



No. 23

THE CHURCH VISITOR
A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265
November 9, 2022

Vol. 74

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him..”
Psalms 28:7

Why Being Thankful Is a Powerful Way to Live Free

We have so much to be grateful for in this life, every single day. But reality is that sometimes constant life demands, battles, and worries give more room to defeat than to a heart of thanks. Or we forget, during busyness and pressures, just to pause and give thanks for all that God has done and continues to do in our lives.

Sometimes it really is a sacrifice to offer praise and thanks. We may not feel like it. We're struggling. We're exhausted. Or maybe, we feel like God let us down. We think God seems distant, like he's far away, or doesn't really care about what's troubling us. Painful life blows and losses might have recently sent us spiraling.

But here's what can make a difference. We have a choice, every day, to give God thanks. And with a heart of thanksgiving, we realize that no matter what we face, God doesn't just work to change our situations and help us through our problems. He does more. He changes our hearts. His power, through hearts of gratitude and focused minds on Him, releases the grip our struggles have over us. We're strengthened by His peace, refueled by His joy.

No matter what our current situation, or the struggles we may be facing, here's what choosing to be thankful does:

- It gets our eyes off ourselves and helps us to focus back on God.
- It reminds us that we're not in control, but that we serve a Mighty God who is. It keeps us in a place of humility and dependency on Him, as we recognize how much we need Him.
- It helps us to recognize we have so much to be thankful for, even all the little things, which often we may forget to thank Him for. It takes our attention off our problems and helps us instead to reflect on the goodness of His many blessings.
- It reminds us that God is the Giver of all good gifts. We were never intended to be fully self-sufficient in this life. A grateful heart reminds us that ultimately God is our Provider, that all blessings and gifts are graciously given to us by His hand.

Maybe you're in a hard place right now. Maybe you feel like God has left you on your own, to fend for yourself, or the battle seems too hard. Maybe there's never enough money left at the end of the month and you can't figure out how to make things work. No matter what, in it all, be assured that God is with you and He cares. Choose a heart of gratefulness today. Make a list of all that God has blessed and filled your life with, that it's been easy to take for granted at times. Trust He knows what concerns you and is at work even now, to bring you through this uncertain season. Thank Him for providing all you need.

Pastor Zane

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

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|---|------------------------------|
| Sunday, November 13, 2022 | <i>Thanksgiving Offering</i> |
| Sunday School | 9:15 am |
| Worship Service | 10:30 am |
| <i>Fellowship Luncheon</i> | <i>Following Service</i> |
| All Together Youth Ministry (9th-12th Grade) @ FPC | 7:30 pm-9:00 pm |
| Tuesday, November 15, 2022 | |
| <i>Young Adult Lunch @ FCC in Fellowship Hall</i> | <i>12:00 pm</i> |
| Wednesday, November 16, 2022 | |
| Kids 4 Christ (K-5th Grade) @ FPC | 3:00 pm-5:00 pm |
| Bell Choir | 6:00 pm |
| Chancel Choir | 7:00 pm |
| <i>All Together Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade) Thanksgiving Dinner @ FCC</i> | <i>6:00 pm-7:30 pm</i> |
| Sunday, November 20, 2022 | <i>Thanksgiving Offering</i> |
| Sunday School | 9:15 am |
| Worship Service | 10:30 am |
| <i>Annual Congregational Meeting</i> | <i>Following Service</i> |
| All Together Youth Ministry (9th-12th Grade) @ FPC | 7:30 pm-9:00 pm |
| Monday, November 21, 2022 | |
| <i>Trustees' Meeting</i> | <i>5:30 pm</i> |
| Tuesday, November 22, 2022 | |
| <i>Young Adult Lunch @ FCC in Fellowship Hall</i> | <i>12:00 pm</i> |
| Bell Choir | 6:00 pm |
| Chancel Choir | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday, November 23, 2022 | |
| <i>No Youth Group - Thanksgiving Break</i> | |
| Thursday, November 24, 2022 | <i>Thanksgiving</i> |
| <i>Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday</i> | |
| Friday, November 25, 2022 | |
| <i>Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday</i> | |



Christmas for the Homebound

Merry Christmas



The Mexico Senior Center is collecting for our Senior Homebound Meal Participants. We are asking for donations so that we can make each senior that is receiving our assistance, a Christmas Present.

This will be a Christmas Care Package. Our goals to help ease the financial crunch during the Christmas season. We also want them to feel the spirit and generosity that is the holiday season. We will collect during the month of November and will get everything together. We will make purchases & deliver the first week of December.

Our Senior Center Council Members & other volunteers will make everything into beautiful packages. Then we will have volunteer delivery drivers bring these packages to each one of our homebound meal Participants.

Wishlist:
 Paper Towels
 Toilet Paper
 Kleenex
 Kitchen Trash Bags
 Kitchen Towels
 Cookies
 Candy
 Wash Rags
 Bath Towels
 All donations are appreciated!

Items can be dropped off at: The Mexico Senior Center, 606 Park Street.

Please help us to ensure our Seniors enjoy the holiday season!!!
(573)581-7743

Members We Haven't Seen in a While:

Dorothy Adams' birthday is on November 15th. Let's shower her with cards to let her know we are thinking about her!

Dorothy Adams
 728 S Washington St.
 Mexico, MO 65265

I enjoyed and appreciate all the cards and calls on my latest birthday.

Thank You!
Murray Purcell



As of November 8, 2022

Budget needs Weekly: \$4,441
 Year to Date Expenses: \$175,144

Average Weekly Income: \$4,008
 Income vs Expenses: \$9,210

Year to Date Income: \$184,354





Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.

Sunday, November 13, 2022:

(Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost)

Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

Sunday, November 20, 2022:

(Twentieth Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43



Sara Bright—Youth Director

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped with the Halloween Fest. We had a great time with all of our youth and kids.

Wednesday, November 16th is the Youth Group Thanksgiving dinner. All youth are invited to bring their favorite side or desert to share with the group. Turkey and potatoes will be provided.

Youth Sunday is **December 4th!** The youth are working on a wonderful service that you won't want to miss out on.



Menu: Ham, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Dressing, Homemade Noodles, Green Beans, Slaw, Cranberry Salad, Rolls and Homemade Pie

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Dinner - 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

AUCTION - 7:00 P.M.

Meal \$10 Carry-Outs Available

Midway Christian Church, Audrain Road 380

More Info: (573) 721-5622



All Church Luncheon

There will be an All Church Fellowship Luncheon on **November 13th** following the service.

2022 Thanksgiving Offering Time

—November 13th and 20th

The Thanksgiving offering benefits our Christian Church (Disciples) colleges, universities and seminaries. In our state, Columbia College, Culver-Stockton College, Drury University, and William Woods University are all recipients of chaplaincy programs, departments of religious and Christian studies, and mission opportunities for students, nearby and in other countries.

Please make your check to First Christian Church and clearly note it, "Thanksgiving Offering".

Thank you!
Outreach Committee



65th Annual Living Nativity

December 18, 2022

6 pm - 8 pm

The Living Nativity teams are now organizing. This event, shared with our community, requires dedication from our church family but it is easy because many hands lighten the load and make it a fun time!

Please contact:

Nick Paladin and Ron Boswell to be part of the **outdoor setup crew**

Sharon Slater to be an **actor**

Or part of the **indoor crew**



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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



Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held November 20th immediately following worship. We will vote to approve the 2023 Slate of Officers and the proposed 2023 Church Budget.

Sunday, November 13, 2022

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School-9:15 a.m.
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 20, 2022

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School-9:15 a.m.
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.



Sunday: November 13, 2022

Elders: Warren Nordwald and Bill Azdell

Deacons: Team 2

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

Deaconesses: Becky Peterson and Connie Street

Liturgist: Lori Osbourn

Sunday: November 20, 2022

Elders: Randy Owings and Diana Henage

Deacons: Team 3

Doug Thomas, Melaney Higgins, LeeAnn Paladin, Cody Sims, Pat Thomas. Jr Deacons; Alex Paladin, Ty Sims

Deaconesses: Becky Peterson and Connie Street

Liturgist: Warren Nordwald