



No. 2

**THE CHURCH VISITOR**  
**A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS**  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265  
January 22, 2020

Vol. 72

With Monday Being Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I found this article to share with you by his niece Alveda King!  
Pastor Zane

**10 Rules for Life by Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Learning from the Forefathers of the King Family**

I can remember my forefathers teaching me Bible truths: my grandfather, my father (Rev. Alfred Daniel Williams King), and Uncle Martin Luther King Jr.—all Baptist preachers. I didn't realize it then, but they all lived out the truth of Proverbs 22:6: "Teach a youth about the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

I tried to run away from the foundations and faith of my fathers. There were many mistakes, and yet there was always victory when I came back to God.

My uncle and my father knew injustice. They, like millions of other African-Americans, needed no introduction to it; injustice greeted them virtually every day of their lives. But, they also knew peace in their hearts, the peace that surpasses all understanding. And from this peace, they sought and achieved a modicum of justice for the masses.

**10 Life Lessons from the King Family**

I write about many of these experiences in my new book, *King Rules*. In it, there are 10 rules of spiritual and moral conduct that will help any person, young or old. My daddy, uncle, aunt and those before and after them, including me, grew up learning and practicing these rules from the elders of our family.

- 1) Make home a priority. 2) Serve your family. 3) Get a good education. 4) Guard your heart. 5) Defend life.
- 6) Fight for justice. 7) Care for the needy. 8) Work for peace. 9) Build the beloved community. 10) Find your joy.

**Responding to the World with God's Word**

Still today, we live in a corrupt world. And how should we respond? God's Word teaches us not to repay evil with evil.

Jesus exemplified His teaching that we must overcome evil with good even as He was unjustly arrested by the Romans. When Peter took up a sword and cut off the high priest's slave's ear, Jesus commanded, "Put your sword back in its place because all who take up a sword will perish by a sword" (Matt. 26:52).

Then, with compassion, Jesus healed the wounded servant who had come with the crowd to arrest Him. That's a higher frequency of goodness that we should tune into our hearts: love overcoming hate.

As men of God and students of history, Uncle M.L. (Martin Luther King Jr.) and my dad understood that violence begets violence.

Violence is often born of rage. And rage destroys—not only neighborhoods but also lives. Rage is born of hate. And hate does not seek the truth, but rather spawns victims. And victims seek other victims to make them suffer as they've suffered. **Hurting people hurt people.** And on and on and on, souls fall toward a yawning abyss.

As Uncle M.L. wrote in *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, "The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral." But inspired by 1 Corinthians 13 and believing that love never fails, he also wrote that "darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

**Alveda's Hopes and Prayers for the Future**

Today, as a seasoned and tried-in-the-fire elder living in the 21st century, I embrace you, my peers, with the love and encouragement that our latter days will be even more blessed than our former days.

As we approach the days ahead, there is a need to pause in our preparing to move even further into our golden years. We must always give thanks to God for life itself and for allowing us to live productive lives.

My prayer is that we love truth and that in loving truth, we seek it. Once finding truth, we seek justice. And once finding justice, we enjoy peace. As Uncle M.L. said, "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday, January 26, 2020</b>	
Adult Sunday School	9:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Sunday School)	9:15 am-10:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Children's Church)	10:45 am-11:30 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
<i>Middle School Youth @ FPC</i>	<i>12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.</i>
<i>High School Youth @ FPC</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.</i>
<b>Wednesday, January 29, 2020</b>	
<i>Kids 4 Christ @ FPC</i>	<i>3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth Group @ FCC</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Bell Choir</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Chancel Choir</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<b>Sunday, February 2, 2020</b>	
Adult Sunday School	9:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Sunday School)	9:15 am-10:15 am
Kids for Christ's Kingdom (Children's Church)	10:45 am-11:30 am
Worship Service	10:30 am
<i>Middle School Youth @ FPC</i>	<i>12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.</i>
<i>High School Youth @ FPC</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.</i>
<b>Wednesday, February 5, 2020</b>	
<i>10:00 am service at King's Daughter's—Pastor Whorton</i>	
<i>Kids 4 Christ @ FPC</i>	<i>3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth Group @ FCC</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Bell Choir</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Chancel Choir</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>

## GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like your 2019 record of giving, please email or call Shellonda at the church office.

smannfcc77@gmail.com or 573-581-4628



In  
Memory

### Darlene Hill (Sister of LaUana Whittaker)

Robert & Donna Peak  
LaUna Whittaker  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Whittaker



Birthday Cards  
for our  
Shut-Ins

Garnet Peck is on of our shut-in members. Her birthday is on January 31st. Let's do a birthday card shower for her to let her know we are thinking about her. Her address is:

Garnet Peck  
C/O King's Daughters Home  
620 W. Boulevard St.  
Mexico, MO 65265

For the month of January, our Outreach Committee will be collecting hand sanitizer and Kleenex. Please lend a helping hand to help keep our community healthy. 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 help!



Offering  
Envelopes

2020 Stewardship envelopes are now available in the Narthex for you to pick up. They are alphabetized by last name.

Stewardship Committee

### As of January 14, 2020

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,334  
Year to Date Expenses: \$2,073

Average Weekly Income: \$3,373  
Income vs Expenses: \$4,673

Year to Date Income: \$6,746





## Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.

**Sunday, January 26, 2020:**

**(Third Sunday after the Epiphany)**

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18;  
Matthew 4:12-23

**Sunday, February 2, 2020:**

**(Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany)**

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;  
Matthew 5:1-12

## Bright Spots



All 6th-8th Grade... Join us for a Middle School Retreat at Broadway Christian Church in Columbia, MO (\$10 per youth participant). The Retreat will start on February 4th at 7pm and end February 15th at 1pm. Please let me know if you plan to attend, so I can get you signed up.

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> we would like to invite everyone to join us for a mission trip dinner directly following worship. Be sure to put it on your calendar, you won't want to miss the good food.

Mission trip information went out! We will be going to Newton, Iowa to the Christian Conference Center July 6<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to get your permission forms turned in to hold your spot.

## #My Giving Story

The Outreach committee provides a casserole for the Our Safe Place teen group meeting the fourth Thursday of each month anytime before 3 PM at the old Brett, Erdel, Tanzey building (blue/cream door front) on Monroe Street downtown. Just ring the doorbell and someone will answer. Please include a note that says the casserole is from friends at First Christian Church who welcome all to attend. If you would like to help in this effort, please contact Shellonda at the church office. We would like to have a casserole for the months of April, May, June, July, August, and October. Pasta casseroles are a favorite and can even be brought in frozen and cooked onsite if necessary. Thank you in advance for helping our group's efforts... **Outreach Committee**

## FEBRUARY Birthdays

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

### "Yoga" with Janie

Start the New Year out right and join us for Senior Chair Yoga Classes from 9am - 10am every Tuesday and Thursday morning in Fellowship Hall. Our class instructor is Janie Maxwell. Yoga is a great way to improve mobility and balance with gentle exercise, also good fun and fellowship. We would love to see more men and women from our congregation.



Questions: Call Barb Stuart or Barb Robinson



The 2020 Flower Calendar is now available for sign up at the back of the church. This is a wonderful way to honor, remember, or celebrate a loved one. We have Garden Gate and Blossoms and Blooms here in town with the capability to deliver on Saturday. You are also welcome to bring in flowers the Friday before. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office.

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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



The next General Board Meeting will be held February 16th, immediately following worship. This is our 1st Quarter Potluck Luncheon, so please bring whatever you would like to share.

## **Sunday, January 26, 2020**

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

## **Sunday, February 2, 2020**

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



## **Sunday: January 26, 2020**

**Elders:** Carla Tanzey and Craig Bledsoe

**Deacons:** Team 1

Jean Stephens, Cathy Cidras, Katie Sims, Jordan Bright, Ruth Gritton, Kay Larkin, Bob Larkin, Gus Moody, Ashley Hodges. Jr. Deacons; Andrew Stephens, Jake Sims

**Deaconesses:** Barb Stuart and Sharon Slater

**Candles:** Kyra and Emma

**Liturgist:** Jean Stephens

## **Sunday: February 2, 2020**

**Elders:** Pat Thomas and Carla Tanzey

**Deacons:** Team 2

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

**Deaconesses:** Cheryl Bledsoe and Karen Dodd

**Candles:** Ellie and Landon

**Liturgist:** Connie Street