



THE CHURCH VISITOR
A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265
May 26, 2021

No. 10

Vol. 73

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **1 Corinthians 11: 23-24**

Remember

As the Lord gave his laws to his freed people after rescuing them from slavery in Egypt, there is one command that occurs over and over—*remember*. They were to *remember* their mistreatment in Egypt and not mistreat the foreigners in their new land. They were to *remember* how the Lord rescued them from Egypt with a mighty hand and not turn away from him to worship other gods.

In our modern culture, we associate remembering with mental recollection—it's usually a passive, intellectual exercise. The Bible's original audience understood it very differently. For the Hebrew people, it required imagination. The Passover dinner was more than a way to recall how God had rescued his ancient people from slavery in Egypt. The meal was also a way to claim liberation in the present. Participating in the meal was how you affirmed your own place as one of God's people.

So, when Jesus told his followers to eat the bread and drink the wine "in remembrance of me," he was asking us to do more than a mental exercise of recollection. When we participate in the Lord's Supper, we aren't merely recalling events from 2,000 years ago. We are inviting God to make the power of those events present today. This is critically important because as one pastor has said, "Information alone never leads to transformation. Rather, it is what we experience as real on the inside that transforms us. That is all about the use of the imagination."

I wonder if our failure to engage our imaginations explains the why the church is so divided today. We have made so much of Christianity into the mere communication and retention of information. Think this, believe that. We've modeled our churches on modern education with a lecture from an expert and the congregation to be passive students. If we are careful we end pretending that faith is merely the Bible and people are merely brains. When that happens we gather so pastors can preach doctrines, and principles, and biblical truths, and we try to "remember" them for the final exam—as if the final judgment will be a test of our knowledge rather than an examination of our behavior.

But true remembrance, *biblical* remembrance, must go deeper than our intellect and it must engage more than our minds. When God commanded his people to remember, he called them to practice embodied experiences. The Passover was a communal meal full of tastes, smells, stories, and symbols. Likewise, to remember key events the people built memorials—large, visible objects that embodied a story. And early Christian worship wasn't a passive event. It usually involved a full communal meal, embodied prayers, symbols, and other active experiences intended to shape the imagination and not merely convey information. Premodern traditions understood that to live faithfully and justly in the world required more than *hearing* about practices or beliefs in a sermon or *reading* about it in the Bible; it requires the church to *rehearse* through imaginative practices of remembrance.

Remembering with you,
Pastor Zane

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 30, 2021	
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
Monday, May 31, 2021	
<i>Office Closed</i>	
Wednesday, June 2, 2021	
Service @ King's Daughters—Pastor Zane	10:00 am
Sunday, June 6, 2021	
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>*June 6th–11th: CYF Camp (9th–12th grades) - Pastor Zane will be attending camp.</i>	
Sunday, June 13, 2021	
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
Friday, June 18, 2021	
<i>Hardin Park and Cookie Club (Middle School)</i>	<i>5:00 pm</i>

Sunday, June 20, 2021



General Board Meeting

HAPPY
Father's Day



As of May 24, 2021

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,304
Year to Date Expenses: \$78,858

Average Weekly Income: \$4,058
Income vs Expenses: \$6,363

Year to Date Income: \$85,221

Randy Sawyer

David & Melanie Richter



S) indicates Scholarship fund



6/3 Alan Street
6/3 Tom Groves
6/4 Joyce Davis
6/5 Onna Higgins
6/6 Steven Owings
6/7 Howard Graf
6/8 Kathy Peak
6/12 Katie Sims
6/15 Tyler Brandow
6/15 Loyd Dodd
6/17 Gordon Houf
6/21 Stephanie Owings
6/23 Brielle VanMatre
6/27 Karen Donovan
6/28 David Higgins
6/29 Melaney Higgins
6/30 Jake Sims
6/30 Doug Thomas

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make ACCIS garage sale a success! To those who donated items, those who worked hard preparing and during the sale, and to those who sent prayers and good wishes, we thank you! ACCIS was extremely appreciative of our help and willingness to host is at our church. We both gained some good publicity as a result. While ACCIS received the proceeds, the Help Center and Handi Shop benefited as well because all of the items that were left over will go to them.



Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.

Sunday, May 30, 2021:

(First Sunday after Pentecost)

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

Sunday, June 6, 2021:

(Second Sunday after Pentecost)

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15);
Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

Youth Summer Events

June 6th-11th—CYF Camp (High School)

June 18th—Hardin Park and Cookie Club (Middle School) - 5pm

June 23rd—Fairgrounds Park (High School) - 5pm

June 27th-July 2nd—Memphis Mission Trip (High School)

July 7th—Midway (Middle School) - 11am

July 11th-15th—Canoe Camp (6th-12th)

July 21st—Pinnacles Youth Park (High School) - 10am

July 23rd-26th—Iowa Mission Trip (Middle School)

August 1st—6th—Chi Rho Camp (Middle School)

August 13th—Movie Night - 8pm


Congratulations To



Warmest Congratulations on your 2021 graduation!

High School:

Andrew Stephens—Mexico High School

Andrew will be continuing his education at Mizzou 

College:

Morgan Bledsoe—Missouri State—Bachelor of Science—Marketing 

Catie Bledsoe—MACC—Associate of Arts

Catie will be continuing her education at Mizzou 

Jake Sims—State Technical College of Missouri—Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electrical Distribution Systems



If you would like to send cards to our graduates:

Andrew Stephens
20540 Audrain Rd 928
Mexico, MO 65265

Morgan Bledsoe
909 S. Olive St.
Mexico, MO 65265

Catie Bledsoe
909 S. Olive St.
Mexico, MO 65265

Jake Sims
20344 Audrain Rd 928
Mexico, MO 65265



Scholarships Awarded

We are pleased to announce our scholarship recipients this year are Catie Bledsoe, Taylor Bledsoe, Katie Paladin, Chloe Sims and Andrew Stephens .

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307 West Jackson St.
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Please continue to bring your gallon milk jugs (rinsed out please with the cap) and small metal cans (14.5 oz) to the church office for pick up each week for Mobility Worldwide PET.

Sunday, May 30, 2021

First Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School for All Ages-9:15 a.m.
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 6, 2021

Second Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School for All Ages-9:15 a.m.
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

Serving Schedule



Sunday: May 30, 2021

Elders: Sharon Slater and Bill Azdell

Deacons: Team 3

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

Deaconesses: Barb Stuart and Jean Stephens

Liturgist: Connie Street

Sunday: June 6, 2021

Elders: Warren Nordwald and Stephanie Owings

Deacons: Team 1

Jordan Bright, Lori Brandow, Bob Larkin, Kay Larkin, Scott Miller, Lori Osbourn, Debra Trabue. Jr. Deacons; Andrew Stephens, Jessica Stephens

Deaconesses: Cheryl Bledsoe and Catie Bledsoe

Liturgist: Ed Stephens