

# The Church Bell

October 13, 2021

VOL. 77, ISSUE 21



327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101-3003 (573-636-5157)

## God Is Always Faithful

*Dr. Jim Hill*

*Interim Senior Minister*

Times of transition are always challenging for us. It is certainly no different when churches are seeking God's will concerning the calling of a new pastor. I began my ministry as your interim senior minister a little over four months ago. When your Search Committee invited me to serve your congregation, they asked me to lead the church family through the *Intentional Interim Ministry* process. This process includes a brief self-study designed to help the congregation take a fresh look at itself and prepare for the calling of a new minister. This study involves five *focus points* – heritage, mission, leadership, connections, and the future. The intentional interim ministry process is designed to allow the congregation to complete a significant portion of the study prior to beginning their search for a new minister. The feedback from the congregation on the focus points helps the committee complete a church profile and enables them to have a better idea what to look for as they prepare to recommend a new pastor. The process also helps the congregation be better prepared to engage a new minister when the minister is called.

The Search Committee has been doing an excellent job leading the congregation through the intentional interim process. The Strategic Planning event held recently at the park was a part of this process and allowed the congregation to reflect on and give feedback to both the Strategic Planning Committee and the Search Committee as we examined the "mission" focus point. On Friday evening, November 5, the Search Committee will be hosting a Heritage Event for the entire church family as we explore "the Story" of First Christian Church. We will have ice cream and explore together the wonderful history of this congregation. I hope you will plan now to be present for this event. The Search Committee will also be recommending some actions to help clarify the congregation's leadership and staff structure during the coming weeks. These steps will allow the church to complete most of the intentional interim self-study and begin completing the church profile. A congregational survey will be shared with congregation to allow every member to provide input regarding the calling of a new senior ministry.

All of us would like to see the process move quickly, but most congregations need at least nine to twelve months to complete the process and call a new pastor. It is not unusual for the interim period to be a stressful time for the congregation. People get anxious during times of uncertainty. Obviously, the last year and a half has been a particularly stressful time for all of us as we have been forced to deal with the reality of the pandemic. That makes this timeframe an especially stressful time for our church family. Not only are we grieving and adjusting to the loss of a pastor, but we are dealing with all the changes necessary because of the pandemic. People may become frightened, frustrated, angry, and confused. It is important to remember when we feel these things that we are not alone. God is always with us. God has been faithful to the generations of church members who preceded us at First Christian Church, and I am confident God will be faithful to us as well. I look forward to worshipping with you on the Lord's Day.

# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## We pray for these

Gene Adkison, Beverly Anderson, Steve Brown, Jane Burd, Nellie Campbell, Richard Carroll, Darlene Charles, Doug Defreese, Nancy Dunwiddie, Ken Dykes, Marilyn Gross, Cheryl Hanson, Norma Hasselman, Jeanette Hickman, Venita Jackson, Brooks Jarrett, Shirley Jarrett, Jessica Kozlen, Matthew Lang, Michael Lister, Vivian Murphy, Jackie Possinger, Doris Yelton, Our Country and our men and women serving our country, the world

Individuals will be kept on our prayer list for **four weeks** at a time. At the end of four weeks, please give Kathy a call at 573.636.5157 or email her [Kathy@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:Kathy@firstchristianjcmo.org), if you would like continued prayers for an individual. Thank you!

## Members in Care Centers

### BLUEGRASS TERRACE

Glenda Crow

### HEISINGER

Richard Carroll

Shirley Ferguson

Barbara Nikodym

Norma Woodson

### JC MANOR

Jackie Possinger

### OAK TREE VILLA

Shirley Jarrett

### PRIMROSE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Norma Hasselman

Wendell & Myra Hubbs

Jessie Schell

### ST. JOSEPH'S BLUFFS

Doris Yelton

### THE TIMBERS

Marilyn Gross

### HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Mariam Craddock

### OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

Betty Schramm

Betty Schulte

## October Birthdays and Anniversaries

OCT	9	17	24
1	Marilyn Biesemeyer	Rebecca Kuhn	Claude Hawkins
Karla Denny	Shelley Dawson	<i>Charlotte Middleton &amp; Gerald Massman</i>	Myra Hubbs
Asher Gonder	Jeanne Legge	18	Barbara Nikodym
<i>Steven &amp; Allie Claycomb</i>	10	Martha Price	LeeAnna Penn
<i>Kenneth &amp; Ann Littlefield</i>	Ben Vegiard	19	25
3	11	Ray Miles	Alex Millard
Nanci Gonder	Rebecca Scott	Terry Ruff	26
4	<i>Greg &amp; Sherry Fitzpatrick</i>	Morris Woodruff	Isabella Giles
Danny Stewart	12	<i>Tucker &amp; Lena Lane</i>	27
5	Terry Kulp	20	Landon Schwartz
Virginia Helton	Nina Stewart	Eden Bell	28
<i>Clint &amp; Tami Barrett</i>	13	Fred Cooper	Brian Drake
6	Deanna McKay	Nancy Dunwiddie	Mitzi Snyder
Lena Lane	14	Hunter Peek	29
Erin Lepper	George Burruss	<i>Shaun &amp; Ashley Crisp</i>	Chris Cooley
7	Shirley Jarrett	<i>Greg &amp; Tina Wood</i>	Dominique Harrison
Carol Andris	Keenan Johnson	22	30
Stephen Foutes	Stephanie Ramirez	Elory Crisp	Joy Foster
8	<i>Allen &amp; Marsha Posz</i>	Cole Markway	31
Cooper Sims	15	Kacie Kuebler	Lois Alexander
	Gayla Dunn	Jestine Lange	Larry Link
	Donna Lynch	<i>Charles &amp; Melanie Highland</i>	Judy Nienhueser
	Melanie Markway		Jack Watkins
	<i>Terry &amp; Brenda Ruff</i>		<i>Michael &amp; Sarah Jones</i>



## Mark Your Calendars!

The third annual Sam B. Cook Memorial Organ Concert will take place in our sanctuary on **Sunday, November 14 at 4:00 PM**. Be prepared to be wowed by 33-year-old virtuoso organist Christopher Houlihan who established an international reputation at a young age. The Los Angeles Times hails him for his "glowing, miraculously life-affirming performances." The concert is free! This annual event has proven to be a great gift to the community, so invite your friends to attend with you!

## Church Family Picnic Sunday October 31st

You are invited to a picnic at Riverside Park playground immediately following 2nd service with lunch provided at 12:30 PM. Come hang out with other families and church friends to play, eat, and fellowship before it gets cold. Our Sunday School teachers will be providing an extra special Trunk or Treat for the kids so bring your trick or treat bags and buckets!



Please RSVP to the church office by October 22 so lunch can be planned.

*Christian Formation Committee*



## East School Trunk or Treat

It's time, once again, for all things spooky and fun! We are Partners in Education with East Elementary School and they are having a Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 29th. Everyone is invited to participate by dropping off TREATS in the orange tub outside the church office, no later than Wednesday, October 27th.

If you are feeling extra spooky, you are invited to decorate a trunk and hand out treats at the event. It will be held on the parking lot of East School with setup at 12:45 PM and Trunk or Treating at 1:15PM. Please contact Rev. Sarah or Robin Grumm if you would like to participate!

Any way you choose to participate, you will be making lots of goblins very happy!! Thank you

## Updates from Rev. Alexis

### **Parent and Guardian Faith Conversations Resume Sunday, October 17 at 3 PM**

Erin Lepper, who serves as FCC's Faith Formation Chair, and Rev. Alexis are excited to resume the Parent and Guardian Faith Conversations this Sunday, October 17 from 3-4 PM via Zoom. For October, we'll explore what influenced our understanding of what it means to be a "good parent." We'll then use those reflections to consider how those influences can be used to support our child/ren in their context/s. Parents and guardians can join the Zoom meeting using this special link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83744778126>

Our current plan is to offer these gatherings the third Sunday of every month alongside a time for parents and guardians to stop by for a casual check in with Rev. Alexis the first Tuesday of every month at noon. Those check ins will begin in November.

This schedule is the result of feedback regarding people's availability. If you would like to be part of these conversations but cannot make the time/s they are offered, please email [Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org).

### **Advent Planning: Youth and Family Interest Question**

Advent begins Sunday, November 28. Last year, the opportunity for grand people and grand youth to participate together via Zoom, along with families and members who wanted to participate for a special intergenerational series that crossed state lines was really special and contributed to what have become treasured connections. If you would like your youth in 6th-12th grade to be part of an experience like this, please email [Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org) to express your interest and to share your availability.

If you and your family would like to engage in Advent but in another way, please email Rev. Alexis so that she can keep that in mind as she plans what small group ministry opportunities to make available during the Advent season. She will use that information to develop an upcoming survey with small group options toward the end of this month.

### **Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven**

This week marked the beginning of our latest small group series, Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven. While our current arrangements of three groups are full, please let Rev. Alexis know if you'd like to participate in a group discussion that covers the book *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* by Amy-Jill Levine in late October or early November. You can also read along with us and have access to the handouts and additional material we use.

*More from Alexis on the next page*

## Coffee House Open Office Hours for October

You're invited to stop by during my Open Coffee House Hours on Tuesdays from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM at the Coffee Zone (130 E High Street) for coffee and casual conversation at any point during that time frame on October 5, October 12, October 19, and October 26. As weather and space permits, I plan to be sitting at one of the tables outside. **If it is raining, please check the church's Facebook page for an update;** you can also email me ([Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:Alexis@firstchristianjcmo.org)) or text (217-779-9292) to confirm whether or not I am there if the sky is cloudy.

While RSVP's are not required, it helps to know if you plan to stop by so I can look forward to seeing you.

You can also email me to arrange another time to meet.

*With You on the Journey,  
Alexis*

## Nursery Coordinator/Director

We are looking for someone to carry on the outstanding work that Missy Mann has done for some time (several years?) as Nursery Coordinator/Director. This job would involve keeping the Nursery Room stocked with the products necessary for supervising the children during church and scheduling workers for both services on a Sunday. If individuals are not scheduled for a given service or Sunday, the Coordinator/Director would fill in. This position would be a paid position for four hours per week, and, if the individual needed to fill in for a given service or Sunday, they would be paid for that as well. Applications are being received at this time and should be directed to the attention of Rev. Jim Hill ([jameslesliehill@gmail.com](mailto:jameslesliehill@gmail.com)).

## Thank You!

I don't think there are enough words to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all of you for the prayers (I truly felt every one of them), cards, meals, visits, phone calls, and all around caring I have been given during my surgery and recovery time. Thank you, also, to Rev. Jim, Rev. Sarah, Rev. Alexis, Gretchen and Scott for keeping me in their thoughts and prayers. Thank you to all the wonderful subs who sat in my chair keeping it warm until I returned and helping keep the office going in my absence. And to Barbara Heller who kept the church office rolling for staff and members, Thank You! I so appreciate all you did for all of us!

In gratitude and Christian Love,  
*Kathy*



## Weekly Prayer Call

Every **Wednesday at 9:15 AM** we gather via conference call to share our prayer concerns and our celebrations and to lift them up to God together.

**Call In Phone Number: (716-427-1083)**

**Access Code: 444928**

## Bible Study

Join Rev. Sarah and Rev. Alexis for Bible Study **Wednesdays at noon** in the Activities Room. We discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday.

## Gluten Free Communion

Gluten free communion is available each Sunday in a basket in the back of the Sanctuary. If you need Gluten Free communion bread, you can pick it up with your bulletin when you come in to worship.

## Prayer Shawl Group

Will meet in the gathering area **Monday, October 25th at 1:00 PM.**

## CWF Mary Circle meetings resume

The CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) **Mary Circle will meet on Monday, November 1st at 1:00 PM** in the gathering area. If you have questions, please contact Mary Ann Weaver or Rev. Sarah.

## Children's Sunday School Returns October 10th

Children's Sunday School resumed **October 10th at 9:30 AM.** The class meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays through December. We will be learning more about David through crafts and cooking each month. October will focus on his anointing; November on his encounter with Goliath; and December on his relationship with Saul.

## FCC Connectors Meeting

to be held between services Sunday, October 31st.

# Serving this Month

**1ST SUNDAY**  
**OCT 3**

**820AM**

**ELDER**

Patty Osman  
Bob Priddy

**LITURGIST**

Bob Priddy

**DEACONS**

Marsha Posz  
Kathy Brown  
Venita Jackson

**USHERS**

Doug Hagenhoff  
Milinda Dawson

**COMMUNION PREP**

Virginia Lister

**10:40AM**

**ELDER**

Ann Littlefield  
Laura Avery

**LITURGIST**

Drew Bell

**DEACONS**

Jon Prouty  
Amanda Prouty  
Leigh Love

**USHERS**

Jim Dunwiddie  
Russ Dunwiddie

**2ND SUNDAY**  
**OCT 10**

**820AM**

**ELDER**

Ann Littlefield  
JT Yarnell

**LITURGIST**

Alan Nelson

**DEACONS**

Ken Littlefield  
Nancy Samp  
Linda Ringo

**USHERS**

Joe Payne  
Nike Thompson

**COMMUNION PREP**

Meghan Andrews

**10:40AM**

**ELDER**

Ray Miles  
Cindy Leveron

**LITURGIST**

Joyce Wagner

**DEACONS**

Blair Johnson  
Steven Claycomb  
Barb Gage

**USHERS**

Debi Wells  
Georgia Griffith

**3RD SUNDAY**  
**OCT 17**

**820AM**

**ELDER**

Cecile Landrum  
Stephen Waters

**LITURGIST**

Nancy Samp

**DEACONS**

Lauren Eichelberger  
Chris Lloyd  
Marsha Graham

**USHERS**

Greg Fitzpatrick  
Sherry Fitzpatrick

**COMMUNION PREP**

Karen Shroyer

**10:40AM**

**ELDER**

Wanda King  
Ray Miles

**LITURGIST**

Carolyn Green

**DEACONS**

Missy Mann  
Jessica Bivin  
Shaun Crisp

**USHERS**

Morris Woodruff  
Stephen Foutes

**4TH SUNDAY**  
**OCT 24**

**820AM**

**ELDER**

Cindy Leveron  
Alan Nelson

**LITURGIST**

Sally Robuck

**DEACONS**

Doug Hagenhoff  
Jenny Hagenhoff  
Kathy Cavender

**USHERS**

Kathy Cavender  
Rick Vaughan

**COMMUNION PREP**

Sandy Robinson

**10:40AM**

**ELDER**

Stephen Waters  
Cecile Landrum

**LITURGIST**

Meghan Andrews

**DEACONS**

Stephen Foutes  
Brenda Foutes  
Sherry Anderson

**USHERS**

TBD

**5TH SUNDAY**  
**OCT 31**

**820AM**

**ELDER**

JT Yarnell  
Patty Osman

**LITURGIST**

Bob Priddy

**DEACONS**

Jeanne Nelson  
Tracy McClard  
Nancy Hequembourg

**USHERS**

Kathy Cavender  
Rick Vaughan

**COMMUNION PREP**

Karen Shroyer

**10:40AM**

**ELDER**

Laura Avery  
Melanie Highland

**LITURGIST**

Pat Amick

**DEACONS**

Jeff Moore  
Sally Moore  
Ashley Crisp

**USHERS**

TBD

**INTERIM MINISTER**  
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 Jim@firstchristianjcmo.org

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER**  
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 Sarah@firstchristianjcmo.org

**ASSISTANT MINISTER**  
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**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**  
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 Finance@firstchristianjcmo.org

 Login with Facebook

[facebook.com/fccjcmo](https://facebook.com/fccjcmo)

**AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:**  
 Please contact Rev. Kingsbery at 573-690-2480 **Non-emergency** church-related items after working hours, Monday thru Friday 8AM to 5PM, we have voice mail. Please feel free to call the church (573-636-5157) at any time and leave a message. **NOTE: IF YOU LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE ON FRIDAY (AFTER 5PM), SATURDAY, OR SUNDAY, IT WILL NOT BE CHECKED UNTIL MONDAY MORNING. THANK YOU.**

The next  **Church Bell** will be sent October 27, 2021.  
 (Articles are due by noon the Monday before)



**MOBILE GIVING**  
 -TEXT 4842368 TO 715-803-4772  
 AND FOLLOW THE PROMPTS ON YOUR PHONE

**-DOWNLOAD THE "GIVERS APP"**  
 (FROM CONTINUE TO GIVE)



Zoom Meeting Room meeting ID is **2202286773**.  
 If you need the password, please contact the church office at 573-636-5157 or one of our leaders. To join in on our free conference calls, dial (716) 427-1083 and enter access code 444928.

Please email or call Tina Mollenkamp tinamollenkamp@cgcb.org/573-522-4314), if you would like to be on Common Grounds email newsletter list, regular mailing list, or both. As an alternative, you can also sign up for the email newsletters on our website at [www.cgcb.org](http://www.cgcb.org).



## You may also give online at [firstchristianjcmo.org/donate](http://firstchristianjcmo.org/donate)

### Financial Records and Questions

Questions related to giving and church finances should be sent to Carol Kaylor at [finance@firstchristianjcmo.org](mailto:finance@firstchristianjcmo.org). We have contracted with CALD services, a local accounting firm specializing in religious non-profits, to provide these critical functions.

**Who Are We? We call ourselves Disciples, a community of believers who follow Jesus by *worshiping* God, *growing* in faith, and *serving* all in need. Bound to each other in Christ's love, we discover our life together through *sharing* life with the world.**

WEBSITES YOU NEED TO STAY CONNECTED

Mid-America Updates: <http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/newsletter-signup/>  
 Disciples News Service Updates: <http://disciples.org/dns/subscribe-to-dns/>

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