



THE CHURCH VISITOR  
A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
307 W. Jackson, Mexico, Mo. 65265  
September 30, 2020

No. 20

Vol. 72



**Let's read and enjoy our Bibles.**

**Sunday, October 4, 2020: World Communion Sunday  
(Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost)**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14;  
Matthew 21:33-46

**Sunday, October 11, 2020:**

**(Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost)**

Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9;  
Matthew 22:1-14

Dear First Christian Church Family,

Thank you so very much for the anniversary celebration last Sunday! Special thanks to Sharon Slater for the beautiful painting. I am amazed at the talents of Stephanie and Steven Owings! What a special gift. Thanks for the cards, notes, flowers and good wishes! Thank you, too, for your prayers for my family and me! You have supported us in so many different ways and we appreciate it from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely,  
Kay Bunge



*Although I am free from all and not anyone's slave, I have made myself a slave to everyone, in order to win more people. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win Jews; to those under the law, like one under the law—though I myself am not under the law—to win those under the law. To those who are without the law, like one without the law—though I am not without God's law but under the law of Christ—to win those without the law. To the weak I became weak, in order to win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I may by every possible means save some. Now I do all this because of the gospel, so that I may share in the blessings.*

**1 Corinthians 9:19-23**

**Bridge Building**

When the Apostle Paul was sent out from the church in Antioch, he met Timothy. Timothy was an impressive young Christian man who would later play an important role in both Paul's missionary journey and in leading the early church. With a Greek father and Jewish mother, Timothy was Jewish but uncircumcised.

The religious significance of circumcision in Judaism is a bit foreign to many today, especially when we know that it's not our words, deeds, or even actions (following the Old Testament laws such as circumcision) that guarantees salvation, but only by the grace and sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins (Ephesians 2:8). So why would Paul care that Timothy was uncircumcised?

It was about cultural sensitivity. Paul knew that when they inevitably shared the Gospel in Jewish territory, such as in synagogues surrounded by the religious elite, that Timothy's words would lose credibility if they discovered that he was uncircumcised. (How they would know, I have no idea). It was about respecting the traditions and culture of the times in order to earn the right to be heard. Missionaries serving in predominately Muslim regions often adopt this same mindset by dressing more conservatively or women sometimes choosing to wear the headscarf. Does this decision compromise their Christian faith? Absolutely not. They're simply showing proper modesty relative to that culture in order to gain the right to be heard when they share the Gospel.

Respecting another's culture, beliefs, and traditions doesn't mean that you always agree, but it does give your words more weight when it comes to topics such as faith. You might not live in a foreign culture, but you can still show respect and sensitivity at your workplace and in your community. How are you building bridges to share the Gospel?

Building Bridges with you!

Pastor Zane



**Barbara Phillips**

Mary Eisele  
Howard & Dorothy Graf  
Maxine Pilcher  
Mary Lou Prater

**Sunday, October 4, 2020—World Communion Sunday**

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
*All Together Youth Ministry High School @ FPC 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.*

**Wednesday, October 7, 2020**

*Kids For Christ @ FPC 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.*  
*All Together Youth Ministry Middle School @ FCC 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.*  
*Bell Choir 6:00 p.m.*  
*Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.*  
*Young Adult Small Group @ FCC 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.*

**Sunday, October 11, 2020**

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
*All Together Youth Ministry High School @ FPC 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.*

10/1 Rachel Owings  
10/9 Collin Tanzey  
10/9 Alex Bledsoe  
10/9 Emma Higgins  
10/10 Mary E. Allen  
10/10 Steve Van Matre  
10/10 Tracy Trabue  
10/11 Cheryl Bledsoe  
10/11 Heidi Hultz  
10/11 Kyra Hultz  
10/13 Katie Paladin  
10/18 Kim Jackson  
10/19 Debra Trabue

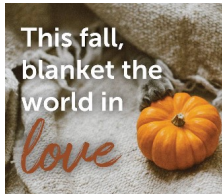


10/19 Diana Henage  
10/21 Kay Bunge  
10/23 Murray Purcell  
10/23 Kim Whorton  
10/24 Morgan Silver  
10/26 Betty Potts  
10/28 Piper Higgins  
10/30 Kip Jackson  
10/30 Ed Stephens

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! It's a great time to drop Pastor Whorton or Sara Bright a note, offer a word of encouragement, or pray for them! Pastor Whorton's address is 1325 Lexington St., Mexico, MO 65265. Sara's is 26154 Monroe Rd. 756, Paris, MO 65275.



On October 25th, we will observe **Blanket Sunday**. Blankets and throws can be used in a time of disaster and to stay warm around the world. Please, **ONLY** monetary donations this year. If you want the money to stay local, mark "local" on your check and those donations will stay in Mexico through several agencies like the Crisis Center and the Room at the Inn. If you want your donation to go to Church World Service for use around the world, mark "Church World Service" on your check. Please make your check out to First Christian Church.



Mary E. Allen's birthday is on **October 10th**. Let's send her some cards to let her know we are thinking about her.

Mary E. Allen  
C/O King's Daughters  
620 W. Boulevard  
Mexico, MO 65265



*Remembering  
our  
Shut-ins*

***Bright Spots***

**Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>:** All High School Youth are invited to Worship, Campfire and S'mores from 7:30-9pm at First Presbyterian Church.

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>:** Middle School will enjoy S'mores and Games at First Christian Church from 5:30-7pm.

**Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>:** Halloween Fest for kids in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and under from 4-6pm at First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot. We hope all families from First Presbyterian, First Christian and Mexico United Methodist church will join us for a safe social distancing Halloween Fest.

Don't forget about the Young Adult Group on **Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30pm** in Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church.



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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