



MARCH NEWSLETTER



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.

Church Staff

Minister– Rev. Randal DeMasters

Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp

Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant

Office Admin.– Hope Richards

Music Director– Hope Richards

Pianists–Hope Richards

Kay Wise

FCC Praise Band -

Elizabeth Cline, Kevin Dryer,

Lori Layton, Joe Palan, Hope

Richards and Kay Wise

March Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1- Zoe Dryer
 Roberta Reed
- 4- Andy Rugen
- 5- Sawyer Asbury
- 6- Shirley Kueker
- 7- Vickie Wise
- 10- Steve Green
- 12- Jeanette Root
- 14- Beth LaGore
- 22- Alice Barnes
 Ryleigh Halsey
 Lori Layton
- 23- James D'Santrie
- 25- Josh Hundley
 Kyle Naylor

- 26- Rhiannon Bowlen
 David VanHorn
- 28- Doyne Alexander
 Mark Harvey
- 29- Haley Holmes
- 30- Jacob Uhrig
- 31- Charles Bentley

Anniversaries

- 2- Drew & Shirley Jackson
- 3- Fred & Jane Hartley
- 6- Jeff & Christy Coslet
- 20- Jim & Stacey Smith
- 21- Bobby & Terry Cobb
- 25- Dan & Cindy Brandt
 Jeff & Missie Kreisel



Join us for Fellowship Dinner on March 17th. The menu will include Brisket, Corn beef scallop, potatoes, cooked cabbage and corn-bread . Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

HE IS RISEN



March 28th at 7:00 pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY





Easter Egg Hunt



March 31st!

More information announced in your upcoming Sunday bulletins



CASA would like to send a tremendous "Thank You" for the support you show our organization and including us in your outreach program.

Last year CASA served 551 kids locally and helped 29 of them find permanency!

Thank you so much!

Hannah Meyer

Ladies'

LUNCHEON

At Bloomfield's

March 7th at 11:00 am

Christian Women's Fellowship

March 19th at 9:30 am in the Church Parlor. All are welcome!



“Reaching Out”

Easter arrives early this year! Because of its early arrival, two of our Disciples of Christ Special Offerings will be collected almost back-to-back – The Week of Compassion and the Easter Offerings. So, now seems like a good time to discuss these Special Offerings that all Disciples of Christ churches around the globe can participate in.

The Week of Compassion Special Offering’s mission: “As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. Its Vision: A world where God's people transform suffering into hope... by partnering with individuals, congregations, and organizations to serve the needs of the world...” (from the Disciples of Christ website)

The Week of Compassion offering was collected on February 18 and 25, but if you would like to contribute to this fund, just mark your envelope or check with ‘Week of Compassion’. We also have little cardstock box ‘banks’ that can be used to collect coins for this special offering throughout the year.

“The Easter Offering, received by most congregations on March 24 & 31, 2024, supports ... college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.” (from the Disciples of Christ website)

If you would like to contribute to this special offering, please look for the Easter Offering envelope attached to the March 24 bulletin or mark your offering that it is to be used for this cause.

Other opportunities to reach out:

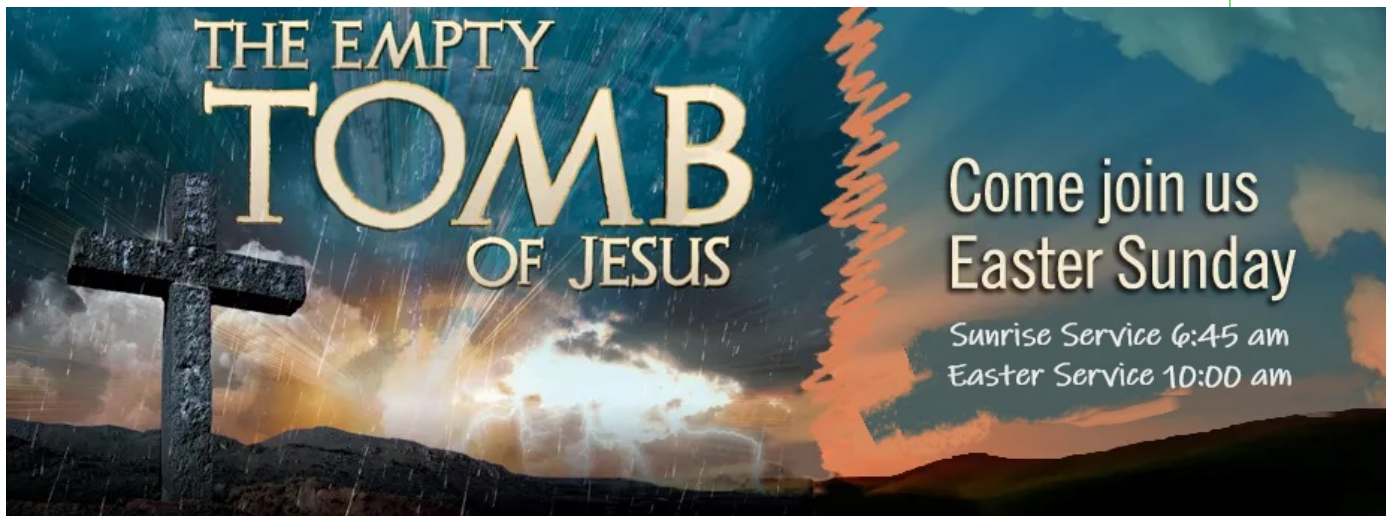
In an effort to spread out the end-of-year ‘asks’ throughout the year, we are currently collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste, and combs for the hygiene kits.

We will provide a meal for the MVC Christian student group “The Bridge” on April 7. If you can provide part of the meal, please talk to Ginger. A big thank you to those who helped provide the meal on January 28!

Every month, you have the opportunity to bring non-perishable food items to add to the large box inside the East entrance. These items will be given to the Community Food Pantry.

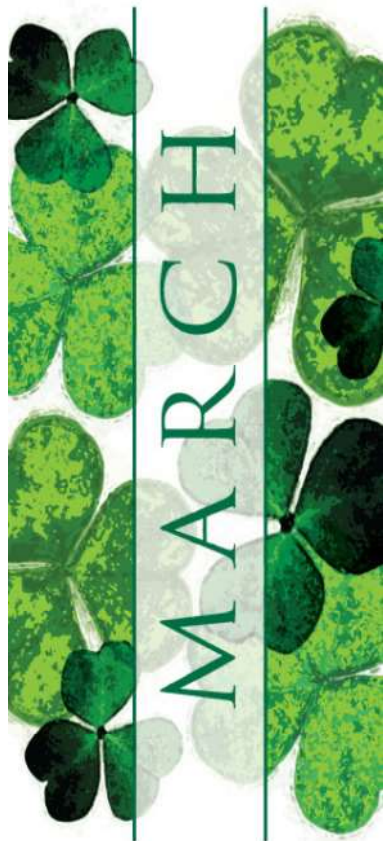
March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Praise Band practice 5:30	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Praise Band practice 5:30	15	16
17 Fellowship Dinner	18	19 CWF	20	21 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm	22	23
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28 Praise Band practice 5:30	29	30
31 Easter Sunday						





March General Board meeting will be On the 13th at 6:00



I have recently heard questions like the following. How can God do all the terrible things that he does? Does God really give little children cancer and makes them suffer before he takes them? Why did God let my house burn down? Why Is God is punishing me? Have I been bad? Is God trying to teach me something by having bad things happen to me and my family?

These and many more theological questions are asked of pastors, Sunday school teachers, parents, and school teachers. So, what is going on? I know that God is omniscient and omnipresent. It seems to make sense to that if God knows all and sees all, then God must also control everything. He is all powerful, right?

Well, if this is the case, then we are just puppets doing as instructed with no way to deviate from what the puppet master makes happen.

Most Christians do believe in “free will”, that we are able to choose the ways in which we live. This allows for us to be found faithful when we do what God tells us to do.

If we did not have a choice, there would be no good or bad, no right or wrong, it would just be the way it is. Without a choice good and bad become useless concepts. Things truly are just what they are in that case.

We get fooled by the world wanting to pass on to God that everything that happens is God’s fault. This takes our attention from the evil that is done. It also takes our attention away from our own personal choices that cause or contribute to those acts.

Small choices may seem harmless but can have effects we cannot predict. One such story is a favorite of mine. A parent was astounded when their child was caught shoplifting pencils. The parent remarked, “I don’t know why pencils were taken, I bring home lots of them from my work.”

Listening to God tells us the right ways to act and then we can do them and the Kingdom of God is truly ours beginning now.

Blessings,
Rev. Randal