



THE

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, OWENSBORO
(Disciples of Christ)

CALLER

No. 1 Vol. 17 ~ January 26, 2021

From the Preacherman....

In the movie *Network*, winner of four Academy Awards in 1976, Howard Beale is the longtime anchor of a television evening news program in New York City. Beale, played by Peter Finch, is depicted as increasingly angry and unhinged, until he finally begins to shout on camera during a program, "I'm as mad as hell and I'm not going to take this anymore!" As Beale repeats himself, he invites others to join him in yelling the phrase aloud. And slowly, people all around the city fling open their windows and shout aloud their convictions of anger, frustration and disappointment.

But that's just a movie, right? Well, it is a good movie, a top 100 all-time movie, so maybe it's on to something. Perhaps we think the only alternative to calm discussion and discourse is violence and intimidation. What if there is another way, a way expressed right there before us in plain sight in the Psalms?

I am speaking, of course, about the Psalms of Lament, those rough, raw and honest words of faith right in the middle of our Bibles. Haven't listened to them in a while? Try Psalm 130: *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!* (v.1) That speech is direct and honest to God, unvarnished by language of supplication and respect. But just how forthright can a psalm be, eh? Well, have you read Psalm 137 lately? Go ahead and do that. All of it. I will wait.... 😞go ahead....yeah, it's that bad. Awful.

What can make someone so angry as to wish for the death of the child of an enemy? That's horrible and unthinkable, right? We are taught to swallow such things in the presence of our faith and in polite company. But what if we did what the psalmist does? What if we took our anger and frustrations and despair and, instead of swallowing them or acting on them towards others, what if we gave them to God in prayer? Just angry, heartfelt, heart-rending, fist-shaking anger given to God in prayer?

What am I getting at? I am sick and tired of being sick and tired, of preaching to six people in the sanctuary on Sundays, of being worried about every sneeze, of friends getting sick and dying, of this awful disease and the slow vaccine and everything. Everything! I am frustrated and angry and depressed and at times even disconsolate. That is as honest as I can be with you. Question is, am I this honest with God? I better be. So should you.

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."*

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers.....The Congregation
Sr. Minister.....Rev. J. Chris Michael
Minister of Pastoral Care....Pam Woodward
Education & Programming Coordinator....
Leigh Anne Castlen
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
Web Address: www.fccowb.org

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

You may listen to our worship service via your computer or smartphone by accessing www.mixlr.com/firstchristianchurch at 9 am CT Sunday, or by using a speakerphone dial 1-214-699-5100. The access code is 6939237#
Listen Live or archived services on Facebook

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

Ash

Wednesday

Online service February 17 at 7PM

Watch on Facebook, listen on Mixlr or
The Church is Calling



Easter lilies always add to the beauty of the sanctuary Easter morning. If you would like to purchase a lily in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact the church by emailing Anne at anne@fccowb.org or call 270-684-8879. The cost of one lily is \$13.50. Deadline to order is March 25.



When you give to Week of Compassion, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world. Through sustainable development projects, our partners help provide life-giving water and other critical resources that help communities reinvent and reimagine what is possible. When water comes to a village, people are safer, healthier, and freer to pursue learning and growth opportunities. Let love flow, and share more than just water.

The Week of Compassion special offering will be taken during the month of February. If you wish to donate to the Week of Compassion special offering, please indicate that on your contribution.

Camp Kum-Ba-Ya is Calling all College Students:

We want to see if there is interest in KBY offering a college age camp this summer. We would love to have your input.

1. Would you attend a week-long college camp?
2. Would you more or less likely to attend if this was an extended weekend (Thurs evening-Sunday afternoon)?
3. What cost would be manageable for you?
Week Long - estimated \$200.00 per person
Extended weekend - estimated \$75.00 per person
4. What kinds of activities would you be interested in at a college camp, would you want it to be more discussion and time to spend in community or more structured with activities and groups?

Thank you,
Camp Kum-Ba-Ya

Email: westareaminister@twc.com

Christian love and sympathy is extended to...

Brenda, Frank, Laura, and Linda Green in the death of Brenda's sister, Marian Joyce Ray who passed away December 21.

Janet & Mark Luckett and extended family in the death of Janet's aunt, Wanda Faye Heifner, who passed away January 10 in Bowling Green.

Bill, Amy, and Tristan Spangler-Dunning in the death of Bill's mother, Reva Dunning, who passed away January 12 in Albia, IA.

John & Gloria Strehl and Ethel McElwain and family in the death of John and Ethel's sister, Dorothy Jean Ford, who passed away January 15.

Michelle and Patrick Whitmer, Elton Smith, and extended family in the death of Michelle's grandmother, Joan Saalwachter, who passed away January 22,

Greetings, Church Family –

As Co-Chairs of the Return to Worship Task Force, we wanted to let you know the Task Force plans to allow infection and hospitalization numbers to stabilize from expected holiday upticks and evaluate local vaccination schedules before reconvening the Task Force to evaluate returning to in-person worship.

The Task Force is tentatively scheduled to meet in early February. **Please be in touch with us in the church office to let us know if you have been vaccinated.**

Thank you for your patience as we work our way through returning to worship and protecting our staff and congregation.

Steve Divine, Chair of Elders/Task Force Co-Chair

Vicki Quisenberry, Immediate Past Board Chair /Task Force Co-Chair

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO SUPPORT THESE DWM SERVICE PROJECTS...

JANUARY: SNACKS FOR THE HAYDEN HOME FOR GIRLS: PEANUT BUTTER CRACKERS, KOOL-AID PACKAGES, CHEESE CRACKERS, POP-TARTS, SINGLE SERVE BAGS OF CHIPS, LITTLE DEBBIE CAKES, NUTTY BUDDIES, MICROWAVE POPCORN.

FEBRUARY: SUPPLIES FOR FRIENDS OF SINNERS:

CLEANING SUPPLIES. PAPER PRODUCTS (TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS). HYGIENE PRODUCTS (RAZORS, BODY WASH, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT). TWIN SHEET SETS. CANNED SOUPS. CHILI. QUICK FIX FOOD ITEMS. OATMEAL PACKETS

You may drop items off at the church.

flowers in the Chancel

THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR FLORAL
BOUQUETS IN THE CHANCEL ON SUNDAY
MORNINGS: FEBRUARY 7, 14, APRIL 11, 18, & 25.
CONTACT THE CHURCH AT 270-684-8879 IF
YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS.



IN APPRECIATION

To my FCC Family,

A big thank you for all you have done for me during my surgeries, rehab, and now chemo and radiation - food, calls, cards, and prayers. Prayer is powerful. I am so blessed.

Thank you, thank you!

God Bless!

Hilda

First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for the beautiful orchid you sent in memory of my Mom. It means so much to me! Knowing that the church and all its members are always there for us has been a tremendous source of comfort during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Eric Baur

We are humbly grateful to be honored with the sanctuary flowers on Sunday, January 10. Thank you anonymous donor!

Mitch and June Stapleton

First Christian Church Legacy Fund,

Thank you so much for your generous contribution to the Help Office. We continue to assist families who have never had to request help with their bills. These families have a loss of income due to COVID-19. So many people are struggling with both back payment on utility bills as well as their rent.

Your donation is such a blessing and will allow us to make a huge impact in people's lives.

Thank you,

Angela Settle, Executive Director

FCC Friends,

Thank you for the cards and prayers.

With Love,

Patty Finley

FEBRUARY

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 4

2:30 pm Refugee Food Pantry

Sunday, February 7

9:00 am Worship Online

Sunday, February 14

9:00 am Worship Online

Wednesday, February 17

7:00 pm Online Ash Wednesday
Service

Thursday, February 18

2:30 pm Refugee Food Pantry

Sunday, February 21

9:00 am Worship Online

Sunday, February 28

9:00 am Worship Online

BIRTHDAYS

2 Chris Castlen

3 Jim Quisenberry

6 Sue Boling

8 Austin Schrecker

8 Elton Smith

11 Carroll Hayden

12 Ethel McElwain

13 Joanne Berry

16 Mitch Stapleton

16 Lou Bellamy

17 Brian Hedges

17 Wendell Thompson

21 Marbrey Hedges

21 Marjorie Flowers

21 Mike Glenn

21 Wayne Goodaker

23 Michelle Whitmer

24 Gina Kane

24 Ken Lawson

24 Laura Michael

25 Patrick Whitmer

25 Ashley Webb

26 Drew Johnson

26 Holden Aud

27 Holly Roark

28 Annie Sue Newman

28 Emily Sullivan

NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP

Offering for the Month	\$41,060
Other Revenue Month	<u>314</u>
Total Revenue	41,374
Expenses for the month	<u>26,547</u>
Net for the month	14,827

Year-to-Date

Offering	\$396,435
Other Revenue	<u>19,581</u>
YTD Revenue	416,016
YTD Expenses	<u>353,782</u>
Net for the year	62,234

NOVEMBER OUTREACH

West Area Disciples CCK	1,071
Disciples Mission Fund	1,785
HELP Office	450

We continue to pray for Tristan Spangler-Dunning, son of former FCC associate ministers, Bill and Amy Spangler-Dunning. Tristan has been diagnosed with lymphoma. If you would like to send a card to the family, their address is 2712 Sweet Hollow Rd, Big Island, VA 24526

The 2021 Who's What Church Directory is available in the office. A hard copy costs \$2.00. A **FREE** PDF is available, simply email anne@fccowb.org to receive yours.

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Flem & Becky Gordon

2 Bob & Patty Hines

14 Scot & Gina Kane

14 Rodney & Joanne Berry

16 Ginger & Terry Norris

18 Bobby & Patty Schrecker



**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY**



We're making plans for a great summer of camp in 2021 at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya. This year's theme is Creation Speaks--inviting us to immerse ourselves in God's creation and listen for God's voice in the world today. Embracing our call as caretakers of creation, we'll experience the awe and wonder of the beauty and gifts of God's world.

Spring Workday	April 24
Junior grades 4-5	June 7-11*
CYF grades 9-12	June 13-19
Sailing grades 6-12	June 21-25
Chi Rho grades 6-8	July 5-10
Young Disciples grade 3	July 12-14
Discovery grades 1-2	July 16-18

*SNOW DATE FOR JUNIOR CAMP - July 19-23



Center Street Church is collecting used bicycles for children in our community that do not have one. Center Street is in the heart of our community for these kids and is asking our members for any help.

If you have a used bicycle that you would like to donate, you may bring it by our church and Center Street will pick it up.

Thanks!