



No. 25

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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265

December 9, 2020

Vol. 72



*Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.*

**Sunday, December 13, 2020:**

**(Third Sunday of Advent)**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55;

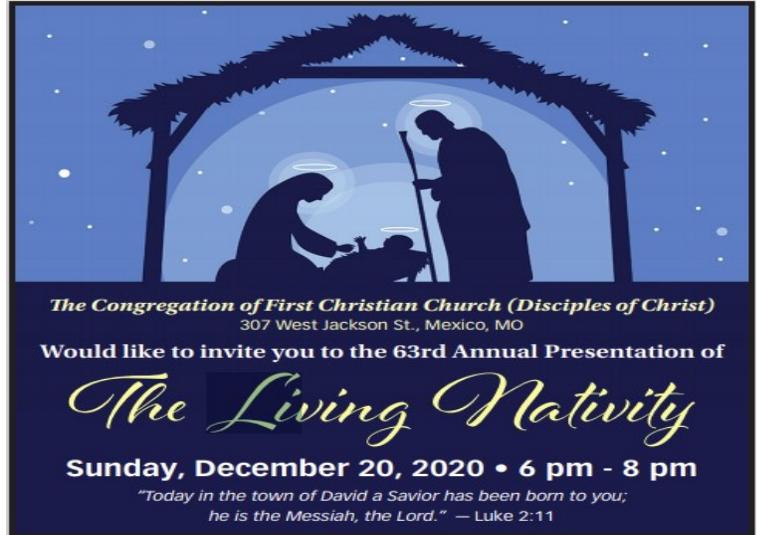
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

**Sunday, December 20, 2020:**

**(Fourth Sunday of Advent)**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4,

19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38



We are having a difficult year. Yet we are still finding ways to be church. With that we want to let you know there has been a decision made that we will continue with virtual services as long as the number of active cases in Audrain County goes up. While this is frustration, we need people to feel comfortable in order to worship. We will continue to keep you updated.

We need your help! We are putting together our Christmas Eve service and we are asking for a picture of you and your family holding a candle. We will put together a slide show while singing "Silent Night" You can email the church ([smannfcc77@gmail.com](mailto:smannfcc77@gmail.com)). If you are not sure how to send a pic, you can come to church when it is not busy or we can come by the house and take on the porch if you like. Please help us make our Christmas Eve service special.

*Therefore, the Lord himself will give you<sup>a</sup> a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel.*

**Isaiah 7:14**

***What's In a Name***

In light of a hectic world Jesus invades humanity with a God-sized announcement. You could focus on so many things of this promise verse of the coming savior. You could look at power of the Immaculate Conception. You could hone in on the God who wants to be found by giving seekers a sign. In this chaotic world Jesus is given a new name. He is given the name Immanuel which means God is with Us.

Here's where I would settle my heart upon during advent; that Jesus is God with us. He invaded a broken world. A world that deserved judgement and rebuke. And what does God provide? He provides Himself.

I would hope in the midst of the chaos of this fractured world you could settle in your heart that Jesus is God's answer to you and me. Our only response and our ultimate response is to worship the God who is with us. He's not afraid of our brokenness. We are not so messy that the Master doesn't want to commune with us. He comes to us as the God who will and can help us get back to right standing.

**Jesus**, thank you for loving us enough to humble yourself and identify with us. Thank you for being with us and giving us a path back to God through your sacrifice!

Pastor Zane

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**

*Kids For Christ @ FPC - CANCELLED* 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
*All Together Youth Ministry Middle School @ FCC* 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
*Bell Choir* 6:00 p.m.  
*Chancel Choir* 7:00 p.m.

*Young Adult Small Group @ FCC* 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

**Thursday, December 10, 2020**

*Family Advent Worship—VIRTUAL* 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, December 13, 2020**

*Worship Service—VIRTUAL* 10:30 a.m.

*General Board Meeting—ZOOM* Noon

*All Together Youth Ministry High School @ FPC* 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 16, 2020**

*Kids For Christ @ FPC - CANCELLED* 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

*All Together Youth Ministry Middle School @ FCC (Middle School Youth Christmas Party)* 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

*Bell Choir* 6:00 p.m.

*Chancel Choir* 7:00 p.m.

*Young Adult Small Group @ FCC* 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

**Key: (FCC) First Christian Church; (FPC) First Presbyterian Church; (MUM) Mexico United Methodist**



Decorate First Christian Church with poinsettias this Christmas by remembering or honoring someone special. Please write down the honoree name (s) and the giver (s) name. Submit this information to the church office no later than **December 17th**. You may bring the poinsettia to the church anytime between 7am-3pm on Friday, **December 18th**. Also, you may contact the church office if you'd like to order a poinsettia through the church. The deadline for this is **December 11th**. They are only \$6 this year. Please make your check to First Christian Church and clearly note it "Poinsettia Sunday". Thank You!



The two Sundays designated for this year's Christmas offering are Sunday, December 13th and the 20th. Your gift to the Christmas offering supports the work of the Mid-America Region, sustaining the life of our church. Thank you in advance for your support. Please make your checks to First Christian Church and clearly note it "Christmas Offering".



*Christmas Schedule*



**All Subject to Change & May Be Held Virtually**

*December 10th & 17th*—Family Advent Worship from 6:30 p.m. (VIRTUAL)

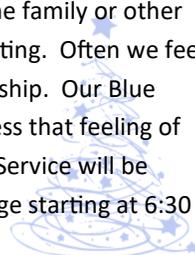
*Sunday, December 13th & 20th*—2020 Christmas Offering

*Sunday, December 20th*—Christmas Cantata & Poinsettia Sunday & Living Nativity from 6:00—8:00 p.m.

*Sunday, December 21st*—Blue Christmas Service @ 6:30 p.m. (VIRTUAL)

*Sunday, December 24th*—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (TBA)

Often during Christmas we have a hard time celebrating because we have had a difficult year. This could be due to losing a loved one, trouble with the family or other things that just keep us from celebrating. Often we feel guilty or alone in our inability to worship. Our Blue Christmas service is created to address that feeling of loss and sorrow during this season. Service will be offered virtually on our Facebook page starting at 6:30 p.m. on the 21st.



Our Pre-Christmas Family Worshipings have gone virtual! Be sure to check out our Facebook page on Thursdays at 6:30pm for a skit from our youth and a message from Michael Moore and Sara Bright. Also, please check out the comments for links to the songs and crafts. Craft supplies will be available in the church office for pick up.

Our youth are still meeting in small groups on Sunday. The high school students meet at First Presbyterian Church from 7:30-9pm. Masks and social distancing are required. The Christmas party will be held on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Middle School Youth meets on Wednesdays at First Christian Church from 5:30-7pm in Fellowship hall with masks and social distancing. Their Christmas party will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Sara Bright—Youth Director*

*In Our Hearts and Prayers*

Please take a moment to remember the family of Garnet Peck.

She passed away on November 30th, 2020.



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(Disciples of Christ)  
307 West Jackson St.  
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