

THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

11 W. Pine, Butler, MO 64730

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



“Pray!”

My earliest memories of church are of being in the nursery. But eventually I aged out of there, and went to the regular worship service with my mom. (The Southern Baptist church where we went when I was very little didn't have a Children's Church program, although the American Baptist church we attended later did.) Like most really small kids in worship, I didn't understand a lot of what was happening, so like a lot of kids I was a little squirmy. Now and then the preacher's daughter Robin would sit with me, and one time we spent most of the service making birthday cards for my grandma. We got her age wrong, but we made her a couple years younger than she actually was, so I doubt she minded.

Sometimes I would read the Bible during worship. I had a little children's King James Bible with pictures, and while I could read the words, I didn't always understand them. For instance, I thought the 23rd Psalm was a complaint from a child or a lamb that didn't want to take a nap! “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me lie down...”

But my mom tried to get me to participate in the services as best I could. I remember her resting the hymnal on the back of the pew in front of us, and pointing to the words as we sang them. I also remember one time when the preacher was praying, and I was fidgeting or daydreaming or something, and my mom turned to me with teeth clenched and whispered, “Pray!” I tried, but Bro. Richard's prayers, like his sermons, were awfully long.

My mom was right, of course. Prayer is an essential part of Christian life. We pray together in worship, pray privately at home, pray at the bedsides of the sick, pray before meals. A pastor who led a workshop I attended a few years ago had a group who gathered in a furnace room during every worship service, to pray for the service and all the people attending.

I'm of the opinion that a praying Christian is a growing Christian, and a praying church is a growing church that can transform the world. So I would like to challenge all of us this Lent to pray. If you already pray in the morning, add a prayer at bedtime. There is actually a bedtime prayer called *Compline* that goes back centuries and is still said in religious communities and homes all over the world. If you don't pray at mealtimes, start doing that. Participate in the church's prayer vigil, which you'll hear more about soon.

Rather than worrying about “giving something up” this Lent, let's “take up” the practice of prayer. Let's see what difference it makes in our lives.

Sharla



March Serving Schedule



March 6

Elder: Justin Quick

Deacon: Gary Coffman, Peggy Fuller

Greeter: Judy Taylor

Scripture Reader: Carol Ann Winburn

March 13

Elder: Phyllis McBrayer

Deacon: Judy Daniel, Dianna Silvers

Greeter: Carol Roberts

Scripture Reader: Peggy Fuller

March 20

Elder: Shawn Quick

Deacon: Dale Kinsman, Everett McBrayer

Greeter: Judy Colburn

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Schmehl

March 27

Elder: Carol Roberts

Deacon: Chuck & Carol Lewis

Greeter: Gary Coffman

Scripture Reader: Phyllis McBrayer

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



ATTENDANCE



Date	In-Person Worship	Online Live Stream*	Life Group	Sunday School
1/30	24	26	10	-
2/6	32	21	10	-
2/13	35	22	9	-
2/20	32	27	-	-

**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.*

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Chuck Lewis
- 3 Bob Thomas
- 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
- 15 Quintan Agnew
- 21 Phyllis Simonin
- 23 Harold Weil
- 27 Luke Rives

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Mike White & Sharla Hulsey
- 16 Bill & Julie McGuire
- 21 Don & Juanita Huenefeldt
- 27 Greg & Jeanie Bartimus

BUDGET

January Income

\$10,385.26

January Expense

\$9,596.46

YTD Income

\$10,385.26

YTD Expense

\$9,596.46

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



March 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 pm Disciples Women	2 Ash Wednesday 6:30 Ash Wed. Service 7 pm - 8:30 pm Choir	3	4 9 am - 12 pm SonShine Ladies	5
6 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Life Group	7	8	9 6 pm - 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm - 8:30 pm Choir	10	11 9 am - 12 pm SonShine Ladies	12
13 Daylight Savings 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Life Group 11:00 a.m. Elders Meeting	14	15	16 6 pm - 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm Lenten Service @ Ohio St. United Methodist Church 7 pm - 8:30 pm Choir	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 9 am - 12 pm SonShine Ladies	19
20 1st Day of Spring 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Board Meeting	21	22	23 6 pm - 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm Lenten Service @ First Christian Church 7 pm - 8:30 pm Choir	24	25 9 am - 12 pm SonShine Ladies	26
27 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Life Group	28	29	30 6 pm - 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm Lenten Service @ Church of the Nazarene 7 pm - 8:30 pm Choir	31	IMPORTANT DATES 1 Disciples Women 2 Ash Wed. Service 13 Daylight Savings / Elders Meeting 17 St. Patrick's Day 20 1st Day of Spring / Board Meeting	



Upcoming Sermons

March 6, 2022 (1st Sunday in Lent)

Scripture: John 11:1-44 (RCL: Lent 5, Year A)

Psalm: 104:27-30

Theme: The raising of Lazarus

Title: "Lord, He Stinketh"

What I was thinking: In John's Gospel, it isn't the cleansing of the Temple but the raising of Lazarus that sets in motion the plot to kill Jesus. Why?

March 13, 2022 (2nd Sunday in Lent)

Scripture: John 13:1-17 (RCL: Maundy Thursday, all years)

Psalm: 51:7-12

Theme: Jesus washes the disciples' feet

Title: "My filthy feet"

What I was thinking: One of Jesus' last acts before he goes to the cross is to wash the disciples' feet. It's a significant act, and one we may find very uncomfortable for a variety of reasons.

March 20, 2022 (3rd Sunday in Lent)

Scripture: John 18:12-27 (RCL: Good Friday, all years)

Psalm: 17:1-7

Theme: Peter's denial

Title: "That will never happen."

What I was thinking: Back in John 13, Peter promised that he would never abandon Jesus; in response, Jesus predicted Peter would deny him three times after his arrest. In today's reading, that prediction comes true.

March 27, 2022 (4th Sunday in Lent)

Scripture: John 18:28-40 (RCL: Good Friday, all years; vv. 33-37, Proper 29, Year B)

Psalm: 145:10-13

Theme: Jesus before Pilate

Title: "Cold Feet"

What I was thinking: What is truth? That's the haunting question Pilate asks of Jesus during his trial. How do we answer that question?



THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Sympathy to the families of Joyce Rich, Cheryl Bagby, Troy Shatto, Wayne Hines, Jesse Rodriguez, Pastor Philip Fox, and Leslie Martin.

Current & Ongoing

- ◆ Bud Armstrong, Deloris & Frank Baldwin, Joyce Brand, Lyndell Colburn, Caroll & Pam Dodds, Debbie Enos, Bob & Louise Foster, Larry Garren, Lona Grosshart, Caleb Hoffard, Marla Kash, Michael Lemm, Tim Lemm, Don Malan, Chelsea McConkay, David Middleton, Jeanine Stephenson, Kenny Stewart, Ruby Stotmeister, Will & Christian Tucker, Patty Vowels, Dusty Warren, Ann Widmer, Linda Wix.

At Home

- ◆ Julie Lewis

Currently Serving in the Military

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers Wanted

Needing 3 - 4 people to operate the camera for the Facebook Livestream.

If interested contact the church office or Carol Ann.

Ash Wednesday

Service @ 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 2.

Butler Ministerial Alliance's Lenten Services

- March 16
 - Ohio Street United Methodist Church, Holly Rabourn preaching
- March 23
 - First Christian Church, Michael Cloud preaching
- March 30
 - Butler Church of the Nazarene, Sharla Hulsey preaching
- April 6
 - Community of Christ, Jeremy Henderson preaching

Services at 7:00 each night. There will *not* be meals after the services this year. Masks and social distancing required at each location. An offering will be received each night to benefit the Butler Ministerial Alliance's emergency assistance fund.

All Services are subject to change depending on Covid numbers.

Let's Go! Let's Grow! Let's Pray!

What: A Church-wide 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Where: First Christian Church parlor, or in your own home

When: Friday, April 8 at 6 p.m. to Saturday, April 9 at 6 p.m.

Why: To give everyone who belongs to or attends our church a chance to be a part of this prayer effort to encourage the growth of our church's effectiveness in the community and the growth of each of our members in faith and in spirit.

We will have more information soon about how to get on the prayer schedule, or how to volunteer as a host or hostess during the day-light hours when participants will come to the Church for their prayer time of one half hour or one full hour. We are encouraging those who cannot come to the Church to sign up to spend a designated time in prayer, meditation or Bible study right in their own homes.

Summer Ministries

Registration information will be available soon.

• Faith Adventures

- CYF, Chi Rho, & JYF, July 24-29
- Try It, July 28-29

First Christian Church Board Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2022

Board members present:

Deacons - Chuck Lewis, Carol Lewis, Judy Colburn, Everett McBrayer, Gary Coffman, Carol Hedrick, Lyssa Lile, Judy Daniel, and Sally Anton.

Elders - Don Malan, Justin Quick, Phyllis McBrayer, Shawn Quick, Carol Roberts, and John Daniel.

Financial Secretary - Diana Rich.

Others present - Rev Sharla Hulsey and Carol Ann Winburn.

Chuck Lewis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:38 AM. Shawn Quick then opened with prayer.

After review, the agenda was adopted on motion of Carol Roberts and second by Phyllis McBrayer.

The minutes of the 01-23-2022 regular board meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented on motion of Justin Quick and second by Shawn Quick .

Financial Reports: The January financial reports including Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Budget Performance sheets as of 01-31-2022 were reviewed. It was noted that the reports in the board packet were not the most current numbers. To assure that board members are reviewing and approving accurate numbers, the January reports will be reviewed and approved at the March meeting along with the February reports. Full reports will be attached to the minutes in March and will be available in the church office.

Ministers' Report: Rev. Hulsey reviewed the written report (attached to these minutes) noting her telephone conversations with members and church related meetings attended. Other topics: Ministerial Alliance (MA) soup sale was very successful. The MA is planning Lenten services this year starting March 16th. Plans are for FCC to host this on March 23. No meals are being served and masks will be required this year. She stressed the need for everyone to remain careful with winter weather and Covid presenting safety threats. She said morning prayers are still on Facebook Live every day.

Old Business:

Property Follow-up : Chuck Lewis presented information from the Mo DNR about asbestos regulations in MO along with web site addresses. A written report was given to board members that contained estimates from three certified inspectors to determine if asbestos is present in the walls of FCC. The board accepted the bid from Leland Sumptur from Adrian Mo with Clearway Environmental Services for \$100 on motion of Don Malan and second by Phyllis McBrayer (with one opposed). Chuck also noted a bid from Ballerini Plastering to repair the North wall for \$3825 and the south balcony for \$1300. The board did not take any action on this bid until we have the asbestos testing completed and spring rains are over.

CFB listed as Mortgagee on insurance papers Follow-up:

As requested, Judy Colburn, FCC Treasurer has contacted the Bates County Recorder's office and has secured papers noting FCC has no mortgage at this time. FCC has not received the revised policy papers from the insurance company yet.

Cont.,

New Business:

Prayer Event at FCC: Carol Ann Winburn presented more details on the “24-hour Prayer Event” that is being planned for Friday evening April 8th starting at 6:00 pm through Saturday April 9th at 6:00 pm. This is being coordinated by the Worship Department and the Life Group Sunday School class. The daytime prayers will be at the church, but night times will be at home. This event was approved by the board on motion by Phyllis McBrayer and second by Justin Quick.

FCC Garage: Gary Coffman inquired about the possibility of renting out the church’s garage as there is very limited storage options in Butler at this time. He thought this could be a source of income for the church. Chuck Lewis and Everett McBrayer will investigate the current church contents and report back at the next board meeting.

Department/Committee Reports:

Property Department: Everett McBrayer reported that the second installment of 10 new smoke detectors is scheduled to be completed this week. This activity and expense was approved by the board last year at the 02-21-2021 board meeting.

Endowment Fund – 4th Quarter Statement 2021. This report was available in the board packet. This shows the ending value on 12/31/2021 at \$22,927.48. No action required by the board.

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

Adjournment: With no further business brought to the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM on motion of Don Malan and second by Carol Lewis.

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

Total donations: \$30,400

Goal: \$40,000



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Butler, MO 64730

Return Service Requested

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Pastor Sharla Hulsey

revsharkie@gmail.com



THE MESSENGER



“The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.”

—Psalm 28:7

