



THE CHURCH VISITOR  
A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265  
April 26, 2023

No. 9

Vol. 75



**Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.**

**Sunday, April 30, 2023**  
**(Fourth Sunday of Easter)**

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

**Sunday, May 7, 2023:**  
**(Fifth Sunday of Easter)**

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

**Sunday: April 30, 2023**

**Elders:** Jean Stephens and Warren Nordwald

**Deacons:** No Deacon Team Needed

Martha Hagan, Alan Street, Connie Street and Kim Whorton.

**Deaconesses:** Cathy Cidras and Heather McBride

**Sunday: May 7, 2023**

**Elders:** Doug Thomas and Diana Henage

**Deacons:** Team 3

Ron Boswell, Linda Moody, LeeAnn Paladin and Cody Sims.

**Deaconesses:** Ruth Gritton and Heather McBride

**Liturgist:** Doug Thomas

*"Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."*  
**Matthew 6:34**

**How to Handle Worries**

There seem to be all kinds of things happening in our life that can cause stress: inflation, job stress, health issues, or a myriad of other concerns, without the hope of being in a relationship with God, we are easily overwhelmed.

If you've been overwhelmed recently, you might wonder if perhaps you failed God in some way.

**Waiting and enduring are parts of every Christian's life experience.** But instead of worrying about what we got wrong, what if we look at things differently? What if the question isn't about failure, but about perseverance? So, what do you do while you wait for things to change and get better?

**1. Don't Trust Your Emotions**

A number of years ago, Dr. James Dobson wrote a book entitled, *Emotions, Can You Trust Them?* and the implied answer was, NO WAY! Think about it, how many times have you and I said things during an argument that we regretted and had to later apologize for!?

In the heat of the moment, we believed it, and we certainly "felt it", but in a matter of moments we recognized that our **unreliable emotions** had once again let us down.

So, **avoid rash decisions and reactions** and work, with God's help, to control your emotions, words, and actions.

**2. Focus On The Good**

Does this sound like a cop-out to you or something that you would expect a "professional Christian" to say? If you said yes, I don't blame you for feeling that way. Like you, I too have been the victim of many a drive-by Christian cliché. You know, "let go and let God" or my favorite, "God works in mysterious ways."

But consider the alternative. When you fixate on your problems or issues, has that ever helped you? I doubt it! In fact, you probably **alienate yourself** from the very ones that can help you. I mean, admit it, who wants to be around someone who ONLY thinks of himself and is seldom, if ever, grateful for anything?

**3. Connect With People Who Give You Hope**

It may be a family member, a friend or a co-worker but **stay connected**. Share, pray, cry, laugh, and repeat as many times as needed to find your equilibrium.

Maya Angelou once said, "Every storm runs out of rain." Simple, and yet profound. God is faithful, and good and you will get through this season.

Pastor Zane

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 30, 2023

No Sunday School  
Worship Service in Fellowship Hall 10:30 a.m.  
All Together Youth Ministry (9th-12th Grade) @ FPC 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Pastor Zane - Worship Service @ King’s Daughters 10:00 a.m.  
Kids 4 Christ (K-5th Grade) @ FPC 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Bell Choir 6:00 p.m.  
Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.  
All Together Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade) @ FCC 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Rummage and Baked Goodies Sale in Fellowship Hall 8:00 a.m.-Noon

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
All Together Youth Ministry (9th-12th Grade) @ FPC 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

As of April 25, 2023

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,574 Average Weekly Income: \$3,942  
Year to Date Income: \$70,962 Year to Date Expenses: \$63,683  
Income vs expenses: \$7,279

Spring Cleaning for a Rummage Sale.

The Outreach Committee will host a Rummage and Goodies Sale the first weekend in May. Please keep us in mind as you “spring clean”. While shoes, purses, and other accessories are welcomed, no clothing is accepted. Remember that your junk might become someone else’s treasure!

Fellowship Hall will be open the week of May 1-5 to drop off items. If you need help transporting your treasures, please call Diana Henage at 573-253-0239. All sale items should be priced before bringing them to Fellowship Hall. For anyone needing to drop off items in April, items can be taken to “Sharon Slater’s green room” next to the primary classroom across from the office.

On May 6th, the sale runs from 8 a.m. to Noon. At 11 a.m., 1/2 price on all remaining items. The committee welcomes any congregation volunteers to help set up on the 5th or take down at noon, on May 6th.



Join us on Sunday, May 14, after Worship Service in Bridal Hall to greet and congratulate our Seniors!



Thank you to everyone who came and supported the youth at the BBQ lunch. Your donation was greatly appreciated, and the youth are looking forward to this year’s mission trip.

Camp registration is open! You won’t want to miss camp this summer. There is a camp for all ages from the youngest attending with an adult at Try-it camp all the way up to High school camp. Be sure to contact Sara with any questions. Visit the website at <https://www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer>.

Don’t forget permission forms for this year’s mission trip are due back on April 26<sup>th</sup>! The mission trip will be to Burlington, Iowa August 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a great week of serving, learning and fun.

June information: We will be continuing regular youth groups during the month of June. We will have youth for all in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade on Wednesdays at First Christian Church from 6-7:30 and all youth in grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> on Sundays at First Presbyterian Church.

5 of the youth served the Mexico community on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> during the youth retreat. They worked hard as they served and learned during the weekend.



Camp Hope’s Backpack Program connects churches and groups with our campers in fun and affordable ways. The backpacks provide at-risk kids with the needed items for camp. This year Camp David will do the shopping for us. We will go online, pick the backpack and pay. The backpack will include a flashlight, shampoo and conditioner, body wash and a pouf, a hairbrush/comb, toothbrush and toothpaste, and deodorant. The Backpack sponsorship also includes a welcome gift and a special birthday gift. Angel Tree provides backpacks and Bibles for every camper. If you would like to sponsor one of these kids, please make your check out for \$25 to First Christian Church. Checks are due by April 30th.



This year’s Easter offering total was \$750! A check will be sent to General Assembly Disciples of Christ in Indianapolis for distribution towards general ministries like college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)  
307 West Jackson St.  
Mexico, Mo. 65265