

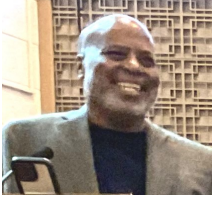
THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

October

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Goodland, Kansas

2023

The Seasons of Life



When you think about the environment, you can notice a complex cycling of its features through stages and transitions. Nothing stays the same for long—rather, seasons come and go naturally with the predictable transformations that our world endures. Even in the short-term, when you have that unexpected cold day in July, you know things will return to their typical state.

This mirrors the human transitions through the four seasons of life, which are each associated with specific psychological and physical states of being. As we transition from one season to the next, our circumstances, needs, mindsets, and actions have to evolve—just like the transitions that occur in the environment. Accepting and evolving alongside these cycles of life allows us to glide through our time on earth effortlessly, knowing that our circumstances are always temporary. This mindset allows us to make the best possible use of what we have, rather than resisting these natural transitions, which can lead to psychological struggle and a weakening of happiness and fulfillment in life.

Each season of life teaches us lessons about ourselves, other people, and life in general. They help us transform psychologically, physically, and socially. They strengthen our souls and resilience and enliven our spirits in the face of adversity. We celebrate when we succeed and we complain when we fail, but eventually, we start to really consider who we are, what we want out of life, and how we want to move forward from each moment onwards. The seasons of life shape our character and lay the framework for the life we have ahead of us. Mostly, they help us evolve as humans.

Season 1: I am starting with fall because that's where most of us are, in the Fall of our lives and it is coincidentally, the season we are heading into. Fall. Autumn is a season for survival and handling problems and dealing with past mistakes. It sums up the past times in your life where you failed to sustain the required momentum to achieve your goals. Because of this, things didn't go as planned, you felt like you lost control of your circumstances, and you limited yourself with your sense of self-doubt. However, it's also a time to reap the benefits of your hard work and set yourself up to finish strong with whatever you've started in life.

This is the time for you to be a mentor for those who are in earlier seasons and teach people from your mistakes and your successes. Autumn is a time to be open to inevitable changes in your family, health, life, and society. Autumn is the time to be open to unavoidable changes in your family, well-being, life, and society. While you started to put other people's needs first in the summer as you grew your family, this becomes an even more important and primary factor in the fall. You're still caring for your children, setting them up for success and guiding them as they're emerging into adulthood—but you also may be caring for aging parents and other sick family members.

During the fall, you may find yourself: Developing new mindsets. Thinking strategically. Acting on past dreams (such as travelling). Developing new habits. Enjoying your relationships. People also experience the following emotions during this time: Love. Gratitude. Trust. Appreciation. Contentment. Pride. Satisfaction. During the fall of your life, you will likely engage in some reflection to help you determine what you want to achieve in the coming years. You'll have the self-confidence that you need to live in your own skin and not worry about what other people think. This is a time to care for the people you love—including yourself because you will have developed a great sense of self-love.

Here are some actions you can take to get the most out of the fall season of your life: Stop trying to impress other people. Focus on your family and the things that you want. Engage in self-care. Listen to the changing needs of your body. Invest in friendships—these connections will help you get through this season of change alongside others who are doing the same.

Just Don



FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Roger Collins Galen Cooper
Lois Cossman Robert Dodge
Glenda Hamilton
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson
Lonnie Kerr Braxton Meier & family
Vetha Petty Bob & Mary Smith
Bernie Taylor Don Warren family
Families of Emma Van Vleet & Ken Yoke



Please pray for our Active Military:

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



10/2	Rebekah Clark
10/3	Connie Grieve Jacque Cooper
10/4	Kirkland Warren
10/7	Josie Hill Megan Murray Vola Fenner Chris Ross
10/8	Michael Warren Trevor Allen Mason Mary Ann Van Vleet
10/9	Emily Luckert
10/16	Sharon Finley Liz Hill
10/17	Emily Brown Katrina Davis
10/18	Amber Ontiveroz
10/20	Ione Todd Jason Artzer
10/21	Tatum Ptacek
10/23	Catherine Ptacek Katie Coad
10/24	Ron Vignery
10/25	Angie Jones Katelynn Hill Lexus McCord
10/28	Jaxton Topliff
10/30	Keith Daise Tailynn Van Vleet
10/31	Phyllis Daniels

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
9/3	\$2452.77	\$5386.00	+\$2933.23	67
9/10	\$2452.77	\$1351.00	-\$1101.77	54
9/17	\$2452.77	\$3442.00	+\$989.23	54
9/24	\$2452.77	\$1601.00	-\$851.77	53

Quinceanera (kēnsān'yērə)

In the past couple months, you may have noticed that the church calendar included two "special blessing" dates. Here is what they are all about according to the Topeka pastor that presided over the second one. Among Latinos, a celebration of a girl's fifteenth birthday & her transition from childhood to young womanhood typically involves a ceremony followed by a party. Pastor Winters explained that on that day they celebrate their childhood, but after that day she is changed. Early in tradition, it was followed by marriage. He encouraged her to seek God in her living, but she has to choose this, realizing that she is a part of the future. There was prayer and an anointing also.



Nursery Attendants Needed...

It is a special privilege to nurture and provide care for the little ones of our church in the nursery. Not only does it build relationships, but you are allowing the parents time for spiritual nourishment.



??Are you willing to take a Sunday or two??



10/2	Eric & Stephanie (Sheldon) Marella
10/3	Kevin & Wendy Oller

Snippets from the last Board Meeting



- ◆ We are already holding services at Wheat Ridge on the 3rd Sunday of each month, but may be considering doing the same at Topside Manor as well
- ◆ Property: Two windows (previously purchased) need to be installed and have a bid for that to happen. The tire swing needs parts replaced proactively & we are checking to see if some of the SCCF money can be used for this. Service Master will be helping to fix the moisture issues in the baptistry.
- ◆ The FCC choir would like to treat the Lutheran singers to a meal out as a thank you for their time and efforts in regards to the Installation music.
- ◆ Tricia Meier has resigned from being head of the youth programs. She has much on her plate with family and needs to focus her efforts there. Many thanks for your work in this area, Tricia!
- ◆ North School asked for us to consider allowing them to use our church building as a refuge for the children in times of crisis. It was a yes!

Thank You... to those who so faithfully work to feed those families who need nourishment (hugs & food) in their time of loss. Kara Smith is the head of the Bereavement Group & does an excellent job! Also, we need to remember those who, behind the scenes, make & provide the food that is served. A great gift of love all around!!



A NEW FACE IN THE OFFICE—YEAHHHH!

It is with great pleasure that we introduce **Taylor Schulte** to you. She is the new church secretary (in training) and will be up to speed soon.



She is the wife of Kyle Schulte and they together have a son, Benjamin, who is 4y/o. Taylor is coming out of the “stay-at-home mom” status and thankfully we were her job of choice.

Welcome, Taylor!!

Ongoing playground update~

The new equipment has been ordered but is on backorder (must be a popular piece?). The storage area has been cleared out and is ready to receive it when it does come.



USDA Commodities Distribution

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

Nov/Dec (?), 2023 @ 1:30pm



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

The Rev. Dr. David Dubovich has been helping during Ken Marston's sabbatical, but now, with Ken's resignation, he has accepted the role of full-time Acting Assoc Regional Minister. Rev. Dubovich will then be leaving as pastor to Park Place Christian Church, Hutchinson. We pray for all during these changes and are excited to see what God has planned going forward!



A plea for toys has been issued for the nursery. They don't have to be 'brand new' but in good condition. Like the adults, a change is needed once in a while to keep the doldrums from setting in. It also shows them that we value their presence in the church.

~THANK YOU in advance~



Welcome, little one!!

This long awaited baby girl is finally here.

Genetry Mae Heiter was born on 9/2/2023, weighing in at 4lbs 13oz. & 18.5 inches long.

Her parents, Nathan & Brooke (Whitmore) Heiter, are feeling more than blessed by her arrival.

~CONGRATULATIONS~



Who Am I?

(Last month's "Who am I?" was **Jeff Mason**)

1. Do you have a favorite memory of Halloween? Trick or Treating with my children when they were young. More often than not, we'd get the first snow.
2. Candy corn—must have or can do without? Yuck!
3. What do you like best about Fall? Fewer bugs, pumpkin pie and creamer
4. What's the last thing you made? I enjoy cooking. Dinner for my family: smoked brisket, french onion soup, and crème brûlée. (with help) Editor's comment: Where do I go to sign up???
5. Tell us something about yourself that we probably don't know. I love off-beat films and musicals.
6. Where were you born and raised? I was born in Lima, Peru and raised in Holland, Texas and Colorado.
7. We hear you do a lot of traveling...have you been to all 50 states? No, only 36
8. If you had endless resources what would you like to see come to fruition at FCC?
I would like to see Pastor Don's message get out to more people (ie: television, radio, and community outreach programs)



Who am I?



<<Fun Bible Trivia Questions (thanks, Birkley!)>>

- 1) How many words are in the shortest verse in the Bible? (John 11:35)
- 2) What were the first 'spoken' words in the Bible? (Genesis 1:3)
- 3) Who shut the door of Noah's ark? (Genesis 7:16)
- 4) Which apostle was a tent maker? (Acts 18: 1-3)
- 5) How many wives did King Solomon have? (1 Kings 11:3)
- 6) How tall was the giant, Goliath? (1 Samuel 17:4)
- 7) How many days, after birth, was Jesus officially nameless? (Luke 2:21)
- 8) What is the last word in the Bible? (Revelation 22:21)



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Let's remember to show appreciation to our Pastor, Don Warren. We should do this year 'round, but often we get busy and neglect to.

A great reminder, also, to be mindful of the many hats he wears & the many hours it takes to do so.

I think he would agree that our prayer support is vital as well!



Adding to those we will see in heaven! ;-)

We are so proud to announce that on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, Tailynn VanVleet and Ryker VanVleet were baptized with the assistance of their father, Justin, and grandfather, George VanVleet. This took place just outside of Topside Manor.

The plan was to allow Emma (great grandmother) to be able to see the events unfold. She passed away the night before, but no doubt she was there in their hearts!

!Blessings on your Christian Journey!



Reflections from our Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

- **My way IS the high-way ~God~
- **Those who put God first will be happy at last
- **A person who knows everything has a lot to learn
- **Jesus is my rock. My name is on his roll



The music is evolving here at FCC!!

With the addition of George & Mary Ann Van Vleet (guitar, voice, bass) and Barb Moreland (flute), Jeff Mason (bass, voice) and I (keys) are loving the variety of music and styles that are now augmented. What this adds to the service is immeasurable. Thank you all and looking forward to what is yet to come!! Debbie G



From the Elderado Shootout:

The official reading of the Wonkey Donkey (Hee-Haw!). Just wait until next year.....there is more to this story (Hee-Haw)!! We will keep you in suspense till then.

The Elders are considering how they will use the monies collected from this and prior events to benefit those who are in need. Thank you!



CWF Events

The next meeting will be Oct. 11 @ 2:00pm. This will be a regular meeting in the church parlor. The Harvest Soup Dinner plans will be finalized then.

Devotions: Jo Simmons
Refreshments: Birkley Barnes



Many thanks to all who participated in delivering meals on Wheels for September. We hope you have been blessed by your efforts as much as you were a blessing to those who received the meals!!

Nifty Needlers

Every Tuesday @ 2 p.m. in the Church's Sewing Room .



Below is a photo of the quilt the Nifty Needlers donated to the fund raiser for Phyliss and Mark Dickey. Joy understands it will



be displayed at the college as part of fund raising efforts.

Pictured here are Craig Boggio (left) and Josh Dechant (right) at Western State Bank.

Only gone from our sight...

Our church family has two missing, but only physicaly. They will live on in our hearts!

Ken Yoke passed on Sept 1, 2023 in Lee's Summit, Mo. He had recently moved there to be close to a daughter, Nancy. His baseball stories were enjoyed by all and he truly relived them each time he told them. An amazing man for sure!!



Emma (Everett) Van Vleet passed on Sept 22, 2023 in Goodland's Topside Manor. She loved working in this church, cooking in the schools, and being around her family. What an example for us all in the love of Jesus!

This picture was submitted and too precious not to include!! Do you remember those calendars where there were captions attached to wee one's pictures? I thought it might be interesting to see what you think might be going on in this little sweetheart's mind as the adult was praying.....???

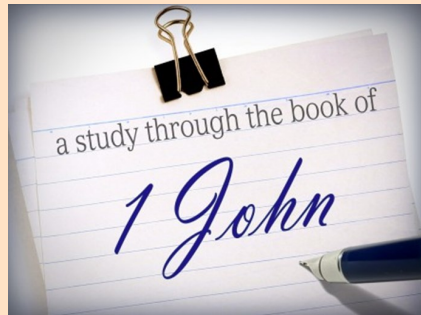
Editor's version: Dear Jesus, she told me to pray and I don't know what she means but I'm doing it 'cuz I think it must be important—Am I doing ok?
Jesus: That's perfect - now, just talk to me!



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!



!!ALL NEW!!

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!

ON HOLD

!!Calling All MEN!!

Pastor Don has started a:

Men's Fellowship
Monthly
here at the church

What will happen?? – There will be
coffee (of course), fellowship, and
enlightenment!

**Come and enjoy each other's company
and learn a few things as well!**



FCC



YOUTH

GROUP

ON HOLD

@ 5:30-6:30pm
at the church

<<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!

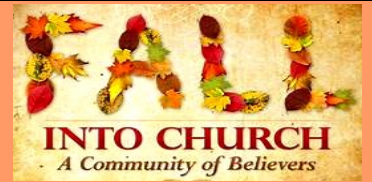
Please come join in whenever you can.



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



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1. World Communion Sunday & Naked Sunday 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship	2. 9:00am Exercise 6:00 Budget Meeting	3. 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	4. 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir pract.	5. 1:00pm Game Day Group (Fed. Music Club practice for Sunday)	6. 9:00am Exercise	7.
8. (Fed. Music Club will provide music) 7:30am Board Meeting 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship	9. 9:00am Exercise	10. 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	11. 9:00am Exercise 2:00pm CWF Mtg 7:00pm Choir pract.	12. 1:00pm Game Day Group 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	13. 9:00am Exercise	14.
15. 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship 1:30pm Service at Wheat Ridge	16. 9:00am Exercise	17. 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	18. 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir pract.	19. 1:00pm Game Day Group 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	20. 9:00am Exercise	21.
22. 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship	23. 9:00am Exercise	24. 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	25. 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir pract.	26. 1:00pm Game Day Group 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	27. 9:00am Exercise	28. CWF Harvest Soup Dinner 11am-1pm
29. 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship	30. 9:00am Exercise	31. 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study				

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

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)

October 2023

	1	8	15	22	29
Elders	Ron Vignery, Off Terry Smith, Com	Kim Cole, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	Debbie Griffith, Off Tim Armknecht, Com	Dick Hayden, Off Debbie Martin, Com	Terry Smith, Off Kenny Griffith, Com
Worship Leader	Robert Dodge	Debbie Griffith	Birkley Barnes	Lois Cossman	Joy Hayden
Greeter(s): Board of Directors	Deb Martin	Dick Hayden	Terry & Kara Smith	Kenny & Connie Grieve	TBA
A/V Tech-Closer	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith	Andrew Luna

Romans 8: 31-37

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.