

October Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

01– Lloyd Bentley
 03– Correy Jackson
 04– Jane Coleman
 Angela Mills
 05– Anna Gass
 06– Keri James
 08– Rennie Balance
 Ryan Layton
 Doug Swigert
 09– Kim Behrends
 Torey Spitzig
 10– Gaines Branson
 Todd Marshall
 11– Jeremi Jackson
 12– Wilma Amary

12– Mindy Kissner
 13– Dan Bishop
 15– Ron Schupp
 16– Jack Uhrig
 17– Mike James
 Rob Ravenhill
 18– Ron Absher
 Makenna Parker
 19– Matt Green
 20– Nic Ess
 22– Elaine Edwards
 Lois Mencl
 23– Natalie Hoffelmeyer
 Cathy Swinger
 24– Jessica Green
 Kathy Monnig

25– Tyler Clemens
 25– Brad Pistel
 28– Rebecca Perkins
 Donna Smith
 29– Bo Goulet
 Melinda Swigert

Anniversaries

03– Justin & Heidi Jolliff
 13– Tim & Jennifer Marquess
 28– Lloyd & Rosie Bentley

The 'Christmas Pageant', as it came to be known, was first performed at First Christian Church in 1949 and annually thereafter for sixty years. It returned to our sanctuary in 2024. Responses from church and community members to *The Pageant of the Holy Nativity* was so positive and gratifying that we will be offering it again this year, and planning has begun!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 30 at 6:00 pm.



If you would like to be in the Pageant cast or help in a supporting role, please let Lindsey Parton (660-815-4606) or Tiffany Thornton (660-815-3214) know by September 26th.

To ensure cast members will be able to make the practices, we have set the following dates.

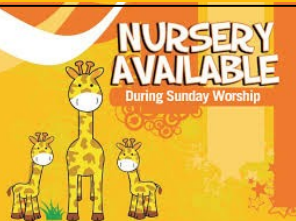
Wednesday, November 12 – Choir and Directors (Choir will have prior practices TBD.)

Monday, November 17, 6:00 pm – Cast and Costume Directors

Wednesday, November 19, 6:00 pm – Everyone: Cast, Choir, lighting, directors, et al

Sunday, November 23, 6:00 pm – Everyone

Sunday, November 30, 3:00 pm – Everyone (practice, eat, dress, PERFORM!)



A reminder that our Nursery is now open for children 0-5. A nursery attendant will be on duty each Sunday at 10:15. The nursery is located at the Northeast corner in the Sanctuary.

OUTREACH



COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee had its annual meeting to plan for how our congregation can reach out to our neighbors to help meet some of the needs in our community. We have some exciting new opportunities to help people! Details are still being worked out, but we wanted to give you a quick preview in this newsletter. We, also, want to give you a heads up on efforts that FCC will be involved in the over the next few months. We hope you will choose to support those efforts with your time, talents, and treasure.

Food Pantries – NEW way to help!!

One of the most basic human needs is food, and Christ tasks us to “feed the hungry”. FCC collects food for the Community Food Pantry, and we have a Little Food Pantry at the north end of our east parking lot. The Outreach Committee is searching for a ‘Pantry Pastor’ who will monitor the Little Food Pantry and ensure there is food available at all times. There will be a fund available for the Pantry Pastor(s) to buy food to supplement what is donated. For more information, please call Ginger at 660-620-2480.

April Shower for Baby Grace -

The Outreach Committee is excited to announce a new way to help our neighbors – a DIAPER SHOWER FOR BABY GRACE! Baby Grace is a program that gives a dozen diapers and wipes to babies in need each week. The shower won’t happen until April, but we’re so excited to help those adorable babies that we just couldn’t wait to tell you. More information will be given

closer to the shower.

ONE for ALL

(Details are being worked out, but what follows is the general plan.) Heating and air conditioning are big expenses for families and for our church building. ONE for ALL is a new project where everyone is asked to increase their giving by at least ONE dollar during the months of February, July, and October in 2026 to help ALL. These dollars will be split between FCC and HEAT which is a program that helps people in need pay their utility bills. FCC’s portion will be dedicated to helping pay the increase in our church’s gas and electric bills.

Chili Supper & Eats, Sweets, & Treats Sale

This annual event provides most of the funds we use to help people with their utilities, housing, food, and health needs. Last year, we raised almost \$7,000, and every penny goes out to local organizations whose mission is to help people. Please put these dates on your calendars:

Meal Prep: On Sunday, November 9 at 1:00 pm, Tiffany Thornton will lead a group of volunteers to make a few hundred frozen meals and soups to sell at the Eats, Sweets, & Treats Sale and to keep on hand to offer people seeking help at the church. A request for donations of ingredients will be available soon, and we hope you will join us for a couple of hours for the meal prep. There are jobs for young and old, males and females, experienced cooks and novices! It’s so fun to see two freezers fill with meals in just a short amount of time!!

Chili Supper Set-Up: On Wednesday, December 3 at 5:00 pm, we will gather to set up the tables and

chairs, organize the kitchen and drive-thru areas, and enjoy pizza after. Strong, young backs are especially appreciated!

Chili Supper & E,S,T Sale:

Saturday, December 6 will kick off with making chili in the morning under the direction of Virginia Bryant. Sherry Shannon & Linda Crews captain a team to make the veggie soup. That evening, FCC members serve the chili & soup, prepare the hot dogs, plate the donated homemade desserts, sell the frozen meals and bake sale items, and man the drive-thru. The Scout troops that meet at FCC are a big help, too!! Watch for sign-up sheets in the parlor in late October.

Special Offerings

Our congregation joins with other Disciples of Christ churches around the world to tackle issues that are much bigger than any single congregation could impact. These six special offerings are spread out through the year. Reconciliation Sunday is designed to support anti-racism programs. If you would like to contribute, there will be special envelopes available at both services on September 28 and October 5, or you can note “Reconciliation” in the memo on your check. The next special offering is the Thanksgiving Offering, and the proceeds will support colleges, universities, seminaries, and divinity houses affiliated with DOC.

There are so many opportunities to reach out to help our community and in fulfill the command that Jesus gave his followers. Please watch the bulletin announcements, the newsletter, the FCC Facebook page, and our new digital sign for information as we put our faith in action.

Thank you.

A little note from our Chairman of the Board...

The last month has shown us the evil that is in our world. As Christians it is now time to stand up for Christ. Charlie Kirks assassination has revealed the harm that Lies can create. It is time for us to open our Bibles, our Hearts, and our Minds to promote the agenda of Christ. I believe fervently that IS Our Mission.

We provide many opportunities for serving, which promote love and kindness. We need to renew

our focus on Witnessing to others about the message of Jesus Christ. If you don't feel equipped to answer the questions, look no further than the Bible, the Word of God. It is as relevant now as it has ever been.

We all admire our members who are our Mentor's in being the feet of Christ. Do you realize that you are making tracks? People are following? Where are you leading them? You have influence! You

have a message that is related to every person you talk to, every time you speak, or don't speak. Would, what you do and say, be pleasing to the Lord? Take time to reflect on your role in promoting Jesus Christ.

Now I ask:

What brings you to our worship service?

What can you do to make US better?

Leading and Leaning
Vickie



People are following? Where are you leading them? You have influence!

Tid-Bits...

Ladies Luncheon

The Ladies Luncheon will be October 2nd at Simple Life restaurant in Concordia at 11:00 AM. If you would like to carpool, meet at the Church by 10:30.

Call Roberta for more information at 660-202-0981.



CWF will meet at the home of Cathy Swinger on October 21st. At 10:00 AM. Contact Roberta for more information at 660-202-0981.

Special Offering

On October 5th we will take up a special offering for Angie Hayes, a former member of our staff who received a devastating diagnosis of ALS. To help her continue living safely and with dignity in her home, we are helping raise funds to remodel her bathroom.



Calling all kids! Children's Church is back! Starting October 5th, children ages 6-12 are invited to join us for their own special worship time. This will happen during the main service, following "The Good News for the Young at Heart."



**Executive Board
will meet on
October 8th at
5:00
followed by our
General Board
meeting
at 6:00 PM.**



FIRST CHRISTIAN

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First Christian

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From the Pastor..

I do not know if you were at the Rodeo last week so, I cannot know if you saw the condiment dispensers. Some of them were the commercial type with lots of stainless steel showing and a black knob to push to pump the ketchup or mustard to the "Steer-burger".

Two of these dispensers would not work. (That is not counting the plastic pump relish servers that had to be replaced with squeeze bottles.) Two of the good-looking stainless-steel servers simply would not work. Substitutions were made and everyone that wanted any condiments on their burger received them.

Later, following the rodeo, the non-working dispensers were disassembled and the reason for the malfunction was determined.

One was missing a 10-millimeter stainless-steel ball. That is just shy of a half an inch in diameter. That one small thing kept the entire unit from working.

Many church members will say that they are just a small part of the church and it doesn't matter if they are involved or even attend. But, that is not so. Every part of the church is needed,

even the smallest.

Please decide what your gifts and passion for the ministry of Christ may be and join with others to truly be the Body of Christ in the world today.

We want to see you and join with you in Church. We need everyone.

Blessings,
Rev. Randal



October 19th following our worship service. Hot dogs, potato salad, coleslaw and baked beans are on the menu! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. There will be Pumpkin Painting for the young, and young at heart, following the meal.

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE**

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