



No. 3

**THE CHURCH VISITOR**  
**A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS**  
**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265**  
**February 2, 2022**

Vol. 74

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” -John 13:34-35

### **Showing God's Love**

God commands us to love one another. It doesn't have to be complicated! Here are 5 simple ways to show God's love to others:

#### **SHOW GOD'S LOVE BY LISTENING:**

In today's culture, it seems like so many voices are speaking (and often shouting). Communication is always at our fingertips through email, text, social media, and the 24-hour news cycle. While social media has increased communication, it has also given us the false appearance of true connection and real relationships. It is rare for people to feel truly heard.

Commit to slow down, ask questions, and really listen to people. Listen to understand, not just to prepare your response. Allow people to speak their mind without interruption or judgement. People will feel valued (and loved!) when they are heard and understood.

#### **SHOW GOD'S LOVE WITH GENEROSITY**

When we love someone, we give to them. That loving characteristic comes from God! After all, John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that he **gave**...” He loved, so He gave. We love our spouse, children, friends, so we give to them. God created His love to be a generous kind of love.

\*Of course, people think of money when talking about generosity, but, how can you also be generous with your time, talents, and your voice?

\*Who can you invest some time into, either by helping them out with a practical need or some quality time? What special skills or talents can you provide? Who can you advocate for or encourage?

#### **SHOW GOD'S LOVE BY ENCOURAGING**

Everyone we meet is carrying some kind of burden. Even the most “put-together” people have something weighing them down. Just because someone carries it well doesn't mean it's not heavy.

How can we help to lift someone's burdens? It can be as simple as words of encouragement. When we encourage another, we are strengthening the hope, their faith, and their resolve to keep going.

#### **SHOW GOD'S LOVE WITH ACTS OF KINDNESS**

Showing kindness means thinking about the other person more than you think about yourself. What are their needs? What would make their lives better? It doesn't have to be huge, but it should be thoughtful. Practice being others-focused. Show God's love with acts of kindness.

#### **SHOW GOD'S LOVE BY PRAYING FOR OTHERS**

Pray for them in your own time with God, but, also pray for people when you're with them. One of the easiest ways to show love and concern is to pray with someone right then and there. In any conversation, at any time, simply ask, “How can I pray for you?” or “Can I pray for you?” And then pray with them. Show them love and genuinely pray for their needs or thank God for their good news.

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Christ came to save whole world, not a select few. He suffered and died knowing the world rejected Him, and we continue to reject Him daily when we fall short of sharing his love. Yet, He loved us enough to continually save us. His love expects nothing in return. Pure, sacrificial love.

When we show this kind of love, we are showing Christ's love. It's His love shining through us. If it seems difficult to love some, focus on the fact that you are being used to show Christ's; not your own love. It's not by your own strength, but through Christ's.

How can you show God's love to someone today?

Pastor Zane

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday, February 6, 2022</b>	
Sunday School	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
Youth Music @ MUM	6:00 pm-7:00 pm
All Together Youth Ministries (9th-12th Grades) @ FPC	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
<b>Wednesday, February 9, 2022</b>	
Kids 4 Christ @ FPC	After School-5:00 pm
All Together Youth Ministries (6th-12th Grades) @ FCC	6:00 pm-7:30 pm
Bell Choir	6:00 pm
Chancel Choir	7:00 pm
<b>Thursday, February 10, 2022</b>	
Pastor Zane Volunteer Chaplain @ Noble Health Hospital	9:00 am-11:00 am
<b>Sunday, February 13, 2022</b>	
Sunday School	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
<i>All Together Youth Ministry BBQ Fundraiser @ FCC in Fellowship Hall (Carryout—Back Lot)</i>	<i>11:45 am</i>
Youth Music @ MUM	6:00 pm-7:00 pm
All Together Youth Ministries (9th-12th Grades) @ FPC	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
<b>Wednesday, February 16, 2022</b>	
Kids 4 Christ @ FPC	After School-5:00 pm
All Together Youth Ministries (6th-12th Grades) @ FCC	6:00 pm-7:30 pm
Bell Choir	6:00 pm
Chancel Choir	7:00 pm

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



## Bill Gritton

Diane & Patrick Maguire  
Joan Shelledey  
Kerri Verlander  
Bob & Neola Williams (S)

## Mary Kobush

Bill & Annette Azdell (S)  
Mike & Nancy Bunge  
Jane Curry  
Marlene Chaney & Rick  
Ruth Chaney (S)  
Beverly Davis  
Jack & Joyce Davis (S)  
Stephen & Laura Erdel  
Ed & Carol Hines (S)  
Betty & Dave Hollenberg  
Elaine Kuntz  
Kenneth Or Ann Littlefield  
Dwayne & Mary Mackey  
Stuart & Pam (Barbara) Miller  
Vanessa Newbrough  
Randy & Stephanie Owings  
Bob & Donna Peak  
David & Melanie Richter  
Barbara Robinson (S)  
Gerald & Sharon Sharp  
Jennifer Silver  
Barbara Stuart (Bruce & Brian Stuart's Families as well)  
Pauline Vore  
Christina & Kevin Wilkerson

**(S) indicates Scholarship fund**

**Graduation time will be here before we know it!**



Our Scholarship fund can always use replenishing. Please consider donating to this fund by honoring a love one as a memorial gift. Be sure to mark your check "scholarship fund" in the memo or on your envelope so it will be credited to the correct account.

Thank you for helping our next generation succeed both financially and spiritually.



## As of January 31, 2022

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,441  
Year to Date Expenses: \$16,640

Average Weekly Income: \$5,415  
Income vs Expenses: \$15,847

Year to Date Income: \$32,487



*Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.*

**Sunday, February 6, 2022:**

**(Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany)**

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

**Sunday, February 13, 2022:**

**(Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany)**

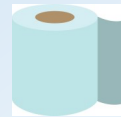
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26



The Outreach Committee supports our community by organizing events like the rummage sale and the Camp David Backpack program. They also take up collections of hand soaps, toilet paper, and soups. They stay in touch with places like the Help Center, TyLand, the Room at the Inn, Our Safe Place, and the Senior Center. They do all of this and more by keeping the congregation

involved in meeting the needs of the community. They are looking for more members to help with this journey. If you would like to be a part of an inspiring committee that whole heartedly supports our community, please contact Jane Houf, Diana Henage, or the church office. They would love for you to join their committee.

For the month of February, the Outreach Committee will be collecting toilet paper. If you would like to participate in this worthy community project, there is a container in the Narthex to store it in. Collections will be donated to local recipients like The Help Center, Our Safe Place, The Room at the Inn, The Senior Center, and the Agape House.



Thank you in advance for your support!



## Bright Spots

February 13<sup>th</sup> you are invited to join us for a BBQ fundraiser. You won't want to miss this meal in Fellowship Hall after church. There will also be drive thru meals in the back parking lot. All donations will be used to help support this year's summer mission trips.

February 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> all youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us for a winter retreat. We will be traveling to Camp Jo-Ota for an overnight trip.

Sunday school is back for all youth and children at 9:15 am in the youth room with breakfast snacks.

*Sara Bright—Youth Director*

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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



## SERVING

### SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, February 6, 2022**

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Sunday School for All Ages-9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

#### **Sunday, February 13, 2022**

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Sunday School for All Ages-9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

#### **Sunday: February 6, 2022**

**Elders:** Diana Henage and Lori Osbourn

**Deacons:** Team 1

Jordan Bright, Ron Boswell, Ruth Gritton, Jim Medley,  
Sherry Medley, Kathy Peak. Jr. Deacons: Emma Higgins,  
Piper Higgins

**Deaconesses:** Carol Hines and Jane Houf

**Liturgist:** Connie Street

#### **Sunday: February 13, 2022**

**Elders:** Warren Nordwald and Stephanie Owings

**Deacons:** Team 2

Jean Stephens, Bob Larkin, Kay Larkin, Alan Street, Connie  
Street. Jr. Deacons: Tessa Higgins, Jessica Stephens

**Deaconesses:** Carol Hines and Jane Houf

**Liturgist:** Jean Stephens