



**THE CHURCH VISITOR**  
**A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS**

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265

No. 8

April 12, 2023

Vol. 75



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

**Sunday, April 16, 2023**

**(Second Sunday of Easter)**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

**Sunday, April 23, 2023:**

**(Third Sunday of Easter)**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23;  
 Luke 24:13-35

**Sunday: April 16, 2023**

**Elders:** Stephanie Owings and Sharon Slater

**Deacons:** Team 3

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

**Deaconesses:** Cathy Cidras and Heather McBride

**Liturgist:** Aubrey Bunge

**Sunday: April 23, 2023**

**Elders:** Bob Given and Kathy Spires

**Deacons:** Team 1

Aubrey Bunge, Randy Owings, Kathy Peak and Pat Thomas.

**Deaconesses:** Cathy Cidras and Heather McBride

**Liturgist:** Alan Street

*"Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God."* **Colossians 3:16**

**Joy In Worship**

I am reading these words of scripture from Colossians today and as I read it, it makes me smile as I am still joyful over a filled Easter service. It was filled with people; it was filled with fellowship and most importantly it was filled with worship and the promise of new life in Christ!

It is in that continued spirit I want to give some information on what we are doing this Sunday for worship.

**Holy Humor Sunday:** Many American churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity-"Holy Humor Sunday" celebrations of Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday after Easter.

For centuries in Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant countries, the week following Easter Sunday, including "Bright Sunday" (the Sunday after Easter), was observed by the faithful as "days of joy and laughter" with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Churchgoers and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, told jokes, sang, and danced.

The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. "*Risus paschalis* - the Easter laugh," the early theologians called it.

In 1988 the Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging churches and prayer groups to resurrect Bright Sunday celebrations and call it "Holy Humor Sunday," with the theme: "Jesus is the LIFE of the party."

Many churches from different traditions responded enthusiastically. Holy Humor Sunday services are bringing back large crowds to churches on a Sunday when church attendance typically drops dramatically.

So, this coming Sunday will be fun and full of surprises. It is all meant to remind us that Easter is not a day but a way to live our life!

Joyfully laughing and celebrating with you!

Pastor Zane

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

### Sunday, April 16, 2023

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

### Monday, April 17, 2023

*Trustees' Meeting* 5:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 19, 2023

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, April 22, 2023

*Spring Youth Retreat (6th-12th Grade) @ FPC* 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

### Sunday, April 23, 2023

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
*Youth BBQ Lunch Fundraiser @ FCC Fellowship Hall* 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
*(Dine In, Carry Out and Drive Thru)*  
 All Together Youth Ministry (9th-12th Grade) @ FPC 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.



**Francene Snell**  
 Bill and Annette Azdell

**The Osbourne Family**  
 Bill and Annette Azdell

(S) indicates Scholarship



### Spring Cleaning for a Rummage Sale.

The Outreach Committee will host a Rummage and Goodies sale on May 6th. 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. All sale items should be priced prior to bringing them to Fellowship Hall. For anyone needing to drop off items in April after Easter, items can be taken to “Sharon Slater’s green room” next to the primary classroom across from the office. The committee welcomes any congregation volunteers to help set up on the 5th or take down at noon, on May 6th.



You are invited to join us at a BBQ dinner. The youth will be serving a BBQ Dinner on April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30-1 to help with this summer’s mission trip. Dine-in, carry out and drive-thru available. We thank you for all your support.

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.



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.



### Prayer on the Square

12:10 PM

Last Wednesday of each Month

OUTSIDE THE COURTHOUSE  
 MEXICO, MO

Sponsored by the Mexico, MO Ministerial Alliance

Sign up for email reminders:  
[ministerialalliancemexico@gmail.com](mailto:ministerialalliancemexico@gmail.com)

Sign up for text reminders:  
[text@mexicomoin](mailto:text@mexicomoin) to the number 81010

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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