

The Church Bell

April 10 2024
VOL. 30, ISSUE 7



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

Gospel Medicine

On the first Sunday after Easter, the church often encounters the story of the disciples gathered together after the resurrection. (John 20.) After Mary Magdalene informs them on Easter Sunday that the stone was rolled away, the disciples run immediately to the tomb as fast as they can. Indeed the stone was gone, and they found the tomb was empty. They were sure that the authorities had taken Jesus' body, a final desecrating insult.

Do you remember what the disciples do after the resurrection? Leaving Mary weeping beside the empty tomb, the disciples make their way back to the Upper Room where they had the Last Supper with Jesus. We find them after the resurrection together and huddled behind a locked door, afraid that the authorities are coming for them next, and sure that it's only a matter of time before they'll be arrested and tried as co-conspirators who deserve the same sentence of crucifixion.

It's no fun to be afraid. To sit in your fear waiting for the hammer to drop, is it? I imagine everyone has known situations that felt like this.

Afraid while the medical test results return with news.

Afraid when your spouse tells you that things aren't working and maybe a divorce is the answer.

Afraid of having to face the consequences of actions that have wounded someone deeply and caused someone's pain.

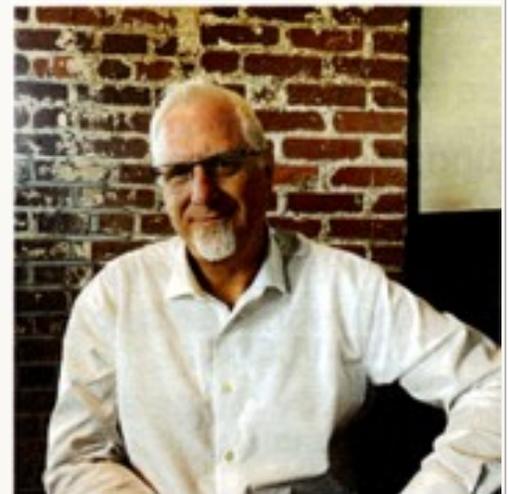
Barbara Brown Taylor has a collection of sermons bound in a book by the same title, *Gospel Medicine*. In it she draws attention to Luke, the gospel writer. It might be said that Luke never resigned his job as a physician healer. He just exchanged medicines. Instead of prescribing herbs and spices, hot compresses and bed rest, he told stories with power to mend broken lives and revive faint hearts. He uses gospel medicine that works strangely through words.

For the next several weeks leading up to Pentecost, I want us to think about Gospel Medicine. We'll look at some of our common ailments. Ailments such as abandonment, broken promises, greed and over-consumption, loneliness and absence, and the constant threat of judgment and the apocalypse. Gospel medicine is about the healing power of God that is seen in the ongoing restoration of a broken world. Through Old and New Testament stories we'll see the power to mend our hearts, strengthen our weaknesses, and restore us to wholeness.

Peace,

Michael

Rev. Dr. Michael Dunn



Mission JC 2024



MISSION JC is a morning of worship through service. On the last Sunday of April, churches join together to give back to our community through various service projects. There are a wide variety of projects for people to help with so everyone can find a way to serve our community. Follow this link to sign up for Mission JC 2024.

<https://www.missionjc.org/volunteer.html>

Housing the Community Jefferson City



FCC is matching up to \$50,000 towards this program until May 5. Please consider making a donation and be sure it is marked as HCJC. Thank you!

There will only be 1 service on Earth Sunday, April 21 at 10:00. There will be a meal provided after the service. No Children or Youth Sunday School or Youth Group that night.



Administrative Board and Elders
Retreat April 23, 2024
6:00-7:45 PM

We meet in the library every Wednesday at Noon for one hour. We study the scripture that either Michael or Heather will be preaching on that next Sunday. They leave hints ("teasers") as to what they want to say in their sermon. We spend our time together "unpacking" the reading, discuss what it means to us, share what ideas emerge while we're reading, and learn the background behind the text and how it fits in the Bible, etc. The students in this class offer some wonderful commentary and ask some great questions!! We have plenty of room for new students!



dinner &
DEVOTION

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.** Please complete by Sunday so we can accurately plan for food.

Spring Cleaning

Saturday, April 27

Morning Session: 9:00 – 12:00

Lunch: 12:00

Afternoon Session: 1:00 – 3:00

SIGN UP TO HELP

Sign up at the church or online at: <https://forms.gle/3eHdQv1ujNoPjmA66>



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](https://www.facebook.com/fccjcmo) for those who cannot worship with us in person.



Occasionally, as you know, there are Sundays when assigned elders have to back out last minute due to emergencies. Please notify me if you might be willing to step in when no other "on-term" elder is present. I keep thinking that once you are an elder, you're always an elder, even if you are not serving a term at the moment. If you are willing, we'll add your name to a separate elder list and leave it with the sound booth. Meanwhile, the sound booth has a copy of "Echoes from the Table" if you need help constructing a prayer last minute.

Thank you. David Avery, elder chair

Message from our Associate Minister

Dear FCC JCMO family,

One of the things I'm called to think about in my service to this congregation is "connection." I think of that in terms of building relationships and strengthening the sense of community we share. Along that line of thought, this morning I started a book entitled *Called to Community: The Life Jesus Wants for His People*. Immediately, I was greeted with a shocking and intriguing (to me) thought. In the book's foreword, Stanley Hauerwas begins by saying, "Community is dangerous." He elaborates that, in our social order, we "often confuse community with being in a crowd. And crowds are intrinsically dangerous."

For Hauerwas, the thing that differentiates a crowd from a community is whether or not they share a "common story" and "corresponding judgments about what is true, good, and beautiful." This is a perfect starting point, I think, as we think about what makes us a *community of faith, rather than just a crowd of people*. *What is our "common story?" What story brought us together and how does that story inform what we believe to be "true, good, and beautiful?"*

The obvious answer is, of course, the story of Jesus of Nazareth, whom we believe to be the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and whom we proclaim to be Lord and Savior of the world. His story is the one that shapes our identity and our actions. His story helps us find meaning and make sense of our own stories. His story helps us decide together what we believe is true, good, and beautiful. His story, the Gospel (good news!) story of God's great love for the world is what makes us a community.

As disciples, we don't just *believe his story, we become part of it*. *Isn't that cool? We get to be an active part of the story God has been writing since time began! How do you make the most of your part in the common story we share as a community of faith? As always, I'd love to hear your thoughts!*

Love & light,
Rev. Heather



East School Mentoring Success Story

I met T as part of the East School Mentoring program when she was in kindergarten. She was a shy little girl who loved putting puzzles together and playing games. We transitioned to the Big Brothers Big Sisters program when she entered Middle School. She has since graduated from high school. We are no longer in the BBBS program but still remain in contact and see each other monthly. I am so blessed to have her in my life. She has grown into a lovely, caring young woman, so proud! —-Vivian Murphy



Summer Camp Information



It's time to register for summer church camps! The Church will pay for half of the camp fees for each camper from our congregation. The region has some scholarships available for campers in need. Don't let money be a reason for not attending camp.

We are in the NEOLA/MUP Region and our campers attend Camp Jo Ota in Clarence, MO.

Try-It Camp (Ages 4-Completed Grade 1)

Adult Must Attend with Child

June 7-9

\$225 (includes adult and child)

Elementary Camp (Completed Grades 2-3)

July 15-17, 2024

\$185 per camper

Junior Camp (Completed Grades 4-

5) July 15-19, 2024

\$335 per camper

Chi-Rho Camp (Completed Grades 6-

8) July 28 - August 2, 2024

\$375 per camper

CYF Camp (Completed Grades 9-

12) July 8-13, 2024

\$375 per camper

Online Registration - <https://midamericaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/neola-reg-options>

Scholarship Information - <https://midamericaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/scholarship-info>

Apply by May 15 to hold your scholarship.

Our Bodies, Our Faith (Completed Grade 8-9)

July 28-August 2, 2024

\$385

Camp MOVAL

Online Registration: <https://midamericaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/our-bodies-our-faith>

Canoe Camp - (Grades 6-12)

July 14-18, 2024

\$280

Location: Shannondale - Current River

Online Registration - <https://midamericaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/canoe-camp-1>

Regional Young Adult Event

June 24 - 27, 2024

\$185

Online Registration - <https://midamericaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/young-adult-camp-at-joota>

After you register your child, please contact the church office at 636-5157 or fccjcmooffice@gmail.com and let them know the following information.

- Child's name
- Grade in school
- Which camp they are attending

Attendance Reminder

Please Sign the attendance pad during the service. We want to know you were here! Print your name and address neatly be sure to include the date and service you attended!

REMINDER!!

For the safety and security of the building and all inside, we ask that you DO NOT prop open doors at any time! This leaves the building wide open for anyone to come in unnoticed. We also ask that you only enter and exit through the front door or the parking garage doors.

If you are having an event and need a door unlocked for it, just let someone in the Church Office know and we can program the doors to be unlocked for your event.

Thank you for helping keep our people and building safe!





Green Team

Earth Sunday is coming!

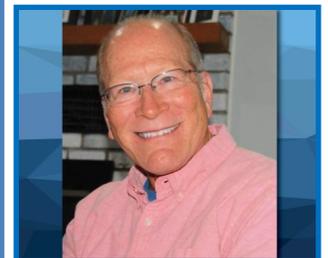
Join us for one service on April 21 at 10 a.m. to celebrate God's creation and have a conversation about what we can do to care for that creation. A meal will follow after the service.

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.

The Green Team invites you to join together with the members of The First Baptist Church for a night of discussion about how religion and ecology can work together.

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH is a photo exhibit by Dr. Cliff Cain and it will on display at First Baptist Church from April 21-May 19. Dr. Cain will be giving a presentation on Monday April 22 at 6:30 titled "Biblical Reasons to be a Good Steward."

Dr. Cain is an ordained minister and his areas of expertise include contemporary Christian thought, religion and ecology. He is the author of 11 books, several on the conversation between science and religion, as well as the interface between world religions and ecology.



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 –moved to Landmark Critical Care in Columbia
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
PK Karrenbrock, granddaughter of a long time co-worker of Bobbi Enslens at Central Bank.
Trudy McGill
Patty Osman
Wilma Collins
Pat Amick
Kelly and Autumn Leveron
Kenny Holtgrewe-Marsha Posz's father

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!



Our Members in Care Centers

HEISINGER-1002 WEST MAIN JC MO 65109

HOLLIS DUNN
SHIRLEY FERGUSON
BARBARA NIKODYN

JC MANOR- 1720 VIETH DR. JC MO 65109

JACKIE POSSINGER
KATHY BROWN –ROOM 8

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



April Birthdays

Braden Millard	1	Nikole Peek	12	Gene Enslen	22
Sid Belshe	3	Unique Harrison	13	Greg Wood	22
Meghan Andrews	4	Roxie Hawkins	13	Darlene Charles	23
Tyler Fishback	4	Ryan Mullen	13	Amy Jones	23
Ira Patten	4	Bobbi Enslen	14	Ed Powers	23
Noah Schwartz	4	Kelly Leveron	14	Charles Highland	26
Patty Osman	5	Bailey Barnett	16	Judy Naught	28
Lyric Kroeger	7	Seth Huedepohl	16	Heather Patten	28
Pat Amick	8	Vivian Murphy	17	Eva Pratt	30
Jim Jones	10	Nancy Priddy	17	Betty Schramm	30
Joe Payne	10	Tom Rackers	17		
Heather Giles	12	John Bennett	18		
Reid Millard	12	Amanda Prouty	18		



This pink rose is to celebrate the birth of Allie Mae Andrews! Proud parents are Meghan and Joe Andrews. Proud grandparents are Jenny and Doug Hagenhoff.

April Anniversaries

Jon & Linda Martin April 3

Deanna & Hugh McKay April 12

Steve & Pat Amick April 18

Doug & Jennifer Hagenhoff April 22

Ruth & Leon Veltrop April 24

Michael & Cathy Crocker April 26

SENIOR MINISTER
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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 April 24, 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/>

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