

The Christian Visitor

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Reverend Russ Cooper, **816-294-4842**
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Senior Ministers



Published April 5, 2017

Sent With Love To You!

Our Own Resurrection

One of my favorite passages in scripture is found in the book of Genesis (1:1-3). "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Theologians refer to this instance and this manner of creation as having been "ex nihilo," which literally means "out of nothing." I love serving a God who has the ability to create – even when there is absolutely nothing to work with!

Nature is full of examples of how the passing of one thing results in the birth of another. We see it in seeds that fall to the ground and grow into something new. We see it in the leaves of the trees throughout the cycle of the seasons. In the New Testament we read about Jesus making the crippled whole and causing blind eyes to see. The culminating example of this is, of course, the way that God raised Christ from the dead after three days in the tomb.

Whether we see God creating and bringing life out of something that seems to be completely lost or whether we see God creating out of nothing perceivable at all, both are absolutely amazing! I find a great deal of comfort in this ability of God to make a way where no way seems possible.

Life can be challenging at times. Sometimes we feel broken down. Sometimes we feel that there is nothing left for God to even work with in our hearts and in our lives. The good news for us, especially during this season of resurrection, is that no situation is beyond God's ability to heal and transform and bring into new life.

The only catch is this... God will only heal what we offer to him to make better. During what remains of this Lenten season, I would invite each of us to give God the things in our lives that cause us pain and any sense of hopelessness. God wants to heal us. God wants to bless us with redemption and deliverance and a resurrection of our own. This invitation is always open, but there is always something about this time of year that seems to suggest that God is especially inclined to intervene and to bless those who call upon Him.

In this holy season, I pray that each of us might give God the opportunity to prove to us that "through Christ all things are possible!"

In His Love,

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, April 17, 2017 - 4 p.m.

Published: Wednesday, April 19, 2017

This issue will include worship information for April 24, 30 & May 7 as well as the May calendar, birthday and anniversaries. The deadline for the next issue is May 8 and will include worship information for May 14 & 21. 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.

Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses Meetings

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 ~ 7:00 pm

Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 ~ 7:30 pm



Food Pantry Donations Needed

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 April: Spaghetti or Elbow Macaroni, Spaghetti Sauce, Instant or Canned Potatoes, Gravy Mix (Powered or Jar), Peanut Butter, Laundry Soap

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, Melinda Calhoon, Bryson Connell, Jerry Daniel, Monica Donaldson, Betty and Bill Dorsey, Sr., Billy Dorsey, Jr., Kevin Dykstra, Sammy Eddy, Raymond & Julie Elias, Rachel Elias, Raymond Felton, Steve Germani, Marilyn Glenn, Alana Hale, Wallace Harper, Sr., Sherri Hart, Charlie Harris, Karla Harter, Phyllis Haynes, Bethany Hedrick, Mercedes Hoffman, Mike Horton, Erin Kane, 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, Lila Mercer, Byran Meyer, Pat Montgomery, Diana Moxley, Pam Mullins, Emma Lou Niemann, Jan Otte, Steve Otte, Walker Shewey, Juanita Shufflebarger, Mark Shufflebarger, Becky Smith, Jim Smith, Gary Stecher, Sarah & Eric Szymanski, Glen Thorne, Karen Tollefson, Lillie Truman, Elfreda Walz, Amy and Mitch West, Tony Wilburn, Lonnetta Williams, Debbie Young. [IF WE CAN TAKE ANYONE OFF OF THIS PRAYER LIST, PLEASE NOTIFY ROSIE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE]

Cards Only Please (NO VISITORS at this time) – Larry Kibler – Mosaic Life Care, Long Term Acute Care, Room #2248, 5325 Faraon St., St. Joseph, MO 64506

Military

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

Attendance

March 26, 2017	9 a.m. – 100	10:45 a.m. – 86	SS – 45
April 2, 2017	9 a.m. – 111	10:45 a.m. – 78	SS – 46

Visitors March 26 & April 2

Scott Walton, Nigel Dalton, Emily & Terry Smith, Bailey Farrell, Kiley Warrior, Jacob Howard, Reece Rutledge

Christian Education



2017 CAMP RALLY DATE *Sunday, April 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.

Graduation Recognition

Sunday, May 7, 2017

Mark your calendars! We will recognize our members and friends of First Christian receiving their GED, graduates from high school, Vocational School, Jr. College, College, the EfM Program or receiving a Master's degree on Sunday, May 7, 2017 during the 9 and 10:45 am service. This is for those who obtained this in December, 2016 or May, 2017.

A cookie reception will be held between the two services in the annex.

Please contact the church office with the names of graduates.



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.



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 bldg. – **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 bldg.. for ages 18 – 25 led by Pastor Matt.

10:10 AM in the library/parlor (next to Wolf Hall) **Koinonia Class** Led by Carolyn Rodina. Book of James from the Life Lessons with Max Lucado.

Youth Group Schedule

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

April 23 – 4 pm Youth Group Meeting

April 30 – No Meeting

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 1/2 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. Cookies and coffee will be available.



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

BRANSON TRIP

The Membership Ministry Team is sponsoring a trip to Branson again. We will leave Thursday, October 19th and return Saturday, October 21st. If you wish to sign up, a deposit of \$50.00 per person is due at sign-up time. That will be refunded if you have to cancel a little later.

The itinerary will be about the same as every year, with the exception of what 3 shows we will see. More details later.

Jane Amthor, 913-367-0514

Soup & Sermon

Date	Soup Provided By	Speaker
4-12	Second Christian Church	Michael Kelley, Ebenezer Baptist
4-19	First Baptist Church	Michael Strickland, First Baptist



Christian Sympathy is extended to:

- ❖ The family of **NORA WOHLGEMUTH** who passed away on Saturday, March 25th at the Atchison Senior Village. Memorial services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 31st at the First Christian Church with Pastor Matt officiating.
- ❖ **MARGIE** and **TONY WILBURN** and **OPAL LEWMAN** on the passing of their brother **WILLIAM J. "BILL" NORRIS, SR** who passed away on March 28th.
- ❖ **SHAWN** and **BOYD SNODDY** on the loss of his mother, **MARY ANN SNODDY** who passed away on March 29th.

Note of Thanks

Thank you for your generous and appreciated donation of \$156.51. We look forward to seeing you at our celebration on June 10 and 11, 2017.

Sincerely,
Atchison Juneteenth Committee

[Note: This was ½ of the offering from the Black History Service.]

"Concerts at the Mount"

Presents

FOUNTAIN CITY BRASS BAND

April 23, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

St. Scholastica Chapel

Enter at St. Cecilia's North Door

\$12 tickets sold at the door. \$5 for students



April 9 & 16, 2017

Included with this issue of the *Christian Visitor* is a brochure and offering envelope. The brochure will explain what the offering goes to, and how it is used. We will collect this Special Offering on April 9th and 16th. Please prayerfully consider your gift.

Sunday, April 9, 2017

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
12 noon Potato Bar Luncheon
1 p.m. Baptism

Palm Sunday

Palm Processional at both service by our Youth

9:00 Communion Prep & Coffee: Jacque Pregont/
Sally Webb/Tohnya Aversman

9:00 Servers: Jacque Pregont, Phyllis Walton, Edith
Smith, Amy Smith, Carol Hink, Rick &
Peggy Stark, Shawn Adams

10:45 Elders: Joe Bullock and Keith Rawson

10:45 Servers: Steve Tate, Tracie Caudle, Heidie Hennen,
Diana Moxley, Janet Pruett, Michelle
Stanton

10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Dennis Stanton
7th Street – Michelle Stanton
Santa Fe – Carol Hink

10:45 Preparers & Cleanup: Pam Rizza and Peggy Stark

10:45 Worship Leader: Tammy Parrott

10:45 Acolyte & Helper: Brody Kottman and Kylee Kottman

Sunday, April 16, 2017

7 am Sunrise Service (in the sanctuary)
7:30-9 a.m. Easter Breakfast in Wolf Hall
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

Easter Sunday

9:00 Communion Prep & Coffee: Jacque Pregont/
Sally Webb/Tohnya Aversman

9:00 Servers: Barb Piper, Robi Chowdhuri, Gary
Wohlgemuth, Peg Montgomery, Roger &
Patty Phillippe

9:00 Greeters: Parking Lot – Roger Phillippe
7th Street – Barb Piper
Santa Fe – Carolyn Rodina

10:45 Elders: Vicki Tate and Sharon Baldrige

10:45 Servers: Nick Tate, Michel Fobbs, Amy Oswald,
Alison Simpson, Linda Stecher

10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot – Teri Kuhnert
7th Street – Linda Stecher
Santa Fe – Jeremy Ellis

10:45 Preparers/Cleanup: Brooke Genail and Linda Stecher

10:45 Worship Leader: Carolyn Campbell

10:45 Acolyte & Helper: Taygen Reno and Heather Matthias

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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!



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



THE LAST SUPPER

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.



Service of Darkness

Good Friday

Tenebrae Service
April 14, 2017

7:30 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.

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 Wors

