



No. 1 Vol. 14 ~ January 9, 2018

***From the Preacherman....***

January is an odd time in the church. We are exhausted from Christmas, worn out by the visitation of family and friends and loved ones. Bills come due—ugh—but routines are there, and gradually life returns to some kind of normal. However, we are not quite ready for Lent and the focused attention that comes with the season. Lent can be hard, a daily struggle to focus on Jesus and following him.

Thank God for Epiphany, the season we find ourselves in now, because it provides the remedy for the soul at just the right time. Epiphany is simple, but very deep: the celebration of the manifestation of God in our midst. The texts and stories we hear are modest but profound: the coming of magi to bring gifts to a new born king, Jesus calling the very first disciples, the power of God at work in Holy Spirit through gifts in people at church.

The message of Epiphany is not complicated. God is with us, in ways great and small. God’s presence breaks through in this world to shine brightly in odd places, even in your lives and mine. I spend a lot of time telling people just that in January. Yes, the holidays, holy days, are over, but in the dreariness of getting back to work and school know for sure that God has come, not in some shooting star, but in the quiet humility of our lives and our world. God is with you. Epiphany reminds us of that and I am glad that it does.

At the hospital for a recent visit I got on an elevator that wouldn’t move. Guests could get on, push the button to go down four floors and exit, but nothing happened. Doors opened and shut, but no movement occurred. Most of the potential riders freaked out, clambering off with exclamations of doom and destruction. They found another way down, I guess. One lady stayed on the elevator, continuing to push buttons, the door opening and closing, until finally, the doors closed and we headed down to the first floor, safely and calmly.

I was grateful for someone who took the time and had the patience to coolly work through the problem and get us on our way. In the midst of the struggle and faced with complications, a solution was there, it just needed calm attention. After Christmas, after everyone has gone home, after all the celebrations are over, God is still here, in our midst, working on everything to make life better. Epiphany has come. Thanks be to God.

Peace....Chris

**First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ) Owensboro,  
Kentucky Mission Statement**

*“Our mission is to manifest Christ’s love by empowering all to compassionate service.”*

**Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Mission Statement**

*“We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ we welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us.”*

**FCC STAFF**

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Sr. Minister.....Rev. J. Chris Michael  
Associate Minister.....Rev. Cheryl Russell  
Financial Manager.....Kristin Callis  
Secretary.....Anne Carlisle  
Pianist.....Ann Jeannette Pierce  
Choir Director.....Mike Tichenor  
Nursery Attendants.....Cynthia Smith  
Chandler Fleischmann  
Elee Roach

Church Office 270-684-8879  
Church Email: [anne@fccowb.org](mailto:anne@fccowb.org)  
Web Address: [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)

**Church Office Hours**  
Mon–Thurs 8 am–noon & 1 – 5 pm

You may listen to our worship service via your computer or smartphone by accessing [www.MIXLR.com/FirstChristianChurch](http://www.MIXLR.com/FirstChristianChurch) at 9 am CT Sunday, or by using a speakerphone dialing 1-214-699-5100. The access code is 6939237#

**FCC App for iPhone & Android**  
Stay connected with the church, download from the App Store and Google Play - First Christian Church—Owensboro

# NEWS

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to the 96 individuals and families that have pledged their support for First Christian Church for a total of \$362,616. We also want to thank all the individuals and families that continue to support the Church financially, but do not pledge!! We could not continue our Ministry without each and every one of you!

Marie Abell	Henry & Nancy Connor	Scot & Gina Kane	Jim & Martha Quisenberry
Kyle & Sara Aud	Norris & Pat Cotton	Carroll Laswell	Tab & Vicki Quisenberry
Terri Bailey	John & Beverly Dawson	Ken & Sue Lawson	Herbert Reedy
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Brian & Nina Belcher	Marjorie Flowers	Mark & Janet Luckett	Mike & Cheri Robinson
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Kirby & Bev Chelgren	Coralie Jones	Gene Parks	Norman & Pam Woodward
Norma Collier	Linda Jones	Cathy & Steve Perrin	David & Debbie Yates

## Congratulations to ...

Ellen and Matt Jones in Costa Mesa, CA on the birth of their daughter, Larkin Bell Jones, on January 2. Larkin has a very proud big brother, Hendrix. Proud grandparents are Janet & Rich Suwanski.

Sarah and Sam Swift on the birth of their daughter, Joanna Ruth Swift, on December 28. Proud grandparents are Mark & Anne Carlisle and proud great-grandmother is Marilyn Carlisle.

## Lenten Series: The Way of Resistance

All are invited to the community Lenten worship services held each Wednesday during Lent. There are two services on Ash Wednesday, February 14, one at noon and another at 6:30 pm. Meals begin at 5:30 pm with the worship service starting at 6:30 pm. The cost of the meal is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children (12 and younger) with a \$12 family maximum.

Date	Speaker	Location
2/14/18 (noon)	Kathy Goodwin	Settle UMC
2/14/18	Randy Jones	First Presbyterian Church
2/21/18	Bob Coons	Third Baptist Church
2/28/18	Jane Rothman	Century Christian Church (DOC)
3/7/18	Chris Michael	Woodlawn UMC
3/14/18	Keith Switzer	Trinity UMC
3/21/18	Betty Sivis	First Christian Church (DOC)

## The sympathy of the congregation is extended to...

Wendell and Marilee Thompson in the death of Wendell's sister, Elizabeth Oakes, who passed away December 30 in Sedona, Arizona.

**Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build** - The Apostles Build is an ecumenical build sponsored and built by a group of churches. First Christian Church has always been a partner church and we would like to see this partnership continue through a commitment of financial resources and manpower. The Legacy fund will donate \$1,000 and the Outreach Committee challenges our congregation to match that pledge. Please make donations payable to FCC and write Apostles Build in the memo section. Donations will be collected through January 14.

*Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.*  
Psalm 127:1

## DWM Lenten Devotionals and Salad Luncheons

All are invited to the weekly DWM devotionals which start on Tuesday, February 20, at 12:10 pm and continue each Tuesday through March 20. A salad luncheon in the Fellowship Hall immediately follows the devotional service. The luncheon cost is \$7.

## Serving in Worship

### January 14 ~ Epiphany 2 ~ 9:00 AM

Liturgist: **Carroll Laswell**  
 Serving Elders: **Jon & Jo Anne Skillman**  
 Acolyte: **Reise Elliott** Bell Ringer: **Landry Roberts**  
 Elder of the month: **Anne Carlisle**  
 Deacons: **Nancy Barnard, Emily Baur, Brian Belcher, Leslie Carlisle, Joy Emerson, Becky Gordon, Larkin Hayden, Carroll Laswell, Brende Lott**  
 Youth Deacon: **Loriana Phillips**  
 Worship & Wonder Story Teller: **Michelle Long**  
 Choir Message: *Great Is the Lord*  
 Prelude: *Shall We Gather at the River*  
 Offertory: *Whosoever Will*  
 Communion: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*  
 Hymns: *Here We Gather as God's People; Help Us Accept Each Other; You Satisfy the Hungry Heart; One Bread, One Body*

*Flowers have been placed in the chancel by Susie Alford and Sally Wood to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, John S. & Marjorie M. Hager.*

### January 21 ~ Epiphany 3 ~ 9:00 AM

Liturgist: **Nelda Barnett**  
 Serving Elders: **Mark & Janet Luckett**  
 Acolyte: **Max Sterett** Bell Ringer: **Reise Elliott**  
 Elder of the month: **Anne Carlisle**  
 Deacons: **Barbara Bennett, Shannon Divine, Andy Goodaker, Sale Gordon, Sally Ham, Cathy Maddox, Teresa McKinley, Cathy Midkiff, Forrest Roberts, Sandra Roberts, Janet Tichenor**  
 Youth Deacon: **Zoe Carroll**  
 Worship & Wonder Story Teller: **Beverly Dawson**  
 Choir Message: *Speak O Lord*  
 Prelude: *Hallelujah! What a Savior*  
 Offertory: *Be Thou My Vision*  
 Communion: *He is Our Peace*  
 Hymns: *When In Our Music God Is Glorified; O Jesus, I Have Promised; Come Share the Lord; Go My Children with My Blessing*

*Flowers have been placed in the chancel by Ron Waite to the glory of God and in loving memory of his father, Floyd B. Waite.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SUNDAY, January 14

9:00 am Worship  
 10:00 am FCC Café  
 10:30 am Sunday School  
 12:00 pm Pitino Shelter  
 5:00 pm Chi Rho/CYF Youth Grp  
 6:30 pm Boy Scouts

### MONDAY, January 15

Office Closed  
 6:00 pm Cub Scouts Meeting  
 6:00 pm Worship Team Mtg.

### TUESDAY, January 16

9:30 am Faithful Sewing  
 5:30 pm Elders' Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, January 17

6:30 am MBS Panera  
 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, January 18

10:00 am DWM Board Mtg.  
 2:30 pm Food Pantry  
 6:00 pm Outreach Team Mtg.

### SUNDAY, January 21

9:00 am Worship  
 10:00 am FCC Café  
 10:30 am Sunday School  
 5:00 pm FCC Kids!  
 5:00 pm Chi Rho/CYF Youth Grp  
 6:30 pm Boy Scouts

### MONDAY, January 22

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Mtg

### TUESDAY, January 23

9:30 am Faithful Sewing

### WEDNESDAY, January 24

6:30 am MBS Panera  
 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, January 26

6:00 pm Ski-Thing

### SATURDAY, January 27

Ski-Thing

### SUNDAY, January 28

9:00 am Worship  
 10:00 am FCC Café  
 10:30 am Sunday School  
 6:30 pm Boy Scouts

### MONDAY, January 29

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Mtg

### TUESDAY, January 30

9:30 am Faithful Sewing

### WEDNESDAY, January 31

6:30 am MBS Panera  
 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, February 1

2:30 pm Food Pantry  
 6:00 pm DWM Night Group Mtg  
 at First Christian Church

**Flowers in the Chancel** -There are openings for flowers in the chancel on February 4 and 11. If you are interested in providing flowers, please contact the church office at 270-684-8879.

**2018 Lenten Fellowship of Prayer** devotional booklets are available for purchase in the Church office and in the entry foyer on the welcome desk. The daily Lenten devotionals were written by the Bethany Fellows, and include two devotionals written by Rev. Cheryl Russell. The cost of the booklet is \$4. Stop by the office and pick up your copy today!

### Dear Legacy Fund Committee:

The Goodfellows Club board of directors would like to extend our appreciation to the First Christian Church Legacy Fund for the very generous gift to the Goodfellows Club. 100 percent of the funds raised support the needs of children in Daviess County. Every year the Goodfellows Club provides clothing, shoes, coats, dental and medical needs for over one thousand low-income, school-aged children in our community. You join many other "Goodfellows", who are helping children attend school with better self-esteem and confidence.

Again, thank you. The generosity of the Legacy Fund is so vital to the betterment of our community. It is indeed due to friends like you our community is such a special place.

Gratefully,

Kathy Strobel, Goodfellows Club Director



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*Mark Your Calendar for*

## *Valentino's*

*Saturday, February 10, at 6:00 p.m.*

*Enjoy a delicious meal of  
Salad, Spaghetti, Breadsticks, and  
an amazing Chocolate Raspberry Trifle  
while supporting our*

*CYF Summer Mission Trip*

*Cost: \$8 per adult and \$5 per child*

## **West Area Youth Ski Thing**

January 26 – 27

For Youth in Grades 6 – 12

Don't miss out on the Fun as our Church hosts Ski-Thing! Meet youth from all over West Area and beyond. Enjoy fellowship, games, and worship. On Saturday morning after we clean up, we will head to Paoli to go tubing or skiing!

### **Friday Night**

7:00 -7:30 pm Registration,  
Room Assignment, Settle in

### **Saturday Morning**

7:00 am Breakfast, Clean Up  
8:30 am Leave for Paoli Peaks

Stop by the Church office for registration forms.