

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

Genetic Modification

In some circles there's a great deal of concern about whether it's healthy for us (and our pets) to eat foods made from "genetically modified organisms" (GMOs).

I don't really know enough about the subject to say a whole lot. But I heard a pretty well-known scientist say once that, actually, we've been genetically modifying our food pretty much since humans started farming thousands of years ago. It's how a grass that grew wild in Central America became the corn we know today. The difference is that now we can make the changes at a microscopic level, because we know what parts of an organism's DNA control its different characteristics, so we can substitute other DNA that has other characteristics. Whether that's a good thing or not is beyond my non-scientific mind's ability to say.

Some years ago, it became fashionable to speak of a "Disciples DNA"—the characteristics that have, since our beginning as a church, made us who we are. Among those are weekly Communion at an open Table, congregations as the final authority about their own practices, and the freedom of every believer to study and interpret the Bible for themselves.

I think we might also talk about an "American DNA." One very important characteristic we find in American DNA is freedom—freedom to speak, to worship (or not worship) as we choose, and so on. That's obviously a positive characteristic; but not everything in any DNA is good. (For instance, the DNA passed down to us from our parents might mean we have greater likelihood of being obese, or in some cases developing deadly conditions like Huntington's Disease.)

Perhaps the American DNA could use some genetic modification, for our "genetic code" contains one big negative: racism. Without African slaves and the forced removal—and outright killing—of the indigenous people who lived here before white Europeans came, the United States would not be the country it is today. When slaves were freed after the Civil War, many localities took steps to restrict their rights and freedoms. Immigrants from China were put to work building the railroads—while at the same time being discriminated against. The children and grandchildren of Japanese immigrants were forced into internment camps during the Second World War—even as many Japanese-Americans served with great courage and honor during that war. (There was talk of similarly interning Muslim Americans after 9/11, which fortunately didn't go anywhere.) And though the laws have changed, our hearts in many cases have not. Racism is still part of our national DNA, and without some genetic modification it won't go away.

I don't have any answers to the question of how we might modify the American DNA to eliminate racism. It's a much bigger issue than my small brain can wrap itself around. But I'm pretty sure there are things we can do right now that will help.

Sharla



April Serving Schedule



BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Don Huenefeldt
- 9 Will Lewis
- 11 Adaleigh Embrey
- 12 Izaya Lile
- 20 Andrea Baxter
- 27 Nathan Hines
- 28 Kelly Duckworth
- 28 Lydia Lile

ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Everett & Phyllis McBrayer
- 20 Jerry & Kathy Wood
- 27 Ed & Sue Ann Steele



BUDGET

February Income
\$11,306.15

February Expense
\$8,239.72

YTD Income
\$23,082.68

YTD Expense
\$16,384.56

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

April 4

Elder: Carol R.
Deacon: Judy C. & Dianna S.

Greeter: Justin Q.
Scripture Reader: Phyllis M.

April 11

Elder: Diana R.
Deacon: Dale K. & Everett M.

Greeter: Carol R.
Scripture Reader: Carol Ann W.

April 18

Elder: Justin Q.
Deacon: Peggy F. & Gary C.

Greeter: Diana R. & Don M.
Scripture Reader: Diana R.

April 25

Elder: Don M.
Deacon: Kathy W. & Alan M.

Greeter: Judy T.
Scripture Reader: Justin Q.

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

ATTENDANCE

Date	In-Person Worship	Online Live Stream*
February 28	31	9
March 7	30	7
March 14	25	13
March 21	35	5

**If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video or visit fccbutler.org and click the Register Attendance button.*





April 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Holy Week			6 pm Youth Group	1 Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service	2 Good Friday	3
4 Easter 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship <i>Continental Breakfast after worship</i>	5	6	7 6 pm Youth Group	8	9	10
11 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 11:00 Elders Meeting	12	13	14 6 pm Youth Group	15	16	17
18 Earth Sunday 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship 11:00 Board Meeting	19	20	21 6 pm Youth Group	22	23	24
25 9:20 Prayer 9:30 Worship	26	27	28 6 pm Youth Group	29	30 Arbor Day	

IMPORTANT DATES

April 1: Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 pm

April 11: Elders Meeting after Worship

April 2: Good Friday

April 18: Board Meeting after Worship

April 4: Easter Sunday/ Special Offering/ Breakfast after Worship

UPCOMING SERMONS



April 4, 2021 (Easter Sunday)

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

Psalm: 118:1, 14-17, 21-24

Theme: The Resurrection of Jesus

Title: "Inconceivable!"

What I was thinking: Jesus has been crucified and laid in a tomb. Sunday morning, he isn't there!

April 11, 2021 (2nd Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Luke 24:13-35 (RCL: Easter 3, Year A)

Psalm: 30:4-5, 11-12

Theme: Disciples on the road to Emmaus

Title: "The Long, Weary Road"

What I was thinking: Two disciples leave Jerusalem on Sunday, heading home to Emmaus, and are joined by a third traveler they don't recognize.

April 18, 2021 (3rd Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Luke 24:36-53 (RCL: vv. 36-48, Easter 3, Year B; vv. 44-53, Ascension, all years)

Psalm: 28:6-9

Theme: The ascension of Jesus

Title: "See You Later"

What I was thinking: This passage includes an appearance of the resurrected Jesus to his disciples, plus his ascension. Interestingly, Luke puts the ascension in his story twice, once here and once at the beginning of Acts, with quite different details each time.

April 25, 2021 (4th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Acts 8:26-39 (RCL: Easter 5, Year B)

Psalm: Isaiah 53:1-6

Theme: Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch

Title: "Would you like to be more than you are?"

What I was thinking: Philip was one of the seven Hellenists who were chosen to be deacons, but when persecution scattered the Christian community from Jerusalem, he became something else.

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Sympathy to the families of Dan Armstrong, Denny Hubbard, JC McHargue,
Kayne Smading, Densil Quick, and Ronnie & Dean Hammer

Current & Ongoing

- ◆ Deloris Baldwin, Lyndell Colburn, Bill Cumpton, Marilyn Eneff, Herschel Ewing, Lona Grosshart, Caleb Hoffard, David & Pat Holiman, Kenny Hunt, Sharon Jones, Kevin & Pam Miller, Bill & Larry Neil, Jennifer Schmehl, John Tucker, Dusty Warren

At Home

- ◆ Bud Armstrong, Ruby Cummings, Eula Ghere, Julie Lewis

Currently Serving in the Military

- ◆ Jordan Olson, Ryan Strong, Josh Thompson, Matt Thompson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Continental Breakfast April 4, 2021

We will be providing a continental breakfast following church service on Easter this year. We plan to have individual wrapped danish rolls, bottles of juice and milk, fruit cups, and coffee. We will have take-home containers for those not comfortable eating at tables in the fellowship hall.

Carol Roberts - Membership Department



First Christian Church Board Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2021

Board members present: Deacons- Kathy Wood, Gary Coffman, Dale Kinsman, Chuck Lewis, Carol Lewis, Judy Colburn, and Everett McBrayer. Elders- Carol Roberts, Diana Rich, Don Malan, Justin Quick, Phyllis McBrayer, and Shawn Quick. Others present: Rev. Sharla Hulseley, John Daniel, and Carol Ann Winburn.

Don Malan called the meeting to order at 10:43 AM. He then opened with prayer.

After additions, the agenda was adopted on motion of Chuck Lewis and second by Shawn Quick.

The minutes of the 02-21-2021 regular board meeting and the special board meeting of 03-07-21 were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented on motion of Justin Quick and second by Diana Rich.

Financial Reports: The February 2021 financial reports including Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Budget Performance sheets as of 02-28-2021 were reviewed, as well as all end-of-the-year numbers. John Daniel reviewed a few items noting year-to-date numbers. The financial reports were approved as presented on motion of Carol Roberts and second by Shawn Quick. Full reports are available in the church office.

Ministers' Report: Rev. Hulseley reviewed her attached report. She noted meetings she attended, visits/ conversations, and mentoring activities. She continues to do the morning prayers every day on Facebook Live. She noted FCC will host a joint Maundy Thursday Service with the United Methodist Church. This will be on April 1st at 6:30. Following the service at FCC on 04-11-21, she will be providing the message in Rich Hill, and she will not be available here on June 27th following a week-long D. Min. class.

Old Business:

- **Basement choir robe ceiling:** Chuck Lewis reported the contractor has notified him, he plans to be here the end of this week or next week to complete this repair.
- **Computer Use at Home for Worship Slide Preparation:** Rev. Hulseley reported she has not received the new computer from Phillips University yet. It is still unclear if the current, older laptop will function in slide preparation. Phyllis McBrayer stated with spring/summer day light, this is not as important for her.
- **Butler Chamber of Commerce:** Membership enrollment was completed. After discussion about an FCC representative, it was decided that Rev. Hulseley or the Chairman of the board will be the contact individual from FCC.
- **Atronic Alarms Proposal (out of Springfield, MO):** The recommendation from DSWA is to take all payments for the installation of the alarms from the "Restricted Funds- Building Fund". The current bill is \$1,628.14. This was approved on motion of Carol Roberts and second by Diana Rich.
- **Problem with furnace Control Board:** Everett McBrayer reported this has been repaired now but he is uncertain of the cost at this point.
- **Procedural Document Review-Update:** Carol Roberts reported this review will start after Easter. She noted Jennifer Schmehl has volunteered to help. Additional volunteers today are Shawn Quick and Diana Rich.

New Business: No new business was presented- See Committee Reports below.

Department/Committee Reports:

Education: Carol Lewis reported from a meeting of this department. She noted this group recommended 1) to hold VBS this year with as much COVID safety precautions as needed, 2) Disciples Women to start in September, 3) Sunday School and Life Group to start as soon as participants feel comfortable. (But asking the Worship Dept to look at timing of these groups), 4) Youth Group is currently meeting, looking for summer camps options, 5) Not start Children's Church yet. There were no objections to these recommendations.

Membership: Carol Roberts inquired if the Board feels comfortable with an Easter breakfast. It was decided to have an Easter Continental Breakfast after church service. It was suggested this should be individual danish rolls, individual juices, fruit cups, and coffee. There will be take-home containers for individual not comfortable gathering at tables in the fellowship hall.

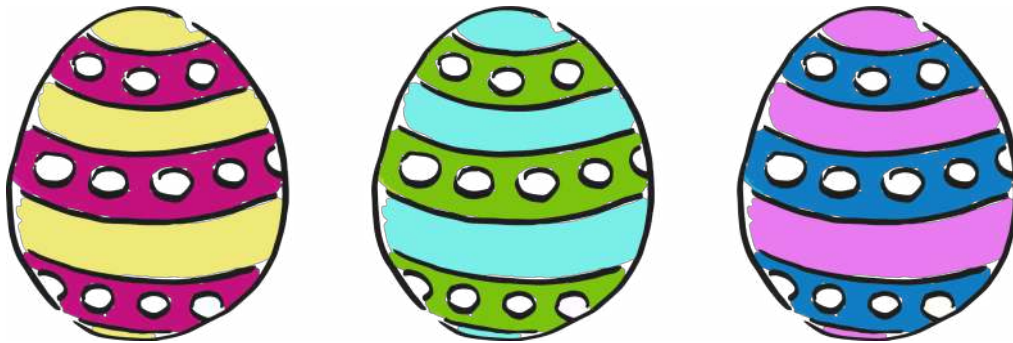
Outreach: Phyllis McBrayer noted plans are being made to have some type of community-wide celebration of World Day of Prayer in May. She is still looking to possibly provide a free (drive-through) meal to the community.

Evangelism: Don Malan noted there is something being planned, but no details yet.

Closing Prayer: Rev. Hulseby closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjournment: With no further business brought to the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM on motion of Carol Roberts and second by Justin Quick.

Submitted by: Carol Roberts, Secretary



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

Current donations: \$19,753

Goal: \$40,000



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

Return Service Requested

Church Phone: 660-679-3066

Fax: 660-679-5680

Email: admin@fccbutler.org

Web: <https://fccbutler.org>

Pastor Sharla Hulsey

revsharkie@gmail.com



THE MESSENGER



“But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.”

— 1 Corinthians 15:20

