



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

August 26, 2020

Koinōnia (Koinonia)

koinō' nēə, noun: Christian fellowship

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(Romans 15:5-6, NRSV)

As an extrovert, I am vitally dependent upon connection with other people to be energized and fulfilled. I must therefore tell you that I miss all of you terribly and I cannot wait for more opportunities to see you again!

I want to give you a little update on some things happening at the church. First, there is a reopening team that will make decisions about the use of the church building as related to COVID-19, including worship. That said, what I am planning to move towards is this: holding live services in the sanctuary (with all precautions) for those who are comfortable attending. While we are holding live services, I would like to stream (broadcast) them live online, so that people can watch in real time on Sunday morning. This way, fewer people are left out once we move to in-person services. In other words, people who cannot come to an in-person service are still able to worship with their sisters and brothers in Christ at the same time. I believe that it is important for us as a congregation to have the opportunity to worship together, praising with the same hymns, hearing the same Word, sharing in the same prayers and in the Lord's Supper together. To that end, we have already begun arranging for the technology to be in place in the sanctuary to accommodate live streaming.

Secondly, the search committee made its enthusiastic recommendation of a candidate to call as the next associate pastor of FCC to the board, which unanimously approved. I want to take this opportunity to say that this candidate is outstanding, and this person stood head and shoulders above several other very qualified candidates that the team interviewed. This person will compliment my gifts very well, and I believe my gifts will compliment theirs. I feel confident that the pieces are coming together on the minis-

terial staff to take FCC to the next level of ministry in the coming years. All members will have an opportunity to vote to affirm this candidate soon.

Also, I am pleased that the business of the church has been steadily increasing, with the church building becoming more available to the community, with weddings and funerals taking place, with the staff active to manage the day-to-day affairs of the church, and with the ministry teams becoming more and more active.

And finally, things are going well with my family. Jennifer is working (a lot) from home and working on her PhD, the girls are staying physically active, connected to their friends and family, and they going back to school—virtually—this week. Just a few weeks ago, we adopted a new dog, Fiona. She is a sweetie! With Jennifer's work demands, and our daughters' having to take class from home, I will be dividing my time between the church building and my home office, at least until the kids get back in the classroom.

I pray that in the coming weeks and months, we stay focused on our calling as disciples of Jesus to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, no matter what the circumstances. I pray that we stay connected to one another. I pray that we imitate the love of Christ in all things. I pray for God's power and patience to carry us through to the other side of this pandemic. And may God's grace abound in your life in the meantime. Thank you for your prayers for my family!

Shalom,
Joey Pusateri

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Associate Minister Search Committee Update

Psalms 105:3b NASB “Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad.”

After several months of diligent work, the search committee has found the person we feel God is preparing for us at FCC, and we are eager to share this good news with you! We thank you for your individual and corporate prayers for this search journey. On August 20, the Board unanimously approved our recommendation of a candidate for our next Associate Minister and a congregational vote will be taken on September 13. Since we will still be doing virtual worship services, an information packet with a voting ballot will be mailed to our church membership the week of September 7. Please feel free to contact any member of the search committee if you have questions.

Let us thank God for His faithfulness in leading us forward!

Blessings!

Cheryl Gibson, Chairperson

Julie Jones

Joey Kirk

Patrick McClure

Jennifer Pusateri

Joey Pusateri, ex officio member

August Board Report

- The Associate Minister Pastoral Search Committee delivered a presentation to the board recommending a candidate to be hired as Associate Minister. The board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the search committee.
- Financial Report: Contributions in July were very low and the last two (2) to three (3) months have also been low. Expenses under Property - Supplies and Repair have occurred: Repair of fire panel in the gymnasium - \$530.00, replacement of elevator fan - \$510.00, and purchase of four (4) hand sanitizer stations -\$563.00. Electricity continues to be high and the expected savings from the new chiller have not been seen to date. The collection for Backpack Kids has not occurred due to no in-person worship services.
- The Emergency Fund has been tapped for a roof repair and for air conditioning units related to the Capital Campaign. All of the Building Fund was utilized to pay off CLC air conditioning units related to the Capital Campaign. Originally the plan was to wait until the end of the year to pay for the five (5) air conditioning units in the CLC from accumulating Capital Campaign funds. Decision was made to go ahead and replace the units and thermostats and to utilize funds from the Emergency Fund and the Capital Campaign. Custom Air has been paid in full and as money comes in from Capital Campaign, the Building Fund and Emergency Fund will be replenished.
- Senior Minister's Report: Pastor Joey is pursuing the possibility of live streaming Sunday worship service which involves having the sanctuary hard wired for the Internet. The cost and process of live streaming will be evaluated and all options and due diligence will be pursued.
- Board approved a request for Rotary Club to meet in the Chapel on the first Wednesday of months of September and October, 2020 at a monthly rate of \$75.00 per month.
- Congregation needs to vote on two (2) items – Associate Minister and Constitutional changes to the description of the Discipleship Ministry Area. Since we are unable to worship/meet in person, information will be provided and voting by mail, email, or dropping off of ballot will be utilized.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Kendra Funkhouser	3 Herta Blanton Charlie Paynter	4 Jeff Baker Paula Spears	5
6	7 Martha Caywood *Lyle & Mary Ann McGlothlin	8 Jerry Dunn Ken Pearce Jim Spears	9 Addison Cash Molly Anderson Cooper Gary Gibson	10 Brody VanHook	11 Alice Reynolds	12
13	14 Paul McWhorter Jr.	15 David Herron	16 Beckett Dean Libby Joiner Ryan Jones	17 *Jeff & Debbie Baker	18	19 Pat Bruce
20	21	22	23 David Robertson Malachi Snyder *Patrick & Jenny McClure	24 Wendy Ross	25 Sidney Darnell	26 Robin Lockhart Nadene May
27 Emma Taylor	28 June Harmon	29 Nancy Robertson	30 Tom Huckleberry			

FCC KIDS CORNER

It's hard to believe that it's time to go back to school! Although it is probably not the way we wanted to go back to school, it's still an exciting time!

According to some kids I know, the best part of going back to school is shopping for school supplies. Everything is new and shiny and the possibilities are endless!

But what if your family couldn't afford to get you new school supplies? Patti has been in contact with Danville and Boyle County Schools who told her there are more families than ever in our community who need help this year due to lay-offs and lost jobs from COVID-19.

The Bible reminds us to share with others. "Share with the Lord's people who are in need."

Romans 12:13

So this year, when you go Back-to-School shopping, consider picking up some extra supplies for those in need.

Here are some Needed Items:

- Spiral notebooks
- 2 pocket folders
- Pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Markers
- Crayons
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- School glue (bottles)

Please drop off School Supplies at the church office by **September 4**. Normal business hours are: M-F 8:00-4:00



Kids: Enjoy coloring this Backpack full of School Supplies!

**PS: You don't have to be a Kids Club Member to help with school supplies!
All FCC families are encouraged to help with this community need.**

Prayer Concerns

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

Thank You

Thank you for taking the time in keeping me in your prayers. Surgery went well. God bless and thanks to my FCC family for your prayers and well wishes.

Love,
Steve Cline

Dear Members of First Christian Church,

I would like to take the time to express my sincere thanks for all the cards and messages I have received following the death of my beloved grandmother.

It is easy to feel alone when you have lost both parents and all grandparents, but you remind me that I have a family at the church. Your outpouring of love has brought a smile to my face and warmth to my heart! I am so lucky to be a part of such a loving and thoughtful congregation. It makes me miss you even more during this time, but I look forward to the time when we can see each other again.

Love & blessings to you all,
Shauntina Phillips

I want to thank everyone for making my birthday so special a couple of months ago. As some of you know, I was in the hospital for 2 weeks right after celebrating.

In all of my 86 years, I have never had a birthday parade until then. Your love and support means so much to me and I appreciate all of my church family.

Love,
Margaret Ann Milburn

In Sympathy

To the family of Ray Spivey who passed away August 13.

To Ken Pearce and the family of Wilma Mattingly who passed away August 12.

To Joey and Jennifer Pusateri on the death of Jennifer's grandfather who passed away August 22.

News & Events

Congregational Meeting

On September 13, a congregational meeting will be held during the virtual worship service. There are two items to be voted upon:

- 1) Approval of Candidate for Associate Minister recommended by the Search Committee and unanimously approved by the Church Board
- 2) Changes in Church Constitution

An information packet of the candidate along with voting ballots for each church member will be mailed the week of September 7. Voting can be done by mail, email, or phone call.

Church Under the Bridge

FCC will once again provide food bags with hygiene items for Church Under the Bridge ministry in Lexington on September 6. A grant received through Week of Compassion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) earlier this year along with your previous contributions have made this outreach possible. Your prayers and support are very much appreciated.

Backpack Kids Special Offering

Although we have been unable to have in-person worship services, there is still a great need to continue collecting for the Backpack Kids ministry. Children are needing to receive weekend food supply through your generosity. Contributions given by check should be made out to FCC with "Backpacks" in the memo line. We thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Outreach Ministry

Special Giving and Offerings

Please remember that all checks given to the church should be made out to First Christian Church and the special offering should be listed in the remitter line of the check.

DYC Youth/Parent Meeting August 30

All middle and high school youth and parents are invited to meet via zoom this Sunday, Aug. 30 at 4:30 pm to share and listen to each other express their desires, hopes and needs of DYC in the new school year. The session will begin as a group, then head off into two 'breakout rooms' - one for the youth, and one for parents. Here is the link for Sunday: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87620103234>
To join by phone, dial (301) 715 8592, then enter Meeting ID 876 2010 3234 when prompted.

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Pray for our educators, students, and parents as they embark on a "new normal" this school year. Help support students with school and food supplies. Find out more details on how to help inside this publication.

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Danville, KY 40423

*Monthly newsletter
publication*

August 26, 2020



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