

The Christian Visitor April 2019



We are called to share our Christian Faith and Christ's Love with all people.

Our Life Together in April

2019 Lenten Schedule

Community Lenten Services

Theme: *"Finding God in Uncommon Places"*

Each Wednesday evening during Lent area congregations will host a simple meal and worship.

6:00 pm Soup and Bread Supper

7:00 pm Worship

April 3rd	New Beginnings
April 10th	United Methodist Church
April 17th	First Christian Church

Looking Ahead

Palm Sunday April 14th

10:15 am - Worship Procession of Palms

24-Hour Prayer Vigil April 18th-19th

Begins 7:00pm Thursday

Good Friday April 19th

Office Closed

Easter April 21st

10:15 am - Worship

First Christian Church -- New Era

When I was still an active farmer, every spring was a new year, a fresh start, an opportunity to put ideas and plans in place, an opportunity to try a new farming practice, add another precision planting gadget, and update the latest electronic monitor. Even when we were coming off of a poor year, when we were putting the first seed in the ground I was full of optimism that this was going to be a great year – best ever.

Similarly, First Christian Church is beginning a new era, a fresh start and new opportunities. FCC is blessed to welcome Mat and Elizabeth into our fold. Mat brings new energy and new ideas. We have an opportunity to explore together new ways to worship, different ways to do Bible Study, expand our evangelism, continue our outreach, educate our youth, serve our shut ins, and brainstorm ways to serve Our Lord that we have not previously considered.

This new beginning was ushered in by a lot of hard work by many servant leaders in the church over the last almost 3 years. The Search Committee worked countless hours, and numerous members stepped forward to continue the work of our Church.

We have cultivated the soil, planted the seeds, and pray this new era will result in an abundant harvest - in being Disciples of Christ. THANKS
BE TO GOD
RW

DWM Baby Shower

April 28th



The Disciple Women's Ministries of First Christian Church, Gibson City, will be holding their annual "baby shower" to benefit the Shepherd's Closet baby room. The event will be held with a dedication ceremony during the Sunday, April 28th worship service and followed by refreshments in the fellowship hall. Items needed are new clothing for newborn boys and girls through nine months old and supplies such as bedding, diapers (newborn-sizes 1 and 2), shampoos, soaps, lotions, and wipes. Items may be brought in advance to the church office (M-F, 9:00-1:00) or to the 10:15 worship service on Sunday, April 28.

Welcome Mat & Elizabeth

Beginning Sunday, April 7th, we welcome Mat Bowen to the pulpit as minister of First Christian Church in Gibson City. There will be a fellowship hour immediately following worship on April 7th. Please come and ask another member to come with you to welcome Mat and Elizabeth to First Christian Church.

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

April Serving Schedule

Communion Bread Baker—Barb Meyer

Sunday, April 7th

Greeters: *Jerry & Ida Wahls*

Elders: *Sharon Higgins, Melanie Warfield, Cheryl Elder*

Deacons: *Tim Ricks, Katy Neal, David DeWall
Kristine Medler, Jeff Elder*

Worship Leader: *Tim Ricks*

Communion Preparation: *Tim Ricks*

Home Communion: *Melanie Warfield and Tim Ricks*

Sunday, April 14th

Greeters: *Clyde & Mary Alice McRae*

Elders: *Barb Meyer, Sue Walker, Marilyn Tjardes*

Deacons: *Mike Finis, Ryan Iverson, Janet Iverson
Mary Alice McRae, Ed Hopkey*

Worship Leader: *Sarah & Sharon Higgins*

Communion Preparation: *Ed Hopkey*

Home Communion: *Sue Walker and Ed Hopkey*

Sunday, April 21st

Greeters:

Elders: *David Hagan, Arlen DeWall, Don Eberly*

Deacons: *Adam Kincaid, Lori Rinehart, Sue McClard
Beth Tabor, Leah McClure, Jay Kristensen*

Worship Leader: *Carol Hutchcraft*

Communion Preparation: *Adam Kincaid*

Home Communion: *Don Eberly and Adam Kincaid*

Sunday, April 28th

Greeters:

Elders: *Sharon Higgins, Melanie Warfield, Cheryl Elder*

Deacons: *Tim Ricks, Katy Neal, David DeWall
Kristine Medler, Jeff Elder*

Worship Leader:

Communion Preparation: *David DeWall*

Home Communion: *Cheryl Elder and David DeWall*

Memorial Gifts

Memorial Gifts given to First Christian Church have been received in the name of

Margaret Gambill

Rosella Jesse

These gifts are added to our Memorial Fund for current and future projects, furthering our shared ministry and mission.

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of Rosella Jesse, who passed away on Sunday, March 3rd. A service was held in our sanctuary on March 8th.

We express our sympathy to the Noel Hutchcraft family upon the death of Noel's sister, Marilyn Lowell, who passed away on Friday, March 29th.

We also express our sympathy to the family of Jean Kerchenfaut, who passed away on Tuesday, March 26th.

Hustlers

Sunday, April 28th 7:00pm
Host/Hostess: Clyde & Mary Alice McRae

Men's Breakfast

April 7th
Host: Ron Warfield

Elders Breakfast

April 14th
Host: Arlen DeWall

Disciples Women's Ministry

Tuesday, April 16th 7:00pm
Hostess: Bonnie Schutte
Location: Church
Study Leader: Carol Hutchcraft

Outreach

Food Pantry: 18 items were received in March for the Shepherd's Closet Food Pantry.

2019 year to date: 80 items received

Next Pantry Sunday: April 7th

Office Hours:
 Mon—Fri: 9:00 am—1:00 pm
 Church Phone: 217-784-5460
 gcfcdoc@yahoo.com
 fccdocgc.com

April 2019

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1		2	3	4	5	6
		9:00 AM Prayer	9:00 AM Prayer	6:00 PM Lenten Meal & Worship at New Beginnings 7:00 PM Choir	Preschool Screening	Preschool Screening	8:00 AM City Recycling
7	8		9	10	11	12	13
5th Sunday Lent 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Fellowship		9:00 AM Prayer 6:30 PM Church Board	9:00 AM Prayer 6:00 PM Lenten Meal & Worship at UMC 7:00 PM Choir	Preschool Screening	Preschool Screening	9:00 AM Food Pantry	
14	15		16	17	18	19	20
Palm Sunday 8:00 AM Elders Breakfast 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship		9:00 AM Prayer 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM DWM	6:00 PM Lenten Meal & Worship at FCC 7:00 PM Choir	7:00 PM Prayer Vigil Begins	Good Friday Office Closed 7:00 PM Prayer Vigil Ends	8:00 AM City Recycling	
21	22		23	24	25	26	27
Easter Sunday 10:15 AM Worship		9:00 AM Prayer	7:00 PM Choir			9:00 AM Food Pantry	
28	29		30				
9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM DWM Baby Shower 1:30 PM Nursing Home Services 7:00 PM Hustlers		9:00 AM Prayer					

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
April 2019**

- 4 Carl Cains
9 Josh Johnson
Jennifer Jamison
12 Joan Ricks
13 Brecke Barnard
14 Sue Ann Rickey
Amy Rinehart
Rick and Lori Rinehart '84
17 David DeWall
21 George and Barb Meyer '01
22 Rodney and Brenda Mott '83
Cullen Neal
25 Nick Elder
28 Valerie Mouser



Church Directory

The church's pictorial directory will be updated over the next few months. We are asking everyone to provide a recent family photo and current contact information to be used in the update. These items may be sent to the church's email address or brought in to the church office.

Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 6:30 pm. If you have any items to add to the agenda, please send them to the church office.

Copies of the Board Minutes and Treasurer's Report are available on the table outside of the Church office. Please take and read.

**Nursing Home Services
Sunday, April 28th**

First Christian Church is in charge of leading worship at both the Gibson Area Hospital Annex and Heritage Health Care.

Come and join residents in worship.

Pastor - Mat Bowen
Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Hagan
Choir Director - Tim Ricks
Church Pianist - Joan Ricks
Custodians - Jeff and Cheryl Elder

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Church Phone 784-5460
Email address: gcfccdoc@yahoo.com
Website: fccdocgc.com

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 10
Gibson City, IL 60936-0010
217-784-5460
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED