



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

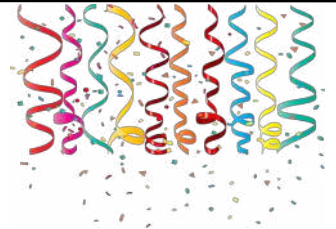
11 W. Pine, Butler, MO 64730

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

A decorative Christmas Eve candlelight service poster. The background is dark with a lit candle on the left and warm bokeh lights on the right. The text is centered and reads: "FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 24 DECEMBER, 2023 AT 6:30 PM 11 W. PINE ST. BUTLER, MO 64730". The poster is decorated with holly leaves, oranges, and candy canes at the top right, and a poinsettia and pine branches at the bottom left. Gold stars are scattered throughout.



December Serving Schedule



December 3

Elder: Phyllis McBrayer

Greeter: The Lile Family

Deacon: Derek Lile, Gary Coffman

Scripture Reader: Lyssa Lile

December 10

Elder: Justin Quick

Greeter: Carol Hedrick

Deacon: Everett McBrayer, Judy Daniel

Scripture Reader: Carol Hedrick

December 17

Elder: John Daniel

Greeter: Carol Roberts

Deacon: Lyssa Lile, Sally Bremer

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Schmehl

December 24

Elder: Justin Quick

Greeter: Gary Coffman

Deacon: Carol Lewis, Carol Hedrick

Scripture Reader: Carol Roberts

December 31

Elder: Diana Rich

Greeter: Carol Lewis

Deacon: Jennifer Schmehl, Kathy Wood

Scripture Reader: Chuck Lewis

Communion Preparer:

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

Sound Techs: Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick

BIRTHDAYS

3 Dianna Silvers

3 Noah Lile

3 Patsy Quick

4 Gary Coffman

6 Franklin Baldwin

10 Ruth Weil

12 Michael White

18 Phyllis McBrayer

26 Gene Morrison

ANNIVERSARIES

18 Gary & Mary
Coffman

24 Gene & Jackie
Morrison

BUDGET

October Income
\$10,380.78

October Expense
\$9,159.80

YTD Income
\$96,170.50

YTD Expense
\$107,107.18

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



ATTENDANCE



Date	In-Person Worship	Online *
10/29	31	10
11/5	29	4
11/12	28	4
11/19	34	5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"KETCH-UP" CAMPAIGN

The Stewardship Committee is starting a "Ketch-up" campaign to help replenish the FCC reserve fund, which has been needed throughout 2023 to cover basic operating expenses. In order to cover the deficit, we are asking for your help to reach our goal of \$20,000. Please note on your donation that it is for the "Ketch-up" campaign. Thank you for your continued support!



CHRISTMAS PARADE 2023 - Sunday, December 2

FCC will be participating in the parade. Line up will be in the Butler high school parking lot at 5 pm, and the parade will be at the square at 6 pm.



BHS ALUMNI 1ST ANNUAL HOME TOURS



FCC will be participating in the tour. Sunday, December 10, 2023. From 1 pm to 4 pm.

THE OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

This December, FCC will be supporting "Coats for Kids" in Bates County. You can participate in the project by making a monetary contribution payable to Coats for Kids.



NEW YEAR'S EVE BREAKFAST

December 31 @ 8am. Bring in the new year by gathering with your church family over a delicious breakfast. Enjoy a variety of breakfast foods, coffee, and juice.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

On December 24 at 6:30 pm, join us for a candlelight service of carols and readings. Come and experience the true spirit of Christmas with your loved ones.



The Disciples Women are

planning a fun Christmas activity for anyone who wishes to participate. Starting the first of December, there will be a file box on the table in the foyer where you can place a Christmas card for anyone that attends our church. Each week of December, you can check the box to see if anyone left you a card. We hope all the wonderful greetings will brighten your Christmas.



*Dear Church Family,
Thank you again and again
for making the winter feast
and having a beautiful evening
Everyone pulled everything
together and bless each other
with your love
With love
Judy Cole*

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), and Facebook (92.1 News Now)
- Bates County Live



Cancellation information will also be posted on the church's Facebook page (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.

IMPORTANT DATES

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday, Dec. 2; 5-6 pm

DISCIPLES WOMEN

Tuesday, Dec. 5; 6:30 pm

ELDERS MEETING

Sunday, Dec. 10 after worship

BHS HOLIDAY HOMES TOUR

Sunday, Dec. 10; 1 pm—4 pm

BOARD MEETING

Sunday, Dec. 17 after worship

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Tuesday, Dec. 19; 5:30 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Sunday, Dec. 24; 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS/OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, Dec. 25

NEW YEAR'S EVE BREAKFAST

Sunday, Dec. 31; 8 am

YOUTH GROUP

Dec. 6, 13, 20; 6 pm

CHOIR PRACTICE

Wednesdays @ 7 pm

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS – *Sympathy for the families of Pete VanHorn, Christina Quick, & Margaret Weis*

Current & Ongoing

- ◆ Greg Bartimus, Joe Christopher, Adyson Clover, Eunice Cobb, Caroll Dodds, Shelby Duffield, Vickie Fowler, Lona Grosshart, Denise & Josh Hagberg, Marilyn Halliburton, Caleb Hoffard, Mary Irvin, Lori Koepsel, Mikey Lemm, Russ Love, Dan & Barta Milligan, Debbie Powell, Megan Scrivner, Jesse Stalker, Mary Ann Thornton, Nick Vaughn

At Home

- ◆ Julie Lewis
- ◆ Linda Wix

Currently Serving in the Military

- ◆ Jordan Lopez
- ◆ Jordan Olson
- ◆ Rick Warren
- ◆ Matt Thompson





December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9AM – 12PM SONSHINE LADIES	2 5pm/6pm CHRISTMAS PARADE
3 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	4	5 6:30PM DISCIPLES WOMEN	6 6PM YOUTH GROUP 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE	7	8 9AM – 12PM SONSHINE LADIES	9
10 9:30AM WORSHIP (Christmas Offering) 10:30AM ELDERS MEETING 1PM-4PM BHS ALUMNI HOLIDAY TOUR	11	12	13 12PM ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON 6PM YOUTH GROUP 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE	14	15 9AM – 12PM SONSHINE LADIES	16
17 9:30AM WORSHIP (Christmas Offering) 10:30AM BOARD MEETING	18	19 5:30PM COMMUNITY CAFÉ	20 6PM YOUTH GROUP 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE	21	22 9AM – 12PM SONSHINE LADIES	23
24 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP 6:30PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	25 OFFICE CLOSED 	26	27 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE	28	29 9AM – 12PM SONSHINE LADIES	30
31 8:00 AM NEW YEAR'S EVE BREAKFAST 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	 					

UPCOMING SERMONS



December 3, 2023 (First Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: Matthew 9:18-26 (RCL: Proper 5, Year A)

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 40:28-31

Advent Theme: Hope

Title: "I know he can save me."

What I was thinking: This passage is parallel to the one dramatized in today's Advent reading: a woman who is at the end of her strength reaches out to Jesus and finds healing.

December 10, 2023 (Second Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: Luke 8:22-39 (RCL: Proper 7, Year C)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 131

Advent Theme: Peace

Title: "Silent Night"

What I was thinking: We may not believe in demon possession nowadays, but we surely need the peace Jesus offers to us.

December 17, 2023 (Third Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: Mark 2:1-12 (RCL: Epiphany 7, Year B)

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 12:2-6

Advent Theme: Joy

Title: "You'll never walk again."

What I was thinking: This passage, again, is parallel to the one on which our Advent reading is based. How do we respond to the healing Jesus makes available to us? How can we help others to find that healing?

December 24, 2023 (Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve Morning)

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50 (RCL: Proper 6, Year C)

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 49:13-16a

Advent Theme: Love

Title: "I don't know how to thank you."

What I was thinking: We have all sinned, done things we know were mistakes and that we're not proud of. Imagine having the burden of guilt and shame lifted from your shoulders once and for all. How would you respond?

December 31, 2023 (1st Sunday of Christmas)

Scripture: Mark 1:1-15 (RCL: 1-8, Advent 2; 4-11, Epiphany 1; 9-15, Lent 1, all Year B)

Psalm: 25:4-10

Theme: Jesus appears on the scene

Title: "The beginning of the Good News"

What I was thinking: Our Gospel focus for this Narrative Lectionary year is Mark. It has no birth narratives or anything else, but starts with John the Baptist and Jesus already adults.

First Christian Church, Butler, MO
Congregational Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2023

Shawn Quick, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 10:42 AM. He stated the purpose of this congregational meeting is to consider the list of Elders, Deacons, Officers, and budget for 2024.

The following information was presented.

NOMINATIONS:

Deacons for 3 years: Don Cole, Gary Coffman, Steve Hedrick, and Bob Thomas.

Elders: 3 years: Chuck Lewis and Shawn Quick. 2 years: Don Malan.

Board Officers: Chair-Shawn Quick, Vice Chair-Chuck Lewis, Secretary-Jennifer Schmehl, Treasurer-Carol Lewis, Financial Secretary-Diana Rich

Endowment Trustees for 3 years: Jennifer Schmehl and Chuck Lewis

Pastoral Support Committee for 3 years: Jim Adams and Lylah Linard. 1 year: Norma Morgan

PROPOSED CONDENSED BUDGET:

Administrative Salary: \$84,765.00. Administrative Expenses: \$18,190. Education: \$0. Building Maintenance: \$26,093.32. Worship: \$1,500. Membership: \$775. Evangelism: \$80. Outreach: \$2,750. Total \$134,153.32

Shawn Quick then asked if there were any questions. There were no comments or questions voiced. Ballots were distributed. After voting was completed, the ballots were collected. Shawn then thanked all who helped with the budget and the Nominating Committee. He then also thanked all who have agreed to serve.

The final count was:

Elders/Deacons, Board Officers, Endowment Trustees, & Pastoral Support Committee: 24 Yes and 0 no

Budget: 23 Yes and 1 No.

Thus, the 2024 list of Elders, Deacons, Officers, etc. and budget were all approved.

Adjournment: With the purpose of this Congregational meeting concluded, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Submitted by: Carol Roberts, Secretary

First Christian Church Board Meeting Minutes November 19, 2023

Board members present: Deacons- Carol Lewis, Judy Colburn, Everett McBrayer, Gary Coffman, Judy Daniel, Jennifer Schmehl, and Peggy Thomas. Elders-, Phyllis McBrayer, Shawn Quick, Justin Quick, John Daniel, Carol Roberts, and Diana Rich. Board Member (Vice-Chair) Chuck Lewis. Others present: Rev. Sharla Hulsey, Carol Ann Winburn, & Don Malan.

Shawn Quick, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM. He then opened with prayer.

After review and additions, the agenda was adopted on motion of Justin Quick and second by Jennifer Schmehl.

The minutes of the 10-15-2023 regular Board Meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented on motion of Judy Daniel and second by Diana Rich.

Financial Reports: The October 2023 Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet financial reports, as of 10-31-2023, were reviewed by Carol Lewis, Treasurer. She noted the October income of \$10,380.78 and expense of \$9,159.80. Year-to-date income of \$96,170.50 and Y-T-D expenses of \$107,107.18. The October report was approved on motion of Phyllis McBrayer and second by Justin Quick. The full reports are available and may be reviewed in the Church office.

Ministers' Report: Rev. Hulsey reviewed her November report that was included in the Board packet. She noted activities from October and November including meetings attended, several telephone calls, texts, hospital visits, in-person conversations, and noted on Friday attending visitation and graveside service for an FCC member. She noted that Morning Prayer continues via Facebook Live at 7:00. She reminded everyone of the community Thanksgiving Service at FCC today at 5:00.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Painting of North wall:** Chuck Lewis reported he has gotten 2 bids for painting #1) the North wall of the sanctuary, #2) the entire sanctuary, and #3) External area on the Educational Wing. Bids were: B.C. #1) \$1500 #2) \$14,000 and #3) \$10,000. He stated he has Workers Comp insurance D.J. #1) \$1480 #2) unable to do this as he feels job too big and #3) currently unable to bid on this. He noted he does not have Workers Comp at this time. After discussion by the Board, Chuck Lewis made a motion to hire B.C. to paint the North wall of the sanctuary after Christmas decorations are down in January for \$1500 after verifying this price does include the paint. Motion seconded by Phyllis McBrayer. Motion carried.
- **Results of 11-05-2023 Congregational Meeting** Carol Roberts reported that the results of the voting on 11-05-2023 was as follows: 2024 Elders/Deacons, Board Officers, Endowment Trustees, and Pastoral Support Committee. Results: 24 yes 0 no 2024 Proposed Budget Results 23 yes 1 no

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Stewardship Ketch-up Campaign:** Diana Rich reviewed a campaign that is being started in an effort to “ketch-up” and replenish FCC reserve funds. Stewardship Dept will promote this with the congregation.
- **Christmas Parade:** Rev. Sharla Hulsey presented a suggestion that came from a member of the congregation to have an entry in the Butler Christmas Parade in Dec. 2. There was much discussion. On motion of Justin Quick and second by Judy Daniel it was approved by the Board to participate in the parade. Don Malan volunteered a truck. This will be organized by Rev. Sharla and Chelsea McConkay. More details will be made available later.
- **Department/Committee Chairs:** Shawn Quick requested that 2023 Department and Committee chairs prepare an “End of the Year” report to highlight their accomplishments and give to him by December Board meeting. He then noted it is time for securing Chairs for 2024. He asked for volunteers or suggestions. Several people volunteered today. Shawn will present the full list at the December Board meeting.
- **BHS Alumni Home Tour:** Rev. Sharla presented a request she has received to allow FCC to be one of the participants in the BHS Alumni Homes Tour on December 10th from 1 to 4. After discussion, this was approved on motion of Diana Rich and second by Everett McBrayer.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Property-** Everett McBrayer reported the pew cushions have now been cleaned.
- **Outreach-** Phyllis McBrayer noted at FCC will host the Community Café on 11-21-23 with chili and soup. After discussion and suggestions she stated the December FCC Outreach collection will be cash donations for Coats for Kids. She also noted the Moulton Fund has been received and will be distributed between Thanksgiving and Christmas to 14 recipients.
- **Evangelism-** Diana Rich reported that some of the door hangers with FCC information have been distributed.

Adjournment: With no further business brought to the Board, the meeting adjourned on motion of Justin Quick and second by John Daniel at 11:37 am.

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

Submitted by: Carol Roberts, Secretary

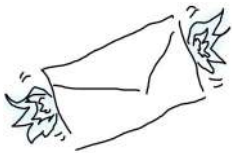


First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
11 W. Pine Street
Butler, MO 64730

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Web: fccbutler.org

Return Service Requested

Pastor Sharla Hulse
revsharkie@gmail.com
Lyssa Lile, Admin. Asst.
admin@fccbutler.org



THE MESSENGER



WHEN THEY
SAW THE STAR, 
THEY
Rejoiced
MATTHEW 2:10