

The Church Bell

April 24 2024
VOL. 30, ISSUE 8



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

Come and See

I'm sitting outside High Rise Bakery on High Street in a cool wind, but the sun is also shining, which warms me just enough. It's Wednesday. I'm waiting for someone.

I'm remembering a book written by Thomas Friedman, correspondent for *The New York Times*, entitled *"Thanks for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide for Thriving in an Age of Acceleration."* Friedman shares one of his long-standing habits of being early to meet someone. Being early gave him time to sit, breathe and collect himself. A moment of intentional calm before someone he was meeting arrived. It actually made him grateful for the person running late, because it gave him that much more time to be in that space.

Tonight is Wednesday Devotions and Rev. Heather will be leading. Isn't it super to have Heather in the mix? All of us staff who were already here think how great it is to have her around. Her contributions have advanced conversations and have set new directions in positive ways. We were missing a critical piece, which Sharyl now fills to organize, support, push and pull as our Office Administrator. It's gratifying to see a working team come together in the work of ministry.

"Come and see what the Lord has done. The amazing things he has done on the earth."

Tomorrow at noon, the group reading a book together, *"The Kingdom, the Power and the Glory: American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism"*, by Tim Alberta, will come together to dialogue about its themes and topics and ideas. And we'll allow the Spirit to work in all our reflections, and to help heal, restore, and make us whole. I say "dialogue" because it implies listening as much as talking. Listening in the sense of the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: "O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be understood as to understand."

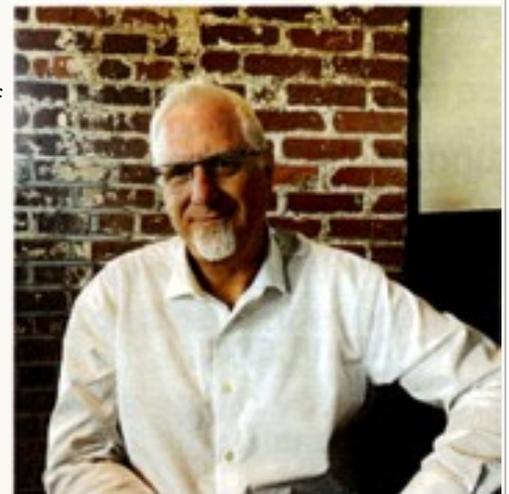
Alberta's book sheds light on the question, "What's wrong with American evangelicals" who seem so willing to embrace a Christian Nationalism despite its clear commitment to put America as a nation on par with God. This is a good question to explore right now, as we continue to think and pray about who we are as disciples of Christ and how that calls us followers of Jesus to show up in this "right now." Our ultimate (*and I mean ultimate!*) *allegiance and guide is to the Jesus we know and follow through our baptisms. Jesus who is risen and everywhere to be experienced.*

Anyone can come on Thursdays at noon. You don't have to have read the chapters to meaningfully receive and share, to learn and understand. The most important way to show up is to be open to the Spirit of the Lord.

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!



Just a little update about one of our greatest missions—**The Food Pantry!**

Founded in 1975 by Betty Glosser, Connie Hubble and Nancy Priddy (who was also its first Coordinator), the pantry has also had Nike and Callie Thompson, Jewel Quinn, Jim and JoAnn Roberts, Bob and Dean Weidler and Morris and Denise Woodruff, just to name a few of the dedicated volunteers who made this mission possible. As our pantry approaches its 50th birthday, we thank God for those who have made this mission possible.

There are some items we never seem to have enough of...**boxed macaroni and cheese and ramen noodles**. Please consider grabbing a few of these as you are doing your shopping. They can be dropped off at the Church Office.

News from the Property Committee:

Clean up day is set for April 27. Please sign up to help on that day.

If there are issues you see that need to be repaired, cleaned or need attention, please let someone on the committee know so it can be addressed.

Please continue to recycle your papers, cans etc. We ask that you not put liquid into the trash cans.



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 NOON on Tuesday 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.

Meet Rev. Alexis!

Rev. Alexis Engelbrecht's passion for delving into and making use of scripture in life-giving, liberating, and loving ways influences her role as Minister of Online Faith Formation and Public Theological Learning Experiences for First Christian Church of Jefferson City. Experiences in education, writing, worship, membership engagement, leadership development, youth ministry, small group ministry, solo ministry, and chaplaincy inform how she supports the work of the Church.

Rev. Alexis graduated with a Master of Divinity from Phillips Theological Seminary with high honors in December of 2020. First Christian Church of Jefferson City hosted her ordination in March of 2022 and continues to be a community she loves and is honored to be part of in ways that exceed geographic boundaries. She is currently earning her Doctor of Ministry.

If you have questions or would like to be in touch with Rev. Alexis, you may email her at: alexisatfcc@gmail.com.



Message from our Associate Minister

Dear Church family,

The school year is quickly drawing to a close and many of us find our thoughts turning to summer. Warmer weather is just around the corner and with those warmer temperatures, hopefully, everyone will find some time to relax and unwind. One of my favorite ways to do that is by getting outdoors and spending some time in nature. There is just something so therapeutic and grounding about just being among the trees and near the water!

I think that's why I feel it's so important to encourage our young people to attend camp. Camp allows kids and youth to experience what it's like to live in an intentional community with other Christians for a week. It is an opportunity to unplug from screens and get away from the "regular world" for a while. I've noticed that while my teens have been hesitant to give up their phones at the beginning of the week, by the end they're glad they did. It's amazing how much more relaxed I have felt when I've chosen to go without digital distractions for a while. It's so much easier to hear from our Good Shepherd and to feel in touch with the presence of God, when you are able to spend some time away.

If you have a young person in your life that would benefit from a week at church camp, please reach out to me. I would love to help get them on their way. Don't forget about yourselves, too. Even if camping isn't your thing, I hope you find some time this summer to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Those green pastures and still waters really do restore our souls!

Love you,
Rev. Heather



Gather up your coins and loose change. Sunday, April 28 is Noisy Offering. This month's Noisy Offering is designated for our local Habitat for Humanity chapter. Your donations will help provide housing for Jefferson City residents. "Quiet Money" is also ac-

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

MUSIC and WORSHIP NOTES

THANK YOU to members of the Green Team who planned last Sunday's worship. Clearly much thought was given to the service and each part was well executed. Of course, I am especially grateful for the special music shared by both the Jubilant Sound Handbells and the Chancel Choir. It was a great morning as we came together for one service. The Spirit was evident!

UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSIC:

***April 28, 8:20 a.m.** – John Howland will offer special music for the first time at FCC. John and his wife, Debbie, visited FCC a couple months ago and have been attending regularly ever since. John almost immediately joined both the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir where his contributions have not gone unnoticed. If you've not yet met John and Debbie, please reach out this Sunday to welcome them to our church family!

***May 5, 8:20 a.m.** – Chancel Choir, under the direction of Terri Lloyd during my absence, will sing Mary McDonald's "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." This anthem quotes the familiar hymn text set to newly composed music and a snippet of the familiar hymn tune. The chorus shares this comforting message --

*"Greater love has no other than Jesus,
who has laid down His life for His friends.
He will never leave us or forsake us;
He'll be with us to the end."*

***May 5, 10:40** – FCC Kids have been learning a song that they will be sharing as a part of the Moment for Young People, perhaps with a little help from our worship team. Thanks so much to Terri Lloyd for her leadership as Christian Formation chair. It's been a very long time since we had children sing together in worship, so this will be a treat no matter what!

THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED to the Memorial Day concert by Jefferson City Community Band which has taken place in our sanctuary for quite a number of years. This year's concert is titled, "Remember and Honor." A highlight each year is the recognition of service members of each branch of the armed forces in a special musical tribute. Please join us for this special event May 27 at 2:00 p.m.



Do you have a High School or College student graduating in 2024? We would like to recognize them at an upcoming church service. We would like to know if they are graduating from high school or college and what their plans are for after graduation. Please let the Church Office know.



Green Team

A Prayer for the Environment

God of love,
we praise you for the magnificence of creation.

We marvel at both its grandeur
and the intricacies of its smallest microscopic life forms.
As we reflect on the creation, help us to take in its true
significance.

This is your work in which you have invested deeply of
yourself.

It is the costly outpouring of your creativity.
So, we ask you to instill in us a proper reverence for all
that you have made - a genuine respect for all
environments and all creatures.

Lord, we are in awe of the formidable power of nature,
but, in these times, may we also come to comprehend its
complex fragility.

Amen.

- Reverend Prebendary Mark Geldard

If you did not get a chance to complete the Green Team survey on Sunday, here is a link to complete it online. If you already did it, you don't need to do it again. <https://forms.gle/e3er1jkLd3tKVnUc8>

Please Pray for OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Beverly Anderson, close friend of Sharon Gonder
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's Family
Patty Osman
Wilma Collins
Pat Amick
Kelly and Autumn Leveron
Kenny Holtgrewe-Marsha Posz's father
Joyce Meade-chemo
John Blosser



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

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

MISSION TRIP 2024

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

DONATIONS ACCEPTED IN OFFERING PLATE OR LEFT IN OFFICE. DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE GIVEN ONLINE, JUST DESIGNATE IT FOR THE MISSION TRIP.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Joseph and Susan Johnston

Joe and Suzy Johnston come to FCC JCMO by transfer of membership from Auxvasse Christian Church. They live in Fulton and are both retired; Joe from the VA Hospital and Suzy from the State Court System. After their retirement, Joe spent a few years playing Santa in professional and volunteer settings. Suzy has also been known to volunteer her services as Mrs. Claus. Currently, their main occupation is caring for a lovable and goofy Golden Retriever named Jethro. They also happen to be Rev. Heather's parents!

Allie Claycomb

We are happy to welcome Allie Claycomb as a new member of First Christian! Allie came forward on Sunday April 7. Allie mentioned that several folks thought she was already a member of the church, since she has been so involved and supportive over a long time. It's something she has thought about for some time, and something in the moment led her to come forward. It's kind of like saying out loud what already was; and we're glad to say it out for all to hear and see. We are so grateful for her responsive spirit. Allie likes being outdoors, working in their family's cut-flower farm, raising her two daughters Scout and Arden. Allie is married to Stephen who has been a long time member of FCC.

Welcome
**Joseph & Susan
 Johnston**

Welcome
Allie Claycomb

May Birthdays

Jon Beetem	1	Gail Watkins	11	Tracy McClard	23
Miranda Fishback	3	Paige Nolte	15	Chris Sheppard	23
Shane McClain	3	Alice Durbin	17	Charlotte Middleton	27
Theres Shannon	3	Rebecca Frye	18	Kathy Speidel	28
Kurtis Villafane	3	Sydney Foutes	19	Peggy Veatch	28
Jenny Hagenhoff	4	Barb Lehmer	19	Larissa Jackson	29
Juanita Dietle	7	Blake Snyder	20	Bob Robuck	29
Rylee Gonder	8	Lyric Johnson	21	Molly Miller	30
Jon Alexander	9	Allie Claycomb	22	Craig Giles	31
Steven Ramirez	9	Julie Jordan	23		
		Grace Lepper	23		

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Sign up at Church Office



CARNIVAL
April 26, 2024
5-7 pm
East Elementary School



PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

May Anniversaries

Alicea & Richard Mullen-May 2

Craig & Heather Giles-May 12

Barbara & John Kuebler- May 15

Otis & Dorothy (Dot) Baker-May 16

Rochelle & David Reeves-May 22

Mark & Jana Millard-May 24

Vivian & Robert (Bob) Murphy-May 25

Kathy & Russ Dunwiddie-May 30

Michael & Dawn Dunn-May 31

Nike & Callie Thompson-May 31

SENIOR MINISTER
Rev. Dr. Michael Dunn
pastor@firstchristianjcmo.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER
Rev. Heather Patten
heather.fccjcmo@gmail.com
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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Phone: 573-636-5157
firstchristianjcmo.org



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 **May 8 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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