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«NAMELINE»
«STREET»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP» «PLUSFOUR»

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Anniversaries:

- 5 – David & Leslie Wilt
- 16 – John & Janet Foster
- 19 – Nathan & LeAnn Unger
- 26 – Walter & Karen Bjorkman

Birthdays:

- 1 – Cameron Line
- 2 – Linda Mowrer
- 7 – Alanna Nalley, Matthew & Nathan Unger, Pam Whittom
- 9 – Shannon Edwards, Bonnie Glass, Denny Napier
- 11 – Chuck Boydston
- 19 – Tami Eager, Divinity Galvin
- 23 – Judy Krueger, Marla Wood
- 24 – Carstin Fuller
- 27 – Leslie Wilt

... for **Shannon Edwards and her son Daniel**, for strength and hope as they are apart from one another. Also pray for Shannon as she continues her studies.
... for **Janet Christiansen** who is grieving the sudden death of her son Bobby. Funeral arrangements are pending.
... for **Rosemary Humphrey**, who continues to struggle with back pain and is anticipating further surgery in a couple of weeks.
... for **Johnny Club** who is undergoing medical tests.
... for **Mark Davis** who is grieving the loss of his Aunt Joan.
... for situation with Ukraine and Russia – that peace and diplomacy will reign.
... for New City Church, Mbandaka, Congo.



Crusader

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Co-Pastors: Gregory S. and Martha-Jean Fitch

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Vol. 76, No. 5 ~ March 1, 2022

MARCH 6, 2022

Message by Pastor Greg Fitch

“With These Stones: Stones to Bread”

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11



With These Stones



GUEST SPEAKER JIM SUNDBERG

March 13, 2022

Jim Sundberg will be our guest in worship on March 13, bringing the message “The Road to Faith”, John 14:6-7. Jim grew up at First Christian and then went on to be one of the top defensive catchers in Major League history! Jim will share memories about growing up here as well as part of his testimony in his “road to faith”. Jim has written a devotional book: “Legacy Playbook: 50 Days of Encouragement to Pass on What Matters Most.” After the service, he will sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase. What a great opportunity to have Jim “back home” – and hear how God is at work in his life today.

Worship will be in-person at 9:30am and on Facebook Live at 9:30am and later on Sunday morning on our webpage and YouTube



ASH WEDNESDAY MEAL & SERVICE

Ash Wednesday Service will be led by FCC Youth on **March 2**. Dinner will be served at **5:30pm** with the service to follow. An RSVP for the dinner is preferred so we can determine how much food to prepare.

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS MARCH 23

A new Bible Study with Max Lucado's book "3:16" on the verse John 3:16, will begin **March 23** and meet each week through April 20. There will be two session options: 1) in-person at **9:30am** in the Conference Room; or 2) in-person or on Zoom at **5:30pm**. The cost of the accompanying study book is \$13. If you would like a book ordered for you, please contact the church office as soon as possible. Scholarships are available. All are welcome to join.



John 3:16 invites us to get to the root of the story. We tend to do the opposite. We focus on the fruit. Am I well-employed, well-paid, well-built, or well-received by people in my world? Valid questions, for sure, but John 3:16 bids us to go deeper: Who is God? Why does His love matter? Do I matter? What is meant by "perish"? Eternal life – is it available to me? John 3:16 takes us upriver to the headwaters of human existence. Once we find our source of life, it's easier to stay on course.



150th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

First Christian Church will celebrate our 150th Anniversary on **April 24, 2022**. There will be a celebratory church service at **10:30am** that morning. "Timothy" Will Jewsbury will be preaching that day. Following the service, a light lunch will be served, allowing additional time for fellowship and reminiscing. We hope that members and friends, old and new, will join together that day in celebration. A room of historical items will be open for viewing and a memorial gift will be

given to attendees.

We want to thank everyone who gave so generously to the Sign Project as the amount needed to retro-fit the outdoor message board has been met! Watch for further updates as installation begins in the near future!



HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 1990s

During this decade Pastor J.T. Moore retired in 1992 and after James Allen Nichols served as Interim Pastor for a year, David Seitz became our Pastor in December of 1993. Jim Musolf retired in 1998 and Bill Jewsbury became the Organist in 1998. Activities of the 1980's continued on in the 90's. The Christian Women's Fellowship held bazaars

and salad luncheons to raise money for Missions. They also produced an all church cookbook available for sale in December of 1994. A Quilt show was arranged displaying many beautiful quilts sewn by members.

Regional Assemblies and Blackhawk Cluster meetings were attended by members. Musicals "Daniel" and "Cool in the Furnace" were performed by the youth. Friendship time with coffee and doughnuts was extended to every Sunday morning before Sunday School.

In 1997 the 125th Anniversary was observed with each Sunday in April emphasizing a milestone. Past pastors came back to visit, a bell players reunion was held and visitors and members received a ceramic bell to remember the event. A new pictorial directory was distributed. The air conditioning of the sanctuary was finished during April of 97. It was paid off in full by September of that year costing around \$40,000.00.

Volunteers went to help First Christian Church of Keithsburg to help with clean up and the building of a new church, after the old one was destroyed by the Mississippi flood of 1993.

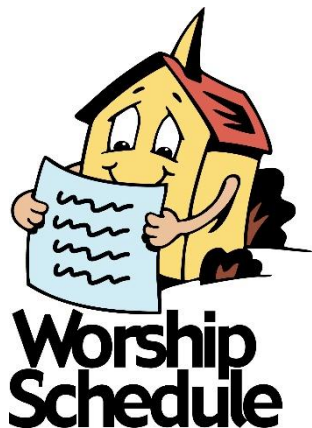
In September of 1997 a task force met and made plans to start a second contemporary service in the large fellowship hall. The service was targeted to reach out to unclaimed people in the community. That service was the contemporary "early service", held in the sanctuary prior to the Pandemic. A band was formed to lead worship in that service, called "Quest".

Our first chair lift was installed in 1992 which helped those unable to climb stairs. A ramp was built, in 1992, from the small hall to the large hall area as well as cabinets for storage along the side. Many other improvements were made to the building during this time.

Please continue to watch for more First Christian Church history.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Note: Worship is in-person as well as Facebook Live at 9:30am</i></p>		<p>1</p> <p>1:30pm – Caring Ministers</p> <p>Newsletter Week</p>	<p>2 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>Service – supper at 5:30pm followed by service led by FCC youth</p> <p>7:30pm – Choir practice</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:15am – Staff meeting</p> <p>6pm – Girl Scout leaders</p>	<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am Worship First Sunday in Lent 11am Disciples Sun. School</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30pm - Council</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30pm – Youth group 7:30pm – Choir practice</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:15am – Staff meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Spring Forward</p> <p>8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am Worship – <i>Guest speaker: Jim Sundberg</i> Second Sunday in Lent 11am Disciples Sun. School</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30pm – Elders (hybrid)</p> <p>Newsletter Week</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:30am – Naomi Circle</p> <p>7pm – The Weekend - Cluster</p>	<p>16</p> <p>2pm & 3pm – Worship at Seminary Manor & Hawthorne 5:30pm – Youth group 7:30pm – Choir practice</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:15am – Staff mtg 5:30pm – Ladies Night Out at Jimmy's Pizza 5:30pm – Men's Night Out at Pizza Ranch</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am Worship Third Sunday in Lent 11am Disciples Sun. School</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7pm – Trustees</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study 5:30pm – Youth group 7pm – Historical Society 7:30pm – Choir practice</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:15am – Staff meeting</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:30am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School 9:30am Worship Fourth Sunday in Lent 11am Disciples Sun. School</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Newsletter Week</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30am and 5:30pm – Bible Study</p> <p>7:30pm – Choir practice</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:15am – Staff meeting</p>	<p><i>Note: Adult Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are both on Zoom and in person.</i></p>	<p><i>In person classes are held in the Conference Room, along with Zoom, at the same time.</i></p>



WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

March 6 – Diaconate Serving: Kaleb Brown & Raeleen Brown

Lead in Communion: Donna Flicek

Greeters: Kaleb Brown & Raeleen Brown at North St.; Chris Wood & Marla Wood at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Renee Galvin

Prayers: Roy Ewalt

March 13 – Diaconate Serving: Candi Moulton & Kim Barton

Lead in Communion: Chris Mowrer

Greeters: Candi Moulton & Kim Barton at North St.; David Wilt & Leslie Wilt at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Offering Message: Neill Unger

Prayers: Misty Stecher

LADIES NIGHT OUT ON MARCH 17

Ladies Night Out have changed the meeting date from the 3rd Tuesday of each month to the 3rd Thursday so the next event will be at **5:30pm Thursday, March 17** at Jimmy's Pizza. All ladies from the church are invited to attend. Come join the fun!



MEN'S NIGHT OUT MARCH 17

Men's Night Out will be at **5:30pm on Thursday, March 17** at Pizza Ranch. All men of the church are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and a brief devotional. Everybody pays their own way.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – NOW TO BE CALLED DISCIPLES SUNDAY SCHOOL! BEGINS NEW STUDY!

The Adult Sunday School class has adopted the name “Disciples” and is beginning a new study, “Blessed Are the Chosen”. The book is a companion study to season 2 of “*The Chosen*,” the groundbreaking television series about the life of Jesus, and parallels each episode, connecting readers to the teachings of Jesus in a brand-new way. The class meets on **Sundays at 11 a.m.** in-person in the Conference Room or via Zoom. Because of time constraints, participants should watch the movie prior to class and free episodes can be found on YouTube by searching “The Chosen Season 2” or downloading the free “Chosen” App on your phone. All are welcome to attend!

COFFEE HOUSE THEOLOGY CLASS RESUMES

March 6, at 8:30-9:15am, Room 17

You are invited to consider as one of your small group choices **Coffee House Theology Sunday School**. This class will resume with discussions based on the International Sunday School lessons; this quarter's focus is “God Frees and Redeems.” The upcoming lesson Scripture to read this week is Ezra 1:1-8, 11; 2:64-70. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Diane Eager at (309) 335-7560.

SMALL GROUPS: Other topics for additional small groups to consider include task oriented, fellowship, ministry, care and self-help, study and shepherding.

We really need the completed interest survey **as soon as possible** so these groups can be formed to meet during Lent which begins March 2. You can find an online form at:

<https://forms.gle/p2TwH2ErXfxaWvMn8>

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Misty Stecher at (309) 337-4045.



To My Church Family: The cards and prayers from all of you gave me much comfort. Although most of you had never met Ralph, you showed me love and compassion. For the rest of my life, I will remember how wonderful you've been. Belonging to FCC is one of the best things I've ever done. As Rena would say, “I love you.” – Raye Ann Beasley