

THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

May

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Goodland, Kansas

2023

We Are At War

Everything is a battle. We live at war, but we will not be overcome as we are in Christ. The world sees it but not in its fullness. Turn on the news and everyone is at war with everyone else. We live in a time of peace in certain respects and yet there is hostility. We may not be facing a world war and guns may not be taking lives around us but the devil is still at work in many ways.

As Christians we expect all of this hostility and chaos around us even as we face a bigger battle. We're told that there will be wars and rumors of wars and yet our battle isn't ultimately against flesh and blood. Paul encourages us to be strong in the Lord's might. God gives us armor against every plan of the devil. Our ultimate battle isn't ultimately against the people around us, but against the devil and his power. We have no hope to fight in that battle apart from the armor graciously given to us by God. Christ defeated the devil and gives us armor as we move toward the last day.

You are in a battle and it's easy to get war-torn. You need God's armor. You need God's nourishment. You need healing that only comes from Christ. Christ brought you into His kingdom with what you need to survive and thrive in Christ. That's the last thing that the devil wants you to remember. He wants you to think that the right chemo will take care of the cancer and then everything will be fine. He wants you to think that the right job will fix the money problem and then the world will spin rightly again. The world wants you to believe that if you're organized and disciplined enough you have nothing to worry about.

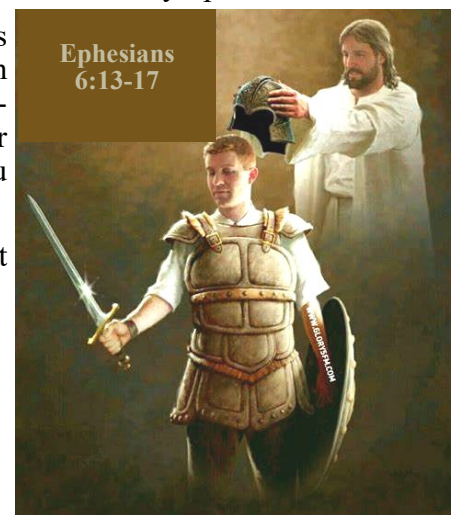
God has something different to say. God tells you that He made you His own and His grace is sufficient in your weakness. He reminds you over and over again that this is a dark world, but that He sent His Son to be the light of the world. His Son overcame darkness for you. The devil may try to trick and deceive and entice, but Christ comes with the truth that this world will fail you. Christ will not fail you. The best medicine will not prevent eternal death. The most money will not keep the car from finally rusting apart. The discipline and self control and philosophies of the world will not ultimately save. Christ has.

Our comfort and strength is in Christ who defeated death for us and now sends us boldly out into the world equipped for the spiritual war that we cannot see but can constantly perceive as we hear about death and violence going on around us. You get to go out living in this peace and sharing that peace with others. We see that this armor is all rooted in God's work for us through Christ and that we continue to need to be clothed in this armor more than anything else. We need to hear God's Word. We need to be connected to Jesus in His sacrament. We need to pray. This is what God gives to us and so we use these gifts by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We don't want to be the people who live as though a connection to Christ is optional or that going to church is what it means to be a Christians rather than living with all things submitted to Christ. That will get us killed on the battlefield. There is always a battle for you and you only make it through forever through your connection to Christ by faith. Christ washed you and made you His own in His kingdom which cannot be overcome.

Even as our bodies fail us and the promises of the world crash and burn, Christ continues to be with you in the battle. That will not change.

Just Don



FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

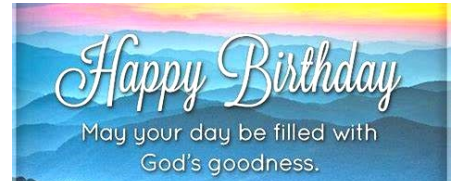
Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Roger Collins
 Galen Cooper Lois Cossman
 Glenda Hamilton
 Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson
 Lonnie Kerr
 Jennifer Martin Vetha Petty
 Bernie Taylor Emma Van Vleet



Please pray for our Active Military:
 Tyson Reed, Chris Elliott, Nathan Craig, D J Glassman



5/1	Joni Guyer
5/2	Jessica Vignery
5/3	Pat Nelson Peyton Fenner
5/4	Kaiden Kibel
5/7	Kelsi Ihrig Ptacek
5/8	Etta Mae Keirns Travis Jones
5/11	Ezekiel Kopp
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 Marie Ptacek
5/21	Betty Hageman
5/22	Taitem Jones
5/26	Jaydn Vignery Lois Cossman Tracy Hillmer
5/27	Robert Coad
5/30	Matt Ploeger
5/31	Andrew Taylor

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
4/2	\$2452.77	\$1613.00	-\$839.77	70
4/9	\$2452.77	\$4903.00	+\$2450.23	96
4/16	\$2452.77	\$2943.00	+\$490.23	91
4/23	\$2452.77	\$1755.00	-\$697.77	83
4/30	\$2452.77	\$1927.00	-\$525.77	69

FYI—blankets & first aid kits

In case you ever need to know, we have **First Aid Kits in three locations:**

- 1) Bottom door of shelving unit by the front doors
- 2) Secretary's office on top of the mail boxes behind the desk
- 3) Drawer beneath the microwave in the kitchen.



Blankets are located on the top shelf of the coat rack across from the Prayer Room by the front entrance.



5/2	Don & Harriet Warren
5/13	Nathan & Brooke Heiter
5/23	Kenny & Janet Davis
5/24	Jeff & Julie Vignery
5/28	Andrea & Zeb Graves
5/30	Dick & Joy Hayden Mike & Amy Fenner
5/31	Brian & Gwen Jenner

NEEDS FOR THE CHURCH:



Coffee

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

Snippets from the last Board Meeting



- ◆ Property Comm: Sean Davis has volunteered to do the playground upkeep. Joni Guyer acquired a free metal basketball backboard and Kenny Griffith is resurfacing it for use. The new wireless tabletop microphones have arrived and working well. Work on the sound system itself continues. A 'new to us' Hustler mower is being purchased. A new linden tree is being purchased to replace the tree that had to be removed.
- ◆ Potluck meals will be held on the 5th Sunday.
- ◆ The Elders are taking a retreat in Great Bend on April 27-29 to focus on self-care and relationships.
- ◆ The Installation Committee reported an outline of plans for the Installation Service weekend. July 8th there will be a 'meet & greet' meal for our congregation. July 9th there will be a light meal after the morning service with the Installation beginning at 2:30pm—reception to follow.
- ◆ VBS will partner with Methodists and possibly Lutherans this year

~~~SAVE THE DATE~~~



On July 8th & 9th 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:

May (22?) 2023 @ 1:30pm



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



You will be missed...

John Hamilton joined this church almost one year ago and was welcomed with open arms! John passed away on April 14, 2023—a wise man who was noted for his integrity and quiet strength. He readily gave credit to God for anything he had been given in life. Jesus Christ was and is his Savior!! Prayers for comfort & guidance for his wife, Glenda & their families.

Thanks expressed:

Marie Marsh wants to thank the choir & Debbie Griffith for adding her favorite Easter hymn to the service that Sunday. This is one that isn't known to our congregation but brings such joy to her in remembering her past Easters. She isn't usually the tearful type, but as the hymn was sung with the choir around her, it happened. So glad we could add to your joy of celebrating the Risen Christ, Marie!!



Summer Pool Party (Baptism)

There are some who have expressed a desire to be candidates for baptism. YEAHHHH!! Pastor will be offering classes on Tuesdays, May 9, 16, & 23 from 6-6:30pm to offer instruction. You will need to attend at least two of the three classes. Anyone else who has this same desire should contact Pastor or the church office as soon as possible.



Breath of the Spirit The breathing I did yesterday will not keep me alive today. I must continue to breathe afresh every moment, or my life will cease. In like manner, yesterday's grace and spiritual strength must be renewed, and the Holy Spirit must continue to breathe on my soul from moment to moment in order that I may continue to enjoy him and work the work that has been assigned me. ~Augustus Toplady (borrowed from the Dighton CC newsletter)

The special Pentecost offering (received May 21 & 28) supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing and sustaining new congregations is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs.



Meals on Wheels

In May, it will be our turn to deliver the Meals on Wheels food to those who need help with getting healthy food to eat. Our assigned timeframe is May 1st -15th. Please call Connie Grieve @ 785-821-4433 or Debbie Martin @ 785-899-6937 to sign up for the days you can help with this.

It is a gratifying project to participate in and can be a fun time as well if done in conjunction with others!

Who Am I?

Last month's "Who am I?" was **George Van Vleet**

1. Did you deliver May baskets as a child? No, I've never had the pleasure
2. What do you wish you had a never-ending supply of? Carmel Cake
3. Where is your favorite vacation spot? Anywhere a cruise ship goes
4. If you could visit any era for one day, what era would you like to experience or re-experience?
I would love to go back in time to visit the 50's & 60's
5. What is your favorite day of the week? Saturday
6. What was the last movie you saw? The Black Panther
7. If you could meet ANYONE, living or dead, who would you like to meet? My Grandmother
8. What drew you to FCC? My husband
9. Your prayer for our church would be.... Strength, Peace, Increase, Unity and that the work of the church be done in the name of Jesus and His love



Who am I?



Giftng of the lilies:

Emma VanVleet: In memory of 1) Harold Van Vleet, 2) George & Margaret VanVleet and Roy & Julia Everett

Kenny & Debbie Griffith: For friends and family (absent & present)

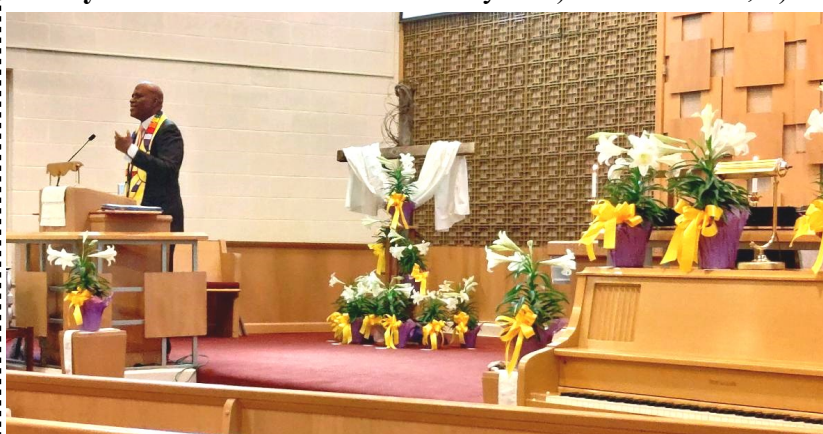
Debbie Martin: In memory of Bud & Linda Fogo

Terry & Kara Smith: In memory of 1) Marcia Smith, J.R. Smith, Rick Shalz 2) Bob & Marvel Lewis, David Lewis, Kim Buller

Kenny & Janet Davis, Sean & Katrina Davis: In memory of 1) John & Doris Jean Davis, 2) Jim & Mildred Shaver

LJ & Jessica Von Lintel: In memory of Barb Horton

Kenny & Connie Grieve: In memory of 1) Lenna Studer, 2) Frank Grieve



Bob & Mary Smith: In memory of 1) Barbara Daniels, 2) Harry & Veta Smith and James & Annie Trimble

George & Mary Ann Van Vleet: In memory of 1) Harold Van Vleet, 2) Lee Tubbs

What a difference the lilies make! They are little trumpets heralding the Good News of the Risen Christ!! Thank you to the gifters and to Joni Guyer for such an inspiring display (yes, I was taking pictures during the sermon, but I was also listening).

Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)



- **He Is Risen!
- **Disney Sermon Series: Frozen—Let It Go
- **Disney Sermon Series: Aladdin—Don't Wish...Pray
- **Disney Sermon Series: Pinocchio—No Strings Attached

Thank You... To the Nifty Needlers for the lap quilts from the GRMC Auxiliary Board:

- Thank you—You are appreciated!! Connie Soellner
- Thank you so much! Marilyn Collett
- Thank you so much! Tina Malsom
- Thank you—Faye Paxton
- Thank You—Wilma Pfannenstiel
- Thank you so much! They are beautiful! Roberta Pinnalto
- Thank You! Janice Pearson
- Thanx! Tina
- The quilts are beautiful. Thank You! Lori McKenzie



Before they were gifted, we prayed for those who would be receiving them and the caring staff that would give them!

May 7th—Graduation Sunday

Our congregation has two seniors graduating from High School this year. They are:

Lexus Davis (right) daughter of Sean & Katrina Davis and Justin & Rosa Colby

Lexus plans include attending Northwest Tech, majoring in Cloud Computing. She is hoping for eventual internship with Goodland Tech.



Josie Hill (Left) daughter of Sara Hill and Ryan Hill

Josie plans on attending Johnson County Community College to study & receive her paralegal certificate. She hopes to continue her education in law after gaining experience in the field.

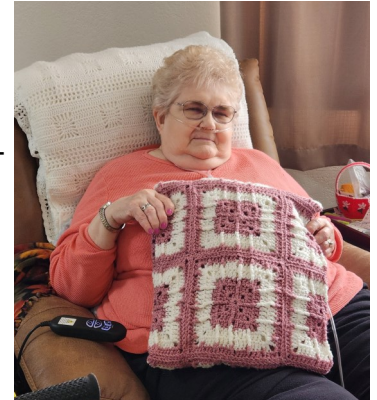
Nifty Needlers



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

In her usual fashion, Bernie Taylor was thinking of others as she herself was needing care!

This blanket was crocheted from the yarn that was donated by Tim Armknecht after his wife, Shaunna, had passed. Now the blanket is being gifted back for their daughter, Amanda. She then can feel the warmth and comfort of the blanket itself, as well as the love of Bernie and her mother!!



We are always glad to see our sewing helper, little Ellen! (left)



Sharon Finley still finds time to sew, even though the winter has been a little rough.

It's nice to have young ladies interested in learning to sew—great job on the bag!!



Calling all sandwich makers.

We are scheduled to start making sandwiches for the summer youth food program. It will run from June 5th to July 21st.

It is hard to realize, but kids are going hungry in the summer without the school food to depend on.



CWF Events

The last meeting of the season will be Wed., May 10th, at 12:00 noon and is a Potluck lunch. Emma Van Vleet will have the devotions.



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!



Now beginning:



FRIENDSHIP CLASS

Every Sunday at 9 a.m.



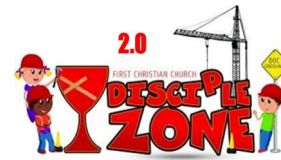
“The Life of Faith”

Sabbath

May

The Spiritual Practice of Self-Care

- May 7 ~ Collective Work, Collective Rest
- May 14 ~ Sabbath as a Palace in Time
- May 21 ~ The Redemption of Creation
- May 28 ~ Celebrating Sabbath



!!ALL NEW!!

DISCIPLE ZONE 2.0

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

We are trying something new this fall - 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!

Questions? Call Tricia Meier @ 785-728-7045

FCC



YOUTH

GROUP

6th-12th Grade

Each Sunday @ 5:30pm

In the youth room

!! Come, be a part !!

Tricia Meier @ 785-728-7045

<<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



May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1. Meals on Wheels begins 9:00am Exercise	2. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	3. 9:00am Exercise	4. 1:00pm Game Day Group 5:00pm Worship & Music Comm. Mtg	5. 9:00am Exercise	6. 2:00pm Ihrig Baby Shower
7. 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 (Use of Church-Birthday Party) 5:30pm FCC Youth Grp	8. 9:00am Exercise	9. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 6pm Baptism Class 7:00pm Bible Study	10. 9:00am Exercise 12:00pm CWF Mtg. Noon Potluck	11. 1:00pm Game Day Group	12. 9:00am Exercise	13.
14. Mother's Day 7:30am Board Meeting 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 5:30pm FCC Youth Grp	15. Meals on Wheels ends 9:00am Exercise	16. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 6pm Baptism Class 7:00pm Bible Study	17. 9:00am Exercise	18. 1:00pm Game Day Group	19. 9:00am Exercise	20.
21. 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 1:30pm Service at Wheat Ridge 5:30pm FCC Youth Grp	22. 9:00am Exercise (??) 1:30pm Commodities Distribution (??)	23. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 6pm Baptism Class 7:00pm Bible Study	24. 9:00am Exercise	25. 1:00pm Game Day Group	26. 9:00am Exercise	27.
28. Pentecost 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 5:30pm FCC Youth Grp	29. Memorial Day Church Office Closed	30.	31.			

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

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 2023

	7	14	21	28
Elders	Dick Hayden, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	Terry Smith, Off Ron Vignery, Com	Debbie Martin, Off Tim Armknecht, Com	Kim Cole, Off Terry Smith, Com
Worship Leader	Glenda Hamilton	Connie Grieve	Joy Hayden	Emma Van Vleet
Greeter(s):	Mary Daise	Ariane Barber	Nona Mason	Kara Smith
A/V Tech-Closer	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith	Andrew Luna



Lamentations 3:21-31

In Keeping with Scripture OR Scripturally Speaking

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it, to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one's cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject forever.