir
Magnet Bible Study Group
Centering Prayer Group
Living Word Bible Study Group
AA Group
Al-Anon Groups

Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Spring (Pre-Easter) Church Clean-up

4 Cans 4 Others

As you know, the shelves have been empty at the grocery stores lately. And although we only had two on-site worship services this month, there have been 258 cans collected, bringing a total of 31,873. Thank you for making a difference even during these unprecedented times. The Salvation Army has been able to help those in need because of your contributions. When church reopens again, please remember to bring your 4 cans.

Disciples Women's Spring Conference Cancelled

The Women's Spring Conference on April 18th at Central Christian Church in Lexington has been cancelled. If you have sent in a registration already, you will be reimbursed.

Associate Minister Survey Results

On behalf of the Search Committee for the Associate Minister, I would like to thank all participants who gave their input for this congregational survey. It is important that we know the qualities you envision for an associate minister, as well as the direction you wish that person to follow. The following is a summary of our findings:

Question 1: What is God calling our church to do and be in the next three years?

1. To reflect Christ in all we do and to be disciples who make a difference through a solid youth ministry, through providing outreach and inclusion to those with various needs, and through intergenerational activities.

Questions 2: What opportunities present themselves to our congregation as we seek to minister to our community?

1. To provide unlimited programs to meet physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our community.
2. To devote ourselves to drawing closer to God, such as more involvement in Sunday School.
3. To develop engaging activities for youth to help them with spiritual growth.

Questions 3: What are the challenges that we need to overcome to accomplish God's desire in this place?

1. To work together across our differences in the spirit of Christ's love, care, and compassion.
2. To not be content with how things have been done, but to experiment with new ideas for church growth, such as worship alternatives, as in offering an informal worship service.
3. To move forward by planning activities that help us connect better with newcomers, with members, with all who walk in our doors.

Questions 4: What counsel would you give the Search Committee as they seek to identify the appropriate pastoral leader for our church?

1. To pray and to be patient.
2. To look for someone committed to stay.
3. To find a person who relates to youth, possesses excellent organization and communication skills, has the ability to delegate and coordinate, to follow up and follow through.

We thank you for this valuable input, and we do ask your continued prayers as we seek to find the person God is preparing for First Christian Church.

God Bless You!
Cheryl Gibson, Chairperson

Children's Worship at Home

The following information is taken from the Disciples Home Missions page which can be found at <http://ccinky.net/covid-19/>. The Kentucky Disciples website offers several resources under the COVID-19 menu for families. Simply find Ministries Across Generations.

Kids Get Ready to Worship—at Home

This is a time when two or more people gather to praise, thank, remember, learn, and spend sacred and special time with one another—and with God. There is no “right way” to worship, but there are some ways that can help everyone prepare.

Ways to Worship

Music: Dancing, Playing, and Singing (Simple Option: Jesus Loves Me) Find a worship song to share, YouTube music video, or instrumental song.

Prayer: Write, color, and share concerns, celebrations, thanks, and current events. Do not forget some may need silence and space. Others may need to hold hands or a prayer cloth for kinesthetic comfort. Figure out what works for your family to talk to God.

Story: Packet and Bible Stories, Scripture Readings, Current Events, God Sightings, Etc.

Blessings: A reminder that God goes with us after this time together - in all that we do.

Ways to Get Ready

“ Light a candle to be reminded of the presence of God.

“ Set out the items needed: (scripture, materials, and clear space)

“ Take time to remind each other how to be respectful in this time.

“ Listen or engage in music. (Slow it down towards the end.)

“ Take a deep breath. Remember not to rush. This is important time.

Parts of Worship

Greetings/Hospitality

Sharing of Stories

Communion and Offering

Going Forth/Blessings



Hold my hand, God,
lead the way,
Help me be good every day.
Let me know what's wrong and right,
Keep me safe day and night,
Let me know what you have planned,
Lead the way God,
hold my hand.
Amen



Children Worship and Wonder

Lent stories are [available now on YouTube](http://ccinky.net/covid-19/). The Disciples Home Missions (Ministries Across Generations) have produced 5 videos for Lent. For more information and resources, please go to http://ccinky.net/covid-19

JELLY BEAN PRAYER

a coloring page from

95.1SHINEFM



ORANGE

is for Heaven so bright
(2 Samuel 22:13-14)



WHITE

is for the cleansing from sin
(Psalm 51:1-2)



YELLOW

is for God's perfect light
(Revelation 21:23)



GREEN

is for our new life in Him
(Colossians 1:10)



BLACK

is for the sins we've made
(Romans 3:23)



PINK

is for His free gift to share
(Matthew 28:19-20)



RED

is for the blood He gave
(Romans 5:28)



PURPLE

is for the crowns we'll wear
(2 Timothy 4:8)

FCC Kids Jellybean Lenten Devotion

Jellybeans are a fun treat that you can find all year but especially during the days leading to Easter. So, let's use Jellybeans to prepare ourselves for Easter during this time of Lent.

First, color the Jellybeans on the coloring sheet, cut it out and keep it on the refrigerator. Then, ask your parents to buy you a bag of Jellybeans Each Day until Easter:

- Read the Jellybean prayer.
- Close your eyes and pull one Jellybean out of the container (no peeking)
- Then find a time during the day to do the action listed by the color you chose.

Red: Give up something you really enjoy just for the day

Green: Take time to care for an animal or plant

Yellow: Share God's light with a kind act

Orange: Say a prayer to God to help you to focus on Jesus for the day

Black: Ask God to forgive you for a mistake you made yesterday

Purple: Apologize to someone you hurt

Pink: Forgive someone who has hurt you.

Prayer Concerns

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

April Birthdays

April 4 Debbie Baker
Vicki Spears
7 Angie Barringer
8 Matt Wagner
10 Darell Rickmers
11 Kathy Milby
12 Jane Boyd
Cheryl Gibson
13 Ann Rightmyer
15 Tom Tye
16 Libby McWhorter
17 Kasey Wilson
18 Jeff Withers
19 Mallory Spears
20 Ruby Cline-Eaton
Cora Kuchenbrod
Patti Wright
21 Linda Dachenhaus
Jeff Joiner
24 Mary Ann McGlothlin
25 Elizabeth Reynolds
26 Billy Cannon II
Donald Holtzclaw
28 Margaret Anne Milburn
29 Ken Harmon
30 Alex Lockhart

April Anniversaries

April 4 Brian & Tonia Darnell
13 Terry & Linda Dachenhaus
15 Con & Sherrie Horn
25 Mike & Judy Spellacy
30 John & Kendra Funkhouser



*Heavenly Father,
During the Lenten season, give
me a new and expanded vision
for my life. Help me to live full
of faith. Teach me to find hope
in the face of adversity.
Amen.*

Giving Options

Your gifts are vital for continuing the operations and ministries of the church. Here are the following options of giving:

1. Online giving via church website:

fccdanville.com/give

(navigates directly to: abundant.co/fccdanville/give)

2. Scan the QR code



3. Text the word "fccdanville" to 73256

4. Simply mail at

First Christian Church
555 E. Lexington Ave.
Danville, KY 40422

DYC Virtual Gatherings

Middle & High School Youth are now meeting virtually through Zoom!

Wednesdays

DYC High School Students Virtual Hub Gathering
Zoom in at 10:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/335116609>

DYC Middle School Students Virtual Hub Gathering
Zoom in at 11:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/156237619>

Sundays

DYC High School Students

Zoom in at 5:15 PM

DYC Middle School Students

Zoom in at 6:15 PM

Rev. Joseph “Joey” Pusateri

Senior Pastor

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502-299-7439 (cell)

joey@firstchristiandanville.com

Larry Davidson

Director of Music Ministry

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Fax (859) 236-4075

Dial-a-Prayer (859) 236-2584

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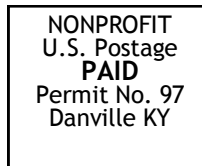
First Christian Church

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*Bi-monthly newsletter
publication*



Return Service
Requested



a season of renewal