

The Christian Visitor August 2020



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

Our Life Together in August

Sunday Morning Worship

There will be no in-person worship on August 2nd due to Pastor Mat's self-quarantine. Links to the online service will be sent out prior to Sunday morning. We hope to start back up with in-person Sunday worship on August 9th. For in-person services, we ask that everyone wears a mask if possible and sits with their own household six feet from others. Please enter through the front door and pick up communion before being seated. Any door may be used to exit. If you are feeling sick or have possibly been exposed to Covid-19, please stay home.

Elders and Deacons

Elders and Deacons will not be required to do anything during Sunday morning worship services for the foreseeable future. There is no passing of communion/offering, communion prep, or homebound communion during this time.

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Marilyn Tjardes, who passed away on July 5th. A celebration of life service was held in our sanctuary on July 12th.

Hustlers Funds

To members of the Hustlers Group, Not only has the coronavirus affected our gatherings, it has also resulted in our treasury lacking the funds to meet the amount we budgeted for our mission projects. If you would like to continue to support our projects, contributions may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to Marilyn Hopkey at 1123 N Sangamon Ave.

Memorial Gifts

Memorial Gifts to First Christian Church have been received in memory of

Marilyn Tjardes

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

Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, August 11th at 6:30 pm. If you have any items to add to the agenda, please send them to the church office.

ATTENDANCE		SUNDAY WEEK					
		1	2	3	4	5	AVG
2020	JULY	46	44	33	--		41

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

Pastor Mat's Musings August 2020

The age of conspiracy theories is upon us. The Covid-19 pandemic combined with the anti-establishment nature of the Millennial and Z generations has created the opportune time for promoting conspiracies. Social media on an unregulated internet creates the platform necessary for promoting such ideas.

I began to notice the uptick in modern conspiracies around July 2nd. This was the day Ghislaine Maxwell, Jeffery Epstein's associate, was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Epstein was friends with many elite figures in our society. Upon the arrest of Maxwell, my social media swirled with accusations against the likes of Bill Clinton, Donald Trump, and Prince Andrew.

The left says "Donald and Epstein were the closest of friends. Don't forget that Bill Barr (the US Attorney General promoted by Trump) is the son of Donald Barr." Donald Barr was the headmaster of the Dalton School which hired an under qualified Epstein. The right of course has their own rebuttal, "Bill Clinton flew on Epstein's private jet 27 times and Clinton's faith healer was arrested for child trafficking (Joao Teixeira de Faria)!"

Let me tell you why this really fires me up! Time may or may not tell if these accusations are true. Here is what is true right now. **SEX TRAFFICKING EXISTS AND MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS ARE VICTIMS EVERY YEAR!**

I put the above statement in bold for a reason. While our "righteous" media wants us to bicker about hydroxychloroquine or about which governor did a better job of reopening, we are forgetting the truth that we live in a world where hungry children are forced into sexual labor. We live in a world where mothers are forced to abort their children because they are sex slaves. We live in a world where funneling children in and out of third world countries is nothing less than a certainty.

Are you angry yet!? Do you see the problem with this?!

Our righteous anger should remind us of two things. Firstly, Satan is the god of this age. 2nd Corinthians 4:4 says, "4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel." Satan has blinded our world. There is no denying that pure evil not only exists in this world, but in many cases pure evil runs this world. There is no way for sex trafficking at this magnitude to be real and not serve as evidence to the fact that Satan exists.

Secondly, we are reminded that Christians are to be the salt and light to the earth. Scripture is clear that we are here to preserve others faith. Are you willing to confront your friends and family regarding their faith? Are you willing to help preserve their hope in Jesus? Are you willing to serve as a light to others illuminating the darkness that pervades our society? Are you willing to put the gospel forth to the darkest parts of our culture?

I believe all will read this and answer "yes." We as a church have been silent for far too long. Let us stand together as we battle the injustice of sex trafficking. Let us pray that Christ's gospel preserves our faith and illuminates to the world the injustice at hand.

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

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:15 AM Worship	10	11 6:30 PM Church Board	12	13	14	15
16 10:15 AM Worship	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 10:15 AM Worship	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*August 2020***

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 Ron & Marti
Wiebers '99 | 20 Peter Provin |
| 4 Ryan & Janet
Iverson '01 | 21 Elliott McClure |
| 5 Patty Benz | 22 Robert Provin |
| 7 Ron Wiebers | 23 David Hagan |
| 10 Evelyn Fawver
Ed & Marilyn
Hopkey '68 | 25 Bob & Linda Provin |
| 11 Adam & Kristy
Elder '07 | 26 Mat Bowen |
| Tim Ricks | 28 Sarah Higgins |
| 13 Cathy Hagan | 30 Clyde & Mary Alice
McRae '64 |
| 18 Jerry Schutte
Ruth Neal | |



Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new church year beginning July 5th are available in the church office. Notify the office if you would like a box and what number you would prefer and it will be set aside for pickup during office hours or Sunday morning worship.

Church Social Media



First Christian Church is on social media. Our Facebook page can still be found at <https://www.facebook.com/fccdocgc/>.



In addition, we now have an Instagram page (fccdocgc) and a Twitter page (@fccdocgc). We hope to keep these sites



continuously updated on the current happenings at First Christian Church.

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

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

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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217-784-5460
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED