

# THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

August

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Goodland, Kansas

2023



## End of Summer

The end of summer is just around the corner, and there are a few groups who are glad about it. As a dad and husband and grandfather, I love summer. But as a pastor, I hate summer sometimes, too. This time of year seems to bring increasing excitement over sun, outdoor activities, and longer days to enjoy those activities, but often we've decided to fill our summer "break" to full.

I have heard so many people say things like, "I was reading my Bible and praying consistently until summer, and then things just got too busy." Most churches experience less attendance, less excitement, and less generosity during June, July, and August.

I'm not against summer. I love playing outside with my grands. I love spending time with my wife, talking about life together in a light breeze on a sunny day. I love the power of thunderstorms, where God shows off by lighting up a completely dark sky.

But my prayer is that a busy summer would not crowd out our intimacy with Christ and his church. How can we avoid a spiritual regression in the summer months? Here are two suggestions to make this summer a time to dive deeply in the word: time in prayer, and time with our church family.

Summer Says Something About God's Word. Psalm 19 tells us we should delight in the beauty of God's creation, and summer often provides unique opportunities to do that more fully with more daylight. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. But Psalm 19 doesn't stop with creation — the blue sky, the green grass, the warmth of the sun on our faces — rather, the beauty David sees in God's creation moves him to celebrate the stunning power and beauty of God's word.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. We don't set aside the word of God to enjoy the work of God in creation. Our souls still need reviving in the summer. Our simple hearts still need God's wisdom found in God's word. So, should we balance our busyness and still find time to enjoy God through his creation and his word!

*Just Don*



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

## Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Roger Collins      Galen Cooper  
Lois Cossman      Glenda Hamilton  
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson  
Lonnie Kerr      Braxton Meier & family  
Vetha Petty      Bernie Taylor  
Emma Van Vleet      The Warren family



### Please pray for our Active Military:

Tyson Reed, Chris Elliott, Nathan Craig, D J Glassman



8/1	Dave Hageman
8/2	Dwight Briney
8/3	Kenton Keith
8/4	Jo Simmons Tyler Jones
8/6	Mark Luckert Syd Keith
8/9	Chalee Luther Laney Von Lintel
8/10	Bernie Taylor
8/19	Braxton Meier Ruger Lacy
8/21	Josh Vignery
8/22	Hunter Jenner Brodi Meier
8/24	Savanna Brown
8/27	Michelle Kibel
8/29	Amanda Jolly-Sisson
8/31	Kyla Ontiveroz Dominick John Guyer

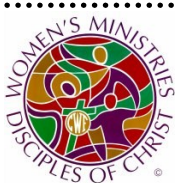
## GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
7/2	\$2452.77	\$2815.00	+\$362.23	51
7/9	\$2452.77	\$1148.00	-\$1304.77	69
7/16	\$2452.77	\$1790.00	-\$662.77	55
7/23	\$2452.77	\$1167.00	-\$1285.77	58
7/30	\$2452.77	\$1170.00	-\$1282.77	41



Christian Church in Kansas has a new Associate Regional Minister for Transformational Ministry. Rev. Travis Smith McKee has agreed to accept this position.

He has worked in the region as a summer camp intern and has served churches in the Kansas and Greater Kansas City regions. Travis has a passion for empowering congregations to reach out to their communities, finding expansion to the witness of God's Grace.



Kansas Disciples Women  
Fall Retreat

"Renew, Refresh,  
Recharge, Restored!"

Oct 4-6 or 6-8

Held at Camp Tawakoni

Keynote speaker:  
Rev. Terri Hord Owens

See bulletin boards or office for details



8/1	Terry & Kara Smith
8/2	Jason & Erin Biernacki
8/3	Jed & Tranda Strnad
8/20	Syd & Sherri Keith
8/21	Jay & Carol Jolly

## Snippets from the last Board Meeting



- ◆ The PB&J sandwich program has ended and was a success. Many people needed this service and were fed.
- ◆ Use of Church document discussed, particularly the subject of how & who collects the outstanding balances. Property will meet and advise.
- ◆ Formerly, a community member was paying for all the churches to be a part of the Kiwanis Flag Project, but is no longer doing that. Terry & Kara Smith offered to pay this for our church.
- ◆ CWF donated the cost of the instillation cakes.
- ◆ The choir plans to have a special function with the Lutheran singers as an appreciation for their efforts to sing at the instillation. Details tabled to next mtg.
- ◆ Use of Church request submitted by Debbie Griffith for Nov. 24, 2023 for the usual Imhof Family Thanksgiving celebration. In addition, Debbie's mom will be celebrating her 100th birthday then as well. Approval given.

## USDA Commodities Distribution

The commodities distributions will be on a monthly basis for the time being. The next distribution will be:



**September 2023 @ 1:30pm**

If you have would like to help, please let **the office** know. Our Lord asked us to feed the hungry, and so we shall!!



Baptism is a precious outward sign of an inward commitment, and that is the very reason Mary Ann Van Vleet took this step! As you can see, her husband George got the honor of being

actively involved in this process. How special is that!! We were honored to be a witness to this special day!!

~Remember your baptism~



Getting ready for the instillation took MANY, MANY "man hours". Some apparently took some supervision as well.

I believe she means business, don't you!?!? Hahahaha

Never know what that church mouse sees, do you pastor?

The Nifty Needlers mourn the loss of one of their members, Virginia Warakowski. "Little Virginia", as she was affectionately known, was an inspiration to all! She was never without a sewing project, and entertained us with stories of the latest book she was reading, her Tai chi lessons, and her weekly lessons to improve her piano skills. We learned so much from her stories about the places she had lived, and the many things she had accomplished over the years. She will be greatly missed on Tuesday afternoons.



As you may remember, recently one of the pieces of playground equipment needed to be removed for safety reasons. The property committee was on the search for something to replace it and the board gave them the go ahead to research this. As they considered the equipment, Joy Hayden offered to write a grant to help with the expense.

Due to the lack of parks and playgrounds in this part of town, it is utilized by the community for blocks around. The Sherman County Community Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation have granted money for the Neighborhood Revitalization Playground Project to place new playground equipment in the playground at 7<sup>th</sup> and Harrison.



Looks fun, doesn't it!!

## Thank You...

...to Robert Dodge for agreeing to help with the paperwork portion of the Commodities Distribution. If we all work together, the work of feeding the hungry will carry on!

FCC

...to those who saw my needs and helped me remember how to laugh, how to cry, and how to love. You know who you are.

Ann Onymous  
(editor's comment: so good to hear that we are taking care of each other in the best way we know how/can!!)



## Who Am I?

Last month's "Who am I?" was **Sherri Keith**



1. What is something you are really good at? Fishing
2. What is something you are always glad to find cold in the refrigerator? Sweet tea
3. What was the last thing you listened to on your I-pad, I-phone or other electronic devise? Country music
4. My favorite food is: deer steak
5. August is the beginning of school—are you excited or wishing there was another month of summer?  
Wishing there was another month of summer
6. What is your favorite app? Snap chat
7. What do you like to do in your spare time? Sleep
8. I began attending FCC... I was dedicated into the church 14 years ago.



Who am I?



## Installation Remembrances



## Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

- \*\*Exercise your faith, walk with God
- \*\*Let God unravel the tangles of your life
- \*\*This church is prayer conditioned
- \*\*God never goes on vacation from you!



*What if every person knelt and prayed this prayer?*

### **~A Prayer for the Nation~**

Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance and from every evil course of action. Make us who came from many nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(borrowed from the newsletter of the Christian Church in Ulysses)

### **CWF Events**

We will be resuming our meetings on August 8th @ 2:00pm. At this meeting, we will be seeking and planning what God would have us do this year. Be sure to give this some prayerful consideration prior to the gathering.

Refreshments: Debbie Griffith ; Devotion: Mary Smith



A very successful **VBS 2023!!** There were 80+ children affected by 40+ helper's love. Here is some of the proof:



### **Thank You...**

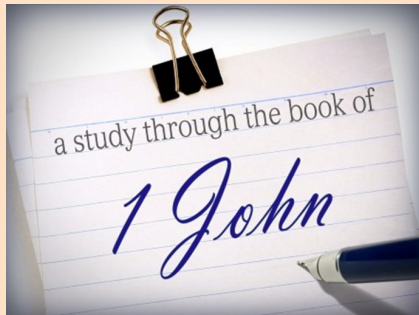
...to all who helped with the sack lunch program in whatever way you helped. We helped to feed a lot of kids and some older adults and is a much needed service that we provide for those who need it.



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Bible Study

Looking for a study of God's word? Look no further. Pastor Don will be teaching two classes on Tuesdays—10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. It doesn't matter if this is your first Bible study or you are a bit seasoned, you will be met where you are and encouraged to grow!



## **!!Calling All MEN!!**

Pastor Don is starting a:

### **Men's Bible Study**

**Every Thursday beginning August 10<sup>th</sup>  
at 6:30am here at the church**

**What will happen??** – There will be a  
**light breakfast with coffee (of course),  
fellowship, and enlightenment!**

**Bring your Bible, your appetite, and  
your hunger for learning**



Taking a  
break for the  
summer.

**!!ALL NEW!!**

**DISCIPLE ZONE**

Nursery care  
is available  
for toddlers  
and under.

**2.0**

Every Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.,  
Toddler—5th Grade

Disciple Zone will be held each Sunday during the  
10:30am Church Service. If you cannot be present,  
we still hope you will bring your kiddos!

## FCC



Taking a break for the summer.  
See you next fall!

## <<Game Day Group>>

Ever wanted to get together with  
others and play different (and famil-  
iar) card games, dominos, or any oth-  
er type of game?? Well, this is your  
day, because that is what this group  
is doing!



Please come join in whenever you can.



Every Thursday @ 1:00 p.m.  
Church Parlor

# August 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1.</b>  10:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	<b>2.</b>  9:00am Exercise	<b>3.</b>  1:00pm Game Day Group  7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>4.</b>  9:00am Exercise	<b>5.</b>
<b>6.</b> 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0	<b>7.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>8.</b>  10:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	<b>9.</b>  9:00am Exercise  2:00pm CWF Mtg  5:00pm Worship & Music mtg	<b>10.</b> 6:30am Men's Bible Study begins  1:00pm Game Day Group  7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>11.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>12.</b>
<b>13.</b> 7:30am Board Meeting  10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0	<b>14.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>15.</b>  10:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	<b>16.</b>  9:00am Exercise	<b>17.</b> 6:30am Men's Bible Study  1:00pm Game Day Group  7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>18.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>19.</b>
<b>20.</b>  10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0  1:30pm Service at Wheat Ridge	<b>21.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>22.</b>  10:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	<b>23.</b>  9:00am Exercise	<b>24.</b> 6:30am Men's Bible Study  1:00pm Game Day Group  7:00pm Praise Team Practice	<b>25.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>26.</b>
<b>27.</b>  10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0  4pm Elder's Meeting	<b>28.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>29.</b>  10:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	<b>30.</b>  9:00am Exercise	<b>31.</b> 6:30am Men's Bible Study  1:00pm Game Day Group  7:00pm Praise Team Practice		

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
711 Arcade, P.O.Box 335  
Goodland, KS 67735



Church (785) 890-5233  
Pastor's Cell (870) 692-7242 (Pastor Don Warren)  
Church E-mail: fccdoc@st-tel.net

Friendship Class 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Time 10:00 a.m. (Refreshments served)  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Disciple Zone 2.0 on Sunday mornings during worship.  
Fcc Youth Group Sunday evening.

*The Christian Echo* is sent to you as a member or friend of  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Goodland, Ks

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
[www.goodlandfccdoc.org](http://www.goodlandfccdoc.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

### Vision Statement

To be a faithful, growing church,  
that demonstrates true community,  
deep Christian Spirituality,  
and a passion for justice.

(Micah 6:8)

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

### Mission Statement

To be and to share the Good News  
of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving,  
and serving from our doorsteps  
"to the ends of the earth."

(Acts 1:8)

## August 2023

	6	13	20	27
<b>Elders</b>	Ron Vignery, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	Kim Cole, Off Terry Smith, Com	Dick Hayden, Off Debbie Martin, Com	Tim Armknecht, Off Debbie Griffith, Com
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Birkely Barnes	Lois Cossman	Debbie Griffith	Mary Smith
<b>Greeter(s):</b>	Marie Marsh	Nona Mason	TBA	TBA
<b>A/V Tech-Closer</b>	Andrew Luna	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith



### Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*