

# THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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## Follow the Cardinals...

The Pastor's

TRAIN



OF THOUGHT

(No, not *those* Cardinals. I mean, you can if you want, but I'm a Royals fan from birth.)

When I was in the search and call process for the first time, after seminary, I was living in Oregon. Did you know that there are no Northern Cardinals in Oregon? I missed them when I lived out there. Yes, we had Steller's Jays and cute little Bushtits and some other kinds of birds, but nothing can quite match the song of a cardinal. Each one has its own variation on one of the several standard cardinal songs. I once heard a young cardinal singing each of the standard songs, one after the other, as though he was trying them on to see which one fit him. (Could have been "her," actually; I'm told that unlike most female birds, female cardinals also sing.)

During that search process, unsure where I'd end up, I had a dream. In the dream I was on the road that runs from Coffeyville out to Dearing, and I saw a little tree that was absolutely full of cardinals. And I heard a voice say, "Follow the redbirds, and you'll get to the right place." When it was said and done, I was called to a church in Iowa, where there are indeed redbirds.

God isn't speaking to us through *every* dream we have, but I do believe God *sometimes* speaks to us in our dreams. I feel like that was one of the ones in which God spoke to me: "Go east, young woman" (apologies to Horace Greeley). So last summer, at General Assembly, when I encountered a potter selling "prayer jars" with lids that had birds as handles, I could not pass up the one with a cardinal on it.

This year, during Lent, I am going to offer my redbird prayer jar to you. No, you can't take it home and keep it for yourself; but I'll put it out in the entryway along with some little slips of paper. You can write prayer requests on there that you want to be private, not shared with the whole church or printed in the bulletin. I'd especially encourage you to use it to ask for prayers for yourself. We tend to believe we should only pray for other people, not for ourselves, although we do have needs, and it's okay to ask for help with them. I think it's good to try some new spiritual practices during Lent, so this Lent I invite you to write your request, put it in the jar, and be assured that I will empty the jar each week and pray over each request—but will share them with no one else, other than God.

Of course we want to pray for others, but this Lent let's remember that it's also okay to pray for our own needs and ask others to pray for us.

*Sharla*

## March Serving Schedule

### March 1

Elder: Diana Rich  
Scripture: Shawn Quick

### 9:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Chuck Lewis, Derek Lile  
Greeter: Judy Taylor

### March 8

Elder: Diana Rich  
Scripture: Chuck Lewis

### 9:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Alan Munday, Lucille Munday  
Greeter: Carol Roberts

### March 15

Elder: Justin Quick  
Scripture: Carol Lewis

### 9:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Jennifer Schmehl, Dianna Silvers  
Greeter: Carol & Chuck Lewis

### March 22

Elder: Don Malan  
Scripture: Jennifer Schmehl

### 9:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Mike Studards, Kathy Wood  
Greeters: Jacqueline Hough & Norma Morgan

### March 29

Elder: John Daniel  
Scripture: Don Malan

### 9:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Denise Burch, Peggy Fuller  
Greeters: Louise Foster

Music Director: Carol Ann Winburn — Accompanist: Mary Coffman  
Sound Techs: Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick,  
Communion Preparers: Phyllis McBrayer | Nursery Attendants: Jessika Blaser,  
Jakaila Rolph

## Birthdays

1 Chuck Lewis  
6 Ruby Cummings  
6 Teresa Berry  
7 Alan Munday  
7 Bill McGuire  
8 Louise Foster  
12 Brayden VanMeter  
15 Lynette Clover  
15 Michaela Boonstra  
22 Carol Roberts  
24 Edith Dilley  
24 Suzie Wilson  
26 Bob Johnson

## Anniversaries

16 Bill & Julie McGuire  
21 Don & Juanita Huenefeldt  
27 Greg & Jeanie Bartimus

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## Budget

January Income  
\$7,993  
January Expenses  
\$9,327  
YTD Income  
\$7,993  
YTD Expenses  
\$9,327

You may view a complete financial report in the church office.

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## Attendance

Date	Sunday School		Worship
February 2	Life Group—10 Elementary—0	Officers—0 Total—10	35
February 9	Life Group—8 Elementary—3	Officers—0 Total—11	53
February 16	Life Group—0 Elementary—0	Officers—0 Total—0	46
February 23	Life Group—8 Elementary—6	Officers—0 Total—14	49

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## Important Dates

3—Disciples Women  
15—Board Meeting  
17—Community Café

# March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group	2	3 6:30 Disciple's Women	4 6:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Practice	5 9:00 PDO	6	7
8 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group 11:00 Elders Meeting	9	10	11 6:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Practice	12 9:00 PDO	13	14
15 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Board Meeting	16	17 5:30 Community Café 	18 6:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Practice	19 NO PDO	20	21
22 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group	23	24	25 6:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Practice	26 9:00 PDO	27	28
29 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group	30	31				

# Upcoming Sermons

## **March 1 (1st Sunday in Lent)**

Message: "Follow the Money"

Scripture: Mark 10:17-31

*About:* This is the familiar story of the "Rich Young Ruler." The narrative goes a little bit beyond the young man's reaction to Jesus' instruction to sell all he has. Looking at the story and what follows it, what is Jesus saying to us?

## **March 8 (2nd Sunday in Lent)**

Speaker: Shawn Quick

Scripture: Mark 10:32-52

## **March 15 (3rd Sunday in Lent)**

Message: "Whose Head Is This?"

Scripture: Mark 12:13-17

*About:* For the rest of 2020, we are going to focus periodically on some aspect of stewardship. Today we hear a familiar passage and wonder if it tells us anything about stewardship.

## **March 22 (4th Sunday in Lent)**

Message: "Going to Bed Hungry"

Scripture: Mark 12:28-44

*About:* We sometimes hear the story of the widow's mite held up as an example of sacrificial giving. But if we read what comes before the widow's action, we may find that Jesus is doing more than simply commending her faithfulness.

## **March 29 (5th Sunday in Lent)**

Message: "THE END IS NEAR"

Scripture: Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

*About:* Chapter 13 of Mark contains several predictions about the end-times. We have no doubt heard these predictions and heard preachers or teachers try to explain them, but is Jesus saying what we think he's saying?

## Weather Cancellation Policy

If the Weather Is Bad...

...the pastor and board chair will decide together whether we will have worship. We will ask Everett for input as well. A decision will be made by 7 a.m. Sunday. We'll then contact the following news sources:

- WDAF (Fox4)
- KSHB (Channel 41)
- FM-92.1 and their website ([www.921news.com](http://www.921news.com)), and Facebook (kmam kmoe)
- Bates County Live

Cancellation information will also be posted on the church's Facebook page ([facebook.com/FCCButlerMO](https://facebook.com/FCCButlerMO)).

If you haven't seen or heard anything by 8 a.m. (to give the media outlets time to post the information), you can assume we'll go on as usual; but please use your common sense about whether you believe it's safe to get out. We would rather have you stay home and be safe than try to get here and have an accident or a fall.

If worship is cancelled, all other Sunday activities (including Sunday school and any meetings) will also be cancelled.

On weekdays, if Butler's school has cancelled classes, the church will be closed and all activities for that day will be cancelled.

## DISCIPLE'S WOMEN

Disciples Women will meet on March 3 at 6:30. Refreshments by Jennifer Schmehl and Devotional by Judy Taylor. Please enter through the front glass double doors. **The north door will remain locked all evening.**

Thanks, and hope to see you there.

## THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Aimee Daniel, Bill Adcock, Bill Cumpton, Carl Shubert, Darlene Adcock, Dennis Shannon, Dusty Warren, Frank Morris, Gary Studards, Jamie Hibbs, Kay Haile, Kenny Hunt, Lona Grosshart, Madison Tippie, Rachel Bittencourt, Rhonda Yarick, Sharon Jones, Tracy Clayton, Tylor Smading,



# Board Minutes

February 16, 2020

## Pending Board Approval

Board members present: Deacons- Lucille Munday, Kathy Wood, Alan Munday, Peggy Fuller, Dale Kinsman, Chuck Lewis and Dianna Silvers. Elders- John Daniel, Diana Rich, Don Malan, and Justin Quick, plus treasurer, Judy Colburn. Others present: Rev. Sharla Hulseley, Carol Roberts, Shawn Quick, Gary Coffman, Everett McBrayer, and Phyllis McBrayer.

Don Malan called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM. Don Malan opened with prayer.

The agenda was adopted with additions on motion of Alan Munday and second by Diana Rich.

The minutes of the 01-19-20 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented on motion of Alan Munday and second by Justin Quick.

**Financial Reports:** The January 2020 financial reports including Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Budget Performance sheets as of 01-31-20 were reviewed. John Daniel reviewed a few items noting year-to-date numbers. He noted that donations have been made to the "Building" fund and will update the visual display in the sanctuary. The financial reports were approved as presented on motion of Alan Munday and second by Justin Quick. Full reports are available in the church office.

**Ministers' Report:** Rev. Hulseley gave her report noting she has adjusted and increased her in-office hours in-part due to her therapy schedule. She attended the Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Alliance meeting. Plans are being made for 5 community Lenten services with FCC hosting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. She noted her plans to attend a convention and be absent from church on March 8<sup>th</sup>. She discussed details about the Ministerial Alliance Bingo night on 2-22-2020 noting FCC needs to donate a gift basket and 3 desserts. Carol Roberts volunteered the Disciples Women to provide the gift basket. Diana Rich volunteered to make a cake. Her full report is available in the church office.

### Old Business:

**North Basement Wall, sanctuary walls, and choir robe room ceiling Repair Update:** Everett McBrayer reported he has contacted 2 potential companies to complete this work, but he has no formal bids yet. Will continue to get updates to the Board, as they are available.

**Review Contract with Kershner Heating and Cooling:** There was a suggestion to look at other providers that might provide a Service Contract at a better rate. It was noted that the current Service Agreement will automatically renew 7-20-2020 unless cancelled by 06-20-2020, therefore it was suggested Everett look for other providers, a decision must be made at or before the May 2020 board meeting.

**2020 Committee/Department Chair:** Don Malan reported he only has two positions left to fill. He ask for volunteers to chair Evangelism and Membership. He hopes to have all in place by next month.

### New Business:

**Christian Church Foundation Report:** No report available to review today.

**Letter from Dolly Studards:** A letter from Dolly Studards was read noting her desire to resign her position as Elder, due to health issues. This was accepted (with regrets) on motion of Alan Munday and second by John Daniel. Don Malan ask for any help filling this position that will end 12-31-2020.

## Department/Committee Reports:

**Personnel:** Lucille Munday noted that Devon Copsey resigned as Administrative Assistant and Lessa Lile has been hired as “temporary” replacement. Lucille noted all applications for the permanent replacement will be reviewed soon by the Personnel committee with a decision following that.

**Worship:** Phyllis McBrayer noted several events being planned at FCC: Community Café on 2/18, and 3/17, wear green on Sunday 3/15, Ash Wednesday on 2/26, Lenten Service at FCC 4/1, and Community Choir Concert at FCC 5/3.

**Property:** **1) Replacement of Smoke Detectors:** Everett McBrayer noted that during the annual fire inspection by Atronic Alarms from Springfield, it was discovered that all the smoke detectors need to be replaced due to their age. A bid was received for a total cost of \$3000. These could be installed, and payments made quarterly. A copy of this was given to the Stewardship Committee for consideration in the Stewardship campaign and replenishing of the Building Fund. **2) Security System:** Everett noted the alarm at the North entrance door has not been working correctly. This was a re-build model. Ring will replace this with a new alarm at no charge to FCC. It should arrive soon and will be installed ASAP.

**Stewardship:** Diana Rich noted this department continues to meet and make plans to increase the “Building Fund” and re-pay the “General Fund” money borrowed:

The visual thermometer is now in the sanctuary to reflect the progress being made with goal of \$40,000. John Daniel noted this will be updated soon as some money has been received.

March 12<sup>th</sup>- a chili and soup supper will be planned, promoted and invite the community. Plans are being made now with details available soon.

April- still anticipating a pancake supper, again inviting the community.

Phyllis McBrayer inquired about the traditional dessert auction held in May. Stewardship Committee members noted they do not plan for money from this event to go to their campaign, but for it to continue going to support youth wanting to go to church camp and VBS.

## 2020 Building Fund Drive

The Stewardship Committee is proposing a 2020 building fund drive. There are many repairs that need to be made to our church. This year we are concentrating on the following repairs:

- Repair the north wall of the Fellowship Hall
- Repair the north wall of the Sanctuary
- Repair the ceiling in the Choir Robe Room
- Remove the wall in the Chapel to increase space and storage for PDO

***We are hoping to raise \$40,000 for these repairs.***

Some planned dates for fundraisers:

- \* March 29—Chili / Soup Supper fundraiser, we plan to invite the public to this event.
- \* April 23—Pancake Supper fundraiser, we plan to invite the public to this event.

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Return Service Requested

# The Messenger

