



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Disciples of Christ

Welcoming All. Encountering Christ. Celebrating Community.

SEPTEMBER 2019

JAMAICA SUNDAY—SEPTEMBER 29TH

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STATEMENT OF MISSION

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is called to witness to all humankind with a spiritual vitality that embraces inclusiveness and Christ-like justice. Therefore, we seek to be a community that **reaches in** to one another, **reaches up** to God, and **reaches out** to the world with the love of Jesus Christ.

The annual Jamaica mission trip will be from October 30-November 7. Many of our members have participated in this mission experience over the years. We join the Nebraska City United Methodist Church mission team, headed by Dr. Dean Thomson (Don Thomson's brother). The primary purpose of this mission outreach is to staff the medical clinic owned by the Methodist Church in Falmouth, Jamaica. The clinic sees over 100 patients per day. However, there are always other team members, like Linda Jones, who help with construction projects. The money raised for this trip goes a long way in purchasing materials to help with projects at the All Age School, a local Pre-School for lower income families, and the Infirmary – nursing home facility for disabled or abandoned elderly people. Lodging is at the dormitory at the church. Meals are cooked each day in the church kitchen. The Jamaica Dinner on September 29 will be similar to what we eat in Jamaica...jerk seasoned chicken, rice and beans, fresh veg's and fruits, slaw and cookies. Come on the 29th and hear about the Jamaica mission experience and stay for lunch! A free will offering is suggested to help purchase project supplies.



Jamaica Mission Trip is all about constructive projects and excellent fellowship. What a joy to celebrate and support and celebrate this ministry!



Pre-School Kids



Infirmary at Falmouth

FROM BEN.....



During the summer we took some time to ponder our logo tagline: *Welcoming All, Encountering Christ, and Celebrating Community*. It has been an exciting 3 months since moving into our new building. I noticed this morning that my office still has that “*new construction*” smell. It doesn’t take long after buying a new car, moving into a new home, trying on new clothes, or tasting a new menu item before the new smell, space, sights, sounds, and tastes loses its luster a bit. It all becomes a bit too familiar and a little bit of dust and dirt doesn’t bother us like it used to.

During my prayer at the Ribbon Cutting last Sunday (Aug. 18) I prayed that we would not just dedicate the building to God’s work in the world, but that we would re-dedicate ourselves. This beautiful building is a tool dependent upon the dedication of the workers to practice their craft with joy, creativity, and generosity. And so we begin with welcoming all and creating a culture of hospitality and welcome worthy of the name Christian.

I challenge FCC to begin intentional practices of getting to know each other’s names. Here are a few ideas to help us accomplish this: **1)** Write down the name of someone you don’t know (during greeting time or before or after service) and pray for that person all week. The next time you see them at church, greet them by name and tell them you’ve been praying for them. You can also send them a card or email with an encouraging word. **2)** Invite someone out to lunch after service or meet them for coffee or dinner sometime during the week. Get to know their story and share your story with them. I can’t think of a better way for us to make an impression on new visitors than to be intentional about learning their names. To know the names of guests and strangers in our midst is to know the name of Christ. Let us never grow weary of doing good.

Grace & Peace, *Ben*

PASTORAL INTERNSHIP

Hello faith friends! As I enter the final stretch of my seminary journey I am beginning a Supervised Year in Ministry. What does this mean?

I will be serving First Christian 10-15 hours a week working on professional goals such as worship, pastoral care, and outreach. Basically you’ll be seeing a bit more of me around the church. I would like to thank Pastor Ben, Mickey Bogart, Rose Carter, Cindy Garwick, and Paula Hardin for serving as my on-site reflectors. They will evaluate and give feedback on a regular basis with me. Additionally, Pastor Caela Simmons Wood from First Congregational United Church of Christ will be serving as my mentor.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the congregation. You have taken me in to the church family, and have encouraged me to grow not only as a student but as a Christian.

Peace and Love,
Lukus Ebert



CHURCH NEWS



Sunday, September 29th

Congregational Meeting following worship

After our meetings, we'll all enjoy the
Jamaican Mission Meal
in Fellowship Hall!

Dedication Sunday August 18th,
Ribbon Cutting

From left to right Ben & Carol Duerfeldt, representing the congregation, Leonard Purvis, Trustee, Richard Gallagher, Building Committee, Ruby Brower, Coordinating Council Chair, Pastor Ben, Ashley VanGilder, CE Director, Robert Russell, Boy Scouts, Cassie Anderson, From Cradles to Crayons Childcare Director, Wayne Sloan, BHS Construction. Not pictured Rick Reisinger, Disciples Church Extension.



Ruby Brower's granddaughters, Claire and Jenna Brower, assisting at the Ribbon Cutting.



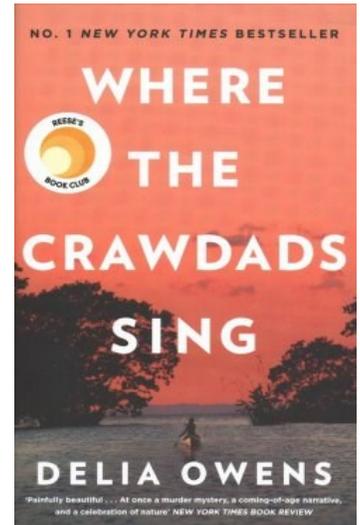
Charades Barbershop Quartet performing at a Friday Night Open House. From left to right Ken Garwick, Steve McKenzie, Leonard Purvis, and Tom Fish.

CHURCH NEWS

MONDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

Fall Book Study, for both men and women, begins September 9. The book study is open to all who enjoy reading and discussing themes and issues of the book. Invite your friends as well. The group will meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m.

The book this fall will be *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. It has been #1 on the New York Times Bestseller list for 15 weeks this year. The New York Times Book Review describes it as “painfully beautiful...At once a murder mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature.” *Where the Crawdads Sing*, a 2018 novel, describes the life and adventures of a young girl named Kya (the Marsh Girl) in the swamps of North Carolina. From *People Magazine*: Steeped in the rhythms and shadows of the coastal marshes of North Carolina’s Outer Banks, this fierce and hauntingly beautiful novel centers on ... Kya’s heartbreaking story of learning to trust human connections, intertwined with a gripping murder mystery, revealing savage truths.



Discussion questions to be used for the book are available at Litlovers.com. Facilitator of the book study is Mickey Bogart; contact her for additional information/questions. (mickeybogart@gmail.com)



Sunday, September 8th, 2019
In Fellowship Hall
following the worship service

Parents, guardians, leaders, and youth in grades 6-12 are invited.

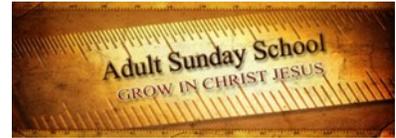
We will enjoy lunch together, reminisce about past youth group experiences, and envision the future of TRUTH Youth Group

CHURCH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School classes resumed on August 25.

Discipleship Sunday School Class: meets in the conference room at 9:30am and continues a study of Professor Bart Ehrman's "The Historical Jesus." If you haven't been attending Professor Ehrman's DVD lectures you will be brought up to date very quickly.



Always Questioning Sunday School Class: this informal class meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am studying Carolyn Helsel's book "Anxious to Talk About It; Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism". If you haven't come previously, don't worry about it. You aren't expected to have read the material in advance, and copies will be available each week.

Please feel welcome to drop in on these class conversations at any time.

THANK YOU FROM ECUMENICAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

We truly appreciate your thoughtful contribution of \$3034 to ECM. Thanks to your generosity we can continue to provide our student run programming. We are looking forward to the fall and launching our Adventure Club as well as continuing with our very successful Real Food Lunch program. Not only is programming important to ECM, but so is having an invested Board of Directors. We are thrilled to have Ruth Dyer, Ann Foster, and JT VanGilder on our board. They contribute meaningful guidance and support. We are so excited to be able to provide a variety of programs to meet the needs of our diverse student body. We are grateful to have continued partnership with First Christian and are looking forward to the future with the church. Join us for one of our events! We also encourage you to sign up for our e-newsletter at ecmksu@gmail.com.

Rev. Christian Watkins, Campus Pastor



When you order from Amazon, 5% of that order can be credited to ECM through the Amazon Smile program. Go to smile.amazon.com and sign up for EMC. It is a simple procedure!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

SHARON DOUTHIT

Sharon Douthit is pleased to join FCC after attending a number of weeks. Her first Sunday was the first worship service at 3001 Grand Mere Parkway. Sharon lived in Ogden a number of years and was previously a member of Ogden Bible Church where Pastor Ben's father is the minister. Sharon moved to Manhattan about 4 years ago because of her husband's health. After he died, Sharon made the decision to stay in Manhattan. FCC member Paula Hardin is a good friend, and in fact they live in the same apartment complex.

Sharon grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Manhattan High School in 1969. Over the years she has worked in retail and in restaurants. She has adult children who live in the area, a son who lives in North Carolina, and 10 grandchildren!

Sharon appreciated the warm welcome she has received at First Christian, and now she's going to be part of that welcome, having volunteered to serve as a Greeter!



ERIC & BARB KING

Barb and Eric are both originally from Winfield, Kansas and have been married for 47 years.

They have a son, daughter and eight grandchildren. Their daughter and family live in Junction City and their son and his family are in Hoyt.

Barb retired in September 2018 after 29 years as a Nurse Manager of several Pre-Op and Post-Op Surgical Departments at various hospitals across Kansas. Eric retired in November 2018 after working for the State of Kansas for 40 years most recently in the position of Associate Vice President of Facilities at Wichita State University.

With Eric being a KSU architecture graduate and life long KSU football fan their goal for retirement was to build a home and live in Manhattan. This also provides them the opportunity to be close to their children and grandchildren and enjoy their activities.

Eric's hobbies include reading, hunting and fly fishing while Barb enjoys volunteer work, flowers and decorating their home. They love to travel and are planning several trips in the near future including one overseas.



DISCIPLES WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

PUMPKIN PATCH IS COMING SOON!

FRIDAY—SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 27 & 28

First Christian Church Disciples Women's Fellowship is preparing for its annual food booth at Pumpkin Patch, an arts and crafts fair located in CiCo Park. Please consider participating by doing one or more of the following:



BAKE homemade items to sell. You may obtain a Suggested Price List of items in the church office. However, you may bake whatever you enjoy and think others might purchase. No cream or pumpkin pie due to Health Department regulations. All items must be covered, labeled and priced.

WORK at the booth for a 2 hour time span on Friday or Saturday. A signup sheet will be posted in the church office.

PURCHASE items from the food booth.

DONATE cash.

This is the major fund raiser for Disciples Women's Fellowship and all proceeds will go towards funding the mission projects of DWF. With everyone's assistance, we look forward to another successful year.

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S RETREAT!

The 2019 Kansas Disciples Women's Retreat is getting closer every day! Join us on October 2—4 or October 4—6 as they once again gather at Camp Tawakoni to celebrate ***Faith That Overflows!***

Keynote speaker for this event will be Kirby Gould, Vice President for the North Central Zone of the Christian Church Foundation. She serves the regions of Kansas, Greater Kansas City, Mid America, and Upper Midwest, assisting Disciples churches with endowments, permanent funds, investments, planned gifts, and bequests.



For registration information see kansasdisciples.org

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

On Sunday, August 18, 2019, approximately 17 months after our Groundbreaking Ceremony we were able to hold a wonderful and very meaningful worship service in our new church building, followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony. The last few days prior to the ceremony were a little hectic but the entire campus from the Education wing on one end to Fellowship Hall on the other end was ready and “Welcoming.” We have even opened up the church on two Friday evenings while presenting possible ideas of how we intend to enhance the Grand Mere community and the greater Manhattan area.

The exterior and interior areas of the church are looking fantastic. It is amazing how we have been able to find places for most of the things that were moved from 115 Courthouse Plaza. Pictures, plaques, historical and sentimental pieces have found new homes. Construction of numerous shelves, selective sorting, “saving and tossing,” and redefining of spaces have been helpful and appreciated.

We anticipate the official opening of our Child Care offering in mid to late September. Brightly colored shelves coordinated with the accent color of the rooms are mounted on the walls in the hallway. The rooms are ready and populated with really neat tables, chairs, and an assortment of toys. The Administrative wing, Sanctuary, Narthex, Fellowship Hall, and Kitchen are in full use and seem to serve us very well.

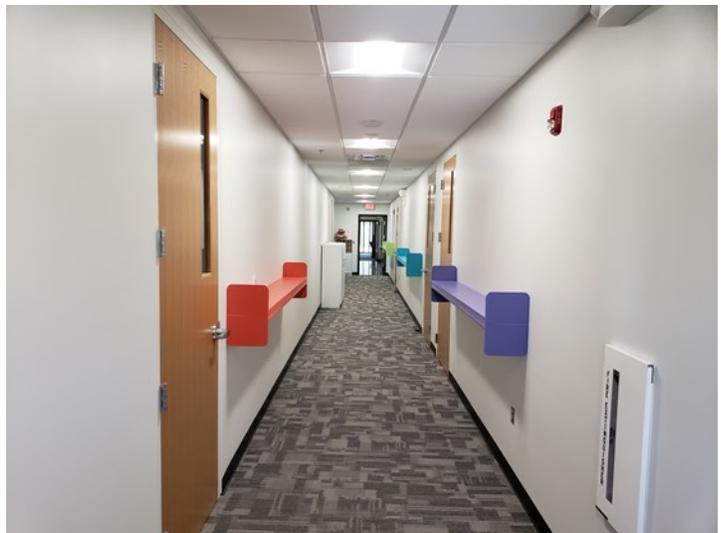
The rather unusual Kansas weather has created some problems on site. Various trees and shrubs that have not survived will be replaced this fall or next year upon recommendation of Blueville. All areas that were seeded with buffalo grass have been mowed and some of these areas including those with the Grand Mere mix will be over seeded later this fall or next summer.

The Building Committee continues to focus on construction issues and communicates with our construction firm to address these details. A few examples are listed here: The replacements of concrete pads in front of the classroom doors and selective caulking have solved the rain water issue in the classrooms. Additional concrete will be poured in front of the storage unit at the north end of the Education wing. Cracks in the sidewalks and curbs have been or will be repaired. All door closures throughout the building continue to be tweaked for full closure without pulling the doors closed. Roof gutters and drainage off of the sanctuary roof and fellowship hall roof are being investigated and evaluated. All of the filters on the roof-top units will be cleaned or replaced. Notable seams on the east interior wall of the sanctuary have been sanded and covered. Items such as these will continue to be addressed as we generate periodic punch lists. Please note that this list is not meant to be negative. These types of issues are to be expected as we settle into a new building.

The members of the Building Committee welcome your comments and suggestions. Our goal is to be able to offer our church as a welcoming and versatile facility for our church family and to the Grand Mere community. Consequently, a facility that presents a positive appearance is very desirable.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard R. Gallagher
Chair of FCC Building Committee

Shelves painted to match the classrooms have been added to From Cradles to Crayons Childcare Center. These shelves were taken from pastor’s office at Courthouse Place, and repurposed to hold the children’s coats, boots, and backpacks.



TRUTH YOUTH GROUP

CAMP OUT

Nine youth, and five adults camped at Council Grove Lake August 23-25. The youth enjoyed playing 9-square-in-the-air, swimming, and playing on the campground playground as well as spending time working on a service project.

Saturday's service project consisted of picking-up trash left behind by people fishing along the rocky banks of the lake's outlet tubes below the dam. The days culminated in devotions around the campfire led by Bill McReynolds on Friday evening and on Saturday evening by Wyatt Rutherford, a KSU student. Sunday morning devotional service was led by Rose and Dakota followed by shared communion.

Everyone attending enjoyed the camp menu of chili dogs, breakfast burritos, burgers, walking tacos, fruits, cheese, crackers for snacks, and pancakes, bacon and sausage Sunday morning. Even though it rained a LOT Saturday night with lightening and thunder there was no wind, so inside the tents it stayed pretty dry.

David Woodmansee, Youth Leader



TRUTH YOUTH GROUP



COUNCIL GROVE LAKE SERVICE PROJECT



ALL ABOUT US



To Whom It May Concern

Our association with First Christian Church, Manhattan, Kansas, is long and deep. Our memories are rich and our affection for hundreds of church members, past and present, is immeasurably valuable.

Therefore, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to those of you who had the foresight, the energy and the courage to see the wisdom of finding a new location for our church, purchasing the land on which to build the new campus, and the fortitude to see the enterprise ready for occupancy.

We know you are still hard at work with the many things yet to be done. We won't name you lest we inadvertently overlook a very important name. But you know who you are and we do to.

We love you and thank you, as will generations of church members to come.

Ben and Carol Duerfeldt

Thank you to all my First Christian family who have been praying for me with medical challenges I have faced. I wanted you to know that day at a time all is going very well, and that I am so grateful for your prayers.

Vickie Carvalho

THANK YOU, BOY SCOUT TROOP 76

First Christian Church is very grateful to Boy Scout Troop 76 for helping with the parking on our Dedication/Ribbon Cutting Sunday, August 18. The boys did a terrific job, so that not one of us had to worry about parking.



September 1	Danielle Trego
September 6	Monica Roediger Elizabeth Stratton
September 7	Don Stuteville
September 9	Nathan Jones
September 16	Lisa Berggren
September 22	Marilyn Masterson Bill McReynolds Evan Russell
September 24	David Jones
September 30	Lora Boyer Leonard Purvis

NEXT FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 1

85 POUNDS WERE COLLECTED IN AUGUST

WELL DONE, FIRST CHRISTIAN!



Heartfelt thanks to Bekah Hitzfeld, Ruby Brower, and Joan Thomson, for deciding on and ordering the new church office furniture, and to Steve Jankord and Mike Thomason for assembling the desk office chair, and hanging the new art work.

The office looks terrific, Stop by for a visit!

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(Disciples of Christ)
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Financial Secretary: Lukus Ebert
Church Secretary: Marian Fuller
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DISCIPLE MEN'S RETREAT

Kansas Men of all ages are invited to a weekend filled with fun, fellowship, and learning at Tawakoni. The weekend starts with KDM Fall Retreat, Sept. 27-28, led by Director of Disciples Men's ministries of the General Church, Greg

Alexander. He developed men's ministry resources and worked with ecumenical men's leaders both nationally and internationally. He will give four presentations on "What it Means to be a Man Today."

The retreat will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday and conclude shortly after dinner on Saturday. A pre-event work project is planned for Friday afternoon, and a Friday afternoon golf outing is on the agenda if at least four golfers pre-register.