

The Christian Visitor April 2025



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

Our Life Together in April



BBQ Fundraiser Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in our BBQ Fundraiser on Sunday, April 6th. We were able to raise over \$1,400 dollars for two GCMS families!

Work Day

There will be a Work Day to clean up the church yard on Saturday, April 12th beginning at 9:00am.



Church Board

The Church Board will meet on Sunday, April 13th following worship.

Chain of Prayer Saturday, April 19th



Our 12-hour chain of prayer will run from 6:00AM-6:00PM on Saturday, April 19th. Please consider signing up in the narthex for a 30-minute (or longer) timeslot.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is April 20th! We will have a light breakfast in the fellowship hall beginning at 9:15am followed by morning worship at 10:15am.



Easter Special Offering April 13th & 20th

Our Easter Special Offering will be received April 13th & 20th. This offering supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and more. When we partner with other Disciples through monetary support of our common ministry, we grow stronger as a congregation, as a parish, and as a denomination. Please consider a generous gift to Disciples Mission Fund through this Special Offering. Following is a list of ministries that benefit from your gift: Center for Faith and Giving, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Division of Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, Treasury Services.



More in the Life and Witness of the First Christian Church

Robert's Reflections

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Good Friday is just over a week away as I write to you. Our Lenten journey with Jesus is coming to a close as we begin a new chapter together in the life of First Christian Church. As your part time Interim Minister, I am grateful for and honored by the opportunity to join the gifted group of ministers who have served this congregation over the past 134 years.

As we begin this interim time together I would like you to know a few things about me as I look forward to learning more about you individually and as a congregation. I was born in rural Kankakee and have lived there for over half of my life. I have two older siblings who both live in the Kankakee area with their spouses. I have about a dozen nieces and nephews and dozens of cousins who live in the area as well. I am married to the Rev. Kelly Perotti and together we share four sons ranging in age from 15-29 from previous marriages. We are a happy, healthy, and thriving blended family who enjoy time together watching movies, playing board games, kayaking and traveling.

I come to you having served in ministry with congregations in Illinois, Indiana and Missouri since 1991. My spouse currently serves Central Christian Church in Bourbonnais and works full-time for Project SUN of Kankakee, a local non profit building a strong unified network of mental health providers and parent advocates to eliminate barriers to adequate care for children and youth and their families.

I work part time for the YWCA Kankakee as Equity Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator and manage The Grow Center, the home of Central Christian Church, in Bourbonnais. As your part time minister, I will be in Gibson City two days a week plus Sundays typically. I plan to be in the church office on Wednesdays and Fridays. Due to my other employment responsibilities, there will be occasional weeks when I have to shift my days in town. I will do my best to have those days posted on the mid-week updates. I am generally at my Bourbonnais office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mondays are mostly my day off. Saturdays vary based on events, etc.

I am available via email at revbushey@gmail.com or by mobile phone at 815-348-7755 (if I don't answer please leave me a voicemail and I will get back to you).

Easter is an appropriate time to begin a new chapter together as we celebrate the new life we experience through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hope springs eternal "like wheat arising green." God is doing something new in us, with us and through us as we walk together in faith. I look forward to our Easter celebration with shouts of Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! And, I look forward to our journey together in ministry.

Peace & Joy, Rev. Robert Bushey

Office Hours:
Tue–Fri: 9:00 am–1:00 pm
Church Phone: 217-784-5460
getdoc@yahoo.com
feeddogc.com

April 2025

		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM BBQ Lunch	7	8	9	10	11	12 9:00 AM Work Day
13 Palm Sunday 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 PM Church Board Easter Offering	14	15	16	17 Maundy Thursday	18 Good Friday Office Closed	19 6:00 AM — 6:00 PM Chain of Prayer
20 Easter Sunday 9:15 AM Easter Breakfast 10:15 AM Worship Easter Offering	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:15 AM Worship	28	29	30	Secretary Vacation		

**LOCAL
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
*April 2025***

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



**Sister Congregations
in Our Prayers**

The Christian Church in Illinois - Wisconsin
Together Making Disciples of Christ

April 6 FCC Rock Falls, IL;
Central CC, Bourbonnais, IL/
The Grow Center;
FCC Peoria, IL;
Riverview Park CC, St. Joseph, MI

April 13 Disciples Women's Ministries

April 20 Easter! General Church Ministry and
our General Minister and President

April 27 Church of Christ Uniting, Lexington, IL;
FCC Macomb, IL;
Carlock CC, IL;
FCC Galesburg, IL;
FCC Ionia, MI

Interim Minister - Rev Robert Bushey
Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Hagan
Church Pianist - Joan Ricks
Custodians - Jeff and Cheryl Elder

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED