

The Christian Visitor June 2022



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

Our Life Together in June

Pentecost Offering May 29th & June 5th Pentecost Sunday—June 5th



By making a gift to the 2022 Pentecost Offering, you can ensure that the new church movement continues to prosper in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Each year, half of these gifts go to your own region to support local new church development. The other half goes to New Church Ministry, which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders across the United States and Canada. Planning, nurturing, and sustaining new places of worship is part of the Disciples' vision – participation in this Special Day Offering helps this vision come to life. Please consider giving generously.

Congratulations Graduates!



During our worship service on Sunday, May 22nd, we recognized the graduates from our church. Being promoted from 8th grade this year are Alex Barnard and Sarah Higgins.

ATTENDANCE		SUNDAY WEEK					
		1	2	3	4	5	AVG
2022	JAN	33	30	23	23	36	29
2022	FEB	35	28	28	30		30
2022	MAR	38	33	30	33		34
2022	APR	33	43	62	28		42
2022	MAY	43	37	21	43	29	35

Congregational Meeting June 26th

The Annual Congregational Meeting has been set for Sunday, June 26th immediately following worship. This meeting is for electing Elders and Deacons and approving next year's budget.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new church year beginning July 3rd are available to pick up in the narthex. Please put your name on the sign-up sheet by the number corresponding to your box.

Communion Bread

We rely on home bakers to provide our communion bread each week. A sign-up sheet for the new church year has been posted in the narthex. Sign up to provide the communion bread for a month. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered in the past year.

Grape Juice

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

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of Robert Provin, who passed away on Friday, May 20th. Visitation will be held Monday, June 13th from 4:00-7:00pm at the funeral home.

More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

From the Pastor

Mary and I like to spend several days in the autumn in Shannon County, Missouri. “Where is that?” you ask. It’s way down south, almost to Arkansas, way down in the Ozarks. “Why would you go there?” Well, in part, because I’m not an adventuresome traveler. My family is from the next county over, so I know where it is and have been going there since I can remember.

But it is also very beautiful down there. The rugged hills, the rivers, and the springs are so very beautiful. There is a quiet beauty all around. Unlike the bold beauty of the Rocky Mountains or Yosemite’s Half Dome, the beauty of Alley Spring, the Current River, and the St. Francois Mountains sneaks up on you to take you by surprise. I wrote the following several years ago, after one of our trips to Shannon County:

On a cool, drizzly morning and in low gear, Mary and I drove down the hill to Big Spring, the largest single-source spring in the world. The water comes roaring and thumping—the water makes a thumping sound, like it’s bumping up against itself—from the base of a sheer, limestone bluff, from the bottom of a gray rock maybe seven or eight stories tall. The water then surges—a pile of water pushes—and spreads into a blue pool. From there, the spring water flows clear over the gravel bed of the spring branch to the Current River beyond and out of sight. Beautiful.

A few days later, the clouds having removed themselves to the eastern horizon, an autumn sun shone on red and yellow leaves. We went to Alley Spring. Alley isn’t a small spring, but it’s quieter than Big Spring. The water pushes upward from the bottom of a deep, blue pool. The pool is of such a bluish hue it makes one wonder if someone hasn’t thrown some kind of strange dye into it. If you look closely, you can see the surface of the pool barely disturbed by the power of the upward movement occurring below. But then the water rushes out of the pool through the dam of the old, red mill on one side and over some rocks on the other. Down the spring branch it hurries toward the Jacks Fork River, catching the sun as it goes. The water plants growing below the current of the branch are greener than any plant has a right to be. Beautiful.

The beauty of the world. The beauty of the world’s order. You want to put some of it in your pocket or put it in a box to take home. But you can’t; it isn’t something that can be possessed. Neither is this beauty something useful; to use it, to make something out of it, is to disturb or mar it to one degree or another. It is just there. It is there to be loved. And we do. We love the beauty of the world, the beauty of its order. We can’t help it.

In this way is the beauty of the world “telling the glory of God”. In this way does it whisper of what is beyond it, of what cannot be seen. God cannot be possessed. God cannot be used. God is simply there for us to love. And for this have we been made.

Neal Kentch

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*June 2022***

- 6 David & Cathy Hagan '81
Kate Provin
8 Ron and Janet Hoffman '96
10 Ron & Melanie Warfield '67
Harold & Jalene Medler '62
11 Angie Barnard
Patty Storm
Steve & Beth Tabor '94
16 Beth Tabor
17 Cheryl Elder
Jeff & Cheryl Elder '78
Josh & Stephanie Johnson '06
19 Darrell & Sue Ann Rickey '71
20 Elliott & Leah McClure '15
22 Sue Walker
Wesley Johnson
24 Troy & Kathy Jo Spears '00
Matt & Angie Barnard '06
27 Jerry & Ida Wahls '70



Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Sunday, June 12th immediately following worship.

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

Worship Leaders

Please consider serving as worship leader in June. A sign up sheet is posted at the church.

Sunday School

Sunday School is on a break for summer and will return in the fall.

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: gfcdoc@yahoo.com
Website: fccdocg.com

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