

# THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

May

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Goodland, Kansas

2021



*The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.*

Numbers 6: 24 – 26, NRSV

As I have shared numerous times over the past six years, one of the most challenging parts of my ministry is often knowing what to say in my pastor's column. And now, with this being my last column as your pastor, the task is even more daunting.

I have been blessed to be your pastor for the past six years. In those six years there have been seasons of blessings and seasons of hardships that we worked to overcome together, including the past year dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. And through it all there has been one constant, the love of God as revealed in Christ Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

It is in the spirit of that love you welcomed my family, unloading our furniture not just once, but twice when we were not able to close on our house on the date we were supposed to. You embraced our daughter, making her feel welcome in a new community where she was not sure if and how she would fit in. When our son Derrick came to live with us, like Sara, you made him feel welcome. And for this I am grateful and I say thank you.

Over these last weeks together I, along with the leadership of the congregation, will be preparing for my departure and planning for the arrival of the interim minister, and further in the future a new settled pastor. This will be a time of farewells while also looking toward the future. There will be questions asked, some that can be answered and some that will have to wait for an answer, a time of fear, wondering what is the future of First Christian Church of Goodland, and a time of hope as people envision what the future can be for First Christian Church.

As I leave you, I leave you as your pastor, but not as your friend. According to my ministerial code of ethics, when I leave after my last Sunday, my duty is to support and encourage the ministry of my successor. That means that I will not come back to perform weddings, officiate at funerals, or participate in events that would infringe upon the ministry of my successor. If in working with your new interim and later with your new settled minister and they are comfortable in inviting me, or any previous minister, to be a part of a particular service, then I would consider returning to assist with a service. When it comes to social media, for a period of six months I will not unfriend anyone but I will unfollow people. That just means your social media posts will not show up on my social media newsfeed. And as it shares in the "Covenant of Closure," I will separate myself from participating in the life of the congregation for a year after the arrival of the new settled pastor.

As I prepare to leave you, I have to admit there is sense of excitement as I prepare for my new calling as an interim minister. But I have to also admit there is sense of sadness as well. It is always hard to say good-bye to people who have been such an important part of my life for the past six years. You shared your love, your hurts, your hopes, and your dreams with me. You let me be a part of your lives and your families. You have blessed me and my family and for that I again say thank you. My hope and prayer is that I have been able to share with you the love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

So, as I have shared with you over the past year, whether we are together or apart, we are one in Christ. And, for one last time in this newsletter, until next we meet, PEACE!

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

## Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Dwight Briney	Roger Collins
Galen Cooper	Vetha Cormier
Alice Jackson	
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson	
Carolyn Kerr	Lonnie Kerr
Sharon Mann	Marie Marsh
Catherine Parisi	Wanda Schneider
Mike Stamm	Ione Todd
Todd Trzcinski	Emma VanVleet

### Wheat Ridge (main building)

Dwight "Bud" Perrey      Etta Mae Keirns

### Please pray for our Active Military:

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



5/1	Joni Guyer
5/2	Jessica Vignery
5/3	Pat Nelson Peyton Fenner
5/4	Kaiden Kibel Rosemary Powell
5/7	Kelsi Ihrig Ptacek
5/8	Etta Mae Keirns Travis Jones
5/12	Kelly Hawkins
5/13	Andrea Grieve Graves Terry Smith
5/14	Juanita Baldwin Bryan Guyer
5/17	Bob Smith
5/19	Glenn Snider
5/20	Judi Vignery Bruce Gleason Heidi Ptacek
5/21	Betty Hageman
5/22	Taitem Jones
5/26	Jaydn Vignery Lois Cossman Tracy Hillmer Wanda Schneider
5/27	Robert Coad
5/30	Matt Ploeger
5/31	Andrew Taylor

## GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
4/4	\$1994.75	\$1149.00	-\$845.75	45
4/11	\$1994.75	\$1277.50	-\$717.25	31
4/18	\$1994.75	\$2708.00	+\$713.25	33
4/25	\$1994.75	\$3675.00	+\$1680.25	34



A new litter of kittens have been born and will need a new home eventually. If you want a furry friend, let Cameron Pittman know!



5/13	Nathan & Brooke
5/23	Kenny & Janet Davis
5/24	Jeff & Julie Vignery
5/27	Amanda & Cory Harrison
5/28	Andrea & Zeb Graves
5/30	Dick & Joy Hayden Mike & Amy Fenner
5/31	Brian & Gwen Jenner

## NEEDS FOR THE CHURCH:

Paper—20 lb

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



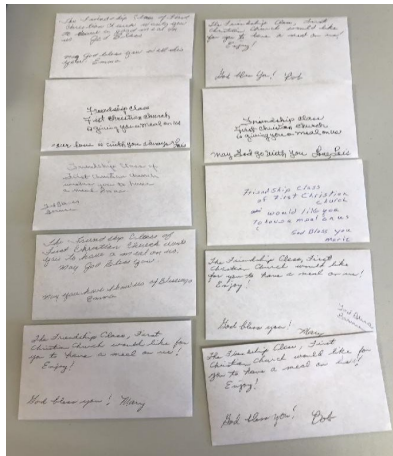
## Thank You...

...for an additional lily that came after the last newsletter was already sent. It was from Sharon David, in memory of Archie & Helen Schoonover, Lowella Stiles, Florence Vignery, Mazie Sutton, & Mona Wonderling. We do appreciate this gift! FCC

## Friendship Class extending Helping Hands

In Matthew 25:40 Jesus says, "...Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

The Friendship Sunday School Class is taking that scripture seriously! With some of their funds, they purchased food gift cards to be given to those who are in dire need of a meal. They will be handed out at the discretion of the law enforcement, so it is sure to get into the hands of those who truly need it. As you can see, they wrote a word of encouragement on the envelope as a part of "feeding" them as well.



James 2: 15-16  
*If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit?*

Well done, good and faithful servants!!



## Jungle Baby Quilt for Sale!

Quilt is approx.  
34 in. by 40 in.

Quilt top was made by Gorda Adalgren who donated it to the Nifty Needlers. Quilted and assembled by Joni Denton, the proceeds of this colorful baby quilt will be used by the Nifty Needlers to purchase supplies for their Veteran Quilt projects, honoring the veterans of Sherman County. **\$50.00** will buy this special handmade quilt and benefit many deserving Veterans!

## USDA Commodities Distribution

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

**Monday, May 24 @ 1:30-2:30pm (In-house, not drive through)**



If you have time and would like to help, either that day or with the preparations ahead of time, please let **Tracy Hillmer** know.

## CFW EVENTS



The CFW ladies have had a reorganizational meeting and are geared up and ready to go!!

Meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2pm and will finish this 2020/2021 year after June's meeting. After this, the 'year' will run from August through May.

Activities were modified & will be announced as they are planned. Guess that keeps you wondering what we are up to!?

We are excited to be back together again in-person and look forward to what the new CFW is becoming!!

## Snippets from the April Board Meeting

- ◆ The new office computers are here and being installed. Many thanks to Pastor Doug for working to accomplish this long, sometimes difficult process!
- ◆ Christian Education reported that plans are being made to restart the Wednesday night Disciple Zone program for children in the fall. Also, the joint summer Bible School that was to take place last year will be held the last week of July at the Methodist Church.
- ◆ It is with mixed feelings that the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of our current pastor, Doug Amend. His last day will be May 31st. Regional Minister Ken Marston will be here on May 23rd & 30th, guiding us through the steps to calling an interim minister, and then a resident minister.
- ◆ The Property Committee reported that in the current 'cleaning out' of the attic/organ loft, several things were discovered that are of historical value to the church. Options for displays and preservation are being discussed and will be made known as they develop.
- ◆ Some repairs were made in the men's restroom, sprinkler system, & to the vacuum cleaner. Also, the yard work has begun with thatching and application of fertilizer.



## WHO AM I?



Last month's "Who am I?" was **Connie Grieve**.  
This month can you guess who our congregational family member is?



1. What is something that will always be found in your refrigerator? Milk
2. What is your favorite vacation spot and where would you like to go? San Diego is my favorite; A place I want to go is the northeastern USA when the colors are changing.
3. If you could visit any time in history or in the future, what would you like to experience or re-experience? Why? I would love to go back to a time when all of our family would gather at granddad and grandmothers house. This would happen most Sundays and holidays. Eat my grandmothers pie and Roast and noodles. Play cards and enjoy each other's company. Back when things were not so hustle and bustle, and technology was not even a thing yet! Those were the days.
4. What is your favorite day of the week? Any day I can spend with my spouse.
5. What was the last movie you saw? I Can Only Imagine
6. Name one thing you want to get done this summer. Spending time with my family from afar.
7. What do you like to do in your spare time? Spending time with family.
8. Would you share with us a time you especially felt God's presence in your life? God was definitely by my side when our daughter was born.



### **Be the New Church**

Church leaders have answered the call to be the new church during this pandemic. To support them and their efforts to continue the new church movement, please contribute to the **2021 Pentecost Offering**, collected on Sundays, **May 16 and May 23**. Each year, half of the gifts made go to your own Region to support local new church development. The other half goes to New Church Ministry, which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders.

Please give generously. Let's all be the new church, together

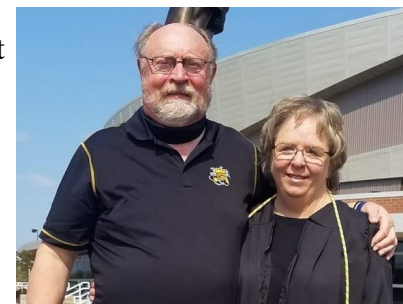


### **Time of Transition**

It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to Pastor Doug and Belinda Amend. Pastor Doug has served this congregation well, but God has called him into a new avenue of ministry—intentional interim ministry. His last day as our pastor is May 31, 2021. Thank you for saying "yes" to your call to come here, and we respect your "yes" to this new adventure as well.

We prayerfully send them out into this new calling with our love and well-wishes, and look forward to seeing what God will do. We also have hope & trust that God has a plan for us in the days, months, and years ahead. God is Good!!

Blessings...



## Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

**\*\*He Is Risen!!**

**\*\*Honk for Jesus, text while driving to meet Him!!**

**\*\*Call on God, He'll never send you to voicemail**

**\*\*Prayers go up—blessings come down!**



## From the Church Mouse:



>> Catherine Parisi is now living in the Gainesville, Mo Health Care Center. A new address for her is available in the office if anyone would like to send her greetings. Other news from that family: Jonathan will be taking driver's ed this summer — where has the time gone?

>> **Hot off the press:** We are now going to resume the before worship fellowship time!! Plans are being made to start this Sunday, May 2nd. As before, a snack and coffee will be provided at 10:00 in the fellowship hall. Snacks have been provided for the 2nd, but be thinking about when you would like to offer to supply them.



## ~CONGRATULATIONS~

We celebrate will all the graduates, but have a couple that are associated with this congregation—

Mason Neal (son of Jim & Tammy Neal) & Kayla Mekelburg (daughter of Terry Morris—pictured on right).

Mason's plans are unknown, but Kayla will be staying in Goodland to attend the Northwest Ks Technical College.



## Nifty Needlers

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



Pictured on the left is 10 y/o Kollins Smades.

She is currently receiving at-home dialysis every night, and is needing a kidney transplant. Thankfully, she is able to attend school.

The Nifty Needlers donated the quilt she is pictured here with. It is being raffled to help with the high costs of this whole process. The raffle will end May 1st.

The material had previously been donated to the group by Gorda Adelgren, and she so appreciates this special use of it!

To the Nifty Needlers: Thank you for your kindness & compassion. Our family has received more kind actions than we could have asked for. We are truly grateful & fully appreciate everything that has been done for us. Thank you for the part that you have played in making our family feel loved and cared for.

Jarod & Kim Smades

## Meals on Wheels...

: Here is the May 1<sup>st</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> schedule for delivering Meals on Wheels. Call or email Kara Smith or Debbie Martin at the contact information below if you would still like to help (be a fill-in, etc.). On behalf of those who receive your kindness in this way, thank you all for participating!!

| Kara Smith: 728-7395 [kara.smith@usd352.org](mailto:kara.smith@usd352.org)

: Debbie Martin: 899-6937 [debmartin2@hotmail.com](mailto:debmartin2@hotmail.com)

Sat. May 1	Terry Smith ; Debbie Griffith
: Sun. May 2	Tricia Meier ; Tracy Hillmer
Mon. May 3	Doug Amend ; Debbie Martin
: Tues. May 4	Dick & Joy Hayden ; Ron Vignery
Wed. May 5	Jo Simmons/Connie Grieve ; Sherida Shoff
: Thurs. May 6	Ron Vignery ; Sherida Shoff
Fri. May 7	Debbie Griffith ; Kim Cole
: Sat. May 8	Terry Smith ; Jessica Vignery
Sun. May 9	Kim Cole ; Debbie Martin
: Mon. May 10	Pam Sheldon/Connie Grieve ; Doug Amend
Tues. May 11	Dick & Joy Hayden ; Kevin & Kim Rasure

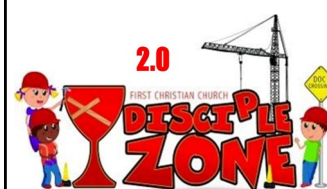
Wed. May 12	Lori McKenzie ; Jo S. /Connie G.
Thurs. May 13	Pam/Connie ; Ruth Ontiveroz
Fri. May 14	Jo & Bob Simmons ; Debbie Martin
Sat. May 15	Kim Cole ; Debbie Griffith



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Sermon Schedule

- May 2**      *The True Wealth*  
Proverbs 3:13 – 18, Old Testament, Pg 511
- May 9**      **Mother's Day**  
*Lois and Eunice*  
2 Timothy 1: 3–7, New Testament, Pg 966
- May 16**      *Encourage One Another*  
Acts 16: 16 – 24, New Testament, Pg 900
- May 23**      **Pentecost**  
*One Spirit, One Body, Many Members*  
1 Corinthians 12: 4–13, New Test., Pg 933
- May 30**      *God Be with You till We Meet Again*  
2 Corinthians 13: 11– 3, New Test., Pg 944
- June 6**      Terry Smith will deliver the message.
- June 13**      Ken Marston will deliver the message.
- June 20**      Debbie Griffith will deliver the message.



Watch for the kick-off to the 2021-2022 season coming our way as decisions are made!!

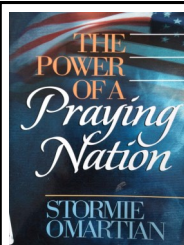
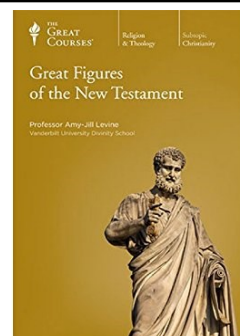
## BOAT CLASS

Sunday mornings

@ 9:15 a.m.

!!Now available on Zoom as well as in-person!!

With the interruption of class due to Covid-19, we are continuing with the book "Great Figures of the New Testament" written by Amy-Jill Levine.



## NOON PRAYER CLASS

!!Now Available On Zoom as well as in person!!

This newly obtained book, "The Power of a Praying Nation" by Stormie Omartian is a great reminder that we DO need to pray for our nation, esp. now with so much going on!

**On hold at this time.**  
**Watch for the resume date.**

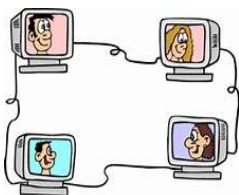
*Every Thursday @ 12:30 p.m.*  
*Church Parlor*

## Tuesday Morning Zoom Bible Study

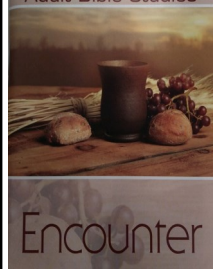
Be sure to sign in for Pastor Doug's Zoom Bible study every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion each week will be on the scripture that is to be used for the next Sunday's sermon.

Connect with others as we share our experiences, questions, and insights, and learn together!!



Adult Bible Studies



## FRIENDSHIP CLASS Every Sunday at 9 a.m.

**"Encounter"**

We will be catching up on the material that was not used in this time of being apart.

Come check it out!!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT ZOOM CLASS (Sept-April)

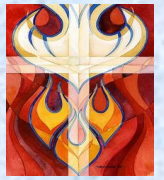
Wed. nights at 7:00 p.m.

We are finished for the 'season' and will look forward to what is ahead for this class in September.





# May 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2. Graduate Recog.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 9:15am Boat Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online	<b>3.</b> 9:00am Exercise  1:30-2:30 pm Commodities Distribution	<b>4.</b> 10:00am Zoom Bi- ble Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>5.</b> 9:00am Exercise  7:00pm Choir prac- tice	<b>6.</b>  Noon Prayer Class (In-person & Zoom)	<b>7.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>1. Meals            On            Wheels            Begins</b>  <b>8.</b>
<b>9. Mother's Day</b> 7:30am Board Meeting 9:00am Friendship Class 9:15am Boat Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online  	<b>10.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>11.</b> 10:00am Zoom Bi- ble Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers  5:30 Worship Mtg	<b>12.</b> 9:00am Exercise  2pm CWF Mtg. @ church parlor  7:00pm Choir prac- tice	<b>13.</b>  Noon Prayer Class (In-person & Zoom)	<b>14.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>15. Meals            On            Wheels            Ends</b>
<b>16.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 9:15am Boat Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online  1:30pm Wheat Ridge Services	<b>17.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>18.</b> 10:00am Zoom Bi- ble Study  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>19.</b> 9:00am Exercise  7:00pm Choir prac- tice	<b>20.</b>  Noon Prayer Class (In-person & Zoom)	<b>21.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>22.</b>  <b>Graduation</b>
<b>23. Pentecost</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 9:15am Boat Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online  4:00pm Elder's Mtg & Study	<b>24.</b> 9:00am Exercise  1:30-2:30 pm Commodities Distribution	<b>25.</b>  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>26.</b> 9:00am Exercise  7:00pm Choir prac- tice	<b>27.</b>  Noon Prayer Class (In-person & Zoom)	<b>28.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>29.</b>
<b>30.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 9:15am Boat Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online	<b>31.</b>  					

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



**Church** (785) 890-5233  
**Pastor's Cell** (785) 821-2794  
**E-mail:** Fccpastor@st-tel.net or  
 revdbamend@yahoo.com  
**Friendship Class** 9:00 a.m.  
**Boat Class** 9:15 a.m.  
**Fellowship Time** 10:00 a.m. (Refreshments served)  
**Worship Service** 10:30 a.m.  
**Disciple Zone 2.0 on Wednesday nights at 5:45 p.m.**  
*(classes for children and adults!)*  
 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)

**May 2021**

	2	9	16	23	30
<b>Elders</b>	Debbie Martin, Off Ron Vignery, Com	Kenny Griffith, Off Tracy Hillmer, Com	Tim Armknecht, Off Kim Cole, Com	Dick Hayden, Off Ron Vignery, Com	Debbie Griffith, Off Debbie Martin, Com
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Lois Cossman	Sean Davis	Connie Grieve	Kara Smith	Joan Reid
<b>Greeter(s):</b>	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders
<b>Servers</b>	<i>Hebrews 11:1</i>	<i>Now</i>	<i>faith</i>	<i>is the</i>	<i>assurance</i>
<b>Candlelighters</b>	<i>of</i>	<i>things</i>	<i>hoped</i>	<i>for,</i>	<i>the</i>
<b>Nursery</b>	<i>conviction</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>things</i>	<i>not</i>	<i>seen.</i>
<b>A/V Tech-Closer</b>	Terry Smith	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith
<b>Snacks</b>	Debbie Griffith	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA