



the VISITOR

February 6, 2025
Vol. 82, No. 26

OUR MISSION

To know God and
follow Jesus Christ.

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor
- Cabinet Meeting, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Ladies' Book Club, 11:30am, Morris Parlor
- Bible Study, 12pm, *Brad's Office*
- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5pm, 3rd Floor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:45pm, 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor
- Administrative Board Mtg, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

Calendar Continued on Page 2



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

5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 8TH

"Let Your Light Shine"

MATTHEW 5:13-20

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 15TH

*"Attentive to the
Prophetic Message"*

2 PETER 1:16-21

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

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

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

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)"*

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, February 18

Join us for an evening Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. as we enter into the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday worship begins this season with a service of hymns, prayers, meditation, and the imposition of ashes. Childcare will be provided for infants - age 5. This service will be livestreamed for those unable to join us in person. Contact the Church Office if you would like a ride to the service on the church bus or through rideshare.



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 yourself or a friend before the Lenten season begins on Wednesday, February 18!



THIS IS A DOUBLE-ISSUE OF THE VISITOR!

KEEP IT HANDY UNTIL FEBRUARY 20.



News of the People & Places

Sympathy...

• **Lorene Trickey's** brother, Eddie, passed away on Friday, January 30. Please keep Lorene and her family in your prayers during this time.

• **Mary Daugherty's** brother passed away over the weekend. He was diagnosed with lymphoma two weeks ago, and after declining quickly was taken off of life support on Friday. Please keep Mary and the Daugherty family in your prayers, as well as her brother's family (his wife, two grown children, and grandchildren).

Prayers of Health & Healing...

- **Dana Heavin** went to the hospital on Monday, February 2 prior to her operation on February 3. While at the hospital she had a grand mal seizure and is currently in the ICU.
- **Brad Stagg** had a successful back surgery last week and is slowly transitioning back to work and life with less pain!

Office Updates...

- **Brad Stagg** will tentatively be out of the office from January 28 - February 7 as he recovers from his back surgery. All pastoral concerns should be directed to **Topher Endress** or the church office in the meantime.
- **Erin Perry** will be out of the office from Monday, February 9 - Friday, February 13. The church email will be monitored during that time, but all immediate concerns should be directed to **Brad Stagg** or **Topher Endress**.

Thank You...

A short list of thank you's from the Church Office this week to those who work hard to keep the church functioning: 1) Thank you to **Chris & Tracy Fuemmeler** for being two of the church's on-call "handy people" and fixing both a kitchen door handle and a sanctuary door handle. 2) Thank you to **Janelle Patterson** and her amazing group of ladies who organize quickly when we have a memorial reception or hospitality request from the church. 3) Thank you to the officers of the church (**Mark Mills, Jessica Humble, Tracy Fuemmeler, and Tracy Evers**) who work so hard to keep this church going!

Happening Soon

(continued)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor
- CWF Board Meeting, 5pm, Morris Parlor
- Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30pm

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

FEBRUARY

Birthdays

- **February 10** - Jennifer Alexander, Steve Humble, Steve Smith, Marcia Smith
- **February 12** - Archie Croushore
- **February 13** - Olivia Johnson
- **February 14** - Russ Chandler
- **February 15** - Sally Robinson, Suellen Wells, Sarah Yonker
- **February 16** - **Bonnie Backues (102!)**, Sally Felts
- **February 17** - Patti Freeman, Brian McCarty, Jenny McCarty, Kim Potthast, Dan Tevis
- **February 18** - Mark Mills
- **February 19** - Mike Bancroft, Sue Fink, Cullen Rose
- **February 20** - Landon Quinlan
- **February 21** - Audra Croushore

Loaves & Fishes

Serving Dinner on Monday, February 23

This month's Loaves & Fishes serving date falls on Monday, February 23 and we are looking for volunteers to help deliver and serve food! There is an online sign-up available, if you'd like to see where volunteers are still needed: <https://bit.ly/febloaves>. If you can't 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 you all so much for making this ministry possible!



Looking for Drivers

Help offer a ride on Sunday morning!

We have a church member in need of a weekly ride to the 10:30 worship service, and we're looking for a few more drivers to help us on Sunday mornings! Please contact **Erin** in the Church Office either at (573) 449-7265 or fcc@firstchristian.org.



Need a Nametag?

Nametags are an essential part of our welcome and outreach - we strongly encourage all of our members to wear their nametags on Sunday mornings so that we can easily identify church members you have yet to meet, as well as visitors who should be welcomed. If you don't have a nametag or need a nametag replacement, please contact **Erin** in the Church Office at fcc@firstchristian.org or by phone (573) 449-7265.



Youth Group Schedule

Join this Sunday!



CYF (Devotional Night) • 5pm • February 8

CYF (Board Games & Cards) • 5pm • February 15

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

Rescheduled! Baptism Class & Service Project

Saturday, March 28 • Time TBD

Contact Topher Endress for more information!

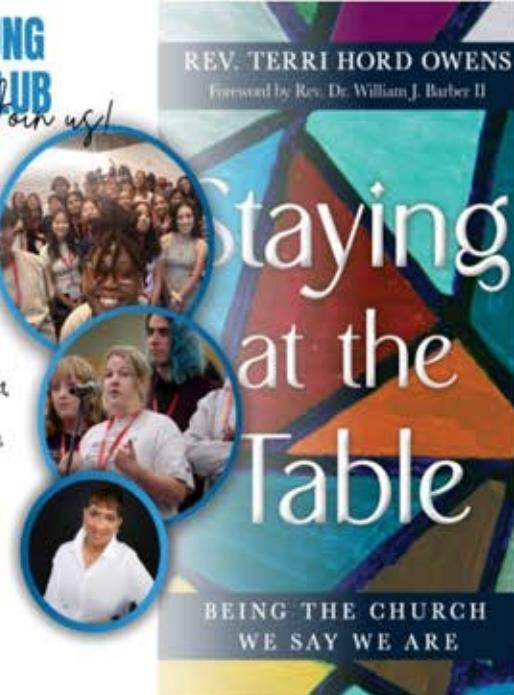
DISCIPLES YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB

Join us!

Young adults are invited to join our Virtual Young Adult Book Club as we read *Staying at the Table* by Rev. Terri Hord Owens and explore what it means to be a Disciple in today's world.

Together, we'll gather in a welcoming space, led by Disciple young adults, to reflect, question, and connect—engaging faith, identity, justice, and belonging through thoughtful conversation and shared learning.

February 24
March 3, 10, & 17
7:00-8:15 PM EST
Virtual



Disciples Young Adult Book Club

Virtual Book Club Reading "Staying at the Table" by Terri Hord Owens on Tuesday evenings in February & March

The denomination is offering a virtual Disciples Young Adult Book Club to read through Rev. Terri Hord Owens (the General Minister & President of the DOC) book *Staying at the Table*. This book club is for young adults and led by the young adults of the church, offering a space to reflect, question, and connect with one another over important questions about the church and our shared faith.

This group will meet virtually on Tuesday evenings from February 24 - March 17 at 7:00 p.m. Those interested can register online: <https://bit.ly/docyoungadults>

AND WHETHER THEY CAME TO JESUS BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, THEY REJOICED IN HIS MESSAGE, AND AFTER PRAYING OVER THEM, THEY LEFT GOING THEIR WAY IN WHICH THE PARACLETIC LAY. — MARK 3:8



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>.



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web: firstchristian.org

Electronic Service Requested



WEBSITE



GIVE

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

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Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, February 8, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Janelle Patterson
WELCOME STATION: Valerie Freed
FLOWER MINISTRY: Steve & Jessica Humble
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Paula & C.K. Hoenes
EARLY SERVICE HELPERS:
Mary & Laura Daugherty
COMMUNION PREP: Eric Seaman & TBD
GREETERS: Dan Gieseke (N. DOOR),
Holly Gieseke (S. DOOR), Tracy Fuemmeler
(atrium), Chris Fuemmeler (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Tiger Li
LITURGIST: Cole Freed
8:30 ELDER: Stacia Schaefer
10:30 ELDERS: Dan Backues, Paula Slusher,
Janelle Patterson (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Judy Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Holly Gieseke
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Janelle Patterson and Jean Juba

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, February 15, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Carrie Batterson
WELCOME STATION: Meg & Cliff Judy
FLOWER MINISTRY: Eric Seaman
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Larry & Peggy Veatch
EARLY SERVICE HELPERS:
Kathy Ramser & Mark Goodwin
COMMUNION PREP: Steve & Sharon Smith
GREETERS: Karen Hobson (N. DOOR), Janelle
Patterson (S. DOOR), Ryan Silverwood
(atrium), Stacy Silverwood (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Cole Freed
LITURGIST: TBD
8:30 ELDER: Stacia Schaefer
10:30 ELDERS: Cliff Judy, Meg Judy, Tracy
Evers (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Underwood Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Jessica Humble
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Deb Batterson and Cindy & Doug Smith