



the VISITOR

February 20, 2025
Vol. 82, No. 27

OUR MISSION
**To know God and
follow Jesus Christ.**

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, Higbee
- Combined Chi-Rho & CYF, 5pm, YFH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- Loaves & Fishes, 4:30pm, RATI
- Nominating Committee, 6:30pm, Zoom

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Drennan Meeting, 1pm, Lenoir Woods
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor
- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5pm, 3rd Floor
- Stewardship & Finance Meeting, 5:30pm, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:45pm, 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, Higbee
- CYF, 5pm, YFH



A congregation related to
The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
www.disciples.org

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 22ND

*"The People We Encounter
on Our Way to the Cross:
The Tempter"*

MATTHEW 4:1-11

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 8:30 & 10:30 AM:

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

-OR-

AT-HOME, ONLINE: Tune in to our
livestream on Sunday mornings on YouTube,
or watch the recording of the live service—
available on Monday via email/YouTube
channel/FCC Facebook page.

*"First Christian Church
(Columbia, Missouri)"*

Nom Com Meeting

Nom Com Meeting on Monday, February 23

The final nomi-
nating committee
meeting of the year
is on Monday,

February 23. The

committee will work together to finalize the
nomination slate for our March administra-
tive meetings and the list of Special
Recognition Awards for this year. Thank you
to **Allie Schomaker** to leading this year's
committee, and for **Fred Mottaz, Stacia
Schaefer, Tracy Fuemmeler, Ryan Hunsaker,
Eric Seaman, Mark Mills, and Brad Stagg** for
serving on this year's committee!



Save the Date!

Parent's Night Out

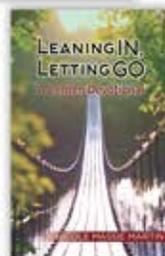
Parent's Night Out on March 21

Calling all parents and young adults of FCC -
you are invited to the first Parent's Night
Out of 2026! All younger adults of the
church are invited to join us for a
dinner out in Columbia for an evening of
food and fellowship. Next month's PNO
is scheduled for March 21 from 6:00 - 8:00
p.m. (childcare drop off at 5:45 p.m.).
Parents who would like to join but need
childcare, please RSVP ahead of time to
Topher Endress (topher@firstchristian.org)
so we can arrange childcare ahead of time.
More information coming soon!

Lenten Devotionals Available

Lenten Devotionals Available in the Narthex & Church Office

Lenten Devotionals are now available in the Church Office during the
week and the Narthex on Sunday mornings. There are two Lenten
devotionals available this year—first, a devotional from the SALT
Project called "Lift Up Your Voice: Singing Through Lent and Easter." This
devotional offers the Christian musical treasury as a Lenten guide, focusing
on classic hymns and sacred songs to walk alongside on this year's Lenten
journey. This devotional combines reflections on biblical texts *and* beloved
music that will be incorporated in worship this Lent. Hymns that appear in
this devotional will also appear in worship on Sunday mornings. The second
devotional is from Chalice Press, called "Leaning in, Letting Go" by Nicole
Massie Martin. The daily reflections and prayers invite us to lean into God's grace and
let go of our own agendas and practices that hold us back from the abundant life God
calls us to enjoy and share with the world. Consider picking up a devotional for your-
self or a friend now that we are in the midst of the Lenten season!





News of the People & Places

Prayers of Health & Healing...

- **Dana Heavin** was transitioned to South Hampton Place for rehab as they discern next steps for her surgery and care. She tested positive for COVID last week and continues to recover.
- **Billie Silvey** was admitted to the hospital again last week and returned home on Friday after being treated again to balance her levels of carbon dioxide.
- **Jane Ann Hackett** was recently in the hospital for tests.
- **Colleen Nilges'** brother, Shawn Lafferty, has been diagnosed with cancer. He's currently in the hospital in Illinois.

Celebrating 102 Years...

- Thank you to everyone who joined **Bonnie Jean Backues** and family to celebrate her 102nd birthday at Lizzi & Rocko's on Saturday!

Celebrating 105 Years...

- **Elizabeth Hensley** will turn 105 years old this February and all are invited to celebrate her on her birthday Friday, February 27 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in The Fireside Room at Lenoir Woods (3710 Lenoir St).



Congratulations...

- **Brady Marrero** won the regional Skills USA Competition for construction on Monday, February 9 and is headed to state! SkillsUSA is the #1 workforce development organization for students. Congratulations, Brady!

Thank You...

I would like to thank so many of you for the cards and kind expressions of sympathy at the loss of my little brother. To Erin for rearranging early church help. To Brad for reaching out to us. And for the lovely flowers delivered by **Jessica Humble** from the flower ministry. Many, many special thanks to all of you!

Mary Daugherty

Loaves & Fishes

Serving Dinner on Monday, February 23

This month's Loaves & Fishes serving date is this Monday, February 23 and we are set on volunteers! If you aren't able to join us this month, but want to be added to the Loaves & Fishes email list, contact **Erin** in the Church Office and you'll hear from us in April. Thank **2** you all so much for making this ministry possible!



FEBRUARY

Birthdays

- **February 23** - Jacki Davidson, Brooke Storm
- **February 25** - Sarah Read
- **February 26** - Ryan Boger, Kim Rogers, Doug Smith
- **February 27** - Elizabeth Hensley (105!)
- **February 28/29** - Jack Creasy (28), Eliana Snyder (29)



Disciples Men Book Group

Disciples Home Missions is launching a new monthly online men's book study, *The Long Way Together*.

This gathering is grounded in a simple, but powerful conviction: we are

formed, not finished. Through shared reading and guided conversation, participants will explore questions of faith, masculinity, and discipleship shaped by the way of Jesus.

Each session centers on conversation rather than lectures or debate, creating space for honest reflection, deep listening, and growth rooted in community. This group is open to men across the life of the church who are seeking a thoughtful, relational space for ongoing formation.

Register and learn more online: <https://bit.ly/disciplesmen>

The Long Way Together Formed, Not Finished

*Reading, reflecting, and growing in faith
Exploring masculinity and discipleship*

A men's book study grounded in faith, curiosity, and community.



Youth Group Schedule

Join this Sunday!

YOUTH GROUP

Chi-Rho & CYF Combined • 5pm • February 22
The Student Becomes the Teacher: Youth are all invited to "bring" a skill they can teach the group.

CYF • 5pm • March 1

Chi-Rho • 4pm • CYF • 5pm • March 8

Burns Night Supper & Ceilidh • March 14

Burns Rest Night! No Youth • March 15

Rescheduled! Baptism Class & Service Project

Saturday, March 28 • 10am–5pm

Contact **Topher Endress** for more information!

Burns Night Supper & Ceilidh

Volunteers Needed! Burns Night Supper, Saturday, March 14

We are now about a month away from our rescheduled Burns Night Supper date! This event is a big opportunity for the youth to showcase their hard work and for FCC to share our rich community with the wider Columbia area. The rescheduled date for Burns Night will be Saturday, March 14, from 5:45 - 10:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers are needed to help cook the week of, to help clean dishes during the event, to clean up the night of, and to help run the silent auction. Anyone looking to volunteer should contact **Topher Endress** at topher@firstchristian.org. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex in the next few weeks, as well, but the BEST way to support the youth is to share this event with your friends and family - the more the merrier!

Tickets are still available for the event. Individual admission is \$40.00, but two tickets are discounted for \$70.00. Tickets for the dance (ceilidh) only are also available for \$20.00. You can purchase tickets in the Church Office during the week, or online: <https://bit.ly/burnsnight>.



MAR 14
BURNS NIGHT
DINNER AND CEILIDH DANCE
@ FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
5:45-10 PM
[FirstChristian.org/BurnsNight](https://www.FirstChristian.org/BurnsNight)
A youth service fundraiser



Week of Compassion Offering

Week of Compassion Special Offering on February 15 & 22

Each year in February, Disciples of Christ congregations across the United States and Canada collect a Special Offering for Week of Compassion. Funds received through the offering enable Disciples through Week of Compassion to respond to disaster when it occurs, working with partners to provide solidarity grants to meet urgent needs of emergency supplies, water, shelter, and food.

The annual Special Offering – observed in most churches during the last two Sundays in February – is set aside for congregations to lift up and celebrate this important work that we do together not just in domestic and international disaster response, but in refugee and immigrant response, and sustainable development funding worldwide.

We ask you to consider giving generously to this special offering in February. As you consider a gift to this special offering, take a moment to read and reflect with this year's invocation, written by Rev. Stephen Underwood of Kansas City:

"God who makes a way, you have called us to this place, into a community of healing and reconciliation. We are gathered in answer to your invitation, not of our own initiative but as a people beckoned by your compassion into a new way of life. As we gather together, help us to open our ears to the words of Jesus, open our hearts to the love that heals, reconciles, and renews, and open our hands with readiness to go from this place and do what you have called us to do. Let our prayers, our songs, and our joyful communion be a prelude to the worship we offer with our whole lives, and may our time as a gathered body strengthen the bonds that tie us to another in the fellowship of the Spirit. Amen."

Read more about the work of Week of Compassion and this year's Special Offering online at <https://weekofcompassion.org>.



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265
email: fcc@firstchristian.org
web: firstchristian.org



WEBSITE



GIVE

Electronic Service Requested

First Christian Church

*Our Mission: To know God
And follow Jesus Christ.*

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister
topher@firstchristian.org

Music Staff

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry
totake@firstchristian.org

Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist
Travis McFarlane, Early Service Musician

Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Hayley Batterson, Director
Sam Dunnings, Assistant Director

Columbia Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director

Support Staff

Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian
Justin DeWick, Business Manager
businessmanager@firstchristian.org

Erin Perry, Office Manager
fcc@firstchristian.org

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, February 22, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Tracy Fuemmeler

WELCOME STATION: Susan Gray

FLOWER MINISTRY:

Anne Crousore & Anne Campbell

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Kim & Hartley Rogers

EARLY SERVICE HELPERS:

Mike & Carole Randerson

COMMUNION PREP:

Janelle Patterson & Chuck Scott

GREETERS: Carrie Batterson (N. DOOR),

Chuck Scott (S. DOOR), Steve Humble

(ATRIUM), Jessica Humble (PORTICO)

AV TEAM: Chris Fuemmeler

LITURGIST: Tracy Evers

8:30 ELDER: Cherry Hinderberger

10:30 ELDERS: Becky Baumgartner, Jeff

Underwood, Allie Schomaker (Balcony)

DEACONS: The Hunsaker Team

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Hayley Batterson

OFFERING COUNTERS:

Janelle Patterson and Sarah Storm