

# THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

June

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Goodland, Kansas

2023



As I write this, I'm sitting on my back patio, the sun is shining, and the air is filled with the first signs of summer. It's hard to believe we're still in the midst of THE PANDEMIC. Then again, nothing about the past few years has been believable.

We were not meant for isolation; we weren't created for it. God literally created us to be in relationship: with Him and with one another. So to be alone—physically away from many of the people with which we fill our lives—is hard. Don't get me wrong: I'm around people all the time. But we're still isolated from our families and friends and church family—our community. I know many of us are already back to worshipping together at the church building, but where are the others? The ones who were here before all of this; the other smiling faces, singing together, shouting our praise to God, and greeting each one of you with a handshake or hug after the service?

I remember spending many, many hours talking with other pastors, hearing what other churches did, listening to webinars Clinic and CDC, as well as talking with a variety of people from other congregation. I remember discussions of what it would look like to worship in-person, 60-75 people with 6-foot distancing. Everyone would need to wear masks. To maximize the number of people able to attend, ushers would direct people to seats like hosts at restaurants. After worship, we would dismiss by rows to reduce congestion in the narthex. Worship wasn't going to look like it once did. We would simply come into the sanctuary for a very simplified service and then leave. I began asking myself some questions. Most importantly, isn't this what we are doing now? The official end of the COVID 19 pandemic was declared on May 5<sup>th</sup>, why are we still isolated? The answer was easy: because we all don't miss the community and connection that worshipping in-person brings.



Here's the deal: prayer can be public or private, but something happens when we touch and agree. Worship can be public or private, but where two or more are gathered. But praise must always be public. It is how we show the world how we feel about our God. Our old normal is not going to happen... at least not right now. So why don't we gather in community in different ways? And that's really the crux of being Church during a pandemic: how can we re-envision what it looks like to be community?



I encourage you to take a look, and prayerfully discern how you can participate in our beloved community in new ways. We are still the Church; it just looks different than anything we've ever seen. And we are still a community, working together to understand what that means in this time and this place. I really do believe that this is an opportunity to open ourselves to the new things God wants to do among us and through us.

Thankfully, we are rooted in our strong foundation of Jesus Christ.



*Just Don*

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

## Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Roger Collins  
Galen Cooper  
Glenda Hamilton  
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson  
Lonnie Kerr  
Vetha Petty  
Bernie Taylor

Lois Cossman

Emma Van Vleet



### Please pray for our Active Military:

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



6/2	Belinda Amend Skylar Warren
6/3	Coltynn Ludowese
6/4	LJ Von Lintel Abby Thorton
6/6	Mike Vignery
6/8	Gareth Rohr
6/9	DJ Warren
6/10	Colt Von Lintel
6/14	Freda Barber Staab
6/15	Amanda Ross Ariane Barber
6/16	Kara Smith Bailee Guyer Topliff
6/17	Lyndee Ihrig
6/18	Carol Stamm
6/20	Michelle Griffith
6/23	Sara Amend Leftwich
6/24	Chelsea Ontiveroz
6/26	Arron Arteaga Cooper Ploeger
6/30	Debbie Griffith Kim Rasure

## GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
5/7	\$2452.77	\$3143.00	+\$690.23	75
5/14	\$2452.77	\$2025.00	-\$427.77	58
5/21	\$2452.77	\$1825.00	-\$627.77	60
5/28	\$2452.77	\$814.00	-\$1638.77	33

### Remember when?

At a woman's function a few years ago we dressed these beautiful ladies up in TP wedding dresses. Now, one of them is a real bride this month (Emily Smith—3rd from left)!! More in the next newsletter about the wedding, so stay tuned...



6/2	Barry & Joni Guyer Tyler & Taryn Jones
6/9	Jim & Michelle Griffith
6/14	Kenny & Connie Grieve Kenton & Abby Keith
6/15	Bruce & Tina Gleason
6/24	Dirk & Pam Sheldon Ron & Judi Vignery



### NEEDS FOR THE CHURCH:

Toilet Paper

A big THANK YOU to those who so generously give in this way!!



## Snippets from the last Board Meeting



- ♦ Membership & Outreach reported that they have been busy with organizing Meals on Wheels, overseeing the Sandwich Program, and Mother's Day/Father's Day happenings.
- ♦ Joy Hayden made a special stole to be given to Rev. Terry Hord-Owens as a gift at the installation.
- ♦ Property Committee reports that the new-to-us mower is here and working well. The new sound board is here and installed. An upright piano that hasn't been used for years has a new home. There was an incident on the playground during church function that required stitches—working with insurance company to cover this. Sprinkler heads are being replaced.
- ♦ VBS will be July 17-20, partnering with the Methodists & Lutherans & held at the Methodist Church.

We celebrate with you and pray for you in the next step of your journey!

Lexus Davis & Josie Hill



Thank you for having a wonderful graduation party for Lexus & I. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family that has guided me & supported me every step of the way. I hope to make you all proud

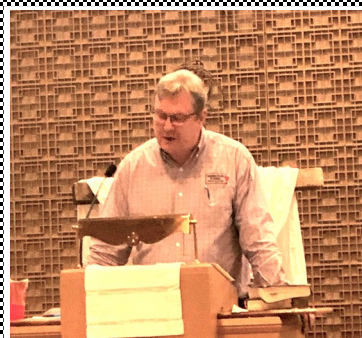
in the next chapter of my life! Thank you again,

Josie Hill

## Thank You...

...to the church's faithful "bonus secretaries" who so willingly & cheerfully fill in when I need to be gone!! In the recent past they were Birkley Barnes, Joy Hayden, Kara Smith, Emma Van Vleet, Don Warren, and Kenny Griffith. I love you all!

Debbie G



Many thanks to Rev. Ken Marston, Reg. Minister, for filling the pulpit May 28th. We do appreciate the support of our church and of Pastor's needs, & recognize the extra effort it takes to do this for so many different locations!!

## ~~~SAVE THE DATE~~~



On July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> there will be special events in the life of the church as we have the long-awaited installation of our "new" pastor. This to include meals, services, and a special visit from the Disciples of Christ General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens.

What a blessing this will be to all, so we don't want you to miss being a part of this special time of charge & celebration!!

## USDA Commodities Distribution

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

**July\_\_ 2023 @ 1:30pm**



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

## Honoring A Mother



On Mother's Day, each woman was given a ticket and in the service, two hams were given out to two lovely ladies, Jo Simmons and LaDonna Frerichs. They are pictured here with Pastor Don Warren and looking on in the background is Ron Vignery, the ticket drawer.

The hams were supplied by Pastor Don's daughter as she remembers her grandmothers in doing so. Thank you for such a meaningful gift, Kierra Warren!!

## Meals on Wheels



Thank you to all who helped in any way to deliver meals to those who need them in May.

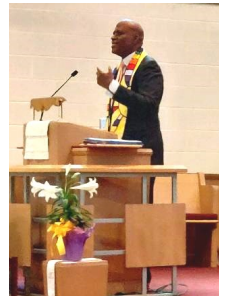
There were reports of many good things that happened as a result of this venture: hugs given when someone needed emotional support, as well as getting help for someone who had fallen and laid for many hours.

Plain and simple—this is what we are called to do as Disciples of Christ!

## Who Am I?

Last month's "*Who am I?*" was **Harriet Warren**

1. Name one item on your "bucket list". Don't have one
2. What do you like to do in your "spare" time? Make things
3. What is your favorite season of the year and why? Spring—it's cool.
4. What would we be surprised to know about you? I made my own wedding dress
5. What's your favorite Board game? I hate board games
6. What is your must-see TV? The Voice and Classic Gospel
7. Is there a time that you have felt especially close to God? When praying for others
8. What do you most look forward to at church on Sunday morning? My people and the preaching
9. How long have you attended First Christian Church? 1yr



Who am I?



Beginning **Monday June 5th** through **Friday July 21st** your children can receive a sack lunch (one per child) the following days (while supplies last):

Mondays at 12:00 pm  
Goodland Activities Center (GAC)

Tuesdays at 11:00 am  
Goodland Housing Authority (515 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street)

Wednesdays at 12:30 pm  
Steever water Park

Thursdays at 11:00 am  
Goodland Public Library

Fridays at 12:00 pm  
Sherman County Sheriff's Department



### Property happenings—take time to notice!

With the coming of spring, many things are happening outside everywhere & the church block is no exception. Thanks to all who pitch in! Ariane Barber was caught tending to the roses around the labyrinth one morning—also notice the great job Sean Davis did on the playground upkeep. Kenny Griffith has planted the new tree on the west side and has been working on the sprinkler heads. Debbie Martin has planted the flowers in the front flower boxes. Kenny Grieve & Griffith, & Terry Smith are the 'mowers'. Ever think of

how much work goes into keeping the outside inviting for those who live & drive by?





## Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

**\*\*If Jesus sent you a friend request—**

**Accept or Decline?**

**\*\*Changed lives are Christ's greatest advertisement**

**\*\*The garden of life requires regular cultivation**



## Thank You...

...to the church's faithful "bonus secretaries" who so willingly and cheerfully fill in when I need to be gone!! In the recent past they were Birkley Barnes, Joy Hayden, Kara Smith, Emma Van Vleet, Don Warren, and Kenny Griffith. I love you all!

Debbie G



## ~Sweet Addition to the World~

Ellis Rae Marello was born on May 23, 2023, weighing 7lbs 5oz and 20 inches long. Her parents are Eric & Stephanie (Sheldon) Marello.

Her grandparents are Dirk & Pam Sheldon, who are sure to be poppin' buttons over her arrival.

**!!Congrats to you all!!**

## From the Church Mouse:

According to reliable resources, the "baby Heiter" that we had previously announced is now known to be "baby *girl* Heiter". How fun!! It is amusing what her school kids have suggested as names—again, congrats from your FCC family!!



## Award Received

At the state convention of the Kansas Federated Music Club, Debbie Griffith was honored by receiving the 2023 Musician of the Year award (and as we all know, there are no secrets in Goodland, Ks!). Jeff Mason spilled the beans in church that Sunday....

She has loved music all of her life and applied it wherever possible by way of piano/organ, singing, arranging, and conducting. This is the 40th year of serving this congregation in these ways and has found it to be a great joy!

(I'm thanking God for the opportunities he has provided me and the inspiration He has given me in and through music!! - Debbie Griffith)



## Nifty Needlers

Meeting every Tuesday @ 2 p.m. in the Church's Sewing Room (north west corner of the building).



## CWF Events

We will resume in August.  
Have A great summer and be safe!



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Bible Study

Looking for a study of God's word? Look no further. Pastor Don will be teaching two classes on Tuesdays—one at 10:00 a.m. and one at 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!



*Starting again on June 20th.  
See you there!!*

## FRIENDSHIP CLASS

Every Sunday at 9 a.m.



"Inspired by God"

*Taking a break for the summer.  
Will resume in the fall.*



Taking a break for the summer.

**!!ALL NEW!!**

Nursery care is available for toddlers and under.

## DISCIPLE ZONE

### 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 familiar) card games, dominos, or any other 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







# June 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1.  1:00pm Game Day Group	2.  9:00am Exercise	3.
4.  9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0	5.  9:00am Exercise	6.  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	7.  9:00am Exercise	8.  1:00pm Game Day Group  7pm Property Mtg	9.  9:00am Exercise  (Wedding rehearsal)	10.  Artzer/Gilliland wedding
11. 7:30am Board Meeting 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0	12.  9:00am Exercise	13.  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	14.  9:00am Exercise	15.  1:00pm Game Day Group	16.  9:00am Exercise	17.
18. <b>Father's Day</b>  9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0  (1:30pm Service at Wheat Ridge will be moved)	19.  9:00am Exercise	20.  10:00am Bible Study resumes  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study resumes	21.  9:00am Exercise	22.  1:00pm Game Day Group	23.  9:00am Exercise	24.
25.  9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0  4pm Elder's Meeting	26.  9:00am Exercise	27.  10:00 Bible Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  7:00pm Bible Study	28.  9:00am Exercise	29.  1:00pm Game Day Group	30.  9:00am Exercise	

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: fccd@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)

## June 2023

	4	11	18	25
<b>Elders</b>	Dick Hayden, Off Ron Vignery, Com	Debbie Martin, Off Terry Smith, Com	Tim Armknecht, Off Kim Cole, Com	Kenny Griffith, Off Debbie Griffith, Com
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Birkley Barnes	Lois Cossman	Tim Armknecht	Emma Van Vleet
<b>Greeter(s): Serving Elders</b>	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders
<b>A/V Tech-Closer</b>	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	??	Andrew Luna

*May God give you...  
For every storm, a rainbow,  
For every tear, a smile,  
For every care, a promise,  
And a blessing in each trial.  
For every problem life sends,  
A faithful friend to share,  
For every sigh, a sweet song,  
And an answer for each prayer.*

Psalm 18: 1-3

### *In Keeping with Scripture OR Scripturally Speaking*

I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,  
my God my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my  
stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from  
my enemies.