

*The
Christian
Visitor*

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

301 North 7th Street

P.O. Box 626

Atchison, Kansas 66002-0626

(913) 367-3036

E-Mail: fccatch@sbcglobal.net

Website: fccatchison.net

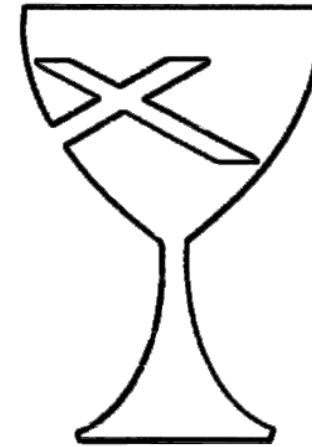
Facebook: www.facebook.com/fccatchison

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am – 4 pm

Rev. Russ Cooper, Pre-Interim Minister

Cell: 816-294-4842

Email: rcooper@spectrasourceinc.com



[Published April 8, 2015]

Sent With Love To You!

Message from Russ

What an amazing Holy Week! What a somber remembrance of all our Savior endured on our behalf. What a joy to proclaim, "He is risen...He is risen indeed!" We serve a risen Savior! We cannot place flowers on His grave because he doesn't reside there anymore. He lives in the hearts of His people. Those who have surrendered their lives to Him and invited Him in. Never was that on better display than over the course of this past week.

This article is not allowed enough space to thank each person that contributed to the Easter celebration we experienced this past week but I would be remiss if I didn't attempt to acknowledge each group of people that made Holy Week so special, so here goes.

To Sharon Sowers and the Worship Ministry team...wow! Unless you serve on that committee, you have no idea what is involved in planning and overseeing a baptism, a Thursday night service, a Friday night service, a 24 hour prayer vigil, a sunrise service & a contemporary and traditional service for Easter Sunday. Your faithful sacrifice of love touched countless hearts and lives over the course of the week. You will not know the full impact until you stand before Almighty God...you changed eternity!

To Ruth Krusemark and the choir and Dave Meyer and the Praise Team...wow! You captured every emotion of Easter through the inspired music you offered up to God. I was moved to tears on more than one occasion. The Hallelujah Chorus at the end of the second service Sunday was an incredible exclamation point to a passionate week of worship. Thanks to each of you for sharing your remarkable gifts with the rest of us!

To all who participated in the 24 hour prayer vigil, a sincere thank you. There were several occasions from 9:00PM Friday till 9:00PM Saturday, I stopped and considered the impact of what was taking place. Nonstop, for 24 hours, at least one member of our church was humbled before the throne of heaven, making petition to Almighty God for our church, our families, our community, our country and our world. God was truly uplifted and honored. I know, because His word says so, He was moved to action. We will not fully know in this life all that was accomplished in those twenty four hours of faithful prayer. Thanks to each of you!

To the volunteers who read at the Tenebrae Service Friday night...you painted a vivid and striking portrait of the occurrences in the garden, at the trial, on Golgotha and at the tomb. I'll not soon forget how I felt as you shared the story through words. Thanks for your presentation!

For those who prepared and served communion, to those that took communion to our members that are unable to personally attend church, to those who clean up after we leave each event, to those serving in the nursery, to Rosie, who prepared and printed 5 different bulletins over the course of the week and to anyone I have missed who contributed this past week...Thank you!

Christ was remembered, God was honored, people were touched, lives were changed...all because God's people answered the call and came together to use their gifts/talents/skills, sacrificially and in love to a worthy Savior. Thanks so much for your testimony to this church and this community. Let's keep shining that light...it is making a difference!

Blessed to be Serving With You,
Russ

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 20, 2014 - 4 p.m.

Published: Wednesday, April 22, 2015

This issue will include worship info. for April 26 & May 3 as well as the May, 2015 calendar, birthdays and anniversaries. The deadline for the next Christian Visitor is Monday, May 4th and will include worship information for May 10 and 17. 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.

Remember In Prayers

Sharon Agee, Alexine Blunt, Cory Brown, Melinda Calhoon, Bryson Connell, John Donahoo, Bill Donaldson, Bob Dunn, Shelly Edgmon, Earnestine Engeman, Dale Fitkin, Billy Fultz, Dee Gatewood, Jason Goodpasture, Alana Hale, William "Red" Harrison, Phyllis Haynes, Steve Higgins, Jack Higley, Danielle Holmes, Bessie Jones, Charlie Kottman, Laney Ledbedder, Joan Lemke, Naesha, Lexa & Kameron Low, Karen Martin, Kim Matthias, Mark Matthias, Natalie McCullough, Lila Mercer, Marjorie Merritt, Byran Meyer, Jan Mikkelson, Rick Moranz, Bill Norris, Sr., Kay Norton, Steve Otte, Dennis Petesch, The family of Allie Rebant, Donnie & Linda Roberts, Mike & Bonnie Roberts, Dorothy Schletzbaum, Kathy Scott, Justin Seager, Harold & Erma Seever, Robena Seever, Jim Shipley, Juanita Shufflebarger, Gene Sittenauer, Becky Smith, Zane Steltenpohl, Aurora Taylor, Piper Garrison TeBeest, Diana Terry, Dorothy Turner, Timi Vanlengen, Amy West, Pat West, Phil Wilson, Chuck Young, Debbie Young

Military

Ryan Callahan, Joshua Lambert, Nicholas Cline, Mike Quick, Sean McCaffery, Anton Mak, Jesse McGlade, Nick Davison, Curtis Ellis, Ben Carlisle, Jerry Michaels, John Humbard, Robert Dickson, Justin Ruhlman, Quentin Rivers

Attendance

March 29, 2015	9 a.m. – 149	10:45 a.m. – 87	SS – 54
April 5, 2015	Sunrise – 30	9 a.m. – 174	10:45 a.m. – 128

Visitors March 29 & April 5

Victoria, Dan & Zach Zeigler, Marie Toney, Damon Hennen, Jason, Anna, Clarissa & Emily Midyette, Adam Molt, Poe Kelley, Lauren Henderson, Bryan, Ashlen, Carsyn & Braylenn Snyder, Anna Meyer, Robin Reid, LeRoy Schoenfelder, Bob & Mary Boggs, Scott, Linda, Jessica & Hannah Walton, Justin Ross, J Nold & Kay Midyette, Tyler, Katy & Layla Hinton, Joey, Faith, Taygen & Tayler Hinton, Patricia Junk, John, Kay & Jeremiah Holmgren, Julie Gerlein, Drew & Andrea Korschot, Karen & Steve Fox, Carolyn Kuhn, Kris Carmichael, Jay Mejia

Education For Ministry (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. For more information, including a prospectus and/or a brochure, contact Helen at 913-426-1751. The cost of the EFM Program is \$350 and the church will pay ½ of this fee for members of FCC.

First Christian Church Scholarship 2015/16



Application forms are now available and are on the wooden table in the annex. You must be a member of First Christian Church to apply. The deadline is June 15, 2015 to have them completed in full along with all items requested and returned to the church office. If you have questions please contact Scholarship Chairperson, Marilyn Albright, 913-367-4754.

Atchison County Food Pantry @ FCC



The food pantry is open on Mondays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00-11:30 am. and is located in the basement entrance off Santa Fe Street.

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 at First Christian Church.

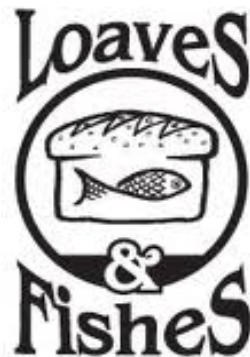
Needs for April, 2015 - Spaghetti or any Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Cereals (cold, oatmeal, grits, etc), Macaroni & Cheese, Canned Tuna

Monetary donations are accepted too!

Schedule for Loaves and Fishes for 2015

Meals are served and deliveries made from Project Concern. 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

May 23, 2015 July 25, 2015 September 26, 2015
November 21, 2015 January 30, 2016



Elders Meeting

Tuesday, April 14, 2015
6:30 pm in the Memorial Chapel

Deacons & Deaconesses Meetings

Tuesday, April 14, 2015
7 pm

Deacons meet east end of Wolf Hall
Deaconesses meet in Choir Room (in educ. bldg.)

Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 14, 2015
7:30 pm in Wolf Hall

Worship Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, April 26th
12 noon in Chapel

Agenda: We will plan our activities for Pentecost Sunday which is May 24th.

Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF)

At our next meeting, which is April 27, at 2:00 pm, we will give a report on the 2015 Spirit Fest. We have four or five persons going. We also report on the Blessing Box donations.

We will have White Elephant Auction at our next meeting. If you don't have a "white elephant" that's okay. You may bring a "gray elephant". Just kidding, anything you don't want or you no longer have use for it. Just wrap it or put it in a gift bag, the mystery is what's fun. This goes into our local account for Atchison FCC CWF. We give annually \$1,000.00 to KS Mission Fund. We give to Food Pantry, also. Please put on your calendar to join us. We have a lot of fun; fellowship, a lesson, and a dessert reception hosted by Doris Sutton and Edith Smith.

Diana Moxley, CWF President

We collect the following: Best Choice UPC's for FCC Christian Education, Box Tops for Education for AES, Campbell's Soup Labels for Trinity Lutheran, Stamps for Stamp Camp USA

There are containers on the bottom shelf of the wooden table in the annex to place these items.



MOVIE NIGHT

First Christian Church!

301 N 7th Street (Please come through back door off of parking lot)

7PM - April 11, 2015 (Saturday)



MOVIE: **FROZEN!**

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

And, it's FREE!

Questions??? Call the church office @ (913) 367-3036

Summer will be here before you know it!! So will Church Camps!!

CAMP RALLY...April 12th & 19th

- You need to have registration completed. Notaries will be available on both the 12th & 19th. (if registering online bring a printed copy of the registration as well as the Health Form for Notary)
- Payment no later than April 26th

There is an exciting opportunity for your child to be a disciple.

Please encourage him/her to invite a friend to attend Camp.

50% of your child and the friend's camp fees will be paid for by the church.

For Example:

Total cost of church camp.....\$165.00 each

Cost for my child & their friend to attend

church camp...\$82.50 each

Cost of giving a friend the fun and fellowship

at church camp...Priceless



This offer applies to Tall Oaks Camp and Camp Tawakoni.

The goal of the Christian Education Ministry Team is to increase the number of youth within our church to attend camp, especially including less active and/or unchurched youth in our community.

This opportunity to expand the youth involvement in church camp has been made possible through memorial funds from Shirley Hale & Wanda Underwood.

Pick up registration forms on the table in the annex. Start looking at your summer schedule. Encourage your child to think of a friend to invite. Be watching for more information on the church Facebook page, website and the newsletter.

Graduation Recognition

Sunday, May 3, 2015

The Christian Education Ministry Team will recognize all Graduates of First Christian on Sunday, May 3rd at the 9 and 10:45 am services and will host a COOKIE RECEPTION between the two services.

If you or someone in your immediate family will be receiving their GED, graduating from High School, Vocational School, Jr. College, College, the EfM Program or receiving a Master's Degree, please contact Rosie @ the church office, 913-367-3036.

Needed: Donation of homemade cookies for the cookie reception. 2-3 dozen please. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the annex or call the church office and let Rosie know. THANK YOU!



Youth Group

Sunday, April 12 – 4-5:30 pm Regular Meeting. NEED LESSON LEADERS for CHI RHO DISCUSSION.

Sunday, April 26 – 4-5:30 pm Outdoor Activity

For questions about youth group call Sharon Bullock @ 913-370-0845.



Youth Sunday School Classes

Pre-K & K – Stacie Dougherty, Rochelle Schuetz, Jackie Jasper, Ashley Stout & Pam and Shawn Rizza
1st & 2nd Grades – Kylee Kottman & Heather Matthias
3rd, 4th & 5th Grades – Christen and Matt Lacey, Brooke Genail & Christy Isaacs
Middle School – Debra Mikkelson, Ronda McDaniel & Russ Cooper
High School – John Jacobson & Linda Tuley
Isabelle Beckett – Education Major @ Benedictine College will also be helping with our youth Sunday School classes.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Friendship Class – Sundays at 9:30 am in Choir Room
Logos Class – Sundays at 10 am in Chapel. Led by Jack Albright

Birth Announcement

THOMAS and AMANDA WILKE announce the birth of their son, NICHOLAS WILKE born on March 17, 2015. Mother and baby are doing fine. Proud grandparents are ALAN and DEB WILKE.



Congratulations to the Wilke Family!

Dedication of New Life

The dedication service of new life will be held on Sunday, May 10, 2015 (Mother's Day) during the 9 and 10:45 am services. This service is recommended for those who are members of and active in the life of the church. It is a commitment between the parents and the congregation to raise the child in a Christ like manner. If you wish to have your child dedicated please call the church office and let Rosie know.

Christian Sympathy Is Extended To

- The family of SANDRA KAY HOOPER who passed away on Saturday, April 4, 2015. Memorial services for Sandy will be held on Friday, April 10th at 10:30 am at the Becker-Dyer Stanton Chapel. Survivors include her daughter Sarah (Brad) Lee and sons, Stash and Scott "Scooter" Homes.

- The family of ANNA ROSALEE SNYDER-DOWNING who passed away on April 1st. Funeral services for Rosalee were held on Tuesday, April 7th at 11:30 am at the Sugar Creek Christian Church.

And The Lorded Added

DAREK ALLEN HENNEN and ETHAN MARK MATTHIAS took the Pre-Baptism Classes taught by Elder, Vicki Tate. Ethan and Darek made their confessions of faith during services on Palm Sunday, March 29th. They were then baptized at 1 pm by Reverend Russ Cooper.

Darek lives with his mother, Heidie and sister Heavyn at 1227 Mound Dr. and Ethan and his parents, Justin and Heather Matthias along with his sister, Sadie live at 1606 Santa Fe St.

We Welcome Ethan and Darek into our Church Family!

2015 New Members - 2



Ethan Matthias and
Darek Hennen



Ethan, Pastor Russ
and Darek

Spring Blood Drive

Atchison Community
Friday, April 24th
12:30 pm – 6 pm
1640 Riley Street
First Baptist Church

Blood Drive sponsored by the Atchison Hospital Auxiliary

Book your appointment today at savealifenow.org, enter SPONSOR CODE: atchisoncom.

For additional details contact Virginia Voelker at 913.426.6281 or jarains41@yahoo.com



Outreach Productions is proud to announce that
The Start A Fire Tour

is coming to St. Joseph, MO! Unspoken and the JJ Weeks Band will be at Word of Life Church on Saturday, April 18th at 7 pm. the Word of Life Youth Worship Band will be the opening act. Tickets are on sale at iTickets.com (VIP \$25 & General Admission \$15). A portion of the proceeds will go to the St. Joseph Cold Weather Shelter for homeless men. We hope to see you for a wonderful evening of worship and music for the entire family! Contact James Spafford with questions at 816-390-6561 or spaf@stjoelive.com.



Lord Hear Our Cry

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 2015

12:00 noon

Memorial Hall

819 Commercial

"Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day." 1 Kings 8:28

9 a.m. People of Praise Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday, April 12, 2015

Sermon: "Who Is My Neighbor?"
Scripture: Luke 10:25-29
9:00 Servers: Barb Piper, Rhonda Shell, Carol Hink, Kevin Dykstra, Peggy Montgomery, Mike and Alice Henning, Ron Tuley, Gary Wohlgemuth
10:45 Elders: Joe Bullock and John Jacobson
10:45 Servers: Buddy Baldrige, Michelle Stanton, Tracie Caudle, Kelley Stillings, Lavern Fitkin, Dixie Williams
10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot...Dennis Stanton
7th Street...Michelle Stanton
Santa Fe...Carol Hink
10:45 Preparers: Linda Stecher and Tracie Caudle
Acolyte & Helper: Ryan Soph and Tammy Parrott
Worship Leader: Alison Kuhnert

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Sermon: "You Are The Light of the World – A City on a Hill"
Scripture: Matthew 5:14-16
9:00 Servers: Amy Knoch, Vicki Jones, Christen Lacey, Jackie Jasper, Mandi and Jason Wells, Kay and John Dolenz, Heidie Hennen, Heather Matthias
10:45 Elders: Vicki Tate and Jacque Pregont
10:45 Servers: Dean Boggs, Rusty Randolph, Heidie Hennen, Susan Cummings, Kylee Kottman, Alison Kuhnert
10:45 Greeters: Parking Lot...Teri Kuhnert
7th Street...Linda Stecher
Santa Fe...Linda Vanderweide
10:45 Preparers: Christy Isaacs and Alison Kuhnert
Acolyte & Helper: Ethan Matthias and Kelley Stillings
Worship Leader: Carolyn Campbell

April 4, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This serves as a letter of recommendation for Riley Aversman as it relates to Riley's involvement in the life of our church and his commitment to his faith.

I currently serve as interim pastor while the church leadership goes through the process of calling a new full time pastor. I have served in youth music ministry at First Christian Church in Atchison for almost 15 years and have known Riley and his family since moving to Atchison.

Riley has been involved in our church his whole life. He has been a regular attendee at worship services and was a faithful participant in Sunday school growing up. He attended TLS until second grade and was baptized when he was 10.

We have two worship services at First Christian; an early contemporary service with guitars and drums and a traditional service with chancel choir and organ. This requires taking down the sound equipment used in the early service and setting the altar back up for the second service. Riley has assisted in this process throughout his teenage years.

Riley assisted with a school food drive to help stock the food pantry the church runs, has attended a youth conference and has been a regular attendee at our VBS program each summer.

I can personally attest to the quality of Riley's character. He and his family are an important part in the life of our church.

I can be reached through the information provided below should you have any questions.

Blessings,

Russ Cooper
Interim Pastor
913-367-3036 church
816-294-4842 mobile
rcoper@spectrasourceinc.com

Jim Robinson

Autobiographical Sketch

I was born 81 days after “Pearl Harbor,” in a hospital in a tiny west Texas town surrounded by peanut fields. My dad was an itinerant farmer, and my earliest memories include living in a fruit cellar and in a series of drafty dust bowl farm houses. We were in church twice every Sunday and on Wednesday night, and I have no memories of not “loving Jesus.”

Dad eventually gave up his dream of owning his own farm, and we moved to town and became “settled.” The summer before I entered 7th grade we moved to Mesquite, Texas, an eastern suburb of Dallas, where I finished high school, entered college, met and married Jo Lynn, and earned my bachelor’s degree.

I served two years active duty in the Marine Corps, including a year in Vietnam. During that time our first son was born. Immediately after my release from active duty I entered the Graduate Seminary at Phillips University, and finished both the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Ministry programs. Our second and third sons were born during that period.

While working on the Masters Degree I served a student church in Waynoka, Oklahoma (go to the end of the world and turn left). While working on the Doctoral Degree I served as Associate Minister at First Christian Church in Edmond, Oklahoma, and afterward served Churches in Claremore and Tulsa, Oklahoma and in Pine Bluff and Harrison, Arkansas.

I retired in October, 2005, and have served interim ministries at Carrollton, Missouri, Mountain Home, Arkansas, Trenton, Missouri and Las Vegas, Nevada.

Jo Lynn and I have eight grandchildren whom we have worked hard to spoil rotten; and we have enjoyed traveling between interims.

We both are musicians. Jo Lynn is a trained choral director and hand bell director (her first love is hand bells). I played trombone through junior hi, senior hi and undergraduate school, and then played in the Marine Band at Quantico and the Third Marine Division Band. Since retirement I’ve been studying classical guitar, and hope soon to become relatively proficient.

I love the outdoors, especially hiking and Bass fishing. When the weather is too bad for those activities, I enjoy model railroading. I love football (and, yes, I’m a Chiefs fan—but they’re #2 after the Cowboys). While in Las Vegas I discovered the joys of hiking, and last July I hiked the Grand Canyon from rim-to-rim.

Jo Lynn is a “PK”, so she should have known better; but she has blessed my life as lover, confidant, best friend, and spiritual inspiration.

We are excited about the potential of living and working with you in Atchison.