

# The Christian Visitor May 2021



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

## Our Life Together in May



### Garage Sale Volunteers May 13th-15th

First Christian Church will be participating in the city-wide garage sale weekend on May 14th-15th as a way to clean out and get rid of old Busy Hands items. We are looking for volunteers to help with set up on Thursday, May 13th and work the event on Friday, May 14th and Saturday, May 15th. Please sign up for a time slot at the church or [online](#).

### Food Pantry May 22nd & 23rd



First Christian Church is scheduled to provide volunteers at the food pantry on May 22nd & 23rd. Volunteers are needed Friday night for setup beginning at 6:30pm and Saturday morning for distribution from 8:30-10:30am.

### DWM Women of Joy Conference August 13th-14th

DWM would like to send a group of women to the Women of Joy Conference on August 13th-14th in Indianapolis, IN. ALL women are welcome to attend! Contact Sharon Higgins for more information or if you are interested in attending.

### Elders Meeting

The Elders will meet on Sunday, May 16th immediately following worship.

### Small Groups

#### Bi-Weekly Fellowship Study

This small group meets every other Thursday at 6:00pm at Pastor Mat's house. Meeting dates for this month: May 6th & 20th

#### DWM

The Disciple Women's Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month. These brief gatherings provide a casual atmosphere for the women in the church to study and encourage each other in faith and family. Next meeting: May 18th at 7:00pm at the church.

#### Seekers

The Seekers Adult Sunday School class meets the first and third Sunday of each month at 9:15am. Meeting dates for this month: May 3rd & 16th

#### Hustlers

Hustlers Group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month. Meeting date for this month: May 23rd

### Detroit Mission Trip Informational Meeting Rescheduled for May 2nd

We are planning a mission trip this summer to Detroit, MI. This trip will be through Rippling Hope Ministry in Detroit and will be in conjunction with the region. The informational meeting will now be held on Sunday, May 2nd immediately following worship for anyone who is interested in attending or has further questions.

# More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

## Pastor Mat's Musing May 2021

Our garage looks like the Tasmanian devil lives there. Moving only a mile still requires boxes, trash, and ridding oneself of old belongings. I am a "garage guy." My personal space is the garage. But, for now... the garage is rubble and chaos. Not a great place for one's "personal space." Every change, every remake, creates rubble. Right now, the entire Christian world is in the middle of that "remake."

The pandemic has stopped business as usual. Family life, work life, church life, social life have all been impacted. It really has caused a reboot, and a relook at what we were doing pre-pandemic compared with how we should do it post. There will be changes for all aspects of our lives. Essential in this season is the willingness to be listeners to God's Spirit. One of the values as Christians is "to keep in step with the spirit." What an awesome time for us to do that! We are listening to the Spirit, and leaning back on our values and calling. We still don't know how everything will look when God finishes the "reboot" regarding our services, how much in person is the focus, how much is virtual, what loving everyone looks like. But, God does, and He has designed this reboot in our lives and ministry for His purposes. But, even as holy spirit pushes us, there will undoubtedly be rubble along the way. Messiness, confusion, exhausting meetings and processing, frustration that things are not the same. For church leaders, ministry leaders, family leaders, business leaders there will be rubble. But, the rubble means God is at work. Something beautiful is being created!!

We find peace in this truth. God creates beautiful things. Trust in him this month as many new, exciting, and even hardships will occur. Our faith is in the Lord. He makes beauty out of rubble.

Amen.

Pastor Mat

## Sympathy

We express our sympathy to Carol Hutchcraft and family upon the death of Carol's brother, David, on April 17th.

## Memorial Service for Chet Goodrich

There will be a memorial service for Chet Goodrich, who passed away in October, on May 30th at 2:00pm in our sanctuary. Visitation will be held beginning at 1:00pm.

## Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, May 11th at 6:30 pm at the church.

If you have any items to add to the agenda, please notify the church office.

## Worship Leaders

Please consider serving as worship leader for May. A sign up sheet is available [online](#) or at the church.

ATTEND- ANCE		SUNDAY WEEK					AVG
		1	2	3	4	5	
2021	JAN	32	32	35	38	37	35
2021	FEB	29	19	28	34		28
2021	MAR	48	27	38	42		39
2021	APR	67	36	34	28		41

On Sundays with two services, the combined number of attendees is reported

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

# May 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							1
<b>2</b>	9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Mission Trip Meeting 5:00 PM High School Ministry	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 PM Rise Youth Group	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM Fellowship Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Mother's Day</b>	10:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School Ministry	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30 PM Church Board	<b>12</b> 6:00 PM Rise Youth Group	<b>13</b> 5:00 PM Community Garage Sale Set Up	<b>14</b> 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM Community Garage Sale	<b>15</b> 7:30 AM – 1:00 PM Community Garage Sale
<b>16</b>	9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Elders Meeting 5:00 PM High School Ministry	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00 PM DWM	<b>19</b> 6:00 PM Rise Youth Group	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Fellowship Study	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Food Pantry	<b>22</b> 8:00 AM Food Pantry
<b>23</b>	10:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School Ministry 7:00 PM Hustlers	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 PM Rise Youth Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	10:15 AM Worship 2:00 PM Goodrich Memorial 5:00 PM High School Ministry	<b>31 Memorial Day Office Closed</b>					

**LOCAL  
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES  
May 2021**

- 1 Bryan Medler
- 2 Heidi VanWinkle
- 3 Jean Donovan
- 4 Lori Eberly
- 5 Leah McClure
- 7 Joe Mouser, Jr.
- Rodney Mott
- 9 Jeff Elder
- 14 Gary Reiners
- Anna Lynn Warren
- 17 Andrew Iverson
- 19 Landon Elder
- 21 Harold Medler
- Erin Tabor
- 25 Lori Rinehart
- 26 Mona Summers
- 30 Raymond Goin



## High School Ministry

Our High School Ministry meets each Sunday at 5:00pm in the youth room with prepackaged snacks and social distancing.



## Rise Youth Group



Our Rise Middle School Youth Group meets each Wednesday at 6:00pm in the youth room with pre-packaged snacks and a short lesson.

## Sunday School

Sunday school classes for K-8 and adults are available on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:15am. This month's meeting dates are May 2nd & 16th



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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. Worship Service  
Church Phone 784-5460  
Email address: [gfcfcdoc@yahoo.com](mailto:gfcfcdoc@yahoo.com)  
Website: [fcdocgc.com](http://fcdocgc.com)

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