



# THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

11 W. Pine, Butler, MO 64730

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It's that time again...

Actually, these days it seems like “that time” never goes away. I’m talking, of course, about election campaign season. Whether it’s because of 24-hour “news” channels constantly parsing every word and action of our elected leaders with an eye toward “what this will mean in the next election,” or something else, it seems like there’s always a campaign going on, and in a lot of cases it feels like elected people are more concerned about being re-elected than they are on doing the jobs they were elected to do.

Regardless, it is election season, and if you’re like me you’re already over it. My mailbox is inundated with slick advertising mailers from candidates (almost exclusively, it seems, from the party I don’t belong to). Ads are everywhere on TV, and many of them are focused not on the good qualities of a given candidate, but on highlighting the negatives of their opponent! By the time Election Day actually rolls around, it seems like *every candidate* is awful, and our only option is to vote for the least awful ones—or stay home, which really shouldn’t be an option.

Even though this country highly values separation of church and state—meaning the state can’t make policies that favor one religion or sect over others, nor can the government tell us what faith to practice or how to practice it—we can’t just leave our faith in the car when we get to the polling place. If we are Christians, we’re Christians all the time, including when we’re in the voting booth.

I can’t, nor do I want to, tell anybody how you should vote. That’s between you, your conscience, and your God. What I *can* do is remind us all that Jesus said we would stand or fall in the Last Judgment based on how we treat “the least of these,” the poorest and most vulnerable of our neighbors. What I *can* do is urge each of us to keep that in mind as we vote. Which candidates advocate policies that will ensure the well-being of all people (what the Preamble to the Constitution calls “promot[ing] the general welfare”), especially those who often get the short end of the stick? Is there a candidate whose main focus is encouraging love of neighbor, or one who appears to bring out hatred and cruelty in their supporters? Who will lead our country toward justice and righteousness? Be prayerful as you choose which candidates to support.

Above all, let’s remember that we who are in Christ don’t agree on everything, don’t share the same opinions on any political or social issues, don’t belong to the same party, and definitely won’t vote for the same candidates. But there is one thing on which we all do agree, and that is, in the words of the Good Confession we all make when we choose to become Christians, “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and we accept him as Lord and Savior.” We may not all have the same beliefs or opinions, but we are united through Christ in one Body, called to act as Jesus’ hands, feet, heart, and voice alive in the world.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharla".



# AUGUST

## Serving Schedule



- 1 Derek Lile
- 2 Norma Morgan
- 5 Jackie Morrison
- 7 Billie Bopp
- 7 Ryan Agnew
- 8 John Daniel
- 9 Judy Daniel
- 14 Duane Hedrick
- 15 Don Malan
- 16 Jerry Wood
- 22 Airyka Carter
- 23 Dorothy Carter
- 30 Serenity Lile

### August 4

**Elder:** Carol Roberts

**Deacon:** Carol Hedrick & Lyssa Lile

**Greeter:** Carol Hedrick

**Scripture Reader:** Carol Hedrick

### August 11

**Elder:** John Daniel

**Deacon:** Judy Daniel & Sally Bremer

**Greeter:** Carol Roberts

**Scripture Reader:** Jennifer Schmehl

### August 18

**Elder:** Diana Rich

**Deacon:** Derek Lile & Jennifer Schmehl

**Greeter:** The Lile family

**Scripture Reader:** Lyssa Lile

### August 25

**Elder:** Don Malan

**Deacon:** Kathy Wood & Peggy Thomas

**Greeter:** Kathy Wood

**Scripture Reader:** Chuck Lewis

**Communion Preparer:** Debbie Cole

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

**Sound Techs:** Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick



- 2 Joe & Peggy Fuller
- 4 Dustin & Tabatha VanMeter
- 12 Lyndell & Judy Colburn
- 13 John & Judy Daniel
- 19 Ted & Kathy Bunch

## ATTENDANCE

Date	In-Person Worship	Online *
6/30	35	8
7/7	34	5
7/14	33	6
7/21	43	4
7/28	40	4

## BUDGET

### June Income

\$11,428.60

### June Expense

\$11,752.08

### YTD Income

\$63,109.97

### YTD Expense

\$66,320.19

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HELP NEEDED



Hayley Patterson and Pam Hannon will be starting college in August, and they are needing some help furnishing their dorm room. If you would like to help, please contact the church office, 660-679-3066, for more information.

### “KETCH-UP” CAMPAIGN

The Stewardship Committee is starting a “Ketch-up” campaign to help replenish the FCC reserve fund. The goal is \$20,000.

Currently, we have raised \$4,840.

Please note on your donation that it is for the “Ketch-up” campaign.

Thank you for your continued support!



*Thank You*



What a great time we had together as we learned more about the Bible in fun and exciting ways such as singing, hearing stories, playing games, making crafts and more.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers who helped make Vacation Bible School a success!

### OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

For August, we will be supporting the Community Food Pantry with school lunch donations, such as peanut butter and jelly, snack crackers, fruit cups, and juice boxes. Bring donations to the church. Thank you!



## IMPORTANT DATES

➤ ELDERS MEETING  
Sunday, August 11  
after worship

➤ BOARD MEETING  
Sunday, August 18  
after worship

➤ COMMUNITY CAFÉ  
Tuesday, August 20  
@ 5:30 pm

**THOUGHTS & PRAYERS** - Sympathy to the families of Sandra Yelton, Bill McElwain, Michael Berls, Betty Lewis, Dominic Harden, Judge Jerry Rellihan, Arlene Finklang, Sherry Boyles, Bobby Smith, and Donna Steffan

### Current & Ongoing

◆ Jenny Allen, Greg Bartimus, Kathy Bunch, Eunice Cobb, Caroll Dodds, Shelby Duffield, Louise Foster, Vickie Fowler, Joe Fuller, Art & Carolyn Ghys, Lona Grosshart, The Hoffard family, Bill Hulse, Lori Koepsel, John Lesmeister, Pat & Terry Lodge, Carol McCanles, Karen Middleton, Gary Peterson, Nancy Schneider, Megan Scrivner, Nick Vaughn, Dana Young, and Jace Zembsch.

### At Home

◆ Julie Lewis  
◆ Linda Wix

### Currently Serving in the Military

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



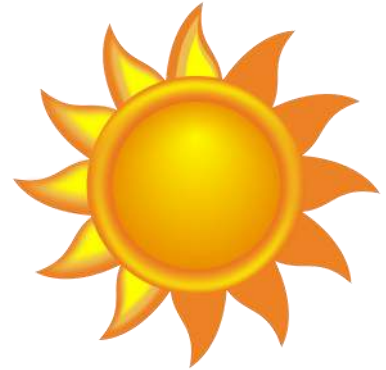


# August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	3
4 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	5	6	7	8	9 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	10
11 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM ELDERS MEETING	12	13	14	15	16 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	17
18 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM BOARD MEETING	19	20 5:30PM COMMUNITY CAFÉ	21	22	23 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	24
25 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	26	27	28	29	30 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	31

## Upcoming Sermons



### **August 4, 2024 (Proper 13)**

*Sharla on vacation/Shawn Quick preaching*

*Scripture: Colossians 3:1-17*

*Title: "Linked in Love"*

### **August 11, 2024 (Proper 14)**

*Scripture: James 5:13-20 (RCL: Proper 21, Year B)*

*Psalm: 32:1-7*

*Theme: the discipline of confession*

*Title: "Admit it"*

*What I was thinking:* We often think of confession as a specifically Catholic practice, one that doesn't need to be part of our life. But that's a mistake. There are very good reasons why confession is a spiritual discipline.

### **August 18, 2024 (Proper 15)**

*Scripture: Psalm 95:1-7 (RCL: Lent 3, Year A)*

*Psalm: 100*

*Theme: the discipline of worship*

*Title: "Yay, God!"*

*What I was thinking:* What is the purpose of worship? Is there a single correct way for Christians to worship? If so, what is it?

### **August 25, 2024 (Proper 16)**

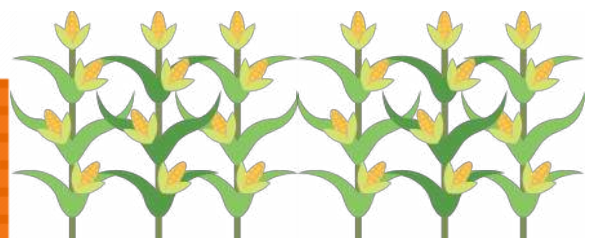
*Scripture: Philemon (RCL: Proper 18, Year C)*

*Psalm: 23*

*Theme: the discipline of guidance*

*Title: "Show Me the Way"*

*What I was thinking:* In this shortest of his epistles, Paul writes to a Colossian Christian about his runaway slave. What does this letter tell us about the discipline of guidance? How might we similarly guide one another?



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2024**

Board members present: Deacons: Carol Hedrick, Lyssa Lile, Judy Daniel, Derek Lile, Jennifer Schmehl, Kathy Wood, Gary Coffman, Steve Hedrick. Elders: John Daniel, Carol Roberts, Diana Rich, Don Malan, Shawn Quick, Chuck Lewis. Voting member, Carol Lewis. Others present: Reverend Sharla Hulsey, Carol Ann Winburn, Everett McBrayer, Phyllis McBrayer.

Chairman Shawn Quick called the meeting to order at 10:44. John Daniel opened with prayer. The agenda for the meeting was amended with the addition of Elevator repair update in old business. The additional committee/department reports were added, Membership, Education and Outreach. The corrected agenda was approved unanimously on the motion by Diana Rich seconded by Judy Daniel.

After time given to review the minutes of the June 23, 2024 meeting, no additions or corrections noted. Motion by Kathy Wood to approve the minutes seconded by Carol Hedrick passed unanimously.

**Financial Reports—**

John Daniel reviewed the Christian Church Foundation Account Statement noting that the fund grew by \$294.00 leaving a total amount of \$31,980.00. John stated that we will not make any changes until after the national election.

Shawn Quick announced that the rest of the Financial Reports will be tabled until the August meeting as we were unable to open the files needed to print the reports for everyone. There is a Microsoft nation wide issue preventing this. Carol Lewis did report that we had a -\$323.00 in profit for the month of June.

**Minister's Report—**

Rev. Hulsey reported her usual interactions with members via telephone, text, and in-person conversations. She attended the women's retreat at the Last Harvest Cowboy church on July 13. She also attended the Elder's meeting and Vacation Bible School this past week. She is leaving this afternoon with the others for church camp starting tomorrow.

**Old Business—**

Elevator update—Everett reported the repairman came and told him that the cause of the malfunction was due to the electricity being off and tripping the safety shut off. He also said that we cannot let the elevator sit at the basement level due to the hydraulic system. Everett said that he would check that everyday to see that it doesn't happen.

**New Business—**

Internet—Lyssa Lile reported that she contacted Brightspeed, our internet provider, and found that it would be \$76.96 less if we just got phone and fax services from them. It is currently \$220.00/month for phone, fax and internet. The cost of Conexcon internet services would be \$79.00. So it would all end up about the same cost. After discussion, it was decided that Conexcon provided better service so a motion was made by Judy Daniel to let Conexcon know that we are interested in switching to their services when available. Seconded by Chuck Lewis, passed unanimously.

Committee and Department Reports—

Property—Everett McBrayer reported we had a sewer line back up in the kitchen. R&R Plumbing (formerly Daniel’s Plumbing) came and said that the separator tank needed to be cleaned out. They were able to flush it out but we need to not use the garbage disposal until it is cleaned out. After discussion, the board requested that the Property committee obtain bids to have the tank cleaned out.

Membership—Carol Ann Winburn reported that the Procedural Document for “Ruth’s Rainey Day Fund” had been reviewed and updated. She handed out a copy of the document for review. Judy Daniel suggested that “Requests should be made in writing and given to Pastor Sharla” be changed to “Requests should be made in writing and give to the Pastor.” Judy Daniel made the motion to approve the Procedural Document with this change, seconded by Chuck Lewis. Passed unanimously.

Education—Carol Hedrick reported that VBS went very well this last week. They had 21 children the first night and 18 the second night and 27 helpers. She thanked everyone who helped in any way in making this another successful Vacation Bible School.

Outreach—Phyllis McBrayer added that our next project will be items for school lunches. She also thanked everyone for donating school supplies and back packs for our last project.

Lyssa Lile added that the Church office will be closed Monday July 22, 2024 as she and Sharla will be at church camp.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25.



Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Schmehl, board secretary





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(Disciples of Christ)  
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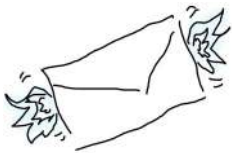
Return Service Requested

**Pastor Sharla Hulse**

revsharkie@gmail.com

**Lyssa Lile, Admin. Asst.**

admin@fccbutler.org



# THE MESSENGER



*“And all drank the same spiritual  
drink. For they drank from the  
spiritual rock that followed them,  
and the rock was Christ.”*

*- 1 Corinthians 10:4*

