

PRAY FOR VOLUNTEERS

"Lord, please bring volunteers to serve at VBS. Fill their hearts with your love and patience to be poured out upon the kids. Give them strength, health, and an overwhelming joy to serve! We pray that our volunteers are given the opportunity to help children experience you and that they would grow closer to you!"



Dates: Wednesday, July 17 & Thursday, July 18

Time: 5:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.



June 30, 2024 9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, June 30, 2024

Joys and Concerns

Sharla Hulsey

In order to respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. Please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray during communion.

Welcome and Announcements

Shawn Quick, Elder

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.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

*Call to worship (please rise as able)

Shawn Quick & Congregation

L: O Lord, open our lips;

P: and our mouths shall sing forth your praise.

L: Praise the LORD.

P: The LORD's Name be praised.

*Opening Hymn

CH #464 (1,3,4,5)

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*Invocation

Shawn Quick & Congregation

O God, we are seeking you in this time and place set aside for you.

Turn toward us and hear our prayers. Send your Holy Spirit to open our minds and hearts to hear and understand your Word, and to guide us as we put them into practice in our lives. Through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Hymn

CH #594 (1,2,4,5)

"Dear Lord, and Father of Mankind"

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer - "The Lord's Prayer"

Sharla Hulsey

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading

Shawn Quick & Congregation

Psalm 131 (NRSV)

L: O LORD, my heart is not lifted up,
my eyes are not raised too high;

P: I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

L: But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time on and forevermore.

Special Music

Adult Choir

"Tune My Heart to Sing Thy Grace"

Scripture

Shawn Quick

Matthew 6:19-21, 24-34

Message

Sharla Hulsey

"How much is enough?"

Invitation to Discipleship

Sharla Hulsey

*Invitation Hymn

CH #614 (All)

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Offering Meditation

Diana Rich

Tithes & Offerings

Diaconate

Offering trays will be passed in the pews.

*Doxology

CH #47

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Shawn Quick

Call to Communion

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Hymn

CH #714 (All)

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

Words of Institution

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Prayer

Shawn Quick

Distribution of the Elements

Diaconate

Everyone is welcome at Christ's Table. Those who are comfortable doing so, please come forward down the center aisle to partake at the table. Deacons will serve those who remain seated.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Benediction

Sharla Hulsey

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

*Closing Hymn

CH #344 (1,4)

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **OUTREACH MISSION**

This June, we will be supporting the Carpenter's Cup and the Bates County Health Center with donations for the Back to School Project. Our contributions will be crayons, colored pencils, Kleenex, and backpacks. Bring donations to the church throughout the month. Thank you!

• **KETCH-UP CAMPAIGN**

The Stewardship Committee started a "Ketch-up" campaign to help replenish the FCC reserve fund. The goal is \$20,000. Please note on your donation that it is for the "Ketch-Up" campaign.

• **THURSDAY, JULY 4TH** - Office Closed

• **PICNIC POTLUCK** - Sunday, July 7 after worship

• **COMMUNITY CAFÉ** - Tuesday, July 9 at 5:30 p.m.

The Ohio St. Methodist Church will be using the Fellowship Hall to host Community Café.

• **WOMEN'S RETREAT AT LAST HARVEST COWBOY CHURCH**

- All women are invited to join.
- Saturday, July 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

- Wednesday, July 17 & Thursday, July 18 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- 4 years of age to the completion of 5th grade
- Pre-register online at fcbutler.org

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, June 30:	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Life Group
Thursday, July 4:	Office Closed	
Friday, July 5:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Son Shine Ladies

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, July 7:	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Picnic Potluck
Tuesday, July 9:	5:30 p.m.	Community Café
Friday, July 12:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Son Shine Ladies
Saturday, July 13:	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Women's Retreat

* Please rise as able

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Sharla Hulsey

Greeter: Peggy Thomas

Elder: Shawn Quick

Scripture Reader: Shawn Quick

Deacons: Judy Daniel,
Sally Bremer

Choir Director: Carol Ann Winburn
Accompanist: Mary Coffman

PRACTICING SIMPLICITY

“...strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33).

Simplicity is an outward expression of an inward reality. First we focus ourselves on “the kingdom of God and his righteousness,” and then our priorities and actions fall into place. Without that inward orientation toward God’s kingdom, outward practices of simplicity can turn into legalism.

The following reflections come from the 1983 study guide for Richard J. Foster’s *Celebration of Discipline*.

Simplicity frees us from the tyranny of the self, the tyranny of things, and the tyranny of people.

The self clamors for attention, self-recognition, applause. Through artful deception, it appears to be younger, wiser, richer, saintlier than is actually the case. The self will go to extravagant lengths to seem to belong to the intelligentsia. In meetings, it will quote authors it has never read or maintain a discreet silence in supposed superiority over so uneducated a group.

Confront and challenge the tyranny of the self with the following questions:

- ◆ Am I pretending to be an expert where I am only an amateur?
- ◆ Do I really read the books I quote?
- ◆ Do I use rhetoric as a curtain to conceal my true intentions?
- ◆ Do I give the impression of being more godly (or more profane, whichever will give more status in the group) than I truly am?
- ◆ Do I try to impress people with my degrees, titles, or honors?

Simplicity also prevails against the tyranny of things. Out of fear that others might discover who we are, we create an artificial world of ostentatious display, extravagant ornamentation, and pretentious style. We call upon the beautician, the tailor, and the dressmaker to create an impression of perpetual youth. We buy clothes, cars, and houses beyond our means in a frantic attempt to appear successful.

Rebuke the tyranny of things with the following questions:

- ◆ Am I living contentedly within my income?
- ◆ Do I act my age?
- ◆ Am I a compulsive buyer?
- ◆ Do I try to impress people with gadgets?
- ◆ Do I buy what I can afford and what my responsibility to the poor suggests?

Finally, there is the tyranny of people. What horrendous gymnastics we will put ourselves through just to insure that others will have a good opinion of us. How desperately and sincerely we labor to create the right impression. Instead of becoming good, we resort to all sorts of devices to make people think we are good.

Joyfully attack the tyranny of people with the following questions:

- ◆ Can I allow an unfavorable comment about myself to stand, without any need to straighten out the matter?
- ◆ In recounting events, do I shift the story ever so slightly to make myself appear in a more favorable light?
- ◆ Must I always make excuses for my behavior?
- ◆ Do I aim at excellence in my work without regard for what people may say or think?
- ◆ Can I accept compliments freely without any need to shrug them off in self-conscious modesty?

Only the simple are free. All others tyrannized by the ambitious self, the demand for recognition through things, and a preoccupation with the opinions of others. François Fenélon declared, “Simplicity is an uprightness of soul which prevents self-consciousness. Verily such simplicity is a great treasure!”