




THE CALLER



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Owensboro, KY

November 2022

From the Preacherman...

Every year my family has the same discussion. “What do we do with Seizure Angel?” You mean you don’t have a Seizure Angel? We do. It was the angel that always adorned the top of the Christmas tree in my childhood home. Often the last decoration put up before plugging in the lights (in the faint hope that they all might work), the angel travelled with my family over multiple moves to many states. Every year, no matter where we lived, my siblings and I knew to expect that angel on the top of the tree. It meant Christmas to us.


Time has a way of eroding treasured keepsakes and at some point, the lights on the angel began to blink bizarrely, so that the angel really needed a seizure warning label alerting us to its potential danger. (Thus, the name Seizure Angel.) We still put the angel on the tree, but often left it unplugged. It was garish and kind of disturbing, worn with age, the robe no longer quite white, but it was special, so we kept using it. Somehow, I ended up with Seizure Angel and treasure having it, even if it is rarely lit.

Every person, family or group has something similar. No Seizure Angel? Really? My church has stained glass that survived the fire that destroyed everything else almost a decade ago. Why? Because it matters. That glass is a treasured link to our past. Some of you have tattered old ornaments from decades ago that someone else will have to throw away after you die. Those decorations matter more to you than money. Christmas stockings or garish plastic reindeer or glittery bows link you to people and places and times long gone.



Here’s the thing about my precious, horrible Christmas decoration: it links me to my past and says something essential about my future. My family moved many times in my first 18 years of life. Always a new place, new neighbors, a new church, new friends, but every Christmas when we pulled out the lights and decorations, there was that tattered angel for the top of the tree. Seizure Angel was a constant, an ever-present reminder that the current conditions might be different but love and grace and kindness and God were present as well, so don’t worry, don’t worry.

In ancient days angels brought messages for people to hear, people often afraid and worn out and struggling with the world around them. I know, it’s just an ornament in my den, but every year that angel reminds me of the stunning words of God-- Fear not! For behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people....

So every year I dig around in boxes until I find Seizure Angel and put her in a prominent place. Because I need her and her announcement of hope in this world. We all do.
Peace....Chris



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Refugee Food Pantry 1:30 pm	2	3
4 Worship/Sunday School	5 OCTC Performance @ 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Men's Fellowship 6:30 am Youth Group 6:00 pm	8 Primetimers Plus Brunch @ Miller House 9:00 a.m.	9	10
11 Worship/Sunday School Symphony Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.	12	13 DWM Day Group @ 12:00 @ Kaye Farmers Lunch & a Christmas Story	14 Midday Moon @ 12:00 Youth Group 6:00 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Men's Fellowship 6:30 am	15 Refugee Food Pantry 1:30 pm	16	17
18 Worship/Sunday School Congregational Meeting Children's Christmas Play 9:00a.m.	19 Reverse Advent Calendar 'turn in' day!	20	21 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Men's Fellowship 6:30 am	22	23	24  Candlelight Communion 5:00pm
25  Merry Christmas! Service @ 10:00 a.m.	26	27	28 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Men's Fellowship 6:30 am Youth Group 6:00 pm	29	30	31

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

New Years Day, January 1 2023, will be held at 10:00 a.m.

Birthdays

2 Tracy Elliott
2 Molly Roberts
5 Tina Baker
6 Addison Callis
7 Mallory Roberts

9 Sally Ham
9 Jane Howard
10 Stacey Carter
10 Todd Harper
11 Jennifer Yates

21 Elle Aud
22 Madelyn Castlen
22 Kevin O'Hearn
23 John Strehl
23 Brennan Benjamin
24 Graham Johnson
24 Kaye Farmer

112 Larkin Hayden
13 Sara Aud
16 Ann Miller
18 Philip Travis
19 Gene Parks
20 Patty Matthews
21 Anna Travis

25 Malcolm Bryant
25 Ken McDanell
31 Stephanie Williams

Anniversaries

6 Jason & Mallory Roberts
17 Janet & Rich Suwanski
23 Roy & Sue Boling
27 Jim & Cathy Midkiff
27 Mike & Rebecca Glenn

October Financials:

Offering for the Month:	\$53,160
Other Revenue Month:	\$3,540
Total Revenue:	\$56,700
Expenses for the month	\$53,417
Net for the month	\$3,283
Year-to-Date Offering	\$423,794
YTD Other Revenue	\$19,594
YTD Revenue	\$443,388
YTD Expenses	\$379,013
Net for the year	\$64,375
Outreach:	
West Area Disciples CC	\$1,071
Disciples Mission Fund	\$1,833
HELP Office	\$550




December

2022 Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day add an item to your family advent box & bring to FCC!

Sponsored by the Primetimers Plus Group

				1 Box of Cereal	2 Peanut Butter	3 Cooking Oil
4 Pckg. or Boxed Potatoes	5 Macaroni & Cheese	6 Can of Fruit	7 Can of Tomatoes	8 Can of Tuna	9 Pckg. of pudding cups	10 Jar of Apple- sauce
11 Can of Sweet Potatoes	12 Peanut Butter	13 Can of Beans	14 Box of Crackers	15 Package of Rice	16 Box of Oatmeal	17 Package of Pasta
18 Spaghetti Sauce	19 Chicken Noodle Soup	20 Tomato Soup	21 Can of Corn	22 Can of Chicken	23 Box of Crackers	24 Can of Green Beans
25 						

There will be collection tables in the lobby on Sundays starting on:

December 4th- for Dec. 1 - 8 items

December 11th- for Dec. 9 - 16 items

December 18th- for Dec. 17 - 24 items

Collect these items at home & bring them to FCC by December 19th OR sponsor the Advent month for \$30, cash or check. Please write "Reverse Advent" in memo line of check.

Thank you for your generosity!

DWM

A Christmas Story!

Day Group meeting on
December 13 @ 12:00

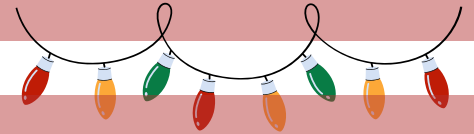
Meeting at Kaye
Farmers house!

Lunch provided!



Thank You

Dear FCC Family,
Thank you for the
many prayers and cards
sent to me following the
loss of my brother, John
Morton.
Sincerely,
Ann Miller

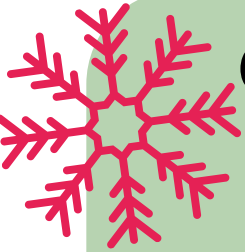


To First Christian Church,
I have been very slow to let
you know how much the
beautiful flower
arrangements have meant
to me!

Sincerely, Martha
Quisenberry

Congregational Meeting

Sunday December 18th right
after service in the Sanctuary!



DWM

Midday Moon Group

Next meeting is
Wednesday, December
14 @ 12:00
at Century 21

Bring your
own lunch!

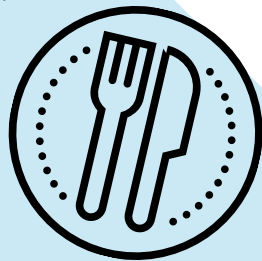


Legacy Fund

The following Legacy Fund grants were recently awarded:
Community Dental Clinic: \$5000 to off-set the dental care
for low-income families with no dental insurance
Blue Bridge Pride: \$1000 to assist with the cost of
providing support group activities for LGBTQ youth and
their families
Opportunity Center of Owensboro: \$5000 for repair and
restoration to ADA code of the former Big Blue bingo
building
Emergency dental care for four Afghan refugees: \$1888.80



PRIMETIMERS PLUS



Thursday, December 8th
9:00 a.m.

The Miller House



Christmas Brunch!



Important Notes!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place after worship on 12/18 at 10 am. The 2023 church budget, officers and Board leaders will be voted on.

Please consider making a pledge to our 2023 Budget. We are excited about the ministries we support through our church. Be a part of the mission of church by pledging today, Information is available in our church lobby.

Sanctuary Flower Arrangements Starting in January 2023 we will no longer be placing flower arrangements in our sanctuary for our worship services. The price of arrangements has become too high for us to reasonably consider this to be a feasible activity. Thank you for your support through the years. --CM



ANGEL TREE



The Salvation Army and FCC are teaming up to sponsor 20 families in need of Christmas gifts this holiday season. You have stepped up tremendously and all families have been sponsored!

*Gift Drop-Off will be the week of
December 12- 15*

Thank you for your generosity!
If you have questions or would like to donate, please reach out to FCC!



CHURCH CAMP

KUM-BA-YA 2023 DATES

The 2023 Camp Kum-Ba-Ya Summer
Camp dates are set!
Save the dates & spread the word
across the land (and lakes!)

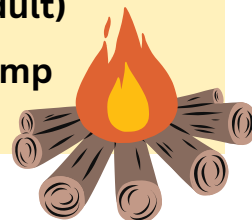
June 5 - 10 Chi Rho Camp
(Grades 6-8)

June 11 - 17 CYF Camp
(Grades 9- 12)

June 19 - 23 Spirit Sailing Camp
(Grades 6 - 12)

June 23- 25 Discovery Camp
(Grades k-2 + adult)

June 26- 30 Junior Camp
(grades 3 -5)



FCC YOUTH CHRISTMAS



9 AM SERVICE | 18 DECEMBER





First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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MERRY
Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR