



# THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

11 W. Pine, Butler, MO 64730

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Go learn something!

Our kids are back to school now, and they're going to be learning all sorts of new things. But we adults oftentimes stop learning anything new that doesn't have to do with our jobs. Why is that?

We might say we don't have time. It's true that modern life can be busy, and if you're a parent and have kids involved in assorted activities, it can be even more so. But I have found, personally, that I *make* time for things that I really want to do. It might mean changing my schedule around, or maybe dropping something I'm doing that no longer suits (although if you've signed on for, say, a three-year term on a board or some such, I would urge you to stick with it for the full term, *then* let it go). Or I might choose to figure out ways to learn something *while* doing something else. For instance, if you commute for work, find a podcast about something you're interested in and listen to it while you travel.

Or we might simply have let our curiosity dwindle. If every day is filled with hard work and stress, questions about things that don't relate to our work or our lives directly might just get shut down. But even things that don't seem to relate just might offer insight that could make our lives easier. I've heard stories of people who are working on a particular problem that has them stumped, and then a new collaborator who has experience in different areas looks at the problem in a fresh way and offers a solution the others would never have considered.

What are you curious about? Do you wonder what the birds are that you see or hear singing in the mornings? Go learn about birds. Do you have a desire to understand the chemistry behind the cooking or baking that you do, or are you interested in the foods of other countries and cultures? There is so much information out there about that!

Thanks to the internet, we have access to more knowledge than anyone who came before us could have dreamed of. YouTube is an amazing resource for history, cooking, and how-to videos about all kinds of tasks. Of course you have to approach the internet with a fair amount of critical thinking. Some things are obvious: don't waste your time, for instance, on videos arguing that aliens built the Great Pyramids or Stonehenge or whatever. If you read or hear something that doesn't sound right to you, go out there and see what other information you can find, whether others agree with what the first source says or not.

There is, of course, the "old-fashioned way" of learning: read books, go to the library, take a class. But whatever way you choose, I hope you will follow the example of our kids heading back to school, and go learn something new. Remember that God gave us our minds and our curiosity, and expects us to use them.

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



  
**Serving Schedule**

**September 1****Elder:** Chuck Lewis**Deacon:** Don Cole & Gary Coffman**Greeter:** Gary Coffman**Scripture Reader:** Don Malan

5 Matthew Silvers

7 Deloris Baldwin

9 Nancy Simpson

**September 8****Elder:** Shawn Quick**Deacon:** Steve Hedrick & Bob Thomas**Greeter:** Bob Thomas**Scripture Reader:** Shawn Quick

13 Frosti Tiona

15 Owen Cunningham-  
Arnold**September 15****Elder:** Carol Roberts**Deacon:** Carol Hedrick & Lyssa Lile**Greeter:** Carol Hedrick**Scripture Reader:** Carol Hedrick

18 Carol Hedrick

21 Michael Wood

25 Greg Bartimus

**September 22****Elder:** John Daniel**Deacon:** Judy Daniel & Sally Bremer**Greeter:** Peggy Thomas**Scripture Reader:** Chuck Lewis

28 Danielle Rolph

**September 29****Elder:** Diana Rich**Deacon:** Derek Lile & Jennifer Schmehl**Greeter:** The Lile family**Scripture Reader:** Lyssa Lile**Communion Preparer:** Diana Rich**Music Director:** Carol Ann Winburn — **Accompanist:** Mary Coffman**Sound Techs:** Phyllis McBrayer, Dianna Silvers, Justin Quick

1 Larry &amp; Denise Burch

4 Steve &amp; Carol Hedrick

**ATTENDANCE**

Date	In-Person Worship	Online *
8/4	35	5
8/11	29	5
8/18	34	6
8/25	35	9

**BUDGET****July Income**

\$8,389.91

**July Expense**

\$10,138.85

**YTD Income**

\$71,499.88

**YTD Expense**

\$76,459.04

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

For September, we will continue 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!



### “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 \$5,140.80. Please note on your donation that it is for the “Ketch-up” campaign. Thank you for your continued support!



### DISCIPLES WOMEN

The Disciples Women will have a salad dinner on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in the church’s Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to join us for fun and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend as well as your favorite salad. Our roll call will be “your favorite hymn”. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Taylor or Carol Lewis.



### MEMBERSHIP FELLOWSHIP



Join us for a Potluck!  
Come enjoy great food and great company!  
Sunday, September 22 after Worship (approx. 10:45 a.m.) in the FCC Fellowship Hall.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- LABOR DAY/OFFICE CLOSED
- DISCIPLES WOMEN  
Tuesday, Sept. 3 @ 6 p.m.
- ELDERS MEETING  
Sunday, Sept. 8 after worship
- BOARD MEETING  
Sunday, Sept. 15 after worship
- COMMUNITY CAFÉ  
Tuesday, Sept. 17 @ 5:30 pm
- POTLUCK  
Sunday, Sept. 22 after worship
- YOUTH GROUP  
Wednesdays @ 6 p.m.  
3rd—12th grade
- CHOIR PRACTICE  
Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.

## THOUGHTS & PRAYERS - Sympathy to the families of Keisha Maze and Nick Vaughn

### Current & Ongoing

- ◆ Jim Adams, Greg Bartimus, Kathy Bunch, Diana Chapman, Eunice Cobb, Jack Daniel, Caroll Dodds, Shelby Duffield, Vickie Fowler, Lona Grosshart, Bill Hulse, Roger Hunt, Lori Koepsel, Alan & Christy Lockard, Pat & Terry Lodge, Carol McCanles, Landon Moutray, Charlie Padgham, Gary Peterson, Roger Watts, Dana Young, Jace Zembsch

### At Home

- ◆ Julie Lewis
- ◆ Linda Wix

### Currently Serving in the Military

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





# September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	<b>2</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>3</b> 6 PM DISCIPLES WOMEN	<b>4</b> 6 PM YOUTH GROUP 7 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM LIFE GROUP/ ELDERS MEETING	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6 PM YOUTH GROUP 7 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM BOARD MEETING	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30PM COMMUNITY CAFÉ	<b>18</b> 6 PM YOUTH GROUP 7 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	<b>21</b> 1PM - 4PM CRIST WEDDING
<b>22</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM POTLUCK	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6 PM YOUTH GROUP 7 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9AM – 12PM SON SHINE LADIES	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP (RECONCILIATION SPECIAL OFFERING) 10:30AM LIFE GROUP	<b>30</b>					



## Upcoming Sermons

### **September 1, 2024 (Proper 17)**

Scripture: Nehemiah 7:73b—8:12

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 12

Theme: the spiritual discipline of celebration

Title: “The joy of the LORD is our strength.”

*What I was thinking:* After Jerusalem and the Temple are rebuilt, and Ezra the scribe brings the Torah from Babylon, the people have a party.

### **September 8, 2024 (Proper18)**

*Special presentation by members of First Christian Church of Mount Vernon*

### **September 15, 2024 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany)**

Scripture: Genesis 3:1-13 (RCL: Lent 1, Year A)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 31:1-5

Theme: Creation and Fall

Title: “The Buck Stops Here”

*What I was thinking:* There are two creation narratives in Genesis. The second focuses on the first man and the first woman, living innocently in Eden. Then something goes terribly wrong.

### **September 22, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany)**

Scripture: Genesis 15:1-18 (RCL: Lent 2, Year C)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27:1-3, 13-14

Theme: God’s promise to Abraham

Title: “I meant what I said.”

*What I was thinking:* God made a promise to Abraham and Sarah back in Genesis 12. Here in chapter 15, the promise is reiterated in dramatic fashion.

### **September 29, 2024 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany)**

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-13; 13:3-8 (RCL: Maundy Thursday, all years; Proper 18, Year A)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 116:5-9, 11-14

Theme: the Passover celebration

Title: “Why is this night different from other nights?”

*What I was thinking:* Knowing that our Communion observance originated in the Passover meal, what can its meaning tell us about what we’re celebrating at the Table?



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 18, 2024**

Board Members present: Deacons: Carol Hedrick, Lyssa Lile, Judy Daniel, Derek Lile, Jennifer Schmehl, Kathy Wood, Peggy Thomas, Steve Hedrick, Bob Thomas. Elders: John Daniel, Carol Roberts, Diana Rich, Shawn Quick, Chuck Lewis. Others present: Carol Lewis, Reverend Sharla Hulsey, Carol Ann Winburn, Everett McBrayer, Phyllis McBrayer.

Shawn Quick, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:40 am and opened with prayer. The agenda for the meeting was amended to include boundary lines under old business, nominating and budget committee under new business, and Memorial Gifts, Membership and Property under Committees/Departments reports. This amended agenda was approved unanimously after a motion by Judy Daniel and a second by Kathy Wood.

After reviewing the July 21, 2024, board meeting minutes there were no changes or additions. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Diana Rich and seconded by John Daniel. Approved unanimously.

**Financial Reports**—Carol Lewis reviewed the financial reports for June and July 2024. For June, the Profit and Loss report showed income of \$11,428.60 and expenses at \$11,752.08. Net income was -\$323.48. July's Profit and Loss report shows income at \$8,389.91 and expenses at \$10,138.85 with a net income of -\$1,748.94. All financial reports are available at the church office for review. With a motion to approve June's financial report by Chuck Lewis and seconded by Bob Thomas, June's reports were approved unanimously. With a motion by Chuck Lewis to approve July's financial reports, seconded by Bob Thomas, July's financial reports were also approved unanimously.

**Minister's Report**—

Reverend Hulsey then reviewed her report. In addition to conversations via email, texts, and in-person, she states she attempted to visit a member of the church at a hospital but was told that person was not there. She served as Chi Rho counselor at Faith Adventures Camp in July and attended the Elders meeting and the Memorial Gift committee meetings the first part of August. She continues with daily morning prayer on Facebook. Plans to be gone the weekend September 8 but states plans for that service are being made.

**Old Business**—

Boundary Lines—Shawn distributed maps showing the property line in question on the south side of the church. The line is at the south end of the storage building that is on that lot. The adjacent business does have their dumpster on church property, but that lot is only used for parking on Sundays. Carol Roberts pointed out that this is "no big deal" and no action is needed.

**New Business**—

Conexon Connect—Lyssa Lile states that she notified them of our interest in their internet. They also have phone and fax available, and it would be \$150.00 per month for all 3 services. Sharla questioned whether that included long distance. Lyssa will check into that.

Nominating committee—Carol Roberts is chair and needs 4 board members and 4 members from the congregation for that committee. John Daniel volunteered to be on that committee.

*New Business cont.*

Budget committee—Shawn reminded department chairs that they will need to turn in their 2025 budget by the Sept. board meeting. Lyssa stated that she can give any department chair a breakdown of their 2024 department expenditures to help with this process.

**Committee and Department Reports—**

Memorial Gift committee—Judy Daniel states that they met Aug. 14 and identified several ideas for the use of some of the money. She will have more to report in September.

Membership committee—Carol Roberts stated that the membership committee is having a potluck lunch after church on Sept 22. More information later.

Property committee—Chuck Lewis states that he contacted plumber Jim Daniel about the septic tank. He said he could recommend a company to have the septic tank cleaned out for \$400.00. He also recommended that we do so on a regular basis. Jim Daniel stated he would look at our septic tank and get back with Chuck but has not done so yet. After discussion, Chuck is to try to get other bids to get this done.

There being no further business brought before the board, a motion was made by Diana Rich to adjourn. Seconded by Carol Hedrick. Unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted

Jennifer Schmehl, board secretary



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2ND ANNUAL

*Cole Hayride  
& Weenie Roast*

SATURDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2024 @ 5 PM

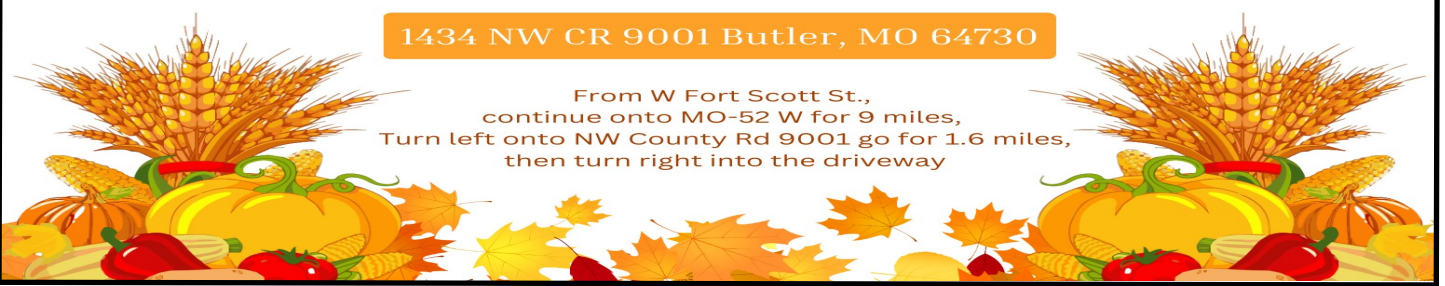
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP AND FUN  
AT THE HOME OF DON AND DEBBIE COLE.

BRING A LAWN CHAIR, AND A COVERED DISH TO SHARE.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CHANCE TO MAKE MEMORIES WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY!

1434 NW CR 9001 Butler, MO 64730

From W Fort Scott St.,  
continue onto MO-52 W for 9 miles,  
Turn left onto NW County Rd 9001 go for 1.6 miles,  
then turn right into the driveway





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

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Return Service Requested

**Pastor Sharla Hulseley**

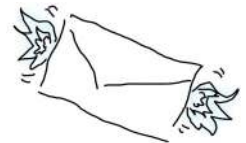
[revsharkie@gmail.com](mailto:revsharkie@gmail.com)

**Lyssa Lile, Admin. Asst.**

[admin@fccbutler.org](mailto:admin@fccbutler.org)



# THE MESSENGER



*"Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."*

*-James 4:14*

