

THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

11 W. Pine, Butler, MO 64730

Phone: 660-679-3066 Email: admin@fccbutler.org



The Pastor's

TRAIN



OF THOUGHT

Changes...

(Not a word most of us want to see right now, I know...we've been through enough changes lately, right?)

One of these days, we *will* be back together at church. I promise. Right now the stay-at-home order is due to expire on May 4, and we'll be able to worship together on May 10. But will that date hold? I don't know. These orders are getting extended in various places; Kansas City metro governments have pushed theirs back to May 15, and the state of Virginia is under theirs until the first part of June now. But one day this *will* be over.

When we gather together again, a few things that have changed during this period of time won't change back. Here are a few I can think of...

Social distancing will still be the rule. Our sanctuary is plenty big enough for folks to sit six feet apart. We will still have hand sanitizers available (and the bathrooms have plenty of soap and water), and if you're more comfortable wearing a mask, go right ahead. I'd imagine some of us will not be ready to come back whenever the order is lifted, which brings me to the second thing that won't change back...

We will still be *livestreaming worship*. We are going to have to do a little bit of thinking about just how to make this happen in our sanctuary (not that it can't be done—we know it can—but to figure out how to set up a phone or camera without a table and a huge stack of books in the middle of the center aisle.

Online giving will still be an option. We have chosen to use the Givelify app for this; you can download it to your phone or follow the link on the church's website (fccbutler.org). It takes literally seconds to give your offering through Givelify—faster than writing a check! And as far as I know the U.S. Mail is still going to be running, if you prefer to send a paper check. Plus, and I didn't realize this, you can evidently go to your bank and set up a recurring automatic draft straight out of your account for whatever cause you choose, including the church.

Communion changed just a little right before we all went under the stay-at-home order, and I think we'll stick with what we did that Sunday, March 22, which feels like ages ago, doesn't it? We'll all come forward to receive the elements, and deacons and elders will hand them to you with sanitized, gloved hands. The offering plates will be at the front rather than passing through the pews, too. The fewer hands that touch them, the less likely you'll be to be exposed to a bug. (And there will still be someone who can bring Communion to you if you can't come to the front.)

While we wait, lives on hold, let's pray for one another, and for those essential folks who can't take time off or work at home—including the folks who work at the grocery stores and pharmacies—and let's try to be a little kinder than we think is necessary. Nobody will ever be judged harshly for being too kind, only for being unkind.



May Serving Schedule



Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.

May 3rd

No in-person worship

May 10

Elder: Carol Roberts

Deacon: Jennifer Schmehl & Dianna Silvers

Scripture Reader: Peggy Fuller

Greeter: Carol Roberts & Dax Rolph

May 17

Elder: Diana Rich

Deacon: Mike Studards & Kathy Wood

Scripture Reader: Judy Daniel

Greeter: Norma Morgan

May 24

Elder: Justin Quick

Deacon: Denise Burch & Peggy Fuller

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Schmehl

Greeter: Judy Taylor

May 31

Elder: Don Malan

Deacon: Carol Hedrick & Dale Kinsman

Scripture Reader: Diana Rich

Greeter: Paula Shaffer

Music Director: Carol Ann Winburn — **Accompanist:** Mary Coffman

Sound Techs: Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick

Communion Preparer: Carol Hedrick

Nursery Attendants: Jessika Blaser, Jakaila Rolph

Sunday Worship

- ◆ Sunday Sermons can be viewed under the Sermons section of the church website.

Disciples Women's Group

- ◆ No May meeting for Disciples Women's Group.

Tithes, Offerings, and Donations

- ◆ Contributions may be given through Givelify online donation on the church website or mailed to the church.



Birthdays

- 1 Marcia McElwain
- 2 Kenneth Austin
- 3 Joe Fuller
- 4 Paula Brede
- 7 John Golladay
- 9 Fred Haworth Jr.
- 11 Sandy Hough
- 14 Jim Adams
- 14 Keagen Robinson
- 17 Julie Davis
- 20 Leota Hunt
- 21 Larry Winburn
- 21 Steve Lewis
- 28 Jayce Ghery
- 29 Bob Foster
- 30 Jessica Burch
- 31 Lyndell Colburn

Anniversaries

- 12 Jim & Nancy Simpson
- 30 David & Christine Berry

Budget

March Income
\$13,977.44

March Expense
\$9,399.83

YTD Income
\$30,699.57

YTD Expense
\$26,723.66

You may view a complete financial report in the church

Important Dates

- 10 – Mother's Day
- 17 – Board Meeting
- 25 – Memorial Day
- 31 – Pentecost

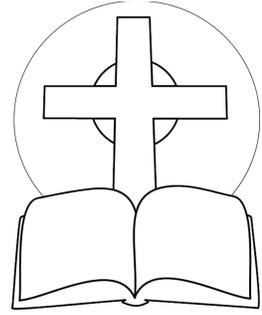


May 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ALL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE						
3 No in-person worship.	4	5	6 7:00 Choir Practice	7	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group	11	12	13 7:00 Choir Practice	14	15	16
17 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Board Meeting	18	19	20 7:00 Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27 7:00 Choir Practice	28	29	30
31 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Life Group						

Upcoming Sermons



May 3, 2020 (4th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Acts 17:1-9

Theme: Paul and Silas in Thessalonica

Title: "Guilt by Association"

What I was thinking: The Thessalonian authorities weren't able to catch Paul and Silas, so they arrested their host and some other believers. What was their offense?

May 10, 2020 (5th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (RCL: Epiphany 3, Year A)

Theme: Divisions in the Corinthian church

Title: "Who do you belong to?"

What I was thinking: The church in Corinth had a seemingly infinite capacity for division over large things and small. In this passage, we find out that baptism, of all things, is a source of discord.

May 17, 2020 (6th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13 (RCL: Epiphany 4, Year C)

Theme: The nature of Christian love

Title: "Does anybody love anybody, anyway?"

What I was thinking: This favorite wedding Scripture tells us what true love is and what it is not.

May 24, 2020 (7th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-26 (RCL: Easter, Year B, and Epiphany 5, Year C)

Theme: Paul's account of Jesus' resurrection, and its meaning

Title: "What Are Our Essentials?"

What I was thinking: Paul has pretty strong words for those who would deny Jesus was raised from the dead. Why?

May 31, 2020 (Pentecost)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13 (RCL: Pentecost, Year A)

Theme: The gifts we have to offer

Title: "Stone Soup"

What I was thinking: Stewardship is about sharing our gifts to serve God and others and build up the church. What are our gifts?

Dear FFC friends:

Time..... Wait..... Together..... Worship.....

These words have taken on new and more vivid meaning for us over the past few weeks. We're all spending a lot more time at home these days, whether we're learning to work from home, teaching kids at home, or just staying home to protect ourselves and others. Let's hope we're also using some of that time to pray for caregivers and scientists and to study God's word.

We want to be confident and not fearful as we "wait it out" – the virus, the market, even the distancing. Our church family is full of heroes and angels who handle the waiting by providing food, phone calls and homemade masks for these who need them. Way to go!

We're learning that we can work together without being in the same place. We can attend church services together online, and we can support our church by mailing in our checks or making payments online.

Most importantly, we are finding that worship does not require a big, beautiful building or room-filling music. We can feel God's presence at our kitchen table or in our home office space. Thank you, Sharla, for keeping us in the Word with your daily Morning Prayers and Sunday services via Facebook.

So, please know that I am impatiently waiting until the time is right for all of us to be together for worship at First Christian Church. I miss seeing everyone in person and I am looking forward to the joy of singing hymns of praise and worship with my church family once again.

Let's help each other make responsible decisions, trust God and our scientists, and support the brave caregivers and first responders across our nation.

Love in His service,
Carol Ann and the FCC Music Department

Thoughts & Prayers

- ◆ Sympathy to the family of Kay Haile
- ◆ Sympathy to the family of Phillip Pieratt
- ◆ Aimee Daniel, Bill Adcock, Bill Cumpton, Carl Shubert, Darlene Adcock, Dennis Shannon, Dusty Warren, Frank Morris, Gary Studards, Jamie Hibbs, Kenny Hunt, Lona Grosshart, Madison Tippie, Rachel Bittencourt, Rhonda Yarick, Sharon Jones, Tylor Smading, JC McHargue, Maggie Hubbard, Sam McCombs, and Vanessa Coon.

Faith Adventures Camp

- ◆ Camp Hebron in Pittsburg, MO
 - CYF (completed 9th-12th grade) July 27-31
 - Chi Rho (completed 6th-8th grade) July 27-31
 - JYF (completed 3rd-5th grade) July 27-31
 - Try-It (K-2 with accompanying adult) July 30-31
- ◆ Contact the church office for a form.
- ◆ **Forms must be completed and in the office by June 15, 2020**



Introducing Givelify, FCC's New Online Giving App!

FCC is now on Givelify, a mobile app that lets you donate with only a few taps.

Givelify does not charge any monthly fees or sign up fees.

A transaction fee of 2.9% + 30 cents is taken out of each donation before the funds are disbursed to FCC.

(example: if you donate \$100, FCC receives \$96.80)

How to Make Your First Donation with the Givelify App

1. Download the free Givelify app from the App Store or Google Play and create your account.
2. Tap **My Place of Worship**. If you are within a 2-mile radius of **FCC**, you can use the **Nearby** tab and find your organization on the GPS map. You can also find FCC by tapping the **Search** tab, selecting **Places of Worship**, and searching for First Christian Church at 11 W. Pine Street, Butler, MO 64730.
3. Tap the **Give To** button.
4. Save FCC as your default recipient by tapping the heart icon next to **My Place of Worship**.
5. Tap **Give**.
6. Tap desired amount or Other (enter any amount over \$0.50).
7. Tap the envelope next to the desired donation category.
8. Tap Add Donation, Add Memo, or Set Recurring, if desired.
9. Tap **Give Now**.
10. A pop-up will prompt you to **Sign Up** or **Sign In**. Tap **Sign Up** and select **Sign-in with Facebook** or **Sign Me Up by E-Mail**.
11. If you choose **Sign Me Up by E-mail**, enter your name, email, and password, then tap **Sign Me Up**. An email will be sent to the address provided with an activation link. In the app, tap **Continue**. (Note: You can make your first donation before clicking the activation link, so feel free to tap **Cancel** when you are prompted with a reminder of the activation email.)
12. Enter credit or debit card payment information and tap **Give Now**. The light green button will turn dark green when your payment information is complete.
13. Tap **Open Page in Givelify** for receipt. FCC will also include Givelify donations on your donation statement.

Continued on next page.

How to Make Givelify Donation after First Time

1. Tap the Givelify app on your smart phone.
2. Tap **Give**.
3. Tap desired amount or Other (enter any amount over \$0.50)
4. Tap the envelope next to the desired donation category (example: Building Fund).
5. Click Add Donation, Add Memo, or Set Recurring, if desired.
6. Tap **Give Now**.
7. Tap **Open Page in Givelify** for receipt. FCC will also include Givelify donations on your donation statement.

Want to give to FCC online without downloading the Givelify app?

You can click the Donate tab on the top menu of the church website, fccbutler.org. You will be directed to FCC's giving page. The giving process is the same as when using the Givelify app. (Start with step 6 in the above section **How to Make Your First Donation with the Givelify App.**)



2020 Building Fund Drive

The Stewardship Committee is having a 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

Current donations: \$5,586

Goal: \$40,000

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
11 W. Pine Street
Butler, MO 64730

Church Phone: 660-679-3066
Fax: 660-679-5680
Email: admin@fccbutler.org
Web: <https://fccbutler.org>
Pastor Sharla Hulsey
revsharkie@gmail.com

Return Service Requested

The Messenger

