

APRIL

April 19, 2021

SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST
Annual Congregational
Meeting
DWF News
Graduation Time
Search Committee
Coronavirus Task Force

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Join Us For Worship	2
Food Pantry	2
Prayer List	2
Attendance & Giving	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Mark the Dates	3
Serving Schedule	3
Thoughts to Ponder	3
Lectionary	4
Annual Congregational Meeting	4
DWF News	4
Graduation Time	5
Search Committee Update	5
Coronavirus Task Force Update	6
Church Contacts Information	7
Calendar	7
Spotlight on Disciples	7



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 70 NO. 8

APRIL 19, 2021

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Join us for Worship

In Person Worship

We are now meeting back at the church for worship at 10:40 a.m. on Sundays! We care about the safety of our congregation and have taken many precautions during this time. We are wearing masks, social distancing, using pre-packaged communion items, and using alternative methods for our music worship that do not include singing, so as to help ensure a safer environment for everyone joining us. We hope to see you there!

At Home Worship on Facebook

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!

At Home Worship via Email

You are encouraged to open your email at 10:40 a.m. to be part of our worshipping community. If you would like to be added to our e-mail worship service, send us an e-mail at fccoffices@yahoo.com to let us know!

So far in the month of April, the food pantry has helped **79 families** with food, plus **various other items**.



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.



Our church family prayer list:

Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*);
Lea Beers (*medical*);
Wanda Davis (*hip rehab*);
Joe Denson (*medical*);
Brooke Franklin (*cancer*); **Bob Hush** (*medical*);
Steve & Ramona Langley (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*);
Dr. Tim & Paula Lavin and family (*medical*);
Joe Lozier (*brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton*);
Steve Martin (*stem cell cancer treatment*); and **Jeanice Miller** (*back pain*).



Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

Apr. 11, 2021 At Home/In Person Worship 45+

Apr. 18, 2021 At Home/In Person Worship 44+

GIVING RECORD

Apr. 11, 2021 ~ Offering \$865.00 / Building \$0.00

Apr. 18, 2021 ~ Offering \$1,170.00 / Building \$100.00



April Birthdays

- 20 Jim Siebert
- 21 Tammie McDiffett
- 22 Kohlby Ketchum
- 24 Kara Horton (Office)
- 24 Betty Richardson
- 25 Andy Kuhn
- 30 Wanda Davis

May Birthdays

- 02 Brooke Douglas
- 04 Shelby Fuller
- 06 Maddie Roth

Mark The Dates

Until further notice, the method of meeting (In Person, via Zoom, E-mail, etc.) will be determined on a meeting by meeting basis.

Sundays at 10:40 am—Worship Service via In Person, Facebook Live & E-mail

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

Mondays at 7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Tues. April 20, 2021 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Wed. April 21, 2021 6:15 pm—Board Meeting

Thur. April 22, 2021 4:00 pm—Elders’ Meeting

Thur. April 22, 2021 6:30 pm—Youth Mission Club

Sun. April 25, 2021 12:00 pm—Annual Congregational Meeting

Tues. April 27, 2021 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Sun. May 2, 2021 12:00 pm—Diaconate Meeting

Sun May 2, 2021 4:00 pm—Christian Education

Mon. May 3, 2021—Newsletter Deadline

Tues. May 4, 2021 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Sun. May 9, 2021—Mother’s Day

Tues. May 11, 2021 10:00 am—Acts Bible Study

Wed. May 12, 2021 1:30 pm—DWF Group

Wed. May 12, 2021 5:30 pm—Stewardship Ministry Meets

Upcoming Serving Schedule



April 25, 2021—4th Sunday of Easter

Presiding Elder ~ Judy Moore

Communion Elder ~ Jaylene Arnett

Worship Leader ~ Nancy LeClear

Children’s Message ~ Nancy LeClear

May 2, 2021—5th Sunday of Easter

Presiding Elder ~ Marlene Hanson

Communion Elder ~ Nancy LeClear

Worship Leader ~ Cameron Moore

Children’s Message ~ Judy Moore

May 9, 2021—6th Sunday of Easter

Presiding Elder ~ George Arnett

Communion Elder ~ Marlene Hanson

Worship Leader ~ Diana Solis

Children’s Message ~ Laurie Kurzen

Thoughts to Ponder

- Would you want yourself as a neighbor?
- Ask not what God can do for you, but what you can do for God.
- Do your best and let Jesus do the rest.
- God’s grace gives us what we don’t deserve. God’s mercy saves us from what we do deserve.
- Be kind and kindness will find you back.
- I’m CHRISTIAN, because without CHRIST, I Am Nothing.

**Lectionary Schedule
April 25—May 30, 2021**

April 25, 2021—4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

May 2, 2021—5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 9, 2021—6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 16, 2021—7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 23, 2021—Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30, 2021—1st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Annual Congregational Meeting

It is important that all members attend our annual congregational meeting, which will be taking place this Sunday, April 25, 2021. We will meet in the sanctuary after the worship service, and will go over the budget and the list of nominated officers, as well as other business that may need attention.



DWF met Wednesday, April 14th. We had 13 ladies in church and 2 on Zoom. Marie had the lesson, which was very inspirational. We talked about meeting this summer. We also talked about a salad luncheon, depending on COVID protocols at the time.

It's Graduation Time!!!!

Graduation announcements cards are being readied. Caps and gowns sized and ordered. Final exams are fast approaching. Parties are being planned. Diplomas are being printed. While things might still be a little different this year, 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 e-mail us at fccoffices@yahoo.com to let us know! We will honor our graduates on May 16th during our worship service.



Search Committee Update

The search committee will be recommending a new pastor candidate to the board during Wednesday's meeting. Following the guidelines established by the church by-laws, the timeline at this time is:



Wednesday (April 21): Recommend to board for affirmation.

Thursday (April 22): E-mail will be sent out to congregation.

Saturday (April 24): Meet and Greet in the Church Parlor from 10:30 a.m. to Noon so the congregation can get to know the prospective pastor.

Saturday (April 24) at Noon: Special Board Meeting to vote on candidate and add item to congregational meeting agenda.

Sunday (April 25): Annual Congregational Meeting

The candidate will need to give 60 days notice at current church, so it would be the 1st of July before the candidate could begin ministry here.

Coronavirus Task Force Update

The March 11, 2021 Guidelines are still in effect except for the following changes/updates:

Bibles and songbooks can now be put back in the pews.

Singing with masks, not yet, but may happen soon. An announcement will be made before long.

Parlor kitchen – In addition to the Keurig appliance, the coffee urn may be used, but all cups for any drinks will be disposable and each person will be responsible for throwing away their own cups and any utensils. Individuals are encouraged to donate toward purchase of disposable cups or donate them to the kitchen.

Clothes Closet/Household Hut – officially opening April 30 with masks, distancing, hand sanitizer, no public bathroom use, and workers take measures to protect themselves.

Nursery rooms –

- Open as soon as Rita Headrick says it is ready physically and appropriate staffing/volunteers arranged.
- Masks will be worn by volunteers and those children of an age that is required.
- A table will be placed outside the nursery rooms with masks and hand gel and/or wipes for use of all who are in and out of the nursery rooms.
- Temperatures will be taken by scanner
- Notice will be given as soon as it is ready for opening

Outside Groups – May schedule outside groups with the following restrictions:

- Limit of 75 still in place – prefer small groups of 20-30 for purposes of social distancing
- No use of the kitchens
- If having food –
 - must bring their own food
 - use disposable table service
 - use the trash cans available in the room
 - wipe the tables down
 - make sure all lights are off before leaving
 - see that outside doors are closed and locked
- If in Fellowship Hall, use the restrooms left of the stage
- If in the Multipurpose Room, use restrooms in that hall
- If a very small group is using the Library or Kumjoinus/Meeting room on the main floor, use the bathrooms in that hall

Our own people may get together with the following restrictions –

- Adult Sunday School classes (in consultation of Christian Ed) may meet in classrooms that will allow appropriate distancing and following other church protocols.
- No kitchen use
- Limit of 75 (fewer number for social distancing in classrooms)
- Have potluck meals and/or refreshments
 - Bring their own food in or have it catered
 - Use disposable table service
 - Clean up their own trash using trash cans available in the room
 - Wipe the tables down
 - Make sure all lights are off before leaving
 - See that outside doors are closed and locked

Funeral luncheons/meals –

- Still do take out if preferred
- Start doing in person if those in charge wish to, but
 - Use disposable table service only
 - Encourage or require a donation to cover the cost of disposable table service **at least**

First Christian Church



“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.”

202 East 12th Avenue

620-342-1582 Church Office

Web Page www.fccemporia.org

Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com

Office Hours

8 a.m. until Noon, Monday through Friday.



**Next Newsletter Deadline
May 3 & May 17, 2021**



April 2021

18 • 10:40am Worship Service	19 Newsletter Deadline • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts	20 • 10am Acts Bible Study	21 • 6:15pm Board Meeting	22 • 4pm Elders' Meeting • 6:30pm Youth Mission Club	23	24
25 Annual Congregational Meeting • 10:40am Worship Service	26 • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts	27 • 10am Acts Bible Study	28	29	30	May 1
2 • 10:40am Worship Service • 12pm Diaconate Meeting • 4pm Christian Ed.	3 Newsletter Deadline • 9am Food Pantry • 7pm Boy Scouts	4 • 10am Acts Bible Study	5 Cinco de Mayo • 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance	6	7	8

Spotlight on Disciples

Information for this article came from the book, *Disciples: Who We Are & What Holds Us Together* (2019) by Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn, St. Louis: Christian Board of Publication, pp. 4-5.

Principles of Identity

- We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world, requiring nothing more—and nothing less—as a basis for our life together.
- We hold the centrality of scripture, recognizing that each person has the freedom—and the responsibility—to study God’s Word within the community of the church.
- We practice the baptism of believers, which emphasizes that God’s grace demands a response of faith and discipleship, while also recognizing the baptism performed in other churches.
- We gather for the Lord’s supper, as often as possible, experiencing at this table the gracious, forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.
- We structure our community around the biblical idea of covenant, emphasizing not the obedience to human authority but accountability to one another because of our shared obedience to Christ.
- We participate in God’s mission for the world, working with partners to heal the brokenness of creation and bring justice and peace to the whole human family.