

THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

November

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Goodland, Kansas

2022



Thanksgiving is coming. It is a time when we are supposed to give thanks. A lot of times we think of the concrete things: we give thanks for food, our clothes, our homes. These are all good things for which we give thanks to God. However, there is usually something we leave off of our list of thanksgiving. The apostle Paul often speaks of being thankful for . . . our sufferings. Let me be the first one to say how odd it is to say we should be “thankful” for suffering.

Being thankful for pain, for emotional trauma, for disease, for persecutions we face as Christians, just seems to go against our very grain, doesn't it? Who wants to suffer? I don't. I doubt you do either. We try to shy away from every form of suffering imaginable. But in doing so, we also miss something: becoming so broken that we rely upon Christ for everything. Every single one of us will go through suffering in this life. It's a fact. We will. Suffering is guaranteed in this fallen world. We will each face some form of suffering as our bodies break down. We will face spiritual sufferings and temptations. Our minds may become fractured and broken from hurt caused by ourselves or others. Our children will also face struggles no child should ever go through. And yes, then there is death. Each of us will watch the ones we hold dearest die. One day, we ourselves will also go through death as well. None of us is immune to it.

In spite of all these things though, Paul still had the guts to say, “we rejoice in our sufferings.” Was he mad? Some people might say so. I have another thought. Paul understood the secret of not just enduring suffering, but actually seeing it as a time God can turn into something good. Just as God turned the terribleness of the cross into the salvation of the entire world, the Apostle Paul was also able to see how God can “re-cycle” the terribleness of suffering we go through into something good, beneficial, and faith strengthening.

In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul speaks about an illness he was called by God to endure. We don't know exactly what Paul was suffering, but it was bad enough that Paul asked God to take this illness away three times. God's answer to Paul's request was basically a “no” as God said, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Paul didn't cry about this, or moan that this was unfair. Paul's response was, “Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” “For when I am weak, then I am strong.” Paul could say this because his strength did not rely upon Himself. Paul relied only upon the strength of Jesus Christ. It took a bit of a beating for Paul to realize this.

Suffering is serious business. Disease, death, sadness, heartache are not laughing matters to be ridiculed or taken lightly. They are serious. God is also equally serious in meeting all of you in those moments. Christ is there with Himself calling you to remember that indeed if anything “good” can be said to come from suffering, it is this: God is allowing you to become weak, so that He might become strong in you. Now, there is something we can truly be thankful for!

Just Don

FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Sharon Bowker Roger Collins
 Galen Cooper Lois Cossman
 John & Glenda Hamilton
 Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson
 Lonnie Kerr Craig Lawson
 Jennifer Martin Sharon Mann
 Marie Marsh Vetha Petty
 Jeannie Pyles Sherida Shoff
 Kollins Smades Bernie Taylor
 Emma Van Vleet



Please pray for our Active Military:

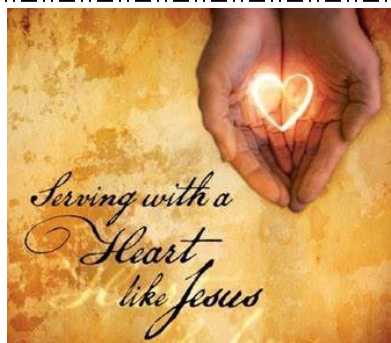
Tyson Reed, Chris Elliott, Nathan Craig, D J Glassman



11/2	Jaxon Vignery Jed Strnad
11/4	Gwen Jenner Brian Jenner
11/6	Emily Smith
11/10	Jonathan Brown
11/11	Annalee Luckert
11/12	Dennis Daise
11/13	Ace Arteaga Jones Michelle Ginn Pam Sheldon Harriet Warren
11/14	Brad Keirns
11/16	Stuart Pittman Rooks Strnad
11/17	Lonnie Kerr
11/18	Mike Fenner
11/19	Annabelle "Ellie" Ploeger
11/22	Dawn Kibel
11/25	Lowell Coon
11/26	Birkley Barnes
11/28	David Griffith Jeff Mason

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
10/2	\$2,249.70	\$1707.00	-\$542.70	68
10/9	\$2,249.70	\$1730.00	-\$519.70	61
10/16	\$2,249.70	\$2430.00	+\$180.30	56
10/23	\$2,249.70	\$3897.00	+\$1647.30	37
10/30	\$2,249.70	\$955.00	-\$1294.70	54



There are many opportunities to serve in the church. It takes everyone working together in their special gifts to keep things going in service to God.

One of these opportunities to serve is being involved in the business of the church. Decisions have to be made and activities overseen.

If you, or someone you can think of, would be interested in doing such things, please contact Kara Smith or Debbie Martin by November 10th. *Soon we will be electing board members and your name could be included on the ballot!!*

**We now have a new cleaning system that covers many cleaning tasks, so there are some items that we won't need to ask for anymore. If you are wanting to donate extra items in addition to those listed below, please ask to be sure we still need them.



NEEDS FOR THE CHURCH:

Paper Towels & 39gal "outside" weight trash bags

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



11/7	Kameron & Britney-Ann Duncan Josh & Helen Vignery
11/9	Richard & Ladona Frerichs
11/12	Robert & Michelle Coad



Snippets from the last Board Meeting

- ◆ Pastor Don will lead two sessions in a youth conference that is being planned by the ministerial alliance on Nov. 4 & 5. He has also led a class on spiritual wellness at the Tech College recently.
- ◆ The Elder's report included a successful 'Shootout' this year with \$343 received in offerings. Also, someone has been approached to consider joining the elders for 2023.
- ◆ The FCC Youth Group has been meeting on Sundays and number 11-14 kids. They will be studying a curriculum that explores relationships. Many activities are being planned including service projects. Many thanks to Tricia Meier (and Andrew Luna) for her hard work!
- ◆ Membership & Evangelism is still handing out newcomer bags with goodies and information about our church. Marie Marsh is making them.
- ◆ New leadership is being organized for the Commodities Distribution.
- ◆ The gas company found that the venting of the hot water heater did not meet code regulations. Property Comm is attending to this.
- ◆ Jo Simmons has resigned from the board for personal reasons.

USDA Commodities Distribution

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

December 2022 @ 1:30pm



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

CFW EVENTS

The next meeting will be Wed., Nov. 9th, at 2:00pm. Jo Simmons is giving the devotion and Birkley Barnes is providing the refreshments.

Our CFW Soup Dinner was a great success. We served around 90 people & about 12 take-out meals. The proceeds after expenses were \$732.81. We appreciate the donations of food, money, & time, and the last minute helpers. Thanks to the ladies who prepared the chili, chicken noodle, and vegetable soup; as well as the pies and cakes. Also, thanks to the guys & gals for helping in the kitchen and clean-up. Thanks to the youth group and their leaders who helped bus tables. We appreciate the ones who helped advertise in the community. Fun times with those who came to join in on a good meal. Looking forward to next year! Many blessings, Connie



Calendars & Note Pads for Sale

The Membership & Evangelism committee is having their annual magnetic note pads & calendars for sale. Be sure to pick some



up!! Don't forget—they are good gifts as well.

The calendars will be \$8 each and are filled with uplifting pictures of God's creation. The magnetic note pads have a word of inspiration at the top to brighten your day.

Nominated for Award...

FCC's very own Brooke Whitmore Heiter has been nominated for:

"Teacher of the Year"

It will be exciting to see how this plays out! Just being nominated is an honor in itself, but just know that we, her church family, think she is worthy of this title!!



Thank you so much, Pastor Warren, for officiating at my mother's funeral. I know it is hard when you don't know a person, but you were right on from just listening to our stories. Also, thanks to you and your staff for the impromptu reception at the church.

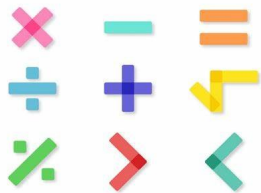
Diana Black & family of Goldie Pizel

WHO AM I?



Last month's "Who am I?" was **Marcia "Mike" Drake**

1. Name something you are thankful for this Thanksgiving season. Spending time with family
2. What is your favorite food for Thanksgiving? Cream corn
3. What do you like to do in your spare time? Play games
4. If you could go anywhere on vacation where would you like to go? Florida
5. What is your favorite singer, group, or song? "Son Of A Sinner" by Jelly Roll
6. Do you have a favorite App? Life 360
7. Tell us your favorite subject or activity at school? Math
7. Tell us something you enjoy about First Christian Church? Getting to know more and more people as they come



New & Old Friends...

On Oct. 30th, we witnessed the baptism of a new friend & brother in Christ, Shawn Ryan. But wait—that's not all! We had two more who are well known to us come forward for baptism, Emily Hanson and Jerry Engelbrecht (baptism will happen on Nov 6th).

What a blessing to see lives being touched and people responding to God's call on their lives!! We celebrate with and for you, and look forward to growing our newly formed relationships.



Back (L-R):
Shawn Ryan,
Pastor Don Warren

Front (L-R):
Junior Dowdy
(friend of Shawn),
Emily Hanson,
Jerry Engelbrecht

Picture of God

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "but no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

- **Let Jesus calm your troubled waters!
- **Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church
- **You are never too lost to be saved!



Red poinsettias for the sanctuary this year will be \$12.50 each. You may contact the office if you wish to order.

The deadline for ordering this year is Monday, Nov. 21st.

If you are donating them in memory or honor of others, please be prepared to supply a list of names to be listed on the tag.

Red is the color typically associated with love which is true of why Jesus came. It also is the color of the blood that was shed on the cross— such love for us!

Special Thanksgiving Offering to be taken—

On Nov. 13 & 20th a Thanksgiving Offering will be received. This goes to Higher Education & Leadership Ministries of the Disciples of Christ. Watch for the bulletin add-on for more details on how this helps others and the church at large!

Meals Planned

The CHURCH Thanksgiving Meal:

This will be on Sunday, Nov. 20th after services.

The CWF will arrange for the turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, and dressing. All of the other food will be potluck from the congregation. Come and share in this family's gathering!



The COMMUNITY Thanksgiving Meal:

This will be held at FCC on Thanksgiving day, Thurs. Nov. 24th. @ noon. A freewill offering for Genesis is gratefully accepted.

There is a signup sheet in the entryway if you would care to help provide some food for this outreach effort. Tracy Hillmer will be back to oversee this meal.

There are no requirements for those who attend the meal, so if you need a place to enjoy the food and fellowship that day, come!

Nifty Needlers



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

Bernie sewed her granddaughter's 4-H ribbons together to make a blanket. She even found 4-H fabric for the back and binding! (below)



It is wonderful to be able to crochet such a sweet little dress and put it on a precious little baby! Am I right, Virginia? (above)

!!Soooooo much talent used for good!!



~ It Only Takes a Spark ~

Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

William Arthur Ward



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 Studying:

The book of

Esther



!!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



FRIENDSHIP CLASS

Every Sunday at 9 a.m.

“Freedom” November

Faithful Conversations
The Spiritual Practice of Listening

- Nov. 6 ~ Showing Respect for Other Faith Traditions
- Nov. 13 ~ Working for Abiding Peace
- Nov. 20 ~ Lessons From Other Faith Traditions
- Nov. 27 ~ Sensitivity Training

<<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

November



2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	2. 9:00am Exercise 7pm Choir Practice	3. 1:00pm Game Day Group 6:00pm Budget Mtg	4. 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners	5.
6. 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 (constitution revision vote after worship) 5:30pm FCC Youth	7. 9:00am Exercise 5:00 Worship & Music Comm. Mtg	8. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	9. 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners 2:00pm CWF Mtg 7pm Choir Practice	10. 1:00pm Game Day Group	11. 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners	12.
13. 7:30am Board Meeting 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 5:30pm FCC Youth Group	14. 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners	15. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	16. 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners 7pm Choir Practice	17. 1:00pm Game Day Group	18. 9:00am Exercise	19.
20. 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 12:00 CHURCH Thanksgiving Meal (info pg5) 5:30pm FCC Youth	21. Poinsettia Order Deadline 9:00am Exercise 10:30am Exercise for beginners	22. 10:00 Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	23. (9:00am Exercise?) 10:30am Exercise for beginners No Choir Practice	24. Office Closed (Community T-giving Meal)	25. Office Closed (Family Gathering in the church)	26.
27. 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship & Disciple Zone 2.0 5:30pm FCC Youth Group	28. 9:00am Exercise	29.	30.			



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)

November 2022

	6	13	20	27	
Elders	Ron Vignery, Off Kim Cole, Com	Debbie Griffith, Off Dick Hayden, Com	Debbie Martin, Off Tim Armknecht, Com	Kim Cole, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	
Worship Leader	Joy Hayden	Birkley Barnes	Tim Armknecht	Kenny Grieve	
Greeter(s):	Glenda Hamilton	Mike Drake	Kenny Griffith	Kenny & Connie Grieve	
A/V Tech-Closer	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Andrew Luna	Kenny Griffith	

1 Thess. 4: 15-17

In Keeping with Scripture OR Scripturally Speaking

15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; 17 then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord.