

THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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The Pastor's

TRAIN



OF THOUGHT

Back to School

Years ago I had a boss who would often compliment employees with, “You’re a scholar and a gentleman.” (I’m sure there’s some literary source for that, but I don’t know it.) He never said that to me, of course; I am not and never will be a gentleman. But I do like to consider myself a scholar.

There’s nothing I enjoy more than learning something new, whether in a formal setting, like a classroom, or in an informal way via documentaries, books, and online information. (You do have to exercise critical thinking, especially with online stuff, because there’s a lot of junk out there.) I have long wanted to go back and get my Doctor of Ministry degree, and now appears to be the time. Originally I planned to start back in January, but, well, life intervened. I’ll be doing it through Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, which is one of our DOC schools—which we support through our Thanksgiving Special Day Offering, incidentally.

Because of the COVID-19 mess, we are not going to meet on campus in Tulsa this year. Instead, all of our meetings will take place online, via Zoom. But they will be all day for a full week, June 22-26, plus Thursday evening meetings through June and July. I’ll still be here in town, but you won’t see much of me that week.

Of course, in addition to being a scholar, I’m also a teacher. It’s what I went to college to do, although I never did teach kids in a classroom setting. In the future I may want to lead some Bible studies with any of you who are interested, and I’ve been doing that in a small way with the Disciples Women; but right now my main way to teach is through my sermons.

The Narrative lectionary, which I follow, only runs from the Sunday after Labor Day through Pentecost; through the summer we’re offered some suggestions for sermon series. Or we can come up with our own series, which is what I tend to do. After a conversation with Lyssa, I have thought through not just a series for *this* summer, but also for *next* summer, and the one after that. This summer we’re going to examine one of the most important theological concepts, *covenant*. There are actually four distinct covenants in the Old Testament, but one carries substantially more weight than the others in the Scriptures. In June we will look at the first three, and then the rest of the summer we’re going to explore *The Covenant*, the one God first made with Moses and the Israelites at Mount Sinai. It is a major thread through the rest of the Hebrew Bible, but is also woven through our Christian Scriptures, where it informs how we understand Jesus.

I hope you’ll find this series enjoyable and that it helps you deepen your understanding of what it means to be God’s people. As always, you may attend worship in the sanctuary on Sunday morning—observing proper social distancing and other recommended precautions to avoid spreading the COVID-19 virus—or join us via Facebook Live.

Sharla



June Serving Schedule



June 7

Elder: John Daniel
Deacon: Chuck Lewis, Derek Lile,

Scripture Reader: Carol Ann Winburn
Greeter: Derek & Lyssa Lile

June 14

Elder: Carol Roberts
Deacon: Jennifer Schmehl, Dianna Silvers

Scripture Reader: Chuck Lewis
Greeter: Louise Foster

June 21

Elder: Diana Rich
Deacon: Denise Burch, Peggy Fuller

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Schmehl
Greeter: Carol Roberts

June 28

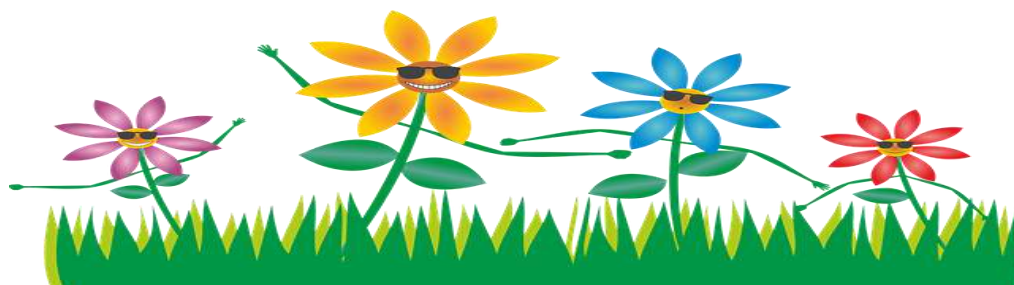
Elder: Justin Quick
Deacon: Alan & Lucille Munday

Scripture Reader: Peggy Fuller
Greeter: Judy Taylor

Music Director: Carol Ann Winburn — **Accompanist:** Mary Coffman
Sound Techs: Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick
Communion Preparer: Carol Hedrick

Attendance

Date	Worship
May 17	33
May 24	32



Birthdays

- 8 Diane Boonstra
- 15 Judy Colburn
- 17 Carol Ann Winburn
- 17 Ed Steele
- 20 Lylah Linard
- 23 Mary Coffman
- 27 Juanita Huenefeldt
- 28 Carl Shubert
- 28 Peggy Fuller
- 30 Mike Studards

Anniversaries

- 24 Derek & Lyssa Lile

Budget

April Income
\$7,953.38

April Expense
\$8,953.48

YTD Income
\$38,652.95

YTD Expense
\$35,677.14

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

Important Dates

- 7 Pentecost Special Offering
- 16 Community Café
- 21 Father's Day/
Board Meeting



JUNE 2020



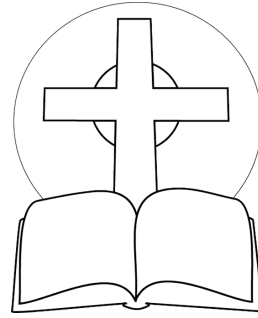
Everett vacation: 6/11 - 6/24

Sharla school: 6/22 - 6/28



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Pentecost Special Offering</i> 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship	15	16	17	18	19	20 1st Day of <i>Summer</i>
21 <i>Father's Day</i> 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 11:00 Board Meeting	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship	29	30				

Upcoming Sermons



June 7 (Trinity Sunday)

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-17 (RCL: Advent 4 & Proper 11, Year B)

Theme: Introduction to Covenant/God's covenant with David

Title: "Building a House"

What I was thinking: This summer we will focus on the concept of *covenant*, a crucial one in both Jewish and Christian theology. We'll begin by looking at the covenant God made with King David.

June 14 (Proper 6)

Scripture: Genesis 9:8-17 (RCL: Lent 1, Year B)

Theme: God's covenant with Noah

Title: "Get Off the Boat"

What I was thinking: When Noah and his family, the only survivors of a worldwide, catastrophic flood, stepped onto dry land, God made a covenant with them, sealed with a sign in the sky. What was that covenant, and what did the sign mean?

June 21 (Proper 7)

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6 (RCL: Lent 2 & Proper 5, Year A; Lent 2, Year C)

Theme: God's covenant with Abraham

Title: "Stargazing"

What I was thinking: The promise God made to Abraham seems a very personal one, but it has a purpose that extends well beyond one man and his wife.

June 28 (Proper 8)

Sharla at school

Thoughts & Prayers

- ◆ Bill & Darlene Adcock, Bud Armstrong, Deloris Baldwin, Rachel Bittencourt, Aimee Daniel Breiner, Nora Carver, Ruby Cummings, Bill Cumpton, Vickie Fowler, Eula Ghere, Lona Grosshart, Denny Hubbard, Leota Hunt, Sharon Jones, Julie Lewis, Sharon Miller Kellogg, JC McHargue, Frank Morris, Gary Studards, Dusty Warren,



Announcements



Summer Camp

- ◆ The Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) of the Mid America Region have made the decision to postpone the 2020 outdoor ministry camping program until next summer.

Vacation Bible School

- ◆ The FCC board have made the decision to cancel VBS this summer.

Sunday Worship

- ◆ You may wear a mask or gloves or whatever other protective gear you wish.
- ◆ The service is being livestreamed on the church's Facebook page. Therefore, we want to ensure that the privacy and wishes of all are respected. For this reason, we have an "OPT-OUT FORM" for those individuals who may prefer NOT to have photographs/videos of themselves used by the church. Also, we ask that all individuals with children in attendance complete and sign a "MINOR'S MEDIA CONSENT FORM". Forms are located in the lobby or contact the office.
- ◆ Enter and exit the building through the west (main) entrance or the elevator entrance only. North door will be locked.
- ◆ To maintain six-foot distance, every other pew is blocked off. Families and couples may sit together but maintain a six-foot distance between groupings within the pews.
- ◆ Sunday School classes and the Nursery will not be available during the month of June. Children of all ages are welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their families. Activity bags are provided on the end of the pews. Please leave the activity bags on the seat following worship, to ensure we can identify and properly sanitize the contents.
- ◆ Offering may also be given via the church's website or the Givelify app. Instructions are pinned to the top of the church's Facebook page and the Donate tab on the church's website.

First Christian Church Board Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2020

Board members present: Deacons- Jennifer Schmehl, Lucille Munday, Alan Munday, Peggy Fuller, Dale Kinsman, and Dianna Silvers . Elders- Carol Roberts, John Daniel, Diana Rich, Don Malan, and Justin Quick. Others present: Rev. Sharla Hulsey, Everett McBrayer, and Phyllis McBrayer.

Don Malan called the meeting to order at 10:24 AM.

The agenda was adopted on motion of Justin Quick and second by John Daniel.

The minutes of the 03-15-20 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented on motion of John Daniel and second by Alan Munday. There was no meeting in April due to the COVID 19 “stay-at-home.”

Financial Reports: The March and April 2020 financial reports including Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Budget Performance sheets as of 04-30-2020 were reviewed. John Daniel reviewed a few items noting year-to-date numbers. The financial reports were approved as presented on motion of Lucille Munday and second by Diana Rich. Full reports are available in the church office.

Ministers’ Report: Rev. Hulsey gave her report noting she has adjusted her office hours in-part due to her therapy schedule that is changing due to COVID-19 PANDEMIC and her school obligations. She reported a decision has been made to cancel all summer church camps. Due to some all-day classes the week of June 22, she will not be in the pulpit on June 28. Since we are now live streaming church services, she suggested we consider getting some dedicated equipment for this and have someone stay with the equipment to assure the livestreaming is working properly, and possible zoom or move camera as needed. (see new business) Her full report is available in the church office.

Old Business:

Water Damage to North Basement Wall, sanctuary walls, and choir robe room ceiling Repair Update:

Everett McBrayer noted Robert Clardy will repair the water leak on the roof area, but it continues to be too wet for this work to be completed. It was noted, this must be completed before inside repairs can be made. No further bids on repair of the sanctuary walls and ceiling. Everett will continue to get updates to the Board, as they are available.

Review Contract with Kershner Heating and Cooling:

Everett provided an additional bid from Hoot Owl. This bid was higher. Thus, it was approved to stay with Kershner Heating for this next year on motion by Alan Munday and second by Carol Roberts. It was suggested that contact be made to Kershner’s expressing our concern about lack of timely response to preventive maintenance, and service calls.

Christian Church Foundation Report: A new report was available for review. No discussion or action taken. Just an FYI report.

New Business:

Video streaming equipment: Due to the livestreaming of church services, it was recommended FCC purchase dedicated equipment, i.e. a camera/tablet and tripod for this purpose. On motion by Lucille Munday and second by Diana Rich it was approved to purchase these necessary items up to \$250. If the total amount is over \$250 it will need to come back to the board for further approval.

Resignation of PDO Director: A letter has been received from Billie Bopp resigning from the position as PDO Director. Her resignation was accepted, with regrets, on motion by Alan Munday and second by Dianna Silvers.

New Business (continued)

Sale of FCC Garage building: A inquiry has been received from someone wanting to purchase the FCC garage (located across the alley to the south of the church). After discussion, it was the consensus that the board is not interested in selling it at this time.

Kudos to all FCC Efforts: Lucille Munday wanted to acknowledge and give KUDOS to everyone for all the extra efforts that have taken place at/for FCC during the pandemic.

Department/Committee Reports:

Christian Education: Due to the COVID-19 limitations on gatherings, Carol Roberts made a motion to cancel VBS this summer. This seconded by Alan Munday. Motion carried.

Worship: Phyllis McBryer noted that so many things have been cancelled, she would like to see some sort of “distancing-picnic” type activity. She also noted that a member who recently celebrated her 102nd birthday appreciated the large birthday card signed by numerous FCC members. Diana Rich said she will continue to take home communion to this member every Sunday.

Property: Everett McBryer reported on the numerous activities he has been completing during the time the church has been vacant:

Deep-cleaned and painted all the downstairs bathrooms.

Stripped and re-finished the basement floors.

Sanitized the building. And these efforts continue daily.

Measured and taped off seating in the sanctuary for return to “in-house” worship.

Has arranged for a load of dirt to be delivered to the north basement wall area. This will be spread out along that foundation, in an effort, to prevent water leaking into the basement during rain.

Closing Prayer: Rev. Sharla Hulsey closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjournment: With no further business brought to the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM on motion of Alan Munday and second by Diana Rich.

Submitted by: Carol Roberts, (acting) Secretary

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: \$5,993

Goal: \$40,000

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Return Service Requested

The Messenger

