

Faithfulness!

With summer vacations around the corner, a friend was telling me about a trip his family took to Yellowstone National Park one year. They enjoyed hiking, camping and even saw Old Faithful! Old Faithful is the geyser where the hot underground water builds up and spews out every 91 minutes.

In 1998 there was an earthquake. The ground around the geyser shifted and now they have a sign up saying, **Old Faithful will erupt at “approximately” such and such a time** because it is harder to predict when Old Faithful will go off!

My friend was telling me all this and said, “You know, Old Faithful isn’t so faithful anymore!” (Story told by Bill Hinson)

As a minister, always looking for spiritual lessons for sermons, newsletters (and life), I thought his comments were interesting for vacationers and Christians alike...

Let me mention a few things we can do to strengthen our “faithfulness” to God and God’s church:

--**PRAY** for the church, its staff, leaders and membership. Considering that Jesus was the Son of God and how important prayer was for him, we understand how much more important prayer is for us! (**Matthew 6:9-13, Mark 1: 35, Matthew 14:23, Luke 22: 41-44, John 11: 41-42**). (Say a quick prayer for the church now! Set your smart-phone to go off twice a day, reminding you to pray for the church, your family, the sick, the poor and hungry in the world).

--Consider **one thing you might do each week** to help FCC through this “evolution” of searching for our next senior minister: Send a note to one of our shut-ins, call someone on the prayer list, volunteer in the church office, keep your giving up to date, write encouraging notes to the staff and invite friends to worship! **Be proactive in nurturing the “spiritual life” of FCC!**

-- **Be intentional about attending church.** Just as cars need fuel and bodies require food, our spirits need to be fed by worship and the company of Christian friends. Don’t let your “Spiritual Gas tank” get on empty!” Come to church and sing, pray and recharge your spiritual batteries.

--**Make a special effort to be in church on March 29th and April 5th.** On **Palm Sunday** our choirs are bringing special Lenten music to both services! April 5th, of course, is **Easter!** Check out the Holy Week schedule of services inside this newsletter and make plans to join us and make a “joyful noise!”

--Commit Ephesians 1:1 to memory, **“Friends, be ever loyal to the Lord!”**

There are lots of “faithful” things each of us can do to keep FCC strong in ministry and love! An “It takes a village to make a church!” sort of thing! Know how grateful I am for your continued love and support of FCC!

--Dale

April 2015

First Christian Church News

We Engage and Embrace all people
as we seek to Embody Christ.

Lenten Calendar

April 3	Good Friday Service	6:30pm
April 5	Sunrise Service	6:50am
April 5	Easter Sunday	9am & 11am
April 12	Combined Service	10am

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Lawrence Area Clergy (LAC) are putting a modern-day slant on the traditional Maundy Thursday foot washing with a shoeshine and sneaker cleaning at 9th and Massachusetts from noon to 1:30 PM. The Clergy will take on the servant role polishing and cleaning shoes for anyone who stops. The service is free. For those who feel compelled to offer a donation, collections will go to support the Emergency Assistance Fund.

Community Holy Week Services

The following Holy Week services will be happening at Noon at Immanuel Lutheran Church:

- Monday, March 30 –Service and lunch
- Tuesday, March 31 - Service and lunch
- Wednesday, April 1 – Service and lunch
- Thursday, April 2 – Service, but no lunch
- Friday, April 3 – No service or lunch

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 3rd
6:30 PM



Easter Sunrise Service– 6:50am

Join us Easter morning for a Sunrise Service at the Clinton Lake Overlook.

Directions:

- Take the Clinton Pkwy exit off of K10, head west
- Take the first right and then the first left you come to. The overlook will be on your left.

April 12 - Combined Service @ 10am

In place of the regular 9:00 and 11:00 worship services, we will have a combined service on April 12. This will be a great opportunity for us to worship as one congregation, and one body of Christ! The worship music will be a fun mix of both contemporary and traditional. Come ready to worship as one family! Regular 9:00 and 11:00 services will resume the following week.

Church Update Meeting

The church update meeting has been postponed. Please contact Rev. Dale Walling if you have any questions.

THE NEXT MINISTRY CHAIR MEETING IS APRIL 28TH!!

We will meet in the Conference Room outside the office at 7 PM. Remember to bring an idea for FCC that is “outside the box.”

Farewell Potluck for Pastor Tiffany

Let's send Tiffany off in style with a final lunch together!

Please join us for a "Thank You" potluck following the combined service on April 12. We will be celebrating with Tiffany and Britt as they answer their call to ministry in Kentucky. Please bring a dish that serves 12 to share with everyone. All drinks and supplies will be provided. See the reservation form in upcoming bulletins.

Ruth CWF

Ladies, join us on Wednesday, April 1st, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided by Darlene Bright and Theo Dixon. For more info, contact Linda Shirk at lindams@sunflower.com or 785-842-3128.

2015 Spirit Fest

The 2015 Spirit Fest, sponsored by Kansas Disciples Women, will be occurring on April 19th from 1:30-6:30pm at West Side Christian Church in Topeka. The theme is "Finding Our Voices". The Registration fee is \$15.00 and includes a meal, snack, and materials. If you would like to register please contact Dorothy Congrove at jcongrove@aol.com or contact the church office.

Search Team

REMEMBER TO KEEP THE SEARCH TEAM in your prayers as they seek God's guidance in finding the next Senior Minister for FCC!

Derk Landes
Jane Garvin
Shawn Henderson
Lauren Douglass

Christie Ogunnowo
Rob Chestnut
Lisa Rundell
Wes Ryan

Transportation Need

Do you live in Southwest Lawrence? We have 3 members of our Church who do not have transportation to Church and live in Southwest Lawrence close to the South Hy-Vee. Do you have one Sunday a month that you could help provide this important service to our members? Please contact the Church Office or Glenda Freeman for more information.

Lydia Ladies CWF

Ladies – Join us at: Lydia Ladies – CWF women's group

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 7:00 PM

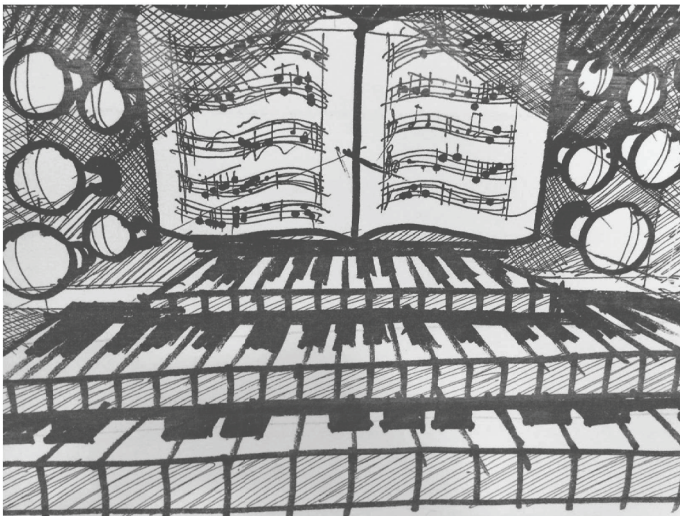
Wyndam Social Room (2551 Crossgate)

Our speaker will be Jeff Mulpas, Director of Mission Development at Alpha Christian Children's Home.

Devotional: Linda Shirk

Refreshments: Nancy Smith & Christine Winters

Trinity Episcopal Church invites you to a celebration of the rebuilding of our organ, Opus 1198



Drawing by Anne Patterson

Organ Concert

and

Chocolate Reception

Saturday, April 11

7:30 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church

1011 Vermont Street

Free to all

Four organists will play a variety of music, including works by Johann Sebastian Bach and 21st-century composers.

Featuring organists Steve Burk, Ron Krebs, Tandy C. Reussner, and Sharon L. Hettinger

FCC April Events

April 1 Ruth CWF
 CAFT
 Kid's Group!
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth
 Worship Team Practice
 April 2 PATH Exercise Group
 Women's Bible Study
 Hand Bell Choir
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 April 3 Good Friday Service
 April 5 Easter Sunday
 Sunrise Service
 Seekers
 Women Together
 Book Club Bible Study
 Birthday Party—Betty Brink
 Men's Stag AA
 April 6 Office Closed
 Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Search Committee
 Woman's AA
 April 7 PATH Exercise Group
 Cub Scouts
 Elders Meeting
 Lydia Ladies CWF
 Men's Stag AA
 Al-Anon Family Group
 College & Careers
 April 8 CAFT
 Kid's Group!
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth
 Worship Team Practice
 April 9 PATH Exercise Group
 Women's Bible Study
 JOY
 Hand Bell Choir
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 April 10 Fantastic 4th & 5th Graders
 Gambler's Anonymous
 April 12 Combined Worship 10am
 Farewell Potluck for Tiffany
 FCC Serves LINK
 Men's Stag AA
 April 13 Sew n Sews
 Search Committee
 Woman's AA
 April 14 PATH Exercise Group
 Cub Scouts
 Children's Advisory Team
 Men's Stag AA
 Al-Anon Family Group

April 15 College & Careers
 Warm Hearts Board Meeting
 CAFT
 Kid's Group!
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth
 Worship Team Practice
 April 16 PATH Exercise Group
 Women's Bible Study
 Hand Bell Choir
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Youth Advisory Team
 April 19 Seekers
 Women Together
 Book Club Bible Study
 Men's Stag AA
 April 20 Search Committee
 Trustees Meeting
 Women's AA
 April 21 PATH Exercise Group
 Cub Scouts
 Men's Stag AA
 Al Anon Family Group
 College & Careers
 April 22 CAFT
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth
 Worship Team Practice
 April 23 PATH Exercise Group
 Women's Bible Study
 CWF Board Meeting
 Hand Bell Choir
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 April 24 Fantastic 4th & 5th Graders
 Gambler's Anonymous
 April 26 Seekers
 Women Together
 Book Club Bible Study
 Men's Stag AA
 April 27 Search Committee
 Women's AA
 April 28 PATH Exercise Group
 Cub Scouts
 Men's Stag AA
 Al-Anon Family Group
 College & Careers
 April 29 CAFT
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth
 Worship Team Practice
 April 30 PATH Exercise Group
 Women's Bible Study
 Hand Bell Choir
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Children's Ministry Updates

NEW Kids Group! Schedule

Starting on April 15th Kids Group! will only meet on the **3rd Wednesday of the month** from **6:00pm – 7:30pm**. Our new Kids Group! format will include a Praise & Worship session, group game, grade divided lessons, snack & fellowship time, crafts, science experiments, and mission projects/service opportunities.

Spring and Summer Schedule

Passover Meal	April 1 st	6pm-7:00pm
Kids Group!	April 15 th	6pm-7:30pm
Kids Group!	May 20 th	6pm-7:30pm
Kids Group!	June 17 th	6pm-7:30pm
Kids Group!	July 15 th	6pm-7:30pm
Kids Group!	August 19 th	6pm-7:30pm

VBS 2015

June 22nd – 26th 9am - Noon



ACT! MOVE! CARE! SHARE! FOLLOW!

At G-Force VBS, kids will explore how to put their faith in action! In this mission-focused VBS, kids will experience God's unstoppable love and discover how to fuel up and move in and through life with God.

"In God we live, move, and exist." Acts 17:28

Children's Ministry Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday 10:15-10:45 am

Toddlers-K will hunt on the Playground

1st-5th Graders will hunt in the
Youth Pit

After the Egg Hunt there will be refreshments and fellowship!



Stewardship Focus

Below you will find the YTD totals for the Unified Budget through the end of February. The month ended with a loss of \$3,526.15 bringing the net loss for the year to \$9,725.42. At the end of February we should be at 16.67% of the budget, income was at 12.70% with expenses at 14.39%. The staff continues to be mindful of their spending.

Unified Budget thru February 28, 2015

YTD Income	\$ 73,217.63
YTD Expense	\$ 82,943.05
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (9,725.42)

Introducing Online/Electronic Giving

We are happy to announce a convenient new way to make your regular offerings. With our new electronic giving program, you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule or make one-time contributions. We encourage you to set up a schedule of recurring contributions. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for our church. You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, our church will continue to receive your contributions on an uninterrupted basis. To get started, ask for an authorization form in the church finance office or visit our church website and look for the "Give" button.

Review – Options for Giving

Cash or Check – Please make sure you identify yourself on the envelope or your check so FCC can provide a record for tax purposes. Your gifts can be placed in the weekly worship offering plate (envelopes are provided in the back of the pew) or they may be mailed to First Christian Church, 1000 Kentucky Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

Online/Electronic Giving – Please visit our website and look for the "Give" button. This is a convenient, secure online system for debit card, credit card, or ACH Processing. You may set up recurring contributions or a one-time payment. To use this option you will first need to set up a login account. Please remember that when using a debit or credit card a service fee of up to 3.50% will be charged to the church. There is an option to help offset that fee. You may also set up ACH processing which is a direct withdraw from your bank account. The fees for this service are minimal. If you don't have access to a computer and would like to set up electronic giving, please see Lisa in the finance office for an authorization form. Using the QR code you can access our website from your mobile device. You can find the QR code, in its new permanent home, on the back of the newsletter.

Appreciated Stock – Stocks and other securities are a welcome gift. Some members have found the tax savings make this an ideal way to fulfill their commitment. For more information, contact Lisa in the Finance Office.

The Christian Church Foundation – The Christian Church Foundation helps support the future needs of our church through planned giving opportunities. If you would like to learn more about remembering First Christian in your will or with a planned gift, please contact Lisa in the finance office.

It is so important to make a commitment to return a portion of our financial blessings to God through our tithes and offerings. Hopefully these options will help make it easy to honor God in this way.

Every man shall give, as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

Deuteronomy 16:17 (ESV)



Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday will be happening on Sunday, May 3rd in both our 9am and 11am services. During each service we will be taking a moment to recognize and honor the graduates from FCC from High school and University. If you have a student who is graduating this spring please make sure to let the Church office know (office@fcllawrence.org or 785-843-0679).

Life in The Pit

Did you know that each week on Wednesday night 40-60 students squeeze down into The Pit for fellowship, games, worship and bible teaching? More than half of our students who attend regularly came at the invitation of a friend.

One out of every five of our students come from a nonreligious background and many of our student's families who have a religious background do not currently attend church.

As a church you have created a space that is safe, welcoming & inclusive and because of that the good news of God's love is changing the lives of students all across Lawrence. Thank you for your support of the Youth Ministry!



Join us in celebrating Betty Brink's 95th Birthday!

**Sunday, April 5, 2015
2:00-4:00 PM**

in the FCC Fellowship Hall

Cards are appreciated and can be sent to:

Betty Brink
11 Professional Drive, Room 204
Bella Vista, AR 72715

Please join us for an Open House to celebrate Mabel Stoneback's 100th Birthday!

Saturday, April 4, 2015
2:00-4:00 pm

Prairie Commons Clubhouse
5121 Congressional Circle
Lawrence, Kansas

Cards:
5121 Congressional Circle,
Apt. G-108
Lawrence, KS 66049



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1000 Kentucky Street • Lawrence KS 66044

785-843-0679 • Fax: 785-838-3668

office@fcclawrence.org • www.fcclawrence.org

Sunday Worship

Traditional 9 am

Contemporary 11 am

Sunday School 10:10 am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THANK YOU!!

As your Interim Minister, let me thank you for your continued support of the ministry of First Christian Church! While “evolutions” can be challenging (we are not using the “T” word), your generous spirits allow us to minister to people inside and outside the Church! I see you doing so many great things! From our children, youth, adults, to folks helped by our Outreach Ministry, so many are touched by your sharing of your tithes and offerings, as well as your time and talents, I thank you for your commitment and devotion to God’s work!

Gandhi, one of the most powerful peaceful, political and ideological leaders of India, sold all his possessions, becoming as poor as the people to whom he ministered. Gandhi once said, “Don’t give until it hurts! Give until it feels good!”

Knowing that our monies and efforts go to help build God’s Kingdom should make us feel GOOD! Thank you again for your love and loyalty to Christ and His ministry!

--Rev. Dale

STAFF EMAILS

Elders
Rev. Dale Walling, Interim Pastor
Tiffany DeTienne, Youth Pastor
Dan York, Worship & Arts Pastor
Lisa Hoag, Finance Office
Main Office/Taylor Hoag
Shelley Burton, Children’s Ministry
Jackie Hostetler, Giving Tree Director
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Want to give online?

Use your QR
Code Reader to
scan this QR
code.

