



Poor People's Campaign

In 2018, I became acquainted with the Poor People's Campaign and began learning about and involving myself with their efforts in Texas. I learned this was a movement that saw itself as continuing the work of Martin Luther King, Jr., that began in earnest in 1968 when it was officially announced. It was only months later that King was assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis as efforts were ramping up to call for a "revolution of values" in America.

Today, the Poor People's Campaign calls for a "Moral Revival" as it continues the unfinished work. The movement rises to confront the evils recognized in systemic poverty, racism and ecological devastation, because all three are intertwined. It also points to the money that is spent to bolster a war economy that impacts what can be done to serve the least and forgotten in our national life.

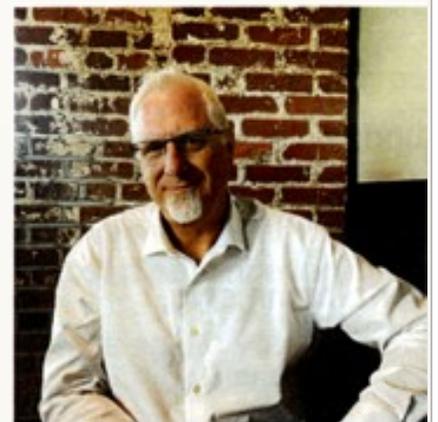
This Saturday, I'll stand with others across the state and urge legislators to consider what they can do to shift the moral narrative to impact policies that will better serve the poor at all levels of government. What I like about the Poor People's Campaign is that it's made up of folks who are both Red and Blue in their political orientations. I like that there's an intentional focus on abundance rather than scarcity. I like their call that systemic poverty can be effectively addressed economically when we come together with a moral vision that advances our most precious Constitutional values. And, I like that it is direct action that seeks ultimately to foster a vision of love, justice and truth that taps the better angels of our nature as a nation.

Last week, I accepted a request for folks from across the state to gather at FCCJCMO. We'll provide coffee and water and offer a place of welcome and warmth, before walking to the capitol by 10:00 AM to deliver a set of urgent, non-partisan agenda items and ask for them to be considered.

Peace,

Michael

Rev. Dr. Michael Dunn



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

As I write this Holy Week is exactly one month away! (Can you believe it?) Plans are well underway for meaningful worship as we gather as a congregation to remember the final week of Jesus' earthly life and resurrection. These services are great opportunities to invite extended family and community friends to join us!

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 8:20 and 10:40

Both worship services will provide an opportunity to wave palm branches and sing hymns often associated with celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Hymns will be accompanied by trumpeters, Dan McClard and Margaret Davis. Special anthems will be shared by the Chancel Choir and a duet by Sandra Troutt and Kent Bemberger.

Between services our annual donkey parade will take place for both children and adults desiring to walk to the Capitol and back. We are hopeful some of our church neighbors will join us once again! Thanks to Terri Lloyd, Christian Formation chair, for coordinating the details.

MAUNDY THURSDAY CANTATA, Mar. 28, 7:00 p.m.

The worship service begins with the Fellowship of the Table, remembering the night Jesus shared His last meal with His disciples, then continues with a Service of Tenebrae, a service of shadows reflecting on some of the final events of Jesus' earthly life and the persons who were a part of those events. Through Word and song and a visual act of confession, we not only remember these events, but acknowledge that we are not unlike those who surrounded Jesus. Our Savior died for *our sins of betrayal, desertion, lethargy, violence, denial, cynicism, irresponsibility, mockery and more.*

The Chancel Choir and guest soloists, accompanied by string quartet, flute, and percussion, will provide several powerfully moving anthems that highlight the drama and deep emotion of that week. If you've never attended one of our Maundy Thursday services, this would be a good year to commit to attending! Experiencing the shadows and darkness of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will no doubt heighten the meaning of Easter for you!

EASTER, Mar. 31, 8:20 and 10:40 a.m.

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior in festival services that proclaim, "The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!" A brass quartet will add to our celebration, as will the Chancel Choir and a soloist in offering joyous anthems. Please join us!





Join us for Dinner and Devotion. The meal will begin at 5:15 with fellowship and food. Beginning at 6:00, there will be a short devotional time. We will wrap up by 6:30. Watch your Friday emails for the link to use for the following Wednesday. Use this link to sign up for meals. Please complete by Sunday so we can accurately plan for food. March 6th's menu will be: turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and desert. This link is for March 6 <https://forms.gle/QvAppktwYwFf8Jst9>

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Common Ground Baby Wipes Drive! We had wonderful participation this year.



2024 Camp Dates

<p>Faith Adventures</p> <p>July 22- 26th - JYF, Chi Rho, and CYF</p> <p>Try It- July 25-26</p> <p>Regional Canoe Camp - TBA</p>	<p>Jo Ota</p> <p>Try It Camp- June 7-8</p> <p>CYF - July 7-13</p> <p>Elem/Jr - July 15-19</p> <p>Chi Rho - July 28-August 2</p> <p>Regional Young Adult (18-24)- Eve of June 24- Morning 27th At Jo Ota</p>	<p>North West</p> <p>Chi Rho- June 29-July 3</p> <p>CYF- July 6-11</p> <p>123 Go- July 13-15</p> <p>Junior - July 17-21</p> <p>Combo (Junior & Chi Rho July 23-27</p>	<p>Our Bodies Our Faith July 28-August 2 at Camp MOVAL</p>  <p>Regional Sons & Fathers Retreat Oct. 11-13 at Shannondale</p>
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Message from our Associate Minister

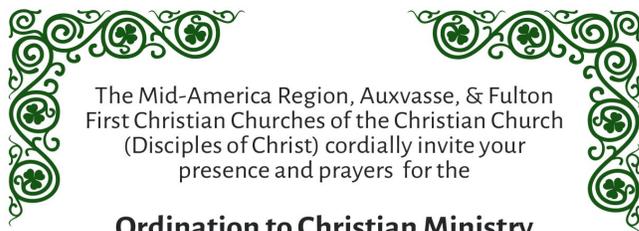
Dear Church Family,

Have you heard that we're going on a Mission Trip in July? I won't say too much, because there is more info about it elsewhere in the Bell, but I did want to mention it here, too! Our trip is through *Be the Neighbor*. We will be visiting Kansas City and working with service partners there, as well as learning more about justice issues from the mission trip staff. Hopefully, we will learn some things that we can bring home and apply in our own neighborhood.

This trip will be Intergenerational. That means folks can attend with their kids who are not quite youth-group-aged. It also means that folks without kids are welcome to attend. (All adults will need to pass a background check.) I'm so excited that this opportunity is open to anyone with interest!

However, this is a small trip. We can only take 18 people, so if you are interested, speak up as soon as possible! Reach out to the church office, Heather, or Michael and we will get you on the list. I'm prayerful that this will be a positive learning and relationship-building experience for those who are able to attend, and even beyond as we bring those lessons back home and share our experience with the whole church.

Peace,
Rev. Heather



The Mid-America Region, Auxvasse, & Fulton
First Christian Churches of the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) cordially invite your
presence and prayers for the

Ordination to Christian Ministry
of

Heather Johnston Patten

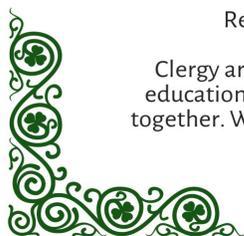
on **March 17, 2024** at **3:00 PM**

at

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
6 E. 7th St.
Fulton, MO 65251

Reception to Follow

Clergy are invited to gather in the
education wing at 2:45 to process in
together. Wear robes and red stoles, if
you wish.



Rev. Heather Patten

Can you help provide candy for our Children's Easter Egg Hunt? If so, please leave wrapped candy at the church office by Thursday, March 14.

Thank you for supporting our children's programs!



Help Fill the Easter Eggs



Attention High School Seniors: Members of FCC are invited to apply for scholarships to advance their education. These opportunities stem from the generous donations made to our Educational Scholarship Fund.

Pick up an application in the church office to get started. Applications are due April 1, 2024.



Join us Palm Sunday, March 24, as we process from FCC down to the Capitol building and back commemorating Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a humble donkey.

We will meet on the front steps to pick up a palm branch by 9:25.

All are welcome.

PALM SUNDAY DONKEY PROCESSION



Sunday, March 24
9:30-10:15 am

Join Us as We
"Parade" to the
Capitol and Back





Easter Lilies are available for purchase. These can be purchased “In Memory” or “In Honor” of your loved ones. Lilies are \$21.95. Please contact the Church Office or complete the form found in the back of the Sanctuary to order.



On March 2, 2024, people around the country will be gathering in state capitals, marching to support the “Poor Peoples Campaign” as they fight poverty in this country. If you would like to be a part of this event, please meet at the Church at 10:00. The group will be speaking up for these issues:

- abolishing poverty as the 4th leading cause of death in the US
- a living wage (\$15+)
- full voting rights
- no more voter suppression
- workers’ rights & labor rights
- healthcare for all
- affordable, adequate housing
- an end to gun violence, profit & proliferation
- clean air & water
- environmental justice
- fully-funded public education
- just immigration laws
- an end to systemic racism, white supremacy





Green Team

Recycling and Plastics

The FCC Green Team will focus early this year on Recycling - how to recycle everything we can and just as importantly, how to cut down on the amount of single-use “recyclables” we produce. You may have seen the recycling stations in our building. Additionally, FCC recycles large amounts of cardboard generated by the food pantry. This is just the beginning. Stay tuned as we expand the program and challenge ourselves as individuals and as a church to be better stewards of the environment.

You also may have noticed that plastics have gained the spotlight recently. And it’s pretty confusing. Not only do we read that plastics aren’t being recycled effectively, but also that as much as 90% of the plastics we use are just not recyclable! How do we determine which are? And if that’s not enough to think about, there are recent reports that micro-plastics and the substances used to produce plastics are found in food packaging like pouches and even cans. Some of these are making it into our food and our bodies, threatening our health. See CR.org/foodplastic for the full report in Consumer Reports.

Over the next few months, the Green Team will bring more information to FCC about the broad issue of recycling - how to determine what is recyclable and how to use less of materials that are not. As a starting point the Consumer Reports article mentioned above has a few suggestions to help keep plastics out of the environment and our bodies -

- Use glass or steel water bottles instead of plastic, single-use bottles
 - Eat more fresh or minimally processed, unpackaged foods
- Use wooden, stainless steel, or silicone kitchen tools to keep plastic residue out of our food
- Avoid fast food because Consumer Reports testing revealed these foods contained some of the highest levels of plastic related chemicals

If you have related resources you’d like us to share, please contact anyone on the Green Team individually or through the FCC office. Working together, we can make a difference.

Worship With Us

Please join us in worship every Sunday morning at 8:20 a.m. or 10:40 a.m. in the sanctuary. The 10:40 a.m. service is also Livestreamed on FaceBook at facebook.com/fccjcmo for those who cannot worship with us in person.

Please Pray for OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Beverly Anderson, close friend of Sharon Gonder
Kathy and Steve Brown
Karla Denny
Sharon Gonder
Brooks Jarrett, brother of Annie Jarrett
Calise Lauf, friend of Sharon Gonder
Cindy Leveron
Greg Maire, fighting cancer
Dan and Sandy Meade, brother and sister-in-law of Mary Ann Weaver
Eva Pratt
Sheri Skalak, Milinda Dawson's roommate
Donald L. Miller-fighting cancer

Our Country and our men and women serving our country.

Please call the office at 573-636-5157 or email at fccjcmooffice@gmail.com if you would like continued prayers for an individual or if an individual can now be removed from the list. Thank you!

UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSIC



***Mar. 3, 8:20 a.m. – The Chancel Choir** sings “Lay Down Your Troubles,” a toe-tapping anthem in the vein of an African-American spiritual. We’ve enjoyed working on this one and hope the congregation will appreciate it as well!

***Mar. 3 worship music – Malone Simmons and Carolyn Green** join FCC’s worship team to lead the congregation in song. To be ready to worship, you may wish to listen to the links of these songs throughout the week:

[Way Maker](#)

[Same God](#)

[Ancient Words](#)

[Come as You Are](#)

***Mar. 10, 8:20 a.m. – Karen Kelley, “Were You There?”**

After several years, we are happy to welcome back Karen Kelley to share her musical gifts with us. Karen is a native of Jefferson City who shared special music with FCC on several occasions throughout her high school and college years. She also was a part of the worship team on many occasions. Karen received her undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in Vocal Performance and then completed her Master of Music in Opera Performance from Arizona State University. The past couple of years she’s made appearances with the Chandler Opera Company as a featured soloist and with the Sarasota and prestigious Santa Fe Opera as an Apprentice Artist. Recently recognized as an Encouragement Award winner in a national competition sponsored by the Metropolitan Opera, Karen has quickly established herself as an up-and-coming artist to watch. Please warmly welcome her back!

2024 Summer Mission Trip

July 21 - 26

Traditionally, we think of Mission Trips as a youth project but, this year we are going to try something a little different. This trip will be Intergenerational, which means people of all ages are invited! Younger children and their parents, older adults, and, of course, teenagers will all be able to participate in this trip.

Our trip will be organized through the “Be the Neighbor” service-learning trip ministry, which is related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. This year, we will be visiting Kansas City, Missouri.

“Kansas City is more a mosaic than a single city, a patchwork with highways, rivers, and historical lines sewn in stories of power and privilege. The metropolitan area encompasses two states and eight counties which are made up of more than one-hundred-sixty unique cities and towns, each with their own culture, politics and identity. With such a broad landscape, “The City of Fountains” is a city flooded with invitations to the work of justice.

Groups who come to Kansas City will join us to answer the question: *With so much need in this world, how do we begin to make a difference?*

Groups that come to KC will come for a “Justice 101: Moving from Service to Justice” experience. Your group will begin on Monday with an all-day service experience in Kansas City’s Historic Northeast with Independence Boulevard Christian Church, Micah Ministry, and Fruition KC. This experience will open your eyes to the realities of economic, housing, and food injustice. Your group will also explore the city’s history of racism, visiting with representatives from various metro Racial and Economic justice coalitions and representatives. Groups will serve with the Refugee and Immigrant Population of Kansas City, and learn about the struggles of the public education system (there are 15 different school districts in the city of Kansas City, MO, alone!). Groups will spend time intentionally thinking about the mosaics that are their hometowns, the lines drawn where they live, and how we can take lines of division and make new and beautiful stories of healing by our collective work for justice.”

Space on this trip is limited to 18 participants. Adults will need a background check to participate. The registration fee is \$350 per person which includes housing in a local church and two meals per day. Scholarships will be available to help cover the cost of registration and evening meals.

Contact the church office to let us know you are interested!

Can't attend but still want to help?

Sponsorship Opportunities

\$350-covers 1 person’s registration

\$25-covers 1 person’s dinner 1 night

\$450-covers dinner for the whole group 1 night

\$105 covers mileage one way

Any other amount is welcome and happily received!

Donations accepted in the offering plate or the Church Office.



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Karen and Keith West 3/3

Allison and Michael Lauf 3/7

Cindy and Max Cook 3/10

Alan and Jeanne Nelson 3/11

Judy and Rick Naught 3/20

Ray and Wendy Miles 3/28



MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

Grayson Moore	1	Sharon Fockler	19
David Love	1	Katelyn Rush	19
Ceaser Scott	1	Michael Helton	20
Hollis Dunn	2	Lindsey Ruff	20
Sue Steppelman	3	Joy Powers	20
Lilith Jones	3	John Sigler	20
Beth Nolte	4	Lawrence Neill	21
Ricky Brown	4	Gabriel Gonder	22
Barbara Mosley	4	Michelle Sheppard	22
Alicea Mullen	5	Gemma Penn	22
Marissa King	6	John Blosser	23
Cash Fishback	6	Katherine Gonder	23
Quinnley Frye	6	Susan Avery	23
Ruth Veltrop	7	Rebecca LaRock	23
Wilma Collins	8	Sonya Cooley	24
Barb Gage	8	Douglas Dunwiddie	26
James Morris	9	Kelly Verslues	26
Phoenix Gilpin	11	Megan Ochoa	28
Patricia King	12	Keith West	28
Richard Vaughan	14	Breanne Gibson	28
Brett Kuebler	15	Rebecca McClain-Sims	29
Lily Gregory	16	Jeanea Foley	29
Emelyn McClain	17		
Brooke Hagenhoff	17		
Debi Wells	18		

Our Members in Care Centers

HEISINGER-1002 WEST MAIN JC MO 65109

HOLLIS DUNN
SHIRLEY FERGUSON
BARBARA NIKODYN

ST JOSEPH BLUFFS-1002 W MAIN JCMO 65109

KAY NEWBERRY

JC MANOR- 1720 VIETH DR. JC MO 65109

JACKIE POSSINGER

LENOIR WOODS 3710 LENOIR ST.

COLUMBIA MO 65201
MARILYN BIESEMEYER

PRIMROSE RETIREMENT

1214 FREEDOM BLVD JC MO 65109

WENDELL & MYRA HUBBS
JOHN H. BENNETT

OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

MARIAM CRADDOCK, 640 Murphy's Ford Road,
Centertown, MO 65023

OUR OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS

BETTY SCHRAMM,
6335 Maurer Rd. Shawnee, KS 66217
BETTY SCHULTE, 13458 Burgess,

Riley Township MI 48041

OPAL ELAINE WEST

Brookdale Rosehill Skilled Nursing,
Room 115, 12809 Johnson Drive,
Shawnee, KS 66216

EVA PRATT

3251 Pine Tree Dr., Columbia, MO 65201



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AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:
Please contact Rev. Michael Dunn at
713-447-5954.

For non-emergency church-related items after working hours, Monday thru Thursday, 8AM to 5PM, we have an answering machine. 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, SATURDAY, OR SUNDAY, IT WILL NOT BE CHECKED UNTIL MONDAY MORNING. THANK YOU.



The next **Church Bell** will be sent March 13 2024.
(Articles are due by noon the Friday 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: tinamolenkamp@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 their website at www.cgcb.org.



Who Are We? We call ourselves Disciples,
a community of believers who follow Jesus by Worshiping God,
Growing in Faith, Serving our Community.
Bound to each other in Christ's love,
we discover our life together through *sharing* life with the world.

You may give online at firstchristianjcmo.org/donate

THANK YOU

First Christian Church supports and welcomes the wearing of masks at your own comfort level.

WEBSITES YOU NEED TO STAY CONNECTED

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

"The Church Bell" (UPS 110-580) by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Jefferson City, Missouri, is published bi-weekly and there is no issue the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Periodicals paid at Jefferson City, Missouri. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Editor/Church Secretary, First Christian Church, 327 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.