

The Christian Visitor

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am – 4 pm

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Senior Ministers



Published March 8, 2017

Sent With Love To You!

These Forty Days

By the time anyone reads this article the Lenten season will already be underway. If this comes as a surprise to you, or if you are still thinking about how to make this year special, it's not too late. As you think about commitments you might want to make or as you consider ones you have already made, here are a few thoughts and reminders of what this holy season is all about.

The Lenten season, as observed by Christians around the world from a variety of denominations, begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes with the celebration of Easter. Lent lasts forty days (not including Sundays) and is traditionally viewed as a period of preparation for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The number forty is of particular symbolic value in scripture as we recall the fasting of Jesus in the desert as preparation for his public ministry, the forty years the Israelites spent in the desert before entering the Promised Land, and even the forty-day flood that Noah and his family endured during God's "cleansing" of the earth.

Many people choose to make a Lenten sacrifice by abstaining from something they enjoy doing or eating or drinking. In a small way, we share in the sacrifice and suffering of Christ by doing this. We can also learn to trust in and rely upon God in a new way by giving up something we may have relied on too much in the past. Lenten sacrifices can be difficult, but they often result in significant spiritual experiences or insights that prove to be well worth any temporary discomfort we might endure.

Another way that many people choose to observe the Lenten Season is to commit to a new action or spiritual activity. Examples of this would include daily prayers, an increase in financial giving, or extra time spent reading the Bible or a devotional. Any of these activities can help us to grow in our spiritual journey and Lent is a great time to make such a commitment.

I would like to encourage everyone who has already begun his or her observance of Lent to continue with a sense of true expectation that God would honor and bless this season in your walk with him. If you haven't begun yet, I would encourage you to pray about what God might be calling you to set down or pick up and to begin as early as today. Some people might view the Lenten Season as a little old-fashioned or as something people observe in more traditional churches, but I view it as an opportunity to get closer to God and to learn something new about who he is and who he desires to be in our lives. I pray this is an opportunity that none of will let pass by.

In Christ, 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, March 20, 2017 - 4 p.m.

Published: Wednesday, March 22, 2017

This issue will include worship information for March 26 and April 2 as well as the April calendar, birthdays and anniversaries. The deadline for the next issue is April 3 and will include worship information for April 9 & 16. 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 March: Peanut Butter, Powered Milk, Crackers, Macaroni & Cheese, Breakfast Bars/Pop Tarts, Toilet Paper

Loaves & Fishes Schedule

Saturday's

April 22 June 17 Aug. 19 Oct. 21 Dec. 16

Meals are served and deliveries made from First Christian Church. Sign-up sheets for volunteering are on the table in the coffee room (near 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. If you have questions, contact Barb Piper, 913-255-2461

Remember In Prayers

Rose Bahr, Peggy Blakley, Betty Blide, Alex Blunt, Isola Burdette, Brenda Callahan, Melinda Calhoon, Bryson Connell, Jerry Daniel, Monica Donaldson, Betty and Bill Dorsey, Sr., Julie Elias, Earnestine Engeman, Raymond Felton, Steve Germani, Marilyn Glenn, Alana Hale, Wallace Harper, Sr., Sherri Hart, Charlie Harris, Karla Harter, Phyllis Haynes, Mercedes Hoffman, Mike Horton, Tracy Kane, Beverly Kennedy, Larry Kibler, Charlotte Kime, LA Kimes, Drew & Andrea and Family, Elaine Krusemark, Jeff Kuhnert, Edith "Edie" Kurtz, Laney Ledbedder, Shirley Linck, Naesha Low, Mike McDermed, Lila Mercer, Byran Meyer, Pat Montgomery, Pam Mullins, Bill Norris, Jan Otte, Steve Otte, Walker Shewey, Juanita Shufflebarger, Mark Shufflebarger, Becky Smith, Jim Smith, Gary Stecher, Sarah Szymanski, Glen Thorne, Karen Tollefson, Lillie Truman, Elfreda Walz, Amy and Mitch West, Tony Wilburn, Pam Williamson, Lonnetta Williams, Chris Wilson, Michelle Wilson and Family, Nora Wohlgemuth, 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, Jerry Michaels, John Humbard, Robert Dickson, Justin Ruhlman, Quentin Rivers, Kevan Birkinsha, Carlos Betts-Coffey, Ryan Thomas, Daniel Collins

Attendance

February 26, 2017	9 a.m. – 115	10:45 a.m. – 91	SS – 49
March 5, 2017	9 a.m. – 98	10:45 a.m. – 81	SS – 40

Visitors February 26 & March 5

Trish Wick, Andrew & Kaitlynn Reed, Vicki Cole, Jack & Kim Johnson, Margie Campbell, James Collins

Christian Education

2017 CAMP RALLY DATES

Sunday's, April 2 & 23

Information is available in the hallway by the Community Board. Please either stop by and pick up the form or go online. If you register on-line you will need to print all the forms and bring to the church. Please make sure the camper signs the covenant and the registration form. As well as parents signing where necessary. The health form **DOES NOT** have to be notarized this year. Scholarships are available but need to be submitted in the very near future.

Please check the dates and register your child for a camp.



Youth Sunday School Classes

10:00 AM in the educational building

Pre-K & K – 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.
- 10:10 AM in the library/parlor (next to Wolf Hall) Led by Carolyn Rodina. Book of James from the Life Lessons with Max Lucado.

Youth Group Schedule

March 12 – 4 pm Youth Group Meeting

March 19 – No Meeting

March 26 – 4 pm Youth Group Meeting

April 2 – No Meeting

April 9 – Hosting All Church "Potato Bar" in Wolf Hall

April 23 – 4 pm Youth Group Meeting

April 30 – No Meeting



Soup & Sermon

Date	Soup Provided By	Speaker
3-15	Effingham Union	Matt Broxtermann, First Christian
3-22	St. Mark's Lutheran Church	Sister Connie Krstolic, Mt. St. Scholastica
3-29	First Christian Church	Craig Lantz, St. Mark's Lutheran
4-5	First Presbyterian Church	Jennifer Obermueller, St. John's Lutheran Church
4-12	Second Christian Church	Michael Kelley, Ebenezer Baptist Church
4-19	First Baptist Church	Michael Strickland, First Baptist

VBS 2017 THAT'S INCREDIBLE!!!!

July 16 – 20, 2017 6 – 8 pm.

Our daily themes will be:

Day 1. **Samson.** Pick your friends wisely
(fitness/health for your body and your mind)

Day 2. **David and Goliath.** Bullying

Day 3. **Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.**
Believe in yourself and God

Day 4. **Jesus Walks on Water.**

Ask for help when in trouble. God is always there.

Joe On The Go will return for Season Two "That's Incredible!"

We have an incredible group of very talented individuals literally putting together our VBS from the story lines to the audio video production and everything in between. You have to see this to believe it! Come join us!

VBS program will be Sunday, July 23, with a combined service at 10 am.

Is the Holy Spirit Nudging You to Participate in EfM?

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides people from all walks of life with the education "to be" Christians and to carry out their ministry. All Christians need a Christian Education which supports their faith and which gives them confidence and prepares them to express that faith in day-to-day events.

EfM is a worldwide program developed by the School of Theology of The University of the South. EfM is for the laity of the church. Thousands of persons have completed this four-year program. Students enroll one year at a time: the first year is study of the Old Testament; the second year the New Testament; third year study of church history; and fourth year study of theology and ethics. This is not a regular bible study. It is an in-depth theological reflection of the past and present times. Here is a link to the EfM website for more information. <http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM/index.htm>

Attending the EfM class takes time and commitment so prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to be involved. Our Mentor is Helen Birkinsha and Co-Mentor is Joe Bullock. For more information, including a prospectus and/or a brochure as well as the application form, contact Helen at 913-426-1751. The cost of the EfM program is \$375 and the church will pay ½ of this fee for members of the church.

OPEN HOUSE

Monday, May 1, 2017

6:30 pm

In the Chapel

If you are interested in signing up for the EfM program but have questions please plan to attend the Open House on May 1st. Cookie and coffee will be available.



Spring Forward

Daylights Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 2 AM. Set your clocks ahead 1 hour and change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.



MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM EVENT



Kansas City

T-Bones

vs

Sioux City, IA

Explorers

Saturday, June 24, 2017

Game time is 7:05 pm

Bus will leave at 5:30 pm from the church parking lot
Tickets are \$10.50 each \$2 gas donation if riding the bus

Elders, Deacons & Deaconesses

Meetings

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 ~ 7:00 pm

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 ~ 7:30 pm

2017 Church Pictorial Directory

March 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31 and April 1

The weekday appointments can be scheduled between 2:30 and 9 pm and the Saturdays are 9:30 am to 4 pm. To make an appointment to have your picture taken for the pictorial directory here is the link to do it online.

<https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/firstchristianchurch76/index.php?page=10>

The Membership Ministry Team will also be in the annex to help make appointments online.

We will be working on the church roster for the directory. If you have had a change of address or phone number please call Rosie at the church office (913-367-3036) or email her at the church (fccatch@sbcglobal.net) with the changes. Thank you!

Submitted Pictures – Must be a 5x7 or smaller or a digital file sized at 250 dip and 2.5" wide. The fee for submitting a photo is \$10. You will receive a copy of the directory.

Military Page – We will have a military page in the directory. This will be available for submitting a picture or scanning one in and will be free to submit. Same size as submitted pictures listed above.

Group Pictures – The Membership Ministry Team will be arranging for group pictures within the church for our Activity pages. The SUNDAY SCHOOL class pictures will be taken on SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH.

Hostesses Needed – During the days of pictures being taken we need 2 Hostesses for 2-Hour time frames. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be in the annex beginning this Sunday, March 12th.



Pastor's Baptism Class

Pastor Russ and Pastor Matt will be leading a two-part Preparation for Baptism class **Saturday, April 1** from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and **Sunday, April 2** from 1:00 to 2:30 P.M. Lunch will be provided on Saturday.

This class is generally open to children ages 9-12, but exceptions can be made for children outside these ages with Pastor and Parent approval. Please contact Rosie in the church office to sign up for the class.

A service of Baptism will be held Sunday, April 9 at 1:00.

If your child is interested in Pastor's class and/or Baptism and is unavailable on these dates, please notify Pastor Russ or Pastor Matt and we will do our best to make alternative arrangements.

Anyone interested in Christian Baptism or a reaffirmation of Baptism as an older child or as an adult is encouraged to contact Pastor Russ or Pastor Matt.



Christian Sympathy Is Extended To

- DAVE and DEBORAH MYERS and FAMILY on the loss of his father, MELVIN MERREL MYERS who passed away on Sunday, February 26th. Funeral services for Mr. Myers were held on Wednesday, March 1st at 11 A.M. with Pastor Matt officiating.

Worship Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, March 12th immediately following the 2nd service in the chapel to finalize all Lenten services.

Christian Education Ministry Team Meetings

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

5:30 P.M.

and

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

5:05 P.M.

Minister's Cabinet Meeting

Thursday, March 30, 2017

5:30 P.M. in the Chapel

Members of the Cabinet are: Rev. Russ Cooper and Rev. Matt Broxterman, John Jacobson-Board Chair, Keith Rawson-Vice-Chair, Joe Bullock-Elders, Tony Wilburn-Deacons, Cindy Jacobson-Deaconesses, David Gatewood-Trustees, Sharon Bullock-Fellowship, Janie Smart-Outreach, Jeff Caudle-Stewardship, Buddy Baldrige & Ron Tuley-Property & Grounds, Sharon Sowers-Worship, Sally Webb-Membership, Vicki Jones-Youth Christian Education, Carolyn Rodina-Adult Christian Education, Jack Albright & Hank Olson-Evangelism, Lavern Fitkin-C.W.F. President, Larry Kibler-Treasurer (Ex-Officio).

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!



An informal gathering has been scheduled for anyone interested in sharing ideas about Youth Ministry at FCC. We will meet in Wolf Hall Sunday, March 19th right after second service and pizza will be served! If you are interested in sharing your thoughts but are unable to attend, please submit comments and suggestions to the church office. Thank you!

your
input is
needed!

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, March 12, 2017

9:00 Communion Prep & Coffee: Jacque Pregont/
Sally Webb/Tohnya Aversman
9:00 Servers: Barb Piper, Robi Chowdhuri, Kevin
Dykstra, Gary and Peggy Wohlgemuth,
Linda and Ron Tuley
9:00 Greeters: Parking Lot – Wanda McHardie
7th Street – Kevin Dykstra
Santa Fe – Floyd McHardie
10:45 Elders: Sharon Baldrige and Vicki Tate
10:45 Servers: Steve Tate, Tracie Caudle, Heidie Hennen,
Diana Moxley, Janet Pruet, Michelle
Stanton
10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Dennis Stanton
7th Street – Michelle Stanton
Santa Fe – Carol Hink
10:45 Preparers & Cleanup: Tracie Caudle & Sharon Sowers
10:45 Acolyte & Helper: Ethan Matthias & Heather Matthias
Worship Leader: David Gatewood

Sunday, March 19, 2017

9:00 Communion Prep & Coffee: Jacque Pregont/
Sally Webb/Tohnya Aversman
9:00 Servers: Rhonda Shell, Vicki Jones, Christen Lacey,
Jackie Jasper, Shawn and Pam Rizza,
Heather Matthias
9:00 Greeters: Parking Lot – Roger Phillippe
7th Street – Barb Piper
Santa Fe – Carolyn Rodina
10:45 Elders: Cindy Hoverson and Janie Smart
10:45 Servers: Nick Tate, Dixie Williams, Mason Oswalt,
Amy Oswalt, Alison Simpson, Sharon
Sowers
10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Teri Kuhnert
7th Street – Linda Stecher
Santa Fe – Jeremy Ellis
10:45 Preparers/Cleanup: Carole Baker & Michel Fobbs
10:45 Acolyte & Helper: Nathan Randolph & Rusty Randolph
Worship Leader: Dennis Stanton

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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 301 N 7th St

Palm Sunday

April 9, 2017

9:00 am People of Praise Service

10:00 am Sunday School Classes

10:45 am Traditional Worship

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Palm Processional at both services!



HOSANNA!

Save now in the
highest. Blessed is
He who comes in the
Name of the Lord.

All Church Potato Bar Luncheon

Sunday, April 9, 2017

11:45 am in Wolf Hall

The Baptismal Class participants and their families will be our guests for the luncheon. The youth group will host their potato bar with serving of baked potatoes, various toppings, dessert and drink.



Baptismal Service

Sunday, April 9, 2017

1:00 pm in the annex

Everyone is invited to attend!

Easter Lilies

If you plan to share an Easter Lily with the church in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, please contact Rosie at the church office, and let her know if you will be having it sent from a flower shop or bringing in yourself and the occasion or memorial. The Worship Ministry Team asks that the LILIES be brought in for **EASTER SUNDAY ONLY**.
Thank you for sharing!



HOLY WEEK



Maundy Thursday Service

The Living Last Supper
in Wolf Hall

Reservations Requested – sign-up sheet in the annex
April 13, 2017 ~ 6:00 pm



Good Friday

Tenebrae Service

April 14, 2017

7 pm in the sanctuary

The Tenebrae Service is a service of shadows
with the extinguishing of candles.

Special music will be provided by the Chancel Choir.

24-Hour Prayer Vigil

The 24-Hour Prayer Vigil will begin at 7 pm on *Thursday, April 13, 2017* and continue through 7 pm on Friday, April 14, 2017. The Vigil will help focus our spiritual preparation for the celebration of Easter – time for prayer and reflection of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. The chapel at the church will be set up as the PRAYER CENTER with a prayer guide available as well as communion. The VIGIL is set up into ½ hour intervals (**BUT WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE MORE THAN ONE SLOT IF POSSIBLE**) and you may sign up on the sheet in the annex or call the church office @ 913-367-3036 and Rosie will help find a time for you.

Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017

7:00 am Sunrise Service

at the church in the sanctuary

7:30-9:00 am Easter Breakfast in Wolf Hall

9:00 am People of Praise Service

10:45 am Traditional Worship Service



GRABIT BINGO

March 16, 2017 6:30 PM



(Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Reservations are requested by Monday, March 13th. There is a sign-up sheet in the annex or call the office and let us know you will be attending.

Each person **MUST** bring one white elephant, wrapped in newspaper. Everyone will be given a number as they Bingo. Bingo winners will take a wrapped elephant or GRAB one from someone who already has one open. After all elephants have been opened, the first one to have had a Bingo is allowed to trade with anyone in the room. Lastly, everyone who does not have a gift is allowed to take from anyone (with the exception of the First Bingo Winner) who had multiple gifts, in the order of their Bingo number, with the exception of the First Bingo Winner. Thus, everyone goes home with a **WHITE ELEPHANT!**

Snacks and drinks will be provided.

