

The Christian Visitor August 2021



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

Our Life Together in August

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee has been formed and consists of:

Janet Iverson—Chair
Angie Barnard
Adam Kincaid
Arlen DeWall
Sue Walker

The committee is currently working on setting up a time to meet with Teresa Dulyea-Parker to discuss our next steps.

Serving Schedules

Serving schedules for deacons and elders will be sent out by email this week. Paper copies will also be available for pickup at the church beginning Sunday. If you are unable to serve on a date for which you are scheduled, please trade dates with another elder or deacon.

Communion Bread

As we have returned to traditional communion, we need volunteers to bake bread for our morning worship. Sign up to provide the communion bread for a month in the narthex.

Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Sunday, August 8th immediately following worship.

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

Office Closed

The church office will be closed from August 13th-19th. If you need to get in touch during this time, contact an elder. The church email will also be monitored throughout the week.

Join Us!

The Hustlers would like to encourage you to become part of our group. While we may appear to be “old and grey”, we continually seek ways to grow our faith through a short devotion or Bible study, service to others, and fellowship. We assist Robb and Sheila Warfield, sponsor a child from Good Shepherd's Fold, and support local and other community service organizations such as the Ford County Drug Court and Woodhaven Learning Center.

We usually meet on the 4th Sunday of the month, September – May at 7:00 p.m. in our homes or at church. There's always food and laughter! Please consider joining us as we prepare for the coming year.

Email, call or text:

Ron Warfield: (217) 781-0220 ronw@prairieinet.net

Marilyn Hopkey : (812) 619-1496 mbhopkey@gmail.com

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

Message From the Interim Minister

My name is Neal Kentch and I'm now your Interim Minister. I've heard good things about all of you and your church, so I'm very pleased to be here at First Christian. And I look forward to getting to know all of you and working with your church as the church searches for a new settled minister.

Maybe you would like to know a few things about me. I was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. I've been going to Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) churches for as long as I can remember. I graduated from Phillips University as a religion major and went on to study at the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. I graduated from there with a MA and an MDiv.

I was ordained a long time ago, in 1982, and have served churches from Texas to Minnesota, from Pennsylvania to California, and a few spots in between. Needless to say, I'm tired of moving around. I retired from Centennial Christian in Bloomington in 2019 only to go back to work six months later at First Christian in Bloomington for six weeks and then to Carlock Christian, which I served as interim pastor for 13 months.

My wife, Mary, and I were married in 1983. She has a PhD in theology and has taught at Phillips Seminary, the Lutheran seminary in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a California girl, born and raised near Sacramento.

I enjoy walking. I walk about 5 miles a day, so I've gotten to know quite a few of my neighbors. I play golf, or something that looks a little like golf, once a week. I'm building a wooden model ship, which is taking forever, but it looks pretty cool. And I enjoy reading, music, and working in the yard.

We live in Bloomington, which makes for a pretty long commute. So my agreement with the church board is that I will be here on Sunday mornings, of course, and one and maybe two days through the week. I have decided to make Tuesday the day I will be here in Gibson City. If I'm not out making calls, you should be able to find me at the church on Tuesdays. I will be in town at other times if I am needed.

You can call me and, if you need me for anything, I hope you will. My cell phone number is (309) 532-4818. Mary and I live at 1410 E. Olive St., Bloomington 61701.

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
2021	MAY	35	41	37	32	47	38
2021	JUNE	36	42	43	44		41
2021	JULY	31	36	40	35		36

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

Worship Leaders

Please consider serving as worship leader for August. A sign up sheet is available at the church.

In Our Prayers

The Prayer Group is currently praying from home to honor prayer requests and remember those with on-going needs.

Harold Stimmel
 Harriet Farney
 Patty Benz
 Evelyn Fawver
 Irene Schaefer
 Mike Lorenzen
 Phil Walker
 Noel Hutchcraft
 Marilyn & Francis Stevenson
 Melanie Warfield
 Jalene Medler
 Jerry Wahls
 Mona Summers



We invite anyone with a prayer request to drop it in the offering plates on Sunday morning.

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

August 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15 AM Worship	2	3	4 7:00 PM Choir	5	6	7	
8 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Church Board	9	10	11 7:00 PM Choir	12	13	14	
15 10:15 AM Worship	16	17	18 7:00 PM Choir	19	20	21	
22 10:15 AM Worship	23 5:00 PM Girl Scouts	24	25 7:00 PM Choir	26	27	28	
29 10:15 AM Worship	30	31					

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*August 2021***

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 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 | 28 Sarah Higgins |
| Tim Ricks | |
| 13 Cathy Hagan | |
| 18 Jerry Schutte
Ruth Neal | |



**Hymn Festival
August 8th**

A special celebration of music will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 8, when Gibson Area Music Foundation again sponsors its Hymn Festival at the United Methodist Church in Gibson City. Milt Kelly of Fisher will offer a selection of "Songs of Joy and Celebration" for group singing and will give interesting information on each hymn. The event is free and open to all, with the church sanctuary offering comfortable seating, air-conditioning, and full accessibility via an elevator and indoor ramps. Accompaniment will be provided by musicians playing a grand piano and a historic pipe organ. A special musical number by a community choir is also planned. Church policy does not require masks for individuals who are fully vaccinated.



Interim Pastor - Neal Kentch
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: gcfccdoc@yahoo.com
 Website: fccdocgc.com

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