



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
202 E 12th Avenue, Emporia, KS 66801 620-342-1582

NEWSLETTER - April 16, 2024

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**From the Pastor...**

The day we experienced the eclipse is the day that I recognized God in every person I saw. There were groups of people all around the campus and they were looking at the sun being covered and taking photos. They were aghast and laughing at the same time. Note: I was behind and in front of the church taking photos and trying to see what these young people saw. I walked inside the church and all of a sudden the light changed because of the coverage. I grinned and went on with my trip inside the church. There was that moment of total peace. That moment of God's peace and honesty. What else can happen? If the "darkness" had lasted longer - who knows? I don't - do you?

We place ourselves in your hands,  
 Blessings, Pastor Les

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News and Upcoming Events:

Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday April 28, 2024, immediately following worship, at approximately 11:30 am.

Guest on Sunday, April 21: The Rev Tom Stanley, Regional Minister & President of Kansas Disciples of Christ will present the sermon during worship. The Regional ministers try to visit congregations periodically and we are delighted to have Tom with us on the 21st.

It's Graduation Time: Graduation is always an exciting time! Do you have a child, grandchild, or relative that is graduating from kindergarten, middle school, high school, technical college, or college? If so, please call the church office or e-mail us at fccoffices@yahoo.com to let us know! We need student's name, parent's and grandparent's names, where graduating from, and what grade. If high school or college, plans after graduation. We will honor our graduates on May 19th during our worship service.

Food Pantry Donation of \$1,500: Thank you to the Reconciliation Committee of the Christian Church in Kansas for awarding a grant to our Food Pantry ministry. Excerpts from the letter of David Dubovich, Acting Associate Regional Minister: "The Committee is always on the lookout

for projects which address the root causes of racism and the **poverty which so frequently** accompanies it, and projects which help equip people to avoid being victimized by systemic racism. We are excited about being able to partner with you through a reconciliation grant for 2024 for your Ministry, 'Food Pantry.' . . . Your support for the wider church and especially the Reconciliation Offering has been a blessing through the years and now it is time for the wider church to support you in this endeavor with a \$1,500 grant to help fund the ministry."

Thank you from Amanda Cunningham, CEO of Crosswinds Counseling & Wellness.

"On behalf of CrossWinds, I would like to thank the First Christian Church for being such a great partner while we leased space for our Therapeutic Preschool! The staff always felt supported and the kids were always well loved! Your space allowed us to develop and grow this essential service! We hope there are future ways to stay connected! Thank you for everything over the last several years."

Calendar items

- April 16 - 1:30-3:00 pm "The Chosen" video & discussion session
- April 17 - 6:00 pm Board Meeting
- April 21 - 10:40 Worship Guest minister is Tom Stanley, Regional Minister & President
- April 23 - 1:30-3:00 pm "The Chosen" video & discussion session
- April 28 - Annual Congregational Meeting: 11:30 am, immediately following worship,
- April 28 - 2:00 pm Worship at Presbyterian Manor
- April 28 - Newsletter Deadline
- April 29 - Food Pantry distribution from 9-11 am, unless food bags run out before 11
- April 30 - Newsletter Publication
- May 1 - Worship at Homestead Assisted Living Facility

Our Family:

Prayer List:

Mildred Steeves

Family of Sharon Ball

Jeanice Miller

Jacob Ramirez, Son of Sonya Ihde

Hunter McCoy, Chad & Laurie Kurzen's nephew; Jaiden & Kinzie Kurzen's cousin

JoAnn Rincon, Friend of Marilyn Dalton;

- Birthdays: April 18 - Diana Solis
April 24 - Betty Richardson
May 4 - Shelby Fuller

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**Upcoming Serving Schedule:**

April 21: Elder - Judy Moore ; Worship Leader - Marlene Hanson  
Children's Message - Marlene Hanson  
April 28: Elder - Marlene Hanson; Worship Leader - Judy Moore  
Children's Message - Nancy LeClear  
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Attendance and Giving Record:

April 7: SS - 10 ; Worship at home/in person - 37
Offering \$1,520
April 14: SS - 5 ; Worship at home/in person - 38
Offering \$997
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**Serving the Community:**

Clothes Closet/Household Hut is open every week: 3:00-6:00 pm Friday; 9:00 am-12 noon  
Saturday

We welcome everyone to come shop and find good bargains. Proceeds are used to help  
fund the Food Pantry. (Volunteers are always needed - sign-up sheet by the office)

Food Pantry is open the last Monday of each month from 9:00-11:00 am, unless all bags are given  
out before 11. **April 29 is the next Food Pantry distribution.**

Scout Troop 157 meets at the Church every Monday at 7:00 pm  
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Food Pantry items we are encouraged to donate to put in the bags for distribution:
16 oz jar peanut butter; 15 oz can fruit; 15 oz can vegetables; 5 oz cans tuna and chicken; Ramen
noodles; Mac N Cheese; Soup; Pork N Beans; Instant Oatmeal packets; saltine crackers; toilet
paper. **Thank you for your donations, whether food items or money donations.**
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**Join together Sunday mornings for:**

Worship at 10:40 am

All are Welcome to come worship and share in communion

A nursery is provided for preschool aged children

If you cannot be here in person, watch on Facebook at First Christian Church—

Disciples of Christ of Emporia, KS

Be sure and leave a comment so we know you are with us.

Sunday School at 9:30 am - children and adults

Children: Infant - Pre-K; and Love Station for Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade

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Contact Information:

Church Address: 202 E 12th Avenue, Emporia, KS 66801 - Church Office: 620-342-1582
Email Office: fccoffices@yahoo.com - Web Page: www.fccemporiam.org
Pastor Les Dotson - Email: revles50@gmail.com - Phone: 918-850-7006

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"The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the unchurched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the *Gospel of Jesus Christ.*"

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