



No. 2

THE CHURCH VISITOR
A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265
January 19, 2022

Vol. 74

"Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us, but he will bind up our wounds. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence."

Hosea 6:1-2

Repent and Heal

During the worship services over the next few weeks, we are talking about sin and repentance. I thought I would take this time to talk a little about repentance and why it is crucial in a relationship with God.

In the New Testament, the word *repent* simply means to turn around. Spiritually, it means to change from a heart bent on self-rule. It's about a heart attitude that confesses to (or agrees with) God and seeks God's glory, God's way and God's will.

With that in mind here 6 basic principles of repentance to reflect on.

1: Confess. Repentant people are willing to confess all their sins, not just the sins that got them in trouble. A house isn't clean until you open every closet and sweep every corner. People who truly desire to be clean are completely honest about their lives. No more secrets.

2. Face the Pain. Repentant people face the pain that their sin caused others. They invite the victims of their sin (anyone hurt by their actions) to express the intensity of emotions that they feel—anger, hurt, sorrow, and disappointment. Repentant people do not give excuses or shift blame. They made the choice to hurt others, and they must take full responsibility for their behavior.

3. Ask for Forgiveness. Repentant people ask for forgiveness from those they hurt. They realize that they can never completely "pay off" the debt they owe their victims. Repentant people don't pressure others to say "I forgive you." Forgiveness is a journey, and the other person needs time to deal with the hurt before they can forgive. All that penitent people can do is admit their indebtedness and humbly request the undeserved gift of forgiveness.

4. Remain Accountable. Repentant people remain accountable to a small group of mature Christians. They gather a group of friends around themselves who hold them accountable to a plan for clean living. They invite the group to question them about their behaviors. And they follow the group's recommendations regarding how to avoid temptation.

5. Accept Their Limitations. Repentant people accept their limitations. They realize that the consequences of their sin (including the distrust) will last a long time, perhaps the rest of their lives. They understand that they may never enjoy the same freedom that other people enjoy.

Addicts, for example, should change locations and people they were once around. Alcoholics must abstain from drinking. Those spending too much time online may need programs that limit their times. Any area that may cause temptation, must be avoided, or when not able remove themselves, they may need to be monitored and have someone around to help keep the repentant person accountable.

6. Faithful to God-Given Tasks. Repentant people are faithful to the daily tasks God has given them. We serve a merciful God who delights in giving second chances. God offers repentant people a restored and a new plan for life.

Repenting and Healing with you
Pastor Zane

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 23, 2022	
Adult Sunday School	9:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Children's Sunday School)	9:15 am-10:15 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
All Together Youth Ministries (9th-12th Grades) @ FPC	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
Wednesday, January 26, 2022	
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
Thursday, January 27, 2022	
Pastor Zane Volunteer Chaplain @ Noble Health Hospital	9:00 am-11:00 am
Saturday, 29, 2022	
<i>Bill Gritton Memorial Service</i>	<i>2:00 pm</i>
Sunday, January 30, 2022	
Adult Sunday School	9:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Children's Sunday School)	9:15 am-10:15 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
All Together Youth Ministries (9th-12th Grades) @ FPC	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
Wednesday, February 2, 2022	
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
Pastor Zane @ King's Daughters (Service)	10:00 am



Bill Gritton

Thelma Gesling

Geraldine Petersen

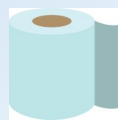
Graduation time will be here before we know it!



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.

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!



**Friends & Family
Directory**

First Christian Church
Friends and Family
Directory is now available
in the Narthex.



As of January 18, 2022

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,441
Year to Date Expenses: \$6,774

Average Weekly Income: \$5,695
Income vs Expenses: \$16,006

Year to Date Income: \$22,780



Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.

Sunday, January 23, 2022:

(Third Sunday after the Epiphany)

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Sunday, January 30, 2022:

(Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany)

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30



If you would like your 2021 record of giving, please email or call Shellonda at the church office.

smannfcc77@gmail.com or 573-581-4628

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/2	Linda Moody	2/15	Ruth Gritton
2/2	Paul Moody	2/19	Payton Bledsoe
2/5	Barbara Pickering	2/20	Barbara Robinson
2/6	Carol Elder	2/23	John Precht
2/11	Landon Wilson	2/24	Ella Kay Higgins
2/12	Samuel Bunge	2/27	Sandy Black



Bright Spots

February 13th you are invited to join us for a BBQ fundraiser. You won't want to miss this meal in Fellowship hall after church. All donations will be used to help support this year's summer mission trips.

February 19-20th all youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to join us for a Winter Retreat. We will be traveling to Camp Jo-Ota for an overnight trip. Cost is \$10 and includes transportation, lodging and meals. Permission forms are due back January 19th, so get them returned ASAP.

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

Sara Bright—Youth Director

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Mexico, Mo. 65265



Sunday, January 23, 2022

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

Sunday, January 30, 2022

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

Sunday: January 23, 2022

Elders: Randy Owings and Ed Stephens

Deacons: Team 2

Martha Hagan, Sandy Black, Gus Moody, LeeAnn Paladin, Alan Street, Connie Street. Jr. Deacons: Alex Paladin, Katie Paladin

Deaconesses: Sharon Slater and Becky Peterson

Liturgist: Jean Stephens

Sunday: January 30, 2022

Elders: Carla Tanzey and Jean Stephens

Deacons: Team 3

Doug Thomas, Ron Boswell, Ruth Gritton, Melaney Higgins, Cody Sims, Katie Sims. Jr Deacons: Piper Higgins, Ty Sims

Deaconesses: Sharon Slater and Becky Peterson

Liturgist: Ed Stephens