



No. 7. Vol. 16 ~ July 28, 2020

From the Preacherman....

Sometime in the late 1990’s I wandered into a small bookstore in Southwest Virginia and stumbled across one of the great finds of my life: a first edition of *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard. Published in 1974, the book won the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction and launched Dillard’s writing career. (By the way, bookstores used to be wonderful places to lose yourself for hours, wandering from history to poetry to literature until the lights dimmed to announce closing time. Alas, I digress....)

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek taught me something profound and simple: Pay attention. Important moments don’t always declare themselves with clanging cymbals. Often they pass as silently as a shadow, and if we miss it, well, we miss it. Dillard writes, “*The mountains – Tinker and Brushy, McAfee’s Knob and Dead Man – are a passive mystery, the oldest of all. Theirs is the one simple mystery of creation from nothing, of matter itself, anything at all, the given. Mountains are giant, restful, absorbent. You can heave your spirit into a mountain and the mountain will keep it, folded, and not throw it back as some creeks will. The creeks are the world with all its stimulus and beauty; I live there. But the mountains are home.*”

Pay attention. The silent gift of this time in our lives is a forced attentiveness to the world at hand, to the people who matter more than we ever knew or acknowledged, to the simple things we miss because suddenly we cannot go somewhere and do what we want. Did you know that you could heave your spirit into a mountain and the mountain will keep it? You have to pay attention to notice such things. Television, video games and busy schedules of important events all hinder us from the moments we miss with the people we love, people close enough to touch, but too far way to notice.

In I Kings 19 Elijah flees to Mount Horeb from death at the hands of Jezebel. God commands him to go and stand on the mountain “for the Lord is about to pass by.” First there is a great wind splitting rocks, then an earthquake, then a fire, but the Lord is in none of those. When Elijah hears the sound of “sheer silence” (vs. 12), however, he wraps his face in his mantle and stands at the entrance of the cave, for God is present. In the silence.

Pay attention to the world around you. God speaks in a thousand different ways, rarely louder than a whisper, shouting silently to be noticed. Maybe it is easier now to listen. It is certainly important.

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 dialing 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

Introducing Leigh Anne Castlen



We welcome Leigh Anne Castlen to the church staff as our Education and Programming Coordinator. Leigh Anne will be in charge of coordinating Christian Education programming for children and youth, including Sunday School, Worship & Wonder, Mission Trips and fundraisers, Vacation Bible School, Ski Thing, Camp, and other events.

Leigh Anne graduated from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Education - Math/Science and taught 6th grade Science at Owensboro Middle School. She is a Girl Scout troop leader and has been a Spin Instructor for Balance Health + Body, Owensboro.

Leigh Anne and her husband, Luke, have two daughters, Vivi and Lola, who will be in the second and fourth grades this fall.

While we worship from home, we are working together to find ways to stay connected and keep our children engaged. A church book is being delivered to all Pre-K - 5th grade children to offer activities for the month of August. Be looking for messages from Flocknote for future plans and announcements.

Congratulations to...

Shannon & Chris Spurling on the birth of their daughter, Dillon Kate, born July 18, weighing 8 lbs. 9 oz. Proud grandmother is Sally Ham.

Christian love and sympathy extended to...

Molly, Gavin, Millie, Emme, and Macy Roberts; Shack, Heather, Abby, Hattie, and Annie Newman and extended family in the death of Molly and Shack's, mother, Mary Anita Spurrier Newman, who passed away July 7.

Tres, Katie, Will, Max, and Reid Sterett; Mark and Janet Lockett; Kristi, Jake, Scarlett, Beau, Wynnie, and Billy Isenbarger; Andy, Becky, and Chase Lockett; Matt, Jennifer, Luke, and Seth Lockett and extended family in the death of son, brother, grandson, nephew, cousin, Issac Andrew Sterett, who passed away July 10.

Vicki and Tab Quisenberry, Adair, Harrison, and Brooks Price, Kendall Quisenberry and fiancé, Aaron Mayo, Cameron Quisenberry, and Maci Quisenberry and extended family in the death of Vicki's father, Dr. Billy H. Chandler, who passed away July 18.

FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY

The CCK Assembly Planning Committee is putting all of its energies in planning for a virtual CCK Biennial Assembly.

The committee will be hosting a series of workshops and other virtual events the week leading up to worship and business sessions prior to October 16, 2020. Stay tuned!



FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL AND FLOWER MINISTRY

There are openings for a floral bouquet to be placed on the chancel on these Sunday mornings: October 4, 18, November 1. If you are interested in providing flowers for any of these dates, please contact the office.

Each Monday morning, the chancel bouquet is divided into many smaller arrangements that are delivered to our friends at home. These bouquets are a cheerful reminder that we remember and care about them.

August

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 2

9:00 am Worship

Thursday, August 6

2:30 pm Refugee Food Pantry

Sunday, August 9

9:00 am Worship

Sunday, August 16

9:00 am Worship

Thursday, August 20

2:30 pm Refugee Food Pantry

Sunday, August 23

9:00 am Worship

Sunday, August 30

9:00 am Worship

ANNIVERSARIES

6 Mick & Connie Ford

8 Garret & Stacey Carter

8 Ginger & Bill Boehm

10 John & Janey Burns

12 Jim & Janet Westmoreland

15 Martha & Jack Lee

15 Brende & Chris Lott

21 Jeff & Judy Howe

21 Lou & Vicki Bellamy

23 Ken & Suzanne Willis

23 Mike & Janet Tichenor

23 Henry & Nancy Connor

23 Scott & Meagan Lyons

28 Brian & Nina Belcher

BIRTHDAYS

1 Gloria Strehl

2 Carrol Bell

4 David Ruckdeschel

5 Jason Pierce

5 Eric Baur

5 Kaitlyn Fischer

6 Meaghan Glenn

8 Gary Hayden

8 Evan LeBoutillier

8 Rodney Berry

9 Will Sterett

10 Ed Burg

10 Broderick Divine

10 Cecilia Webb

14 Barbara Bennett

15 Adam Lott

15 June Stapleton

16 Caressa Schrecker

16 John Busse

17 Taylor Mahlinger

18 Ron Howard

18 Wynnise Isenbarger

18 Henry Williams III

20 Terry Norris

20 Stella Hayden

22 Gavin Roberts

24 Nathan Nunley

26 Kyle Aud

27 Meagan Lyons

30 Addie Travis

30 Connie Ford

30 Robert David Lyons

30 Matt Johnson

31 Jason Roberts

31 Jo Anne Skillman

Sunday Morning Worship

We hope that you will join us for worship each Sunday. There are 3 ways to attend:

1. **New & Improved Sound and Picture on Facebook Live!** - Watch and listen live each Sunday at 9AM on our **Facebook** page, which is accessible via our website. **You do not need to be a member of Facebook to access the Church's Facebook.**
2. Listen live at 9AM on **Mixlr** – go to fccowb.org scroll down the Home page to the Mixlr information and click in the box.
3. Listen live at 9AM by **dialing** 1-214-699-5100 and enter access code 6939237#

Services are recorded on Facebook and Mixlr, so you may access and listen any time.



To reduce your carbon footprint:

Keep your tires properly inflated to get better mileage.

STEWARDSHIP JUNE 2020

Offering for the Month	\$42,437
Other Revenue Month	<u>123</u>
Total Revenue	42,560
Expenses for the month	<u>32,544</u>
Net for the month	10,016

Year-to-Date

Offering	\$220,994
Other Revenue	<u>9,107</u>
YTD Revenue	230,101
YTD Expenses	<u>191,587</u>
Net for the year	38,514

OUTREACH JUNE 2020

West Area Disciples CCK	1,071
Disciples Mission Fund	1,785
HELP Office	450
Reconciliation Offering	30
Pentecost Offering	25

IN APPRECIATION

First Christian Friends,

Thank you so much for sending cards and for the bouquets of flowers. Both mean so much to me.

Patricia Kelley

Church Family,

Thank you all so very much for everything you did for me during, before and after knee replacement surgery and recovery – the food, transportation, cards, visits, prayers, and “LOVE”.

Love and prayers,

Kaye

To my wonderful Church friends which I am so blessed to have,

Thank you for your prayers, visits, food, and wonderful white basket bouquet. Don loved his Church, especially his Georgia pastor. God bless all of you and hope we can all be together again someday to worship together.

Love,

Margaret Miller

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers. My mom was a member of the Church since Will Sessions was pastor there. She loved getting dressed up for church. My mom is in heaven with her loved ones.

Thank you again,

The Fuqua Family

First Christian Family,

Thank you to my church family who called, sent cards, delivered flowers, and are praying for my successful recovery from back surgery.

I love and appreciate all of you.

June Stapleton