



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

May 2020

The Marshall Christian

Volume XII NO V

A Message from the Worship Committee

Elder/Deacon

Serving Schedule

Elders:
Lloyd Bentley
Wayne McReynolds

May
3 & 10

Deacons:
Carolyn Buck
Jacque Dryer
Kevin Dryer
Becky McRoberts
Vickie Wise

Elders:
Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

May
17-24

Deacons:
Butch Ash
Missie Kreisel
Doug Swinger
Kathy Swinger
Amber VanDyke

Elders:
Kathryn Jones
Mark Harvey

May
31
And
June 7

Deacons:
Cindy Brandt
Ginger McGraw
John McGraw
Melissa Shannon
Leroy Wise

As you know, our Church has taken every precautionary measure to keep our congregation and guests safe by following "Stay at Home Orders" and other guidelines as a result of Covid-19. Today, we continue to keep everyone's safety and health as a priority.

The Church received a letter from the Saline County Health Department in reference to "soft opening" Churches beginning May 3. There would be several stipulations and guidelines to follow, most of which would make the service seem rigid and imper-

sonal. Opening the Church at this time would also open ourselves up to a greater risk of contacting Covid-19. After weighing in all of the factors, it was the decision of the worship Committee, with approval from our Chairman of the board Dan Brandt, to continue with outside services through May.

The services, both 8:00 and 10:30, have been warmly embraced by not only our members, but by several visitors that can worship along with us in a safe environment. Keeping our Drive-Up services going allows us

to continue to serve God from a safe distance, while at the same time having a bit of closeness.

We remain hopeful the support will continue as we navigate through these uncharted waters. At the end of May, we will re-evaluate the conditions of worship, and make a decision how to proceed. As a committee, we will do everything we can to keep you safe until things can return to normal. Please pray for our guidance as we continue to look for resolutions.

God bless you all.

Thank you for your continued support...

For your convenience and safety...

Those who wish to give in the offering, it will be collected during the Drive Up service as you pick up your communion and bul-

letin, or you may also drop it in the "Offering Box", located near the awning, after the service. During this time, we would also recommend taking advantage of our

"Givelify" account. You can download the app and make contributions online. No hassle, no fees, completely germ free!



Elders and Deacons:

Only two are needed for each Drive Up service. Please call the office to let us know if you are interested in serving at the 8:00 or the 10:30 service.



May Birthdays and Anniversaries



**Another year, and it just
keeps getting better!**

4– Marlene VanHorn
5– Jim Kissner
8– Ginger McGraw
 Aaron Wright
9– Lin Alexander
10– Lori Blalock
 Janice Kueker
 Lisa Merchant
11– Betty Elsea
12– Alan Branson
13– Ruth Marsh

13– Rebecca Shrader
14– Ed Baker
 Danny Hoffmeyer
17– Vince Lutterbie
18– Steve Estill
 Ginny Farr
19– Blaine Thornton
20– Scott Arnett
21– Jason Dehn
 Jane Hartley
22– Debbie Arnett

25– Edie Utlaut
27– Blane Dryer
28– Mia Shannon
31– Dane Branson

Anniversaries

11– Jim & Lisa Merchant
16– Brad & Hope Richards
31– Mike & Ramona Green

From Kris Milliron...

Even in the darkness, there is light. This past month has been an....adventure. Learning how to Zoom, experiencing Holy Week and Easter from a distance, wading through cancellations, and maintaining connections all had their unique challenges. Yet the perks of being a Youth Director have kept me strong and uplifted, even in the darkness. Although they are experiencing life-changing turmoil during this crisis, youth are resilient, and have hope that cannot be extinguished. Their smiles and laughter and silliness continue to bring me joy, even over the phone!

We have talked much about our feelings. Yes, there is anxiety and loneliness, anger and doubt, fear and restlessness; emotions

that we all are experiencing. Nevertheless, there is so much hope, insight, and selflessness, from even the youngest of children...

* Knowledge that, just like the empty tomb, God's love conquers all

*As like the Disciples hiding behind locked doors, Jesus is with us

*Take this time to say 'I love you' and to make memories with loved ones

*Appreciate those who often are overlooked – custodians, cooks, shelf stockers, trash collectors, truck drivers, etc.

*Remember those less fortunate – without a safe place to stay

*Gratefulness and concern for healthcare workers

*Giving the environment time to heal, with less pollution being produced

We will continue our weekly Zoom meetings through the foreseeable future, to include fun and silliness, conversation and reflection, scripture and lessons. I also am available for a phone call, or a personal visit to read a book, enjoy a picnic, or just spend time together (maintaining safe distance).

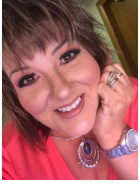
Grateful, Kris Milliron



The May General Board meeting will be held on Zoom Wednesday, May 13. The meeting ID will be posted on our website and shared in the bulletin when final arrangements have been made.



May 3– Willie Harlow
May 10– Willie Harlow
May 17– Rev. Randal DeMasters
May 24– Rev. Randal DeMasters
May 31– Rev. Randal Demasters



It takes a Village...

Covid-19!

Who would have thought that one little word could have such a huge impact on us as a society? On March 27 Saline County was issued a “Stay at Home” order that would change our way of living and relating. Restaurants, salons, and many other “non-essential” businesses were closed. Yes, mine include. As a small business owner, I was frightened on what devastating affect Covid-19 would have on my business. But, I was more horrified of what could happen to those I care about, the parents, staff and students, if I remained open and took a chance of exposing them to this corona virus that was sweeping the world. So, I did what I had to do...I shut down and found another way to keep in touch with our students and parents until the pandemic is over. Their safety came first. My daughter and I, along with a few part-time staff, decided to continue classes virtually. We decided as a team to keep us together, and we work hard to keep things going. And at Church...it is no different.

These times are hard. They are trying and difficult. As a Church, we could have shut the doors and reopened when the “coast was clear”. But we didn’t. We stood strong together and came up with an alternative to indoor ser-

vices...our old trusty Drive Up. Ok, problem solved! But who to count on to keep things running, especially with the absence of a minister? Well, when I say I am surrounded by a great team of people... I mean it!

Chris Layton was contacted and asked if he could step in and make sure everything was set up for drive up services each week. He would make sure the ministers mic and stand were in place, bulletins were ready to pass out, the tithe and offering box was available, the music was ready, and a hundred other things that I am sure I am forgetting. And...he did. Without hesitation he said yes to all that was asked of him.

Ken Bryant continues his duties and responsibilities as financial secretary. But what about the extra? He is a “go to” for me when I have questions, he organizes Meals- on-Wheels, can often be found with a paint brush in hand, and never hesitates to volunteer to help/ do any project that the Church needs done.

Ron and Carol Schupp, they continue to keep the Church maintained and ready to be used at a moments notice. Even when told they should stay home, they are committed to do what they love to do, and that is to oversee the upkeep of our Church.

Donna Smith remains a cornerstone in our Church with her

many talents. She makes sure that each Sunday our radios fill the air with her beautiful gift of music.


Kris Milliron has kept the youth group together virtually through online meetings. As adults we realize the importance of keeping routines as normal as possible, and that is what she is trying to give the kids...something they can count on.

Dan Brandt has been the anchor through not only our time without a minister, but he has been instrumental in keeping us up to date on the guidelines expected of us to keep our Church operating. He is also there to answer any question I might have. And if he doesn’t have the answer...he will find it.

And last but not least, our guest ministers. We are blessed to have a few ministers/speakers who believe in continuing God’s word, even under harsh times and restrictions. If you talked with them, I believe they would say that it is more important now than ever before to stand close with God and be given an opportunity to worship together. We have been blessed to have them lead our services.

Although these times are hard and troubled, remember, “This too shall pass”. But while you’re waiting it out, know that you have a wonderful team making sure we keep you as safe as possible, and keep the Church ready for your return.

Learning and Leaning, Hope



First Christian Church
130 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, MO 65340

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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



**Visit our
Church Website!**

Stop by our website at
www.fccmarshallmo.org
to check out upcoming
events and activities, serving
schedules, bulletins and
newsletters, and information
about our groups, ministries,
staff, etc.

Contact Information:
firstccoffice@yahoo.com
Phone: (660) 886-3338

We're on the Web!
fccmarshallmo.org

Church Staff

Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp

Chris Layton

Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant

Office Admin.– Hope Richards

Music Director– Hope Richards

Youth Director– Kris Milliron

Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,

Judy Morris