

The Christian Visitor

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Senior Ministers



Published November 22, 2016

Sent With Love To You!

Give Thanks!

In my message last Sunday I shared a story about the time I was assembling a large rolling toolbox at home. My eleven year-old daughter entered the garage where I was working and, after watching for a few minutes, asked if I really needed such a big toolbox. As it turns out, she does not think I am very "fixey" and she took the opportunity to point that out. It's true, I am not the handiest of men when it comes to home improvement projects or tinkering under the hood of a car. I do, however, know at least one thing. Having and using the right tool makes any job much, much easier!

I have heard the term "spiritual tools" many times in my life, but it has only been in recent years that I have really begun to grasp what they are all about. Spiritual tools are specific disciplines or actions that can be used to navigate specific situations in our lives. In this season of Thanksgiving, It seems appropriate to introduce one of the most powerful and effective spiritual tools that any of us can carry (or roll around) in our toolbox. It's called a Gratitude List.

I wish that I could have an "attitude of gratitude" all of the time. I know that my life would be more happy, joyous and free if I did. I am like most people though, and at times I can't help but feel overwhelmed. Sometimes I wish specific circumstances in my life were different and on occasion I even feel sorry for myself. When I am in one of these spots I have learned to reach for my Gratitude List. I know it sounds silly and it is the last thing we feel like doing when it is needed the most, but I would encourage us to do it anyway. It's simple and it really works!

The next time we are feeling any of the emotions I mentioned above, we can begin a list of the many ways we are so very blessed. We can write them down or we can do this in our head. We can do this in silence and solitude or we can do it driving down the highway with children clamoring in the back seat. The important thing is to spend a few minutes meditating on each item before moving on to the next. As we do this, we can physically and literally feel our spirits begin to lift! Our circumstances may not have changed, but our countenance can.

We have much to be thankful for. Most of all, we are thankful for God's love and the people he places around us to encourage us and to share this journey with us. If this is the first spiritual gift in your toolbox it is a great one to have – as long as we actually use it.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Pastor Matt

Like our Facebook Pages!

Did you know the church has a Facebook page? We post pictures and updates from time to time. "Like" us and "check-in" when you're here to stay connected with your church family!

www.facebook.com/fccatchison

<https://www.facebook.com/AtchisonCountyFoodPantryatFirstChristianChurch>

The Churches Website

Check it Out: www.fccatchison.net

Christian Visitor Deadline

Deadline: Monday, December 5, 2016 - 4 p.m.

Published: Wednesday, December 7, 2016

This issue will include worship information for December 11 & 18. The deadline for the next newsletter is December 19 and will include worship info for December 25, January 1 & 8 as well as the January, 2017 calendar, birthdays and anniversaries. Please have your items either typed or written out. It is difficult to take this information over the phone. You may also email your information to the church at fccatch@sbcglobal.net.

Please Notify The Church Office

- If anyone in your family goes into the hospital.
- When your group plans to have a meeting.
- When a member of your family leaves home for college or to establish a new residence.
- When you're planning to move out of town or locally.
- When your phone number changes.
- When a new baby arrives in your family.
- When you feel the church can assist you in any way.
- When a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- When someone needs to be placed on, OR taken off of the Prayer List.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



Atchison County Food Pantry @ FCC

The food pantry is open on Mondays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Wednesdays from 4:30-6 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00-11:30 am and

is located in the basement entrance off of Santa Fe St.

Please call the church office, 367-3036 if you would like to help. The Food Pantry is an important ministry in our community. Please check out our page on Facebook & Like us - Atchison County Food Pantry @ First Christian Church. *Monetary donations are accepted too!*

Needs for November: Instant Potatoes, Gravy Mix or Gravy in Jar, Cereal, Toothpaste, Bar Soap

Needs for December: Canned meats (salmon, chicken, tuna), canned fruits, chili beans, chili seasoning, pork 'n beans.

Schedule for



Meals are served and deliveries made from First Christian Church. Signup sheets for volunteering are on the table in the annex. We need volunteers for kitchen helpers at 9 am and drivers and helpers to deliver meals to the homebound of Atchison at 10:15 am.

December 10

Remember In Prayers

Rose Bahr, Alex Blunt, Helen Birkinsha, Betty Blide, Kathy Botts, Brenda Callahan, Melinda Calhoon, Matthew Carpenter, Bryson Connell, Jerry Daniel, Bob Dunn, Raymond Felton, Tammy Funk, Steve Germani, Gary Guinn, Alana Hale, Sherri Hart, Karla Harter, Phyllis Haynes, Mercedes Hoffman, Mike Horton, Tracy Kane, Beverly Kennedy, Larry Kibler, Drew & Andrea (Jacobson) Korschott Family, Elaine Krusemark, Jeff Kuhnert, Laney Ledbedder, Shirley Linck, Naesha Low, Ruthanna Marlatt, Ryley Martin, Kim Matthias, Mike McDermed, Lila Mercer, Byran Meyer, Pat Montgomery, Pam Mullins, Jan Otte, Steve Otte, Stacy Peuker, Juanita Shufflebarger, Mark Shufflebarger, Gene Sittenauer, Becky Smith, Jim Smith, Sharon Sowers, Gary Stecher, Karen Tollefson, Lillie Truman, Amy West, Debbie Young. [IF WE CAN TAKE ANYONE OFF OF THIS PRAYER LIST, PLEASE NOTIFY ROSIE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE]

Military

Ryan Callahan, Joshua Lambert, Nicholas Cline, Sean McCaffery, Anton Mak, Jesse McGlade, Nick Davison, Curtis Ellis-Kuwait, Ben Carlisle, Jerry Michaels, John Humbard, Robert Dickson, Justin Ruhlman, Quentin Rivers, Kevan Birkinsha, Carlos Betts-Coffey, Ryan Thomas

Attendance

November 13, 2016	9 a.m. – 150	10:45 a.m. – 79	SS – 50
November 20, 2016	9 a.m. – 168	10:45 a.m. – 88	SS – 48

Visitors Nov. 13 & 20

Byran Meyer, Wyatt Roediger, Dakota TeBeest, Piper Stahl, Dan, Josiah, Miceh Simmons, Gary & Ginny Smart, Chad & Carri Ball & Family, Rev. Jeff Cochran, Gage Thompson, Logan Martin, Shawn Snoddy, Trevor Lutz, Dale Fitkin, Debbie Schneider, Chris McKee, Korrihan Liggett



Children's Christmas Program

Christian Education Ministry Team is beginning to prepare for the Children's Christmas program. It will be held on **Sunday, December 11th at 4 pm** in the sanctuary. Preschool – Middle youth will be involved. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Youth Sunday School Classes

10:00 AM in the educational building

Pre-K & K – Stacie Dougherty, Pam & Shawn Rizza & Isabelle Beckett

1st & 2nd Grades – Vicki Tate & Shanae Randolph

3rd, 4th and 5th Grades – Brooke Genail & Christen Lacey

Middle School (6th, 7th & 8th Grades) – Russ Cooper

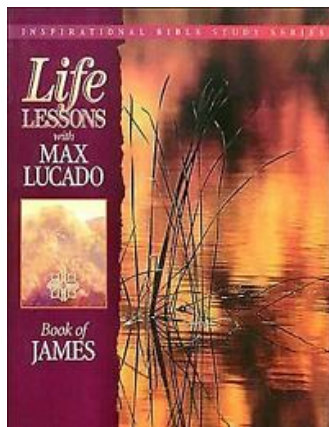
Sr. High School (9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grades – Debra Mikkelson & Ronda McDaniel

Adult Sunday School Classes

- 9:30 AM in the choir room in the educational building – **Friendship Class** led by Keith Rawson
- 10 AM in the Memorial Chapel - **Logos Class** led by Jack Albright
- 10:10 AM in the Resource Room on 2nd floor of educational building for ages 18 – 25 led by Pastor Matt.

New Adult Sunday School Class

A new adult Sunday School Class will begin on Sunday December 4th at 10:10 AM in the library/parlor (next to Wolf Hall). The class will be led by Carolyn Rodina and the lesson will be on Book of James from the Life Lessons with Max Lucado. The class will be for all adults.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are 8:30 am to 4 pm

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 26 in observance of THANKSGIVING. The office will also be closed on Friday's, December 2, 16, 23 & 30, Monday, December 26 & Tuesday, December 27.



Christian Women's Fellowship (C.W.F.)

The CWF of FCC will have their annual Christmas luncheon at noon on Monday, December 5, 2016, in Wolf Hall. Hostesses will be Lavern Fitkin and Susan Cummings with a Christmas program to be given by Cindy Hoverson. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend, please RSVP to Susan Cummings (913) 370-8522.



Note of Thanks

Dear FCC family,
Thank you for all the good wishes, cards, phone calls and those who attended my 90th celebration. The good Lord has truly blessed me with health, family, friends and my FCC family. My strength comes from the Lord and all of you.

With Christian Love to All,
Vi Garvin

Thank you to my church family for the prayers, cards and visits during my recent surgery and recovery. It was greatly appreciated.

Carole Baker

Honoring One of Our Own 'Dub Ehret Project'

The Board members of the First Christian Church, Atchison, KS voted at the November 8th board meeting to donate \$500 to the YMCA under the 'Dub Ehret Project'. This will go toward recognizing Dub for his 37 years of service to the YMCA. If the members of the congregation would like to join the church in honoring Dub, please make your donation payable to 'YMCA - Dub Ehret Project'. You can drop this off at the church office or place it in the offertory plate on Sunday. This is an on-going project so if you cannot donate at this time you may do so in the future.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Results from the Sunday, November 20, 2016
Vote to approve the 2017 Proposed Budget
YES - 132 NO - 3 ABSTAIN - 1

Sunday, December 4, 2016
2017 Board Officers Elected
(Trustee, Elders, Deacons & Deaconesses)

Christian Sympathy is extended to:

- **LAVERN** and **DANNY FITKIN** and family on the passing of Lavern's mother, **BESSIE JONES**. Bessie passed away on November 4, 2016 and services were held at First Christian on Wednesday, November 9th with Rev. Matt Broxterman officiating.
- the family of **BETH LAVON (WOHLGEMUTH) HAWK** who passed away on Friday, November 18th. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, November 23rd at the First Christian Church, Atchison with Pastor Matt officiating.

Stars of Hope Tree

You can choose one or more stars that will have gift items listed and return to First Christian. We will then give to the Salvation Army for the Christmas distribution. Suggested gifts are: baby dolls, Barbie dolls, remote control cars/trucks, basketballs, footballs, soccerballs, adult make-up (for teen girls), watches, earbuds, \$5 Wal-Mart gift cards, jewelry. The tree is located in the coffee room off of the annex. We ask that you have the gift items to the church by **DECEMBER 15TH**.



Atchison's Kids Closet

*For Atchison Elementary School
& Atchison Middle School*



For distribution by the school nurses: Janelle Carrigan, Carol Smith, Corby Aversman and Deborah Eplee. Items highly needed: New Winter coats - 6x to 14, New Tennis Shoes, Hygiene Products (travel size preferred for all): deodorant, shampoo, body soap, comb/brush, toothbrush, toothpaste, feminine products. Financial contributions are also needed to help purchase these items as well. Volunteers are also needed. Just a couple of hours of your time would be greatly appreciated. For any questions or if you would like to volunteer contact Mary VanHorn @ 913-426-0372.

Retirement Celebration for PAXTON JONES

Regional Minister and President of the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



He's getting ready to
swing into retirement!
It's time to celebrate!

Join us on Saturday, December 3, as we celebrate
the well-deserved retirement of Paxton Jones.

First Christian Church
1880 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka, KS 66604
in Fellowship Hall
Come and go between 2-4 pm

Hanging of the Greens Service

Sunday, November 27, 2016

We will decorate our sanctuary during this service with the "Hanging of the Greens" and special readings given as we begin our Advent Season. The service will be held during the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.



ADVENT

Worship Ministry Team

We will meet at the church on Saturday, November 26th at 9:00 a.m. to get the Christmas decorations out of storage and hang the garland around the balcony, choir loft, etc.

All Church Soup Luncheon

The Youth Group will have a Soup Luncheon Fundraiser on Sunday, November 27th with serving to begin at 11:45 a.m. in Wolf Hall.

The menu will consist of a variety of soups (provided by the youth group members and their families), crackers, dessert and drinks. A freewill offering will be collected for the summer mission work this summer.

Dedication of New Life



A dedication service of New Life will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2016 during the 9 and 10:45 a.m. services. If you wish to have your child dedicated, please contact the church office or talk with Pastor Matt and let us know you would like to participate in this very special service.

9 a.m. People of Praise Service
9:30 & 10:00 & 10:10 a.m. Adult SS Classes
10 a.m. Children & Youth SS Classes
10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday, November 27, 2016

First Sunday of Advent

9:00 Advent Candlelighters & Readers: Clay & Meghan Greenly and Family

9:00 Servers: Barb Piper, Rhonda Shell, Kevin Dykstra, Gary & Peggy Wohlgemuth, Patty & Roger Phillippe

9:00 Greeters: Parking Lot – Patty Phillippe
7th Street – Rick Stark
Santa Fe – Roger Phillippe

10:45 Advent Candlelighters & Readers: Brian, Amy & Mason Oswald

10:45 Elders: Jeff Caudle and Carolyn Rodina

10:45 Servers: Brian, Mason & Amy Oswald, Michel Fobbs, Alison Simpson, Teri Kuhnert

10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Tiny Kibler
7th Street – Keith Rawson
Santa Fe – Dub Ehret

10:45 Preparers & Cleanup: Michelle Stanton & Carole Baker

Acolyte & Helper: Brody Kottman and Kylee Kottman

Worship Leader: Tammy Parrott

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 Advent Candlelighters & Readers: Curtis & Brooke Genail and Family

9:00 Servers: Lavern Fitkin, Christen Lacey, Jackie Jasper, Mandi & Jason Wells, Heather Matthias

9:00 Greeters: Parking Lot – Helen Birkinsha
7th Street – Ronda McDaniel
Santa Fe – Pat West

9:00 Advent Candlelighters & Readers: Jeff & Tracie Caudle and Family

10:45 Elders: Helen Birkinsha and Dennis Stanton

10:45 Servers: Rusty Randolph, Steve Tate, Heidie Hennen, Tammy Parrott, Linda Stecher

10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Mary Anna Dove
7th Street – Sharon Sowers
Santa Fe – Jeremy Ellis


10:45 Preparers & Cleanup: Barb Piper & Tiny Kibler

Acolyte & Helper: Nathan Randolph and Kylee Kottman

Worship Leader: Carolyn Campbell

Shut-In Communion: Team 1 – Carolyn Rodina and Lavern Fitkin.
Team 2 – Jeff Caudle and Kevin Dykstra

~December 2016~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10-11:30 am Food Pantry	3
4 Second Sunday of Advent Congregational Meeting 2017 Board Members Vote 9 am POP Service 9:30 am Friendship SS 10 & 10:10 Youth & Adult Sunday School classes 10 am KAIR Radio 10:45 am Worship Service 2-3:30 pm Boy Scouts W.H. 4 pm Peacemakers Concert	5 12 noon CWF Christmas Luncheon in Wolf Hall 1-3 pm Food Pantry 4 pm Christian Visitor deadline info. for 12/11 & 18 5:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts WH 6:30 pm EfM in chapel 7-8:30 pm Boy Scouts Wolf Hall	6	7 4:30-6 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Peacemakers 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team	8 8:30 am – 3 pm CWF Sewing Group in Wolf Hall	9 10-11:30 am Food Pantry	10 First Christian Church will prepare and deliver the meals for the LOAVES & FISHES Feeding Program
11 Third Sunday of Advent 9 am POP Service 9:30 am Friendship SS 10 & 10:10 Youth & Adult Sunday School classes 10 am KAIR Radio 10:45 am Worship Service 2 pm Meadowlark 4-H, Wolf H 4 pm Children's Christmas Program in sanctuary	12 1-3 pm Food Pantry 6:30 EfM in chapel 7-8:30 pm Boy Scouts Wolf Hall	13 7 pm Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses Meetings 7:30 pm Board Meeting	14 4:30-6 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Peacemakers 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team	15	16 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10-11:30 am Food Pantry	17
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9 am POP Service 9:30 am Friendship SS 10 & 10:10 Youth & Adult Sunday School classes 10 am KAIR Radio 10:45 am Worship Service Chancel Choir Cantata	19 1-3 pm Food Pantry 4 pm Christian Visitor deadline info for 12/25, 1/1 & 8 December calendar, birthdays & anniv. 5:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts, WH 6:30 pm EfM in chapel 7-8:30 pm Boy Scouts Wolf Hall	20 4 – 8 pm Foster Family (TFI) Christmas Party in Wolf Hall	21 4:30-6 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Peacemakers 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team	22	23 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Office and Food Pantry closed	24 8 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service 
25 Merry Christmas 10 am Combined Worship Service 10 am KAIR Radio	26 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 1-3 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm EfM in chapel 7-8:30 pm Boy Scouts	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	28 4:30-6 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Peacemakers 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team	29	30 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>

December

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - COLE GENAIL, ELFREDA WALZ
- 2 - JIM BIRKINSHA, HANNAH-MARIE CARLISLE
- 3 - KAREN BLUNT
- 4 - KARIS DOLENZ
- 5 - STEVEN TATE
- 6 - JASON WELLS
- 7 - WANDA MCHARDIE
- 10 - BRIDGETT KELLY
- 11 - TAMMY ERHART, JEREMY GRAY, DESSIREE JESSIP, SHANE STONE
- 12 - SHIRLEY SHAVER, MITCH WEST
- 13 - DEAN ALLEN CUMMINS, MELISSA EBLING, LANCE LAURIE
- 14 - DELBERT BOATRIGHT
- 15 - NICHOLAS FANSHER
- 16 - SHARON BALDRIDGE
- 23 - DONALD PRUETT, SHANAE` RANDOLPH, TITAN REBANT
- 26 - JADEN CARTER, DAVID WILLIAMS
- 27 - TANNER BLUNT, JUSTIN MATTHIAS, CHRIS WILLIS, HERB WYRICK
- 28 - BEN GERMANI
- 29 - JACOB BULLOCK, RUTHANNA MARLATT
- 30 - GAGE THOMPSON
- 31 - KEVIN DOUGHERTY



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - DWIGHT & KAREN MYER
- 3 - MITCH & AMY WEST
- 8 - GARY & FRANCES MASON
- 14 - JERI & JOHN KURTH
- 22 - PHIL & CHRIS WILSON
- 26 - DUANE & DIXIE WILLIAMS
- 26 - RUSTY & CHRIS WILLIS
- 27 - TODD & KELLEY STILLINGS
- 30 - CLARK & JACQUE PREGONT



The Peacemakers

Present

A Service
of
Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 4, 2016

4:00 p.m.

First Christian Church

7th & Santa Fe