

THE CALLER



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) OWENSBORO, KY

From the Preacherman....

“Yes, but why? Why are you a Christian? Why are you a follower of Jesus? Why do you do what you do and live the way you live?” The questions were insistent, persistent and dogged. They came from a middle-aged man in a community where I used to live, but I think are inquiries lodged deep within us all. I am questioned more often now than I used to be, and am glad to answer and have a discussion, any discussion, about life and faith and hope in this world. People carry around many questions, and we don’t have to have all of the answers, but we do need to hold at least a fragment of truth. Why am I a Christian?

I am a Christian because the people around me were Christians as I grew up. My parents and grandparents were Christians of different hues and shades, took me to church and answered my questions, but never completely. They offered me what they believed and hoped for, but they encouraged me to seek God for myself, to ask and seek and find out something bigger than me. Never, ever underestimate the quiet, thoughtful ways you impact the lives of others with your faith. Your family doesn’t need a sermon in order to believe anything. They just need you.

I am a Christian because of the people outside of my family who impacted me. They were the people who taught me in Sunday School, the man who coached my elementary school basketball team, the youth leaders and those who did jobs great and small in the church and out. They said little to me directly about faith, yet everything was about faith in some shape or form, about living my life toward something bigger than myself. Could I see it? Sometimes I could, at other times I could not, but their lives made me look and ask and seek for myself.

Finally, though, I had to say to my friend the ultimate reason I became a Christian: Jesus, who called me to be his disciple and I followed. Nothing has been the same since. It is as simple as that, and as complex. Every time I think I have Jesus figured out, something new is revealed and my fascination returns. In my ministry I have preached nearly two thousand sermons and yet feel as if I have merely written the introduction to the book about the One whom I follow. As one preacher said, Jesus is like the pool in which children can play, but elephants will drown. He meets us where we are and takes us places we can scarcely imagine.

Easter is a good time to think about following Jesus as one of his disciples. You don’t have to understand everything or even anything. Just follow. Beware. Be glad. Be hopeful.

Peace....Chris



April

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|
|  | 1  Solar Eclipse | 2 DWM | 3 Choir Men's Fellowship 6:30 am Youth Group | 4 Refugee Food Pantry 1:30 pm | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 Elders Meeting | 10 DWM Choir Men's Fellowship 6:30 am Youth Group | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Worship/Sunday School Men's Mass CommunityChoir Concert @ 3:00 p.m. -FCC | 15 | 16 | 17 Church Meal @ 5:30 Choir Youth Group Men's Fellowship 6:30 am | 18 Refugee Food Pantry 1:30 pm | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Worship/Sunday School | 22 | 23 | 24 Choir Youth Group Men's Fellowship 6:30 am | 25 | 26 | 27 DWM Spring Conference |
| 28 Worship/Sunday School | 29  OCTC Spring Concert | 30 | | | | |

*Men's Fellowship meets at Panera- 4600 Frederica St.

Birthdays

6 Robert Julius
11 Sue Lawson
12 Suzette Nunley
14 Faye Neel
14 Brad Webb

16 Jane Miller
17 Joseph McKinley
17 Andy Goodaker
18 Chris Michael
19 Addison LeBoutillier

24 Annabelle Grace Baur
25 Mark Carlisle
26 Emily Castlen
29 Brian Belcher

30 Susan Alford
30 Macy Roberts
30 Sandra Roberts

Anniversaries

Jerry & Joyce Bennett
Richard & Leslie Carlisle
Mark & Barbara Chavez
Steve & Debby Crone
Carroll & Larkin Hayden
Brian & Cathy Hedges
Nathan & Suzette Nunley
Austin & Caressa Schrecker
Norman & Pam Woodward

February Financials

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Offering for the Month: | \$31,267 |
| Other Revenue Month: | \$2,445 |
| Total Revenue: | \$33,712 |
| Expenses for the month | \$42,368 |
| Year-to-Date Offering | \$62,810 |
| YTD Other Revenue | \$7,103 |
| YTD Revenue | \$69,913 |
| YTD Expenses | \$85,873 |
| Net for the year | \$15,959 |
| Outreach: | |
| West Area Disciples CC | \$2,000 |
| Disciples Mission Fund | \$2,000 |
| HELP Office | \$1,200 |
| Food Pantry | \$7,558 |

OCTC
Community
Chorus Spring
Concert Monday,
April 29th @ 7:00
p.m. at FCC



WEEK OF COMPASSION

The congregation's special offering for Week of Compassion totaled \$2,315. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help transform suffering into hope.

Men's Mass
Community Choir
Concert is at FCC on
Sunday, April 14 @
3:00 p.m.

MEETINGS

DWM Meetings:
April 2nd at Century 21 @
1:00 p.m.
& April 10th at FCC @ 12:00
p.m.

**Elders Meeting: April 9th @
FCC 5:30 p.m.**

CAMP info:



JUNE 3-8
JUNE 10-14
JUNE 17-22
JUNE 24-28
JUNE 28-30
JULY 1-5

CYF CAMP (GRADES 9-12)
JUNIOR CAMP (GRADES 3-5)
CHI RHO CAMP (GRADES 6-8)
SAILING CAMP (GRADES 6-12)
DISCOVERY CAMP (GRADES K-2 & ADULT)
CAMP AGAPE (GRADES 6-8 IN FOSTER CARE)



Class of
2024

2024 Graduates!
It is almost that time!
Meaghan will start ordering
blankets for all of our seniors
very soon to get information
together. If you have a senior
graduating this May, please
call us in the church office to
get more information.

Outreach Committee



we've been busy!



Thank you, FCC, for your generosity! It allows us to help so many in our community!