

The Christian Visitor April 2022



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

Our Life Together in April



Saturday, April 2nd 7:00—11:00 am Disciples Men's Pancake Breakfast

Come out and enjoy all you can eat pancakes and sausage. There will also be plenty of coffee, tea, orange juice and milk. The meal will be served in the fellowship hall.

A freewill offering will be received with proceeds supporting a variety of youth and mission projects.

Invite family, friends, and neighbors.
All are welcome!

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee conducted a 2nd round Zoom interview with our candidate on March 8, 2022. We had a wonderful discussion that evening, and have now invited the candidate to Gibson City for an in-person interview on Friday, April 8, 2022. The candidate has accepted our invitation for an in-person interview, and we are moving forward with finalizing travel arrangements and our agenda for the day of the visit. Search Committee members are seeking questions from our congregation, so please reach out to any of the committee members with any questions you would like for us to ask of the candidate. As a reminder, our search committee members are: Angie Barnard, Arlen Dewall, Janet Iverson (chairperson), Adam Kincaid, and Sue Walker. Please continue to pray for our search committee, our congregation, as well as our candidate and his family as we continue in this process.



Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt April 17th

Our annual Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt will take place on Sunday, April 17th beginning at 9:00am. Everyone is invited to join us for breakfast, followed by a devotion and Easter Egg Hunt for the kids in attendance. Please consider joining us for this morning of fun and fellowship. Our Easter morning worship service will follow at 10:15am.

Ladies Night Out April 20th

The next Ladies Night out will be Wednesday, April 20th at 7:00pm. Ladies and girls of all ages are welcome to join us as we gather in the fellowship hall for an evening of fun! These evenings typically include an activity, devotion, and enjoying fellowship together. Bring your daughters and granddaughters!

Week of Prayer

During Holy Week this year, we are encouraging people to pray on a different topic each day. Prayer cards identifying the topic for each day of the week will be handed out on Palm Sunday. Topics will also be posted daily online.



Grape Juice

Gifts of Welch's Grape Juice to be used in communion are always welcome.

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

From the Pastor

The news on Easter morning is that God has done what we could not, could never. God has raised Jesus Christ from the dead, from sin and death. And God will raise us, too, from sin and death. That's the news. That's the good news. That is the gospel, the gospel of Jesus Christ. God has done what we could not. And God will do what we could never.

The good news—the gospel—is about what God does, not about what we do. This is why you won't hear me telling you from the pulpit what you had better do, what you had better do and believe or else. I will talk with you about what we can now do and that we can now believe because of what God has done and is doing in Jesus Christ. But I will not tell you from the pulpit what you had better or what you ought. That isn't my job. My job is to tell you what God has done, what God is now doing, and what God will do. That is what the gospel is about and my job is to preach the gospel, to preach the good news of Jesus Christ.

The good news is about what God does. It is not about what we ought and had better. And this is why the Apostle Paul was just beside himself when he wrote his Letter to the Galatians. He just couldn't believe what those Galatians were doing. Those Galatians were thinking that they had better do something; they had better start living according to the Law, had better start living right, had better start obeying the Law. They were starting to think that it was all up to them and they ought to straighten themselves out and had better start living right. They were starting to think that it was all up to them and that everything depended upon what they did.

But the good news is that God does something. It isn't all up to us and it all doesn't depend upon what we do. God is with us, the One who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, from sin and death. God does for us what we cannot and could never. God raises us up with Christ. God raises us up from sin and death. We are not alone. God, who raised Jesus Christ, is with us as individuals and is with us as a church.

And now we can believe, can believe again. And we can have hope. And all kinds of things are now possible. We can do all kinds of things. Thanks be to God, who raised Jesus Christ from sin and death.

Pastor Neal

Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Sunday, April 10th immediately following worship.

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

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Harold Stimmel, who passed away on Tuesday, March 15th. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on March 18th.

Work Day

We will have a church work day on Saturday, April 9th. There will be jobs available for all skill levels as we work to prepare the church lawn and building for spring.

Memorial Gifts

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

Harold Stimmel

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

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7:00AM-11:00AM Men's Pancake Breakfast
3 10:15 AM Worship	4 5:00 PM Girl Scouts	5	6 7:00 PM Choir	7	8	9 Church Work Day
10 Palm Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Church Board	11	12	13 7:00 PM Choir	14	15 Good Friday Office Closed	16
17 Easter Sunday 9:00 AM Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt 10:15 AM Worship	18 5:00 PM Girl Scouts	19	20 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Ladies Night Out	21	22	23
24 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	25	26	27 7:00 PM Choir Secretary Vacation	28 Office Closed	29	30

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*April 2022***

- 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



Donations for Ukraine



We are currently collecting donations to help those impacted by the current crisis in Ukraine. Money designated for this purpose may be sent in to the church office or placed in the offering plate. Our collection will be sent to Week of Compassion, who has partners in the area focused on providing relief.

**Sunday School
April 10th & 24th**



We would like to provide opportunities for all ages to connect with one another through fun faith based experiences. We all learn from each other!! Please join us on April 10th & 24th in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m. A light breakfast will be served.

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: gcfcdoc@yahoo.com
Website: fccdocg.com

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