



March 30, 2023

ROOTS & BRANCHES

A series of reflections for March and April about our upcoming Clergy and Congregational Renewal Time.

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In the last two editions of the Pathfinder, I shared what the congregation would be doing and experiencing while I'm away during our Clergy and Congregational Renewal (CCR) time from April 17 - July 17. I also reflected on the CCR's overall theme of **Roots and Branches**, which is grounded in John 15:5, and how I would be engaging in the **ROOTS** portion of my time away. In this edition I want to share with you how I'll be engaging in the trunk, center or **CORE** (current embodiment of faith) of my Clergy Renewal time.

Back in September of 2021, I attended a "story telling" retreat in Asheville, North Carolina, led by theologian, storyteller and author Gareth Higgins. There the retreat-goers learned more about how sharing our life's deeper stories with each other, can foster reconciliation, deep understanding and can empower a movement for communal connection, healing, peace, and renewal. This moving experience, and the engagement with others in small group "porch circles," where we shared our personal stories, faith, hopes, dreams, and struggles, prompted the idea to have this as the focus of our CCR time.

In June, Mark and I will travel to Belfast, Ireland, for another storytelling retreat, led by Gareth

Higgins, spiritual director and chaplain, Brian Ammons, and special guest Christian author, poet and Benedictine oblate, Kathleen Norris, who, was once steeped in the Manhattan art community. We will meet to share faith and stories, hike, and break bread with 25 other people of multiple faiths from around the

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit. JOHN 15: 5



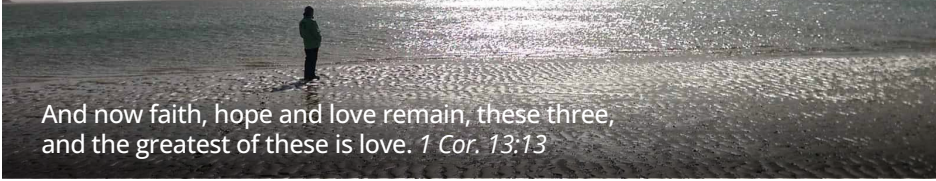
world. Gareth, who grew up amid the conflict and strife in Northern Ireland, was prompted to search for creative and effective ways to build, re-build, reconcile and empower persons and communities towards peace filled engagement. This is the CORE of what he writes about and facilitates in workshops. With the expertise of his background, we will explore the more recent history of Northern Ireland, even as Mark and I are already doing, by reading about its storied struggle to find peace. It is here that I will be exploring the CORE of my call as your pastor and my life of faith in general. I will wonder and contemplate how this kind of deepening of faith and relationships can enhance our life together, and our community and world, going forward. I look forward to sharing this experience with you when I return from CCR! I look forward to also hearing about your experiences of sharing your stories while I was away!

*Grace & Peace,
Darla*



Things That Matter

A sermon series for the Journey towards Easter



And now faith, hope and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love. 1 Cor. 13:13

DATE	TEXT	TITLE/THEME	PREACHER
04/02	Palm Sunday Luke 22: 29-36	Things That Matter: Whose Will Is It?	Rev. Darla Goodrich
04/09	Easter Sunday Matthew 28: 1-10	Things That Matter: It's Life & Death!	Rev. Darla Goodrich
04/16	Renewal Leave Launch Luke 24: 13-49	Things That Matter: Being A-part of the Way	Rev. Darla Goodrich
04/30	Hosted at Wabash Ave. Presbyterian	5th Sunday Unity Service	Pastor Kelly Nelson



Bits-o-history

Nick Hedrick found this information about First Christian from 1928.

When an oil company announced plans to build a gas station at the northwest corner of Wabash Avenue and Walnut Street in 1928, the congregants of First Christian Church said: Not in our backyard. The Men's Bible Class, comprising nearly 200 people, joined forces with the church board in organizing against the station. They argued that noise from the automobiles would disrupt services and activities. (Besides, the company, Marland Refining Co., had promised not to build near churches.) After unsuccessfully lobbying the city against the building permit, the congregation sent to the Crawfordsville Review a letter signed by members John H. Beeson, Harry P. Cooper and John A. Johnson. "A beautifully placed billboard could be placed there with bright lights and pretty pictures which would disturb no one," they wrote. The church would get its wish—for a while. A service station didn't come to the neighborhood until the late thirties.

<https://news.google.com/news-papers?nid=HPvNdXBGwkEC&-dat=19280117&printsec=frontpage&hl=en>

Don't forget, our Good Friday service will be an ecumenical service hosted at St. John's Episcopal Church on April 6th at 7 pm.



Maundy Thursday Service at FCC!

Please join us for a special ecumenical contemplative Maundy Thursday Service on **Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm** at First Christian Church. Join with our ecumenical friends from Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) and Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church (WAPC) as we weave scriptures, symbols, communion hymns and Taizé songs together to hear the stories of life-giving bread that begin with God providing manna to the Israelites in the wilderness all the way until Jesus, the bread of life, breaks bread one last time with his disciples. This will be a meaningful opportunity to explore more deeply the significance of the Lord's table as a foundational lens for understanding Jesus ministry and the hope of Easter. We hope to see you there and look forward to the FCC choir, along with choir members of CLC and WAPC, leading us in hymns and Taizé songs!

UPCOMING

The calendar of events and activities is emailed on the first of each month— but you can also find an updated schedule online at fccville.org/events or call the church office to request a copy.



2023 Prayer Vigil— Time Alone with God

In between Good Friday and Easter morning we will maintain our annual Prayer Vigil. This is a time of reflection, meditation, and prayer. An opportunity for you and your family to have an uninterrupted time in the place where we worship, to be alone with God.

Whenever Christians “keep vigil” we give of our time that we normally spend doing other things, including sleeping, in order to devote ourselves to our relationship with God. When we participate in the Holy Week Prayer Vigil, we demonstrate our commitment to prayer and focus on the sacrifice Jesus Christ has made for us. We hope you will sign up for any hour-long time slot starting on Friday night, April 7, and ending early Easter morning. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex as well as online by following the link below:

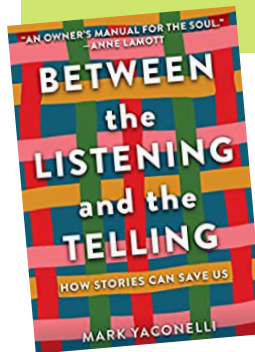
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45a9ab2cabfec34-prayer#/>

If you have trouble signing up using the link, please contact Pastor Kevin. If you have any additional questions regarding the prayer vigil, feel free to contact Dave Lunsford or Pastor Kevin. Peace and blessings be with you all as we continue through this Lenten season.

Ladies Lunch Bunch

NOTICE!! The Ladies Lunch Bunch :-)) has changed its gathering date to the **3rd THURSDAY of each month effective April 20th**. This was due to heavy schedules on Tuesdays. The time remains 1pm and the location for April is the new Mexican Restaurant in the Blvd Mall, next to Super China Buffet. Hope you can join in! <3

FCC BOOK CLUB



I'm so grateful for those who come out for these discussions! So much good stuff!

Those who were at the March meeting selected the following books for upcoming months:

APRIL 4: ***Between the Listening and the Telling: How Stories Can***

Save Us by Mark Yaconelli

MAY 2: ***The Book of Longings*** by Sue Monk Kidd

JUNE 6: ***Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*** by Diana Butler Bass

One copy of each book is available in our church library. Contact Kelly Stanley if you need help locating a copy to read. **Hope you will join us next month, April 4th at 6 pm!** Questions? Reach out to Kelly Stanley, 765.366.6709.



Save the Date: Graduation Sunday on May 21st!

Judy Michal and Pastor Kevin are **calling all our graduates for Graduation Sunday!** Please let us know if you are graduating this May/Summer or have a family member graduating by May 14th.

We're thrilled to announce we have hired a new Office Manager!

Our long-time church member Kay Nannet will be in the office four days a week from 10-2 beginning May 1. Her responsibilities include providing support to the pastors and communications administrator; answering phones and emails; doing data entry and maintaining congregational record keeping; and so much more. Kay brings such a strong set of skills and such a heart of kindness to everything she does and we're delighted to have her serve the church community in this new way! Welcome Kay to the FCC staff!



LENTEN SOUP & SUPPER DONATIONS!

Special thanks to all who attended the Lenten Soup and Supper Series and donated so generously for the Rahimi Family, our Afghan family we've been supporting together. This will help tremendously with every day expenses they are facing as they transition into this new place they call home.

02/28 Supper	Loose Plate Offerings	\$147
03/07 Supper	Loose Plate Offerings	\$292
03/14 Supper	Loose Plate Offerings	\$266
03/21 Supper	Loose Plate Offerings	\$328
03/28 Supper	Loose Plate Offerings	\$295

TOTAL GIVING: \$1,328!

Special thanks to Judy Michal, and all the many folks that made soup for 50, helped set up and/or cleaned up after the Lenten Supper series hosted by FCC this past Tuesday! What a wonderful event!



Communion Meditation Time

As we continue to tweak the worship service coming out of the pandemic, we've heard from many of you a desire for more quiet time during communion. This happened naturally when passing communion trays, but with everyone already having the elements in hand, communion can feel a little rushed. We've added a slightly longer instrumental meditation following the sharing of the elements to provide time for personal prayer and reflection. We hope this enhances your worship experience at First Christian.





YOUTH news from Rev. Kevin Toth

Follow us on Instagram
@fccyouthcrawfordsville



Palm Sunday! Calling all Youth!

Palm Sunday is **THIS SUNDAY! April 2nd!** We would love to invite all our youth to join us Sunday morning to wave the palm branches into the sanctuary to begin our time of worship. Please reach out to Pastor Kevin and worship chair, Leannah Brown, if you'd like your child to be involved. And we welcome any adult volunteers to join us as well.



Where's Jesus? Easter Egg Hunt! April 9th!

Right after worship on Easter, Pastor Kevin will be inviting all our children to join him on a special search to finding Jesus while also being on the lookout for some easter eggs! We encourage everyone interested in participating to bring your own easter basket, but we will have a few to provide just in case. Everyone will gather in the parlor for brief instructions and then begin our search on the playground. If the weather is unpleasant, we will conduct the search in the education wing.



The WOW youth went out into the community to spread some compassion! Our K-2nd graders went to FISH food pantry and our 3rd-8th graders went to Christ Lutheran Church's community garden!



Save the Date- Vacation Bible School: July 19-21!

If you are looking to volunteer, reach out to VBS Director, Tammy Meyers.



FruitFULL Faith

A Spirit-filled Life!

2023 CAMPS

Geneva

- June 12-14 **You & Me 1** (age 5+ and an adult)
- June 12-17 **Explorers** (completed grades 4-5)
- June 15-17 **New Beginnings** (completed grades 1-3)
- June 19-21 **You & Me 2** (age 5+ and an adult)
- June 19-24 **M.A.D.** (Music Art & Drama - completed grades 6-12)
- June 26-July 1 **High School Traditional** (completed grades 9-12)
- June 26-July 1 **Middle School Traditional** (completed grades 6-8)
- June 26-July 1 **C.R.O.S.S.** (Christian Recreation and Outdoor Sports Skills - completed grades 6-12)

Bedford

- June 19-24 **Explorers** (completed grades 4-5)
- June 26-28 **New Beginnings** (completed grades 1-3)
- June 29-July 1 **You & Me** (age 5+ and an adult)
- July 3-8 **High School** (completed grades 9-12)
- July 10-15 **Middle School** (completed grades 6-8)



Another great Pub Theology on March 20th!

Pastor Kevin and Kelly O'Dell Stanley facilitated a great conversation with 15 people from St. John's Episcopal, First Christian, and First UMC on the topic of God's Grace! We look forward to our next gathering in April (date to be determined).



Come see Keith and Betsy Strain, among others!



Scouts Update

We would like to welcome Jackson Halstead to T365.

We had a good turn out at the Mayor's Breakfast for Scouting on March 16th. Over \$3300 was raised for scouting in Montgomery county. Troop 247 and 365 were represented and they also did the opening flag ceremony. Speakers of the Eagle panel were Christian Campbell, Rolf Samuelsen and Merlin Guthrie. Mark Allen spoke on behalf of the council as the commissioner for our units. Thank you for all you do for scouting!

Coming up Next:

Weekly meetings on Monday evenings at 630pm

April Activities:

- 3rd, Citizenship in Society merit badge during meeting and Service project for the Church
- 17th, Citizenship in the Community merit badge during meeting
- 21st-22nd campout with Cub Scout pack 909
- 22nd Scouting for Food donations collected at the church for local FISH pantry

As always, if you are interested in being involved in Scouting, 11-17 years old, or even as an adult leader, please let us know. We meet on Monday evenings 6:30pm to 8pm at First Christian Church.

Contact information: troop247.365.acct@gmail.com
Michele Enlow 765.401.6228
Rolf Samuelsen 317.966.7609
Melissa Myers 765.366.7514



Help us keep this list up to date! Please email fcc.comm211@gmail.com if you wish to have a name removed or provide an update. Thank you for your help with this—and for your ongoing dedication to holding each other in prayer.

The family of Nick Hedrick on the passing of his grandmother, **MARGE BOWMAN**, on March 25

QUINTON NANNET and family—Quinton continues to remain in New Zealand, is physically safe, but is facing a lot of uncertainties ahead. Please pray for Quinton’s resilience, courage, hope and wisdom, amid the challenges he’s facing.

The family of **ANN SKOMP** on the passing of her sister, **RUTH ELLEN ALLISON**, on March 11

JIM & CATHY MOFFETT & FAMILY—the passing of **MARILYN MOFFETT** on March 7

JUDY NABORS—recently hospitalized again

The family of **GARY MEEK**, who passed away on Feb. 21

GERRY TURNER—health issues

JACK WYATT—Rehabilitating at Restoracy of Whitestown, 6712 Restoracy Dr, Whitestown, IN 46075

Marlyn Dimmick’s son-in-law, **CLINT**—kidney cancer (has only one kidney)

BETTY CEDARS—ongoing health concerns

BETTYE HUDSON—treatment for cancer

DALLAS AND KAREN MCDONALD—Karen’s health has declined leading to her being placed in hospice care and Dallas is being treated for cancer

ALLEN GOFF (friend of the Keedys)—cancer

DEBBIE (REBECCA LANG’S SISTER)—treatment for lung cancer

SANDY & KEN BROWN—ongoing health concerns

JERRI STEWART—breast cancer

MATT RYKER (son of Ron Yund’s friend)—beating victim, long recovery ahead

ALEX (and parents, Beth & Chris, friends of Sarah Jay)—tumor on his spine

CHURCH STAFF, MINISTERS, AND LEADERSHIP

Pray for our Shut-ins

Our shut-ins would enjoy visits.

BICKFORD: TIM NANNET, ROD GONSO

WHITLOCK: CAROLYN SIMPSON (#151)

HOME: DALLAS & KAREN MCDONALD, NANCY ROGERS (MOVING SOON), BETTYE HUDSON

THE LANE HOUSE: BETTY CEDARS



Don’t forget to bring **FISH** Food Pantry donations for the children to collect during our weekly worship services!

Bob Hudson Tribute

My dear FCC friends,

Thanks to so many for the kind thoughts of Bob. He dearly loved his church and all of you in it.

We have made a financial tribute to this church in his memory. We know it will be used for the betterment of his church that he loved so dearly.

Sincerely,
Bettye Hudson and family



We are still looking for a music director!

Music director will be needed for 10-12 hours per week.

If you know a potential candidate, please ask them to reach out to Ryan Venis (rrvenismd@icloud.com) or Darla Goodrich (darla.goodrich@gmail.com).

FCC OFFICE HOURS
 Tuesday 10-1
 Wednesday 10-1
 Thursday 10-1
 765.362.4812 (voice mail checked on weekdays)
 Email: 211fccville@gmail.com

VACATION

Pastor Kevin will be attending his Bethany Fellows ministerial retreat April 24 to 28.

PASTOR DARLA
 Monday is Rev. Darla's day off. Please contact Rev. Kevin with questions, concerns or emergencies when Darla is unavailable.
 CELL: 314-805-0347
 darla.goodrich@gmail.com

CLERGY RENEWAL LEAVE

Pastor Darla's Clergy Renewal Leave will take place from Monday, April 17 – Monday, July 17.

PASTOR KEVIN
 Friday is Rev. Kevin's day off. Please contact Rev. Darla with questions, concerns or emergencies when Kevin is unavailable.
 CELL: 724-825-0997
 katoth112792@gmail.com



Find us on **Facebook (First Christian Church Crawfordsville)** for updates, news, and pictures of all of our happenings along with LIVE worship on Sundays. Also check out our website at www.fccville.org



HOW CAN WE HELP?

OFFICE	211 S Walnut St, Crawfordsville IN 47933 765.362.4812 (voice mail checked on weekdays) Email: 211fccville@gmail.com
GRIEF AND LOSS	Jai Miranda , Dusk to Dawn Bereavement Services Cell phone: 765.720.2829 (call or text) Email: jmiranda@coachj.com
FINANCIAL QUESTIONS & CONCERNS	Andrew Nicodemus , FCC Financial Administrator 765.362.4812 (leave a message) fccvillefinance@gmail.com
HAND IN HAND CREATIVE LEARNING	Chantel Allen , HHCL Director 765.367.1727 (leave a message) Email: hhcldirector@gmail.com
COMMUNICATIONS (including newsletter)	Kelly Stanley , Communications Administrator Cell phone: 765.366.6709 Email: fcc.comm211@gmail.com
OTHER LEADERS OR MINISTRIES	<i>For a full list of our leaders, go to www.fccville.org/our-lay-leaders</i>



April Calendar

See calendar online at www.fccville.org/events
To add something to the schedule, email fcc.comm211@gmail.com

Sun. 4/2 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Palm Sunday • Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
"After the Amen" discussion (Parlor)—11:30-12

Mon. 4/3 **Scouts**—6:30 pm

Tues. 4/4 **FCC Book Club**—6-7:30 pm—*Between the Listening and the Telling* by Mark Yaconelli

Wed. 4/5 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm

Thurs. 4/6 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
Cruisers (Pizza Hut)—11:30
Maunder Thursday Ecumenical Service (at FCC)—7 pm

Fri. 4/7 **Good Friday service** at St. John's Episcopal Church—7 pm
Prayer Vigil—starts at 9 pm

Sat. 4/8 **Prayer Vigil** continues through Easter morning

Sun. 4/9 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Easter Sunday • Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
Easter Egg Hunt—following worship

Mon. 4/10 **Scouts**—6:30 pm

Tues. 4/11 **Elders Meeting**—7 pm

Wed. 4/12 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm

Thurs. 4/13 New Pathfinder newsletter
Men's Coffee—9-10 am
Clergy/Congregational Renewal Team Meeting—6:30 pm

Sun. 4/16 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
Opening of art show by John Zimmerman
Older Youth Gathering with Rev. Kevin Toth—11:45-12:45

Mon. 4/17 **Darla's Clergy Renewal Time Begins**
Scouts—6:30 pm

Tues. 4/18 **Euchre** (Parlor)—1 pm
Coordinating Council—7:00 pm
Governing Board Meeting—8:00 pm

Wed. 4/19 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm

Thurs. 4/20 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
Ladies Lunch Bunch—1 pm at new Mexican Restaurant in the Blvd. Mall, next to Super China Buffet

Sun. 4/23 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Kevin Toth—10:15 am

Mon. 4/24 **Pastor Kevin on retreat**
Scouts—6:30 pm

Tues. 4/25 **Pastor Kevin on retreat**
HHCL Board Meeting—7:30 pm

Wed. 4/26 **Pastor Kevin on retreat**
Last **WOW** meeting until Sept.—4:30-7 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm

Thurs. 4/27 **Pastor Kevin on retreat**
New Pathfinder newsletter
Men's Coffee—9-10 am

Fri. 4/28 **Pastor Kevin on retreat**

Sun. 4/30 **Ecumenical Worship Service** (at Wabash Ave. Presbyterian) w/Rev. Kelly Nelson preaching—10:15 am
Story Circles (info to come)—4-5:30 pm

Pastor Kevin will be attending his Bethany Fellows ministerial retreat April 24 to 28.

Pastor Darla's Clergy Renewal Leave will take place from Monday, April 17 - Monday, July 17.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS April 4—Sam Rohr | April 6—Emily Petrie | April 8—Melanie Dowd | April 13—Arleen Wilhite | April 15—Kris Rohr | April 19—Glenda Walther (84) | April 25—Carolyn Snyder (81) | April 26—Grace Vaught | April 28—Cris Manker (95)

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES April 6—Mike & Nancy McCormick | April 8—Sam & Myrna Thompson (63rd) | April 8—Edward & Sarah Dowd | April 17—Jeff & Jerri Stewart (57th) | April 22—Tim & Kay Nannet

