



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

July 2024

It's the "ING": See, I am making all things new Revelation 21:5 (NRSV)

I love this scripture for its verb tense. It's a vision of God's work being ongoing and not yet fully completed. It's not, "I *made* all things new," but rather, "...I *am making* all things new." *The trajectory is clear—God is still working. God is still creating, still redeeming, and still blessing our world.*

Contrast this with the theology of Deism which emphasizes God placed all things into being then stepped aside. It's the metaphor of the master clockmaker who crafted a magnificent timepiece, wound it up, and allows it to tick on its own. That God performed the creation and now expects us to do all the work. I certainly do believe we've profound work to do bearing witness to God's ways for love, forgiveness, and justice. But I also believe that we are promised to not be alone in our work for God's righteous purposes.

Carey Nieuwhof (careynieuwhof.com) blogs about contemporary matters touching Christian ministry. He posted an article about, "12 Disruptive Church Trends That Will Rule The Post-Pandemic World." The first trend noted was, "The Demise of the Old Model of Church." Nieuwhof further says, "What was is gone. What will be hasn't yet emerged."

These seemingly obvious observations could lead to much anxiety and depression. But, how about embracing a vision of God "doing a new thing?"

In Acts 11 Peter has a vision of being asked to eat food that had been forbidden by religious practices. "Get up, Peter: kill and eat." "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." Such a radical change of fundamental faithfulness represented by strict food observances being lifted could not have been easy or comfortable for Peter.

But Peter adjusted and lived into the new reality and new way of being faithful. God was alongside Peter encouraging him. Like Peter, changes in the way of being church might initially be hard to swallow.

Nieuwhof further writes that the key is to try the new - stay faithful to biblical principles, not liturgical practices. This is the key component of the process offered by the Disciples of Christ through its New Beginnings congregational approach.

I invite you to study the community around us and consider ways that open the big doors of the Sanctuary in a big way to those who haven't entered. Shifting perspective from what is best for those already within to viewing how best to bring the Good News to those other than ourselves.

Let us together pray God's Spirit might encourage us all to join in with the Lord who is making all things new.

Rev. Colby

Rev Colby Smith

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

FCC KIDS CORNER



Kids Club Summer Schedule

Kid's Club will not meet weekly during the summer but will have some special events.

Tuesday, July 9th-10:00am-1:00pm

Destination Downtown!

Meet at the Art Center of the Bluegrass at 10:00

Parent Pick-up at Bluegrass Pizza Pub at 1:00

Sunday, Augusts 4th

After Worship-2:00 pm,

Destination Unknown!

Share lunch and then get in the Church Van, getting clues along the way to our destination!

Regular Kid's Club Resumes

August 19th!

Every Sunday after worship-1:30

Thank You Summer Volunteers

Thank you to the following volunteers who lead Children's Chat and Summer Children's worship during the summer months.

Debbie Baker, Patricia Calvert, Jacob and Molly Cooper, Martha Bryant, Linda Dachenhaus, Kendra Funkhouser, Sherrie Horn, Sueann Rice, Darell Rickmers, Penny Vaught, and Brent Williams.



We had a fun and successful VBS again this summer! We partnered with The Presbyterian Church of Danville for the second time and working with Children's Ministries Director Amy Wilson and her volunteers was great fun!

Our numbers were down a bit this summer but we still had a great time with the 38 children who spent one or more evenings with us. Each night we rotated through Bible Adventure, Games, Crafts and Snacks.

On Thursday evening, we had a dinner for children and their families followed by rotating through Bible Adventure, Outdoor play including sand play and inflatables as well as a visit from The Enchanted Forest Wildlife Rescue. They brought several amazing animals that thrilled kids and adults alike. They were SO amazed and thankful for the great number of donated items and even had trouble getting them all in their van!

Our FCC volunteers were amazing and I'm so thankful for each of them. Please thank these amazing volunteers when you see them.

FCC Adults: Jan Bradshaw, Patricia Calvert, Molly Cooper, Linda Dachenhaus, Stephen Hinkle, Sherrie Horn, Kellie Jones, David May, Nancy McMurray, Connie McVicker, Sueann Rice, Jan Scott, Penny Vaught, Becky Whited.

FCC Youth: Kierstyn Gibson, Emery Herron, Kate Hoffman, Serenity Smithers and Jenny Wilson.

And a special shout out to Julie Jones for all her work with snacks every evening and coordinating the Celebration Picnic on Thursday!



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	Lauren Newman
Lesa Cooper	Wanda Huffman
Gary Gibson	Mary Sebring
John Taylor Ross	Ellie Pennington
Jan Sheffield	Howard Wilson
Bill Morgan	Mike Swain
Trevor & Lucy Graham	Kathy Milby
Darell Rickmers	McClure Family
Rodger Morris	Mary Lou Withers
	Jane Boyd & Family

Remember our Shut-ins

Martha Akin	Lucille Lemon
Pat & Steve	Margaret Milburn
Bruce	Bonnie Wilson
Mindy Carter	
Patty Castle	
Hugh & Mary Jo	
Coomer	



July Worship Roster

July 7th
 Worship Leader– Elmer Jackson
 Elder– Brent Williams
 Elder & Counter– Joey Kirk
 Children’s Chat– Jacob Cooper
 Summer Children’s Worship– Jacob & Molly Cooper
 Nursery Volunteer– Jessica Maynard & Mary McKitric
 Elder For Morning Pointe – Mary Ann McGlothlin

July 14th
 Worship Leader– Bart Gover
 Elder– Elmer Jackson
 Elder & Counter– Suzi Jackson
 Children’s Chat– Kendra Funkhouser
 Summer Children’s Worship– Penny Vaught & Sherrie Horn
 Nursery Volunteer– Jessica Maynard & Edna Prall

July 21st
 Worship Leader– Julie Jones
 Elder– Jan Scott
 Elder & Counter– Larry Scott
 Children’s Chat– Darell Rickmers
 Summer Children’s Worship– Linda Dachenhaus & Sueann Rice
 Nursery Volunteer– Jessica Maynard & Kris Hamlin
 Shut Ins Communion– Cheryl Gibson

July 28th
 Worship Leader– Evelyn Guerrant
 Elder– Martha Caywood
 Elder & Counter– Doug McMurry
 Children’s Chat– Debbie Baker
 Summer Children Worship– Patricia Calvert & Debbie Baker
 Nursery Volunteer– Jessica Maynard & Trista Hinkle
 Elder’s Lunch Devotion

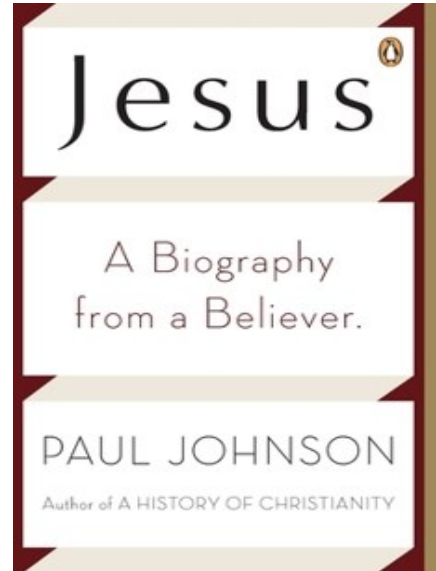
Four Cans for Others
146 cans were donated during June, bringing our total for 2024 to **678** cans. Keep bringing in those cans so we can beat our total for 2023 of **1,421 cans!**



News & Announcements

Dear All,

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming summer connection book group meeting on August 4th. We are looking forward to a thoughtful and constructive discussion of the book "Jesus: A Biography from a Believer" by Paul Johnson immediately after church service. If you are not a member of this book group and would like to join us or if you only interested in the summer selection, you can obtain a copy of the book from the welcome table by adding your name, \$20 or a check to Jan Bradshaw's envelope. Your participation and contribution will be greatly appreciated as we engage in meaningful and enriching conversation. Additionally, a simple lunch will be provided as we gather in fellowship.



Did you know.....

That FCC has a "Love Fund" that is available to any church member facing an economic hardship. If you or a church family member you know, needs to utilize this resource contact Reverend Colby. All requests are strictly confidential.



Thank you
First Christian Church!

On behalf of all the staff and animals at the Enchanted Forest Wildlife Refuge, thank you for your generous donations!

Our visit to your VBS was such fun! We enjoyed the children, volunteers and your beautiful facility.

There were so many donations that we almost weren't able to fit them in the van with my husband and I and the animals!

We are building a bigger facility and these donations will help us as we grow!

PK and the Enchanted Forest Wildlife Refuge.

Youth Lock-In

July 20th @ 6pm starting in the youth room,
For more info contact Stephen Hinkle (859) 236-4600



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