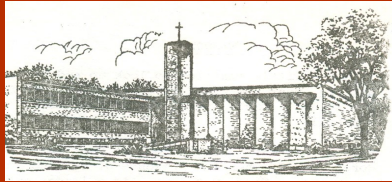




December 12th, 2023



First Christian Church News (Disciples of Christ)

VOLUME 72 NO. 24

DECEMBER 12, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Join Us For At Home Worship	2
Serving Schedule	2
Food Pantry	2
Prayer List	2
Giving	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Mark the Dates	3
Sunday School Classes (Holiday Time Adjustments)	
Food Pantry	4
Clothes Closet & Household Hut	4
Church Christmas Program	5
Volunteers Needed	5
Items For Food Pantry During Advent	5
Christmas Offering	5
Church Contacts Information	6
Calendar	6
Family Promise Message to Community	6

Reflection

Merry Christmas! Feliz Navidad!

Merry Christmas from your office. We are changing our time for Kennedy's office. She is no longer with us.

Here is our new schedule:

Monday -Thursday. 8am - 12pm

Sunday 8am - noon

Friday/Saturday no church office hours.

If I have meetings in the afternoon, my hours in the office will change for that day.

My phone number is (918) 850-7006 and my email is

revles50@gmail.com.

*Merry Christmas!
Pastor Les*

Join us for Worship
In Person Worship

We are meeting at the church for worship at 10:40 a.m. on Sunday mornings! We are using pre-packaged communion. We hope to see you Sunday!

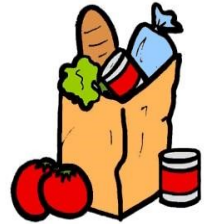
At Home Worship on Facebook/Vimeo



Find us on Facebook at **First Christian Church—Disciples of Christ of Emporia, KS.** to join us for worship at 10:40 a.m. on Sundays. Leave a comment on our worship service to let us know you are with us! Find us on Vimeo at **First Christian Church— Emporia.**

Welcome

During the month of December, the food pantry helped **72 families** with food, plus **various other items**, including **10 doz. eggs**.



Our pantry continues to be a lifeline for those in our community.

During this time, we have implemented a no contact method for providing food to the community and have reduced our food pantry hours to Mondays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Church Family Prayer List

Paul Martinez, Friend of the **Arnett's**

Hunter McCoy, **Chad & Laurie Kurzen's** Nephew,

Jaiden & Kinzie Kurzen's Cousin

Jennifer & Michael

Jacob Ramirez Son of Sonya Ihde

JoAnn Rincon, Friend of **Marilyn Dalton**

Dee Thompson

Upcoming Serving Schedule

December 17th, 2023

Elder~ Nancy LeClear

Worship Leader~ Anita Imhoff

December 24th, 2023

Elder~ Jaylene Arnett

Worship Leader~ Janet Lostutter

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

December 3rd, 2023 ~ SS 10/45 AH & IP Worship

December 10th, 2023 ~ SS 6/ 40AH & IP Worship

GIVING RECORD

Dec. 3, 2023 ~ Offering \$1,655.00/ Building \$5.00/
 Special Offering \$105.00

Dec. 10, 2023 ~ Offering \$2,120.00



Birthdays and Anniversaries

DECEMBER Birthdays

- 12 Mike LeClear
- 15 Debbie Hubert
- 17 Justin Richardson
- 20 Lisa Rickabaugh
- 25 Barb Gimple



Mark The Dates

Sundays at 9:30am— Sunday School

Sundays at 10:40 am—Worship Service
via In Person & Facebook Live

Mondays from 9:00—11:00 am—Food Pantry

Mondays at 7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Fridays from 3:00—6:00 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Saturdays from 9:00 am—12:00 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Dec. 13, 2023 11:30am—DWF Soup Luncheon

Dec. 14, 2023 8:30am—Advent Study

Dec. 17, 2023—Church Christmas Program

Dec. 24, 2023—Christmas Eve

Dec. 24, 2023 8:00pm—Christmas Eve Service

Dec. 25, 2023—Christmas Day

Kumjoinus Adult Sunday School Class

We are suspending class through the holidays and will begin again on Sunday, January 7, 2024 with Chapter 1. We'd love to have others join us; we have extra books.

Kumjoinus in our study and fellowship at 9:30 on 1/7/24!

Jean, Joy, Janet, Judy, Rita, Darlene, Marie



**Lectionary Schedule
December 17th, 2023—
January 7th, 2023**

December 17th, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28
Psalm 126

December 24th, 2023

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

December 31st, 2023

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40
Psalm 148

January 7th, 2023

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:(1-9), 10-18
Psalm 147:12-20



FOOD PANTRY

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
202 E. 12TH AVE.

Mondays, 9-11am

Helping families in our community!



**CLOTHES
CLOSET &
HOUSEHOLDHUT**

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
202 E. 12TH AVE.

**Fridays, 3-6pm
Saturdays, 9am-12pm**

**CHURCH
CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM**

Sunday, December 17th

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

First Christian Church is looking for volunteers on Sundays to help run the sound and PowerPoint for the church service; Training is available.

Please call 620-342-1582 or email fccoffices@yahoo.com if interested!

THANK YOU



**WEEK BY WEEK
DURING ADVENT
WE INVITE YOU TO
BRING ITEMS FOR
OUR FOOD PANTRY!**

DECEMBER 17
Canned Vegetables

DECEMBER 24
Saltine Cracker

Christmas Offering

One of the Special Day Offerings, the Christmas Offering, is fast approaching. Disciple congregations across the nation will be receiving this offering on December 17 and 24. This offering differs from the other special offerings we receive throughout the year, in that it remains within the Kansas Region. We do not make regular payments to support the Regional Church, so this offering is an important part of its income. I realize December is a month overflowing with expenses, but I hope you will prayerfully consider making an “over and above” gift to this Special Day Offering.

Jean Miller, Outreach Chair

First Christian Church

202 East 12th Avenue

620-342-1582 Church Office

Web Page: www.fcemporio.org

Email Office: fccoffices@yahoo.com

Pastor Les Dotson

Phone: 918-850-7006

Email: revles50@gmail.com



“The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Office Hours

Monday- 8:00-12:00

Tuesday- 8:00-12:00

Wednesday- 8:00-12:00

Thursday- 8:00-12:00

Friday- 8:00-12:00

Next Newsletter Deadline

January 8th, 2023



December 13– December 25th, 2023

Weekly Events

Sundays at 9:30am~ Sunday School

Sundays at 10:40am~ Worship Service

Monday's from 9:00am-11:00am~ Food Pantry

Mondays at 7:00pm~ Boy Scouts

Fridays from 3:00pm-6:00pm~ Clothes Closet & Household Hut

Saturdays from 9:00am-12:00pm~ Clothes Closet & Household Hut

*Even through troubled waters
God is with you*
Isaiah 43:2

DECEMBER

Wednesday 13 11:30am~ DWF Soup Luncheon	Thursday 14 10:00am ~ Advent Study	
Sunday 17 Church Christmas Program	Sunday 24 Christmas Eve 8:00pm ~ Christmas Eve Service	Monday 25 Christmas Day

Family Promise of the Flint Hills began in 2017 with a hope and vision to assist families in our area to gain secure housing. With the support of Lyon County residents and community partners it has been a source of refuge for 266 adults and children; 26 in 2021, 119 in 2022, and 121 in 2023. Thank you for believing in our mission. While the generosity of our community is alive and well, the Family Promise board met on October 12th, 2023 to reflectively discuss challenges that led to a unanimous decision to discontinue the program.

With a spirit of appreciation and gratitude to those individuals and organizations that have led and supported our efforts, we recognized factors in front of us. Topics such as funding stability, board member attrition, and lack of a director were discussed. Family Promise's great work serves needs that other similar organizations serve in our community and duplicate of those services were recognized. We outlined a strategy to transparently close our financials and communicate with all of the individuals and organizations that have sown acts of generosity into our mission.

Before the end of 2023 our plan involves personal phone calls, letters, and press release to acknowledge our closure. We are inviting similar partnering organizations to a meeting where we will answer questions and gain referral options for families that we have served. We will create a resource list for families who continue to try to contact us.

Family promise is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit and national organization with a mission to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. We will collaborate with the national organization during our final steps.

The family Promise board meeting ended with competing emotions. Heavy hearts were uplifted while we recalled the many individuals and partners' compassionate donations and service. With a good thing ending, we anticipated how other good things will meet the needs of homelessness. We all believe that Lyon County is and will continue to be known for its acts of generosity.

Family Promise of the Flint Hills
Board of Directors