



May 25, 2023

A REFLECTION FROM GERRY AND DONNA COATS

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211fccville@gmail.com

Our story at First Christian Church began soon after we were married in 1964 and began our life together in Crawfordsville. As we settled in and started looking for a new church, our intent was to visit several different churches. Both having grown up in small Christian churches, we began with First Christian.

We were immediately welcomed, introduced, included, and nurtured. The beautiful sanctuary, wonderful music, and strong preaching and teaching seemed to both awe and surround us. After almost 59 years we are still at times in awe in this special place, which has taught us so much, strengthened us in so many ways, and still holds and moves us as well as we have become elder members rather than newlyweds.

In 1967 we welcomed our daughter, Dana, and in 1970 our son, Brad. This truly was their church home, where they too were nurtured and included, taught, and challenged. In October 1989 our daughter was married in this church where she had grown up.

We were so very fortunate to have the Rev. Olive Hoke as our Minister of Christian Education. She guided, directed, and led many inclusive programs for families and children. One of these was the "Hanging of the Greens." On the first Sunday evening in December everyone dressed in their best and came together to decorate the church for the Advent Season, a



lovely way for families to begin the season.

Also during this time, Rex Henthorn led a young couples' discussion Sunday School class. This was often a large group and a way for many of us to really get to know each other as we and our families grew together. We enjoyed family activities, picnics at the Shades, and pitch-in dinners. Eventually, a large group of us spent a weekend traveling to Cane Ridge to explore our church's birthplace and held our own service there. Many of us, along with some new members, made this trip again in July 2019.

We hope and are sure that many of our young families and new members are finding these same kinds of fellowship and learning opportunities here today.

We also remember so many older members who paved the way for us, Frieda Cosby, Margaret Miller, Russell Heath, and so many others who worked in leadership

roles, but also in the background. Edlie Ball inspired us to establish a free nursery school, which existed for over 45 years. This was a huge undertaking and a valuable community outreach.

I have only scratched the surface of our time here: multi church Vacation Bible School at Camp Rotary, Christian Women's Fellowship, Christian Youth Fellowship, Bible studies, board Retreats, many Sunday School classes and groups, committees, accepting leadership roles, carry-in dinners, summer lunches, funeral dinners, and learning, learning, learning.

What began with a visit from Cliff Everett, Dennis Brown, and Clyde Gentry climbing up the stairs to our first apartment to be sure that we felt welcomed to First Christian Church has become a cherished home to our family. How richly we have been blessed!

Gerry and Donna Coats

UPCOMING events

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.



Roots and Branches

Speaking Schedule During Renewal Time

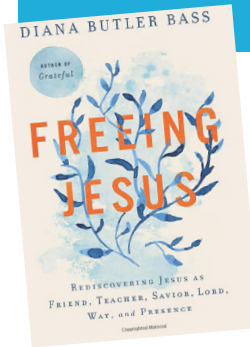
May 28	Rev. Kevin Toth
June 4	Ellen Oaks, Nancy Beach
June 11	Tammy & Justin Meyers
June 18	Kelly O'Dell Stanley & Linda Spencer
June 25	Rev. Kevin Toth
July 2	Jackie McDermott & Nate Thompkins
July 9	Ben McCormick & Chuck Ranspach
July 16	Rev. Rick Spleth

We thank everyone for taking the time to share their faith stories with us during worship! Please contact Pastor Kevin with any questions.

Wear Red for Pentecost Sunday, May 28

In Acts 2, the disciples were brought together and were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is described in a variety of images including a mighty wind and fire. Fire is a symbol of new creation and on the day of Pentecost, the new church movement under Christ was born. On Pentecost, we wear red to help us remember how the Holy Spirit moves us forward into new beginnings as a church so we invite everyone to wear red this coming Sunday as we celebrate the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives.

FCC BOOK CLUB



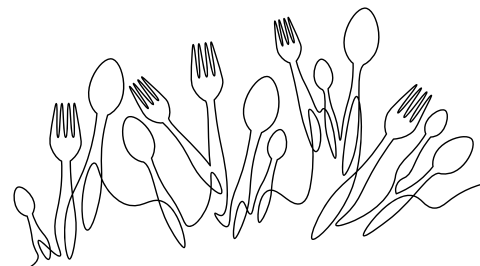
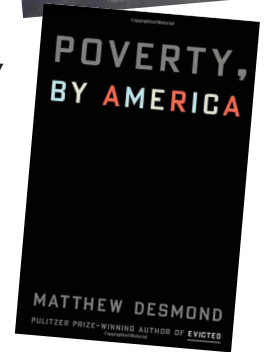
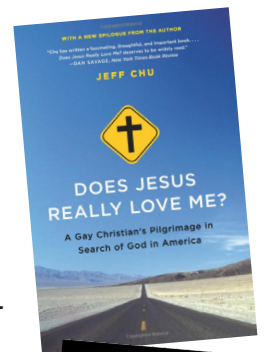
Join us on June 6 from 6-7:30 pm for a discussion about **Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence** by Diana Butler Bass. This meeting will be led by Aaron Morrison

from St John's, right here at FCC, hopefully with members from both churches present.

We will not meet in July.

August 1 we will discuss **Does Jesus Really Love Me? A Gay Christian's Pilgrimage in Search of God in America** by Jeff Chu. Our book for September 5 will be **Poverty, by America** by Matthew Desmond.

At least one copy of each book is available in our church library. Questions? Reach out to Kelly Stanley, 765.366.6709.



Ladies Lunch Bunch

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH will meet at Applebee's at 1pm, Thurs., June 15. All church gals are invited w/ reservations to bonyund@hotmail.com pls.

Rediscovering the Parables of Jesus

In this time the Clergy and Congregational Renewal, as we take time to tell our stories, this is a great time to be thinking about the stories that Jesus told that we find in his parables. We will consider them over a period of four weeks, **beginning May 28. See you each Sunday at 9 am (instead of the Wired Word) as we rediscover the Parables of Jesus.**



May 28 – Parables of Pride

The Pharisee and the Publican..... Luke 18:9-14
 Chief Seats Luke 14:7-11
 Servants..... Luke 17:7-10

June 4 – Cost of Discipleship

The Good Samaritan.. Luke 10:25-37
 Hidden Treasure..... Matthew 13:44
 Pearl of Great Price Matthew 13:45-46
 Talents Matthew 25:14-30 & Luke 19:11-27

June 11 – Grace of God

Laborers in the Field .. Matthew 20:1-16
 Lost Sheep Luke 15:1-7
 Lost Coin..... Luke 15:8-10
 Prodigal Son and Elder Son Luke 15:11-32

June 18 – Parables of the Judgment

Two Sons..... Matthew 21:28-32
 The Great Feast..... Luke 14:15-24 & Mt 22:1-10
 Wise and Foolish Bridesmaids..... Mt 25:1-13
 Vine Dressers Mt 21:33-41, Luke 20:9-16 & Mark 12:1-9
 Last Judgment Matthew 25:31-46



Food Finders—Volunteers Still Needed

Volunteers needed for Food Finder Truck on Tuesday, May 30 from 10-12:30. Please let the office or Carolyn Snyder know if you will be available that day. Thank you for helping. ~*Local and Global Outreach Ministry*

Church Garage Sale

Several people in the church have expressed interest in holding a **“free” garage sale to raise donations for the Agape Fund**, which the church uses to help people in our community. Office volunteers are taking an inventory of items being stored that are not in need by the various ministry teams, and we may ask for additional donations from individuals—but we need someone to be in charge! **Does this sound like something you’d like to help organize? If a team of people would like to handle this together, that works, too!** Please let the church office know if you’re interested in being part of this.

The FCC Meals on Wheels Program

The Meals on Wheels program, or MOW, has been an important part of the Montgomery County community for many, many years. And First Christian Church has been an integral part of it for essentially all of that time. Each week day MOW drivers deliver about 40 meals to people, mainly elderly, around the community. These are divided into five routes with about 8 deliveries on each route. FCC members deliver the meals on each Friday in the even months, thus we will be delivering the 5 Fridays in June and the 4 Fridays in August.

If you are interested in learning more about this important community service, or possibly taking part, please contact me, Dave Maharry, at 765-918-4076 or maharryd@wabash.edu. I would be glad to team you up with one of our experienced deliverers so you would get a sense of what is involved. You would ride shotgun, or be the sidekick, or vice-deliverer, or whatever title you would want to give yourself; the pay is the same whatever the title. Delivering the meals requires that the meals be picked up at the hospital kitchen at about 10:30am and the deliveries take about 1:15 so your job is complete by about 11:45 or so. The recipients of the meals really appreciate the good food and the daily contact with someone as most of these folks live alone. Let me know if you are interested or want to learn more about the program.



Praying in Motion with Pastor Kevin

Do you enjoy walking? Do you like to spend some time in prayer as you walk?

Starting on June 5th, Pastor Kevin will be starting a weekly prayer opportunity where he will be going on a 20-30 minute walk around Crawfordsville and spend that time in prayer. Kevin invites anyone from the church to join him. We will begin at **9:30am every Monday in June.**

If you are interested in this opportunity but are unable to make the time, please reach out to Kevin to let him know and he may create another day/time to walk!



This is about one-third of the men participating in the Men's Pool Fellowship this past 6 months. The Fellowship does not meet during the summer months but will start up again next October, and we're always looking for men who are interested in joining our fellowship during the fall, winter and spring sessions. We typically schedule to meet and play in two groups of 4 or 6 every other week. *~Rex Henthorn*

P.S. Because we are challenged digitally, we posed in front of the little pool table instead of the big one on which we always play.



Dusk to Dawn Fun Run/Walk on June 17

Our 10th Anniversary Summer Fun & Fitness on Saturday, June 17 will feature Dusk to Dawn's inaugural Fun Run/Walk along beautiful Sugar Creek Trail. The nearly 3-mile Fun Run/Walk will start at 8am and is open to people of all ages. There is a \$20 per person fee to participate. Paid registrations received by June 1 will receive a T-shirt. Registrations will be accepted as until 7:30am the day of the event, but T-shirts for late registrations will be only as supplies last. Registrants will be able to pick up packets and T-shirts at Christ Lutheran Church at 7am. The Fun Run/Walk will take place rain or shine and cancelled only in the event of severe weather. **Register at dusk-to-dawn.org.**

In addition to the Fun Run, join us that day, beginning at 8 am, for other activities like a Pet Adoption Event, Blood Drive, and family-friendly wellness activities.

MONTHLY LEARNING SERIES EVENT Preserving Memories Through Photography with John Zimmerman,

On Wednesday, June 14 from noon to 1 pm, John will use audience interaction to personalize the process of gathering, refining and archiving personal image collections. In 1959, after his wife gave him a camera as a wedding present, John began documenting family trips and Wabash sponsored trips throughout the US and abroad. Join us at Christ Lutheran Church. Free and open to the public, but please register at dusk-to-dawn.org.





This past Sunday, we had the chance to celebrate and honor the graduates who have been a part of our church and graduates who are relatives of many of our church members. Be sure to extend your congratulations to the graduates and their families listed below (in alphabetical order).

Alison Brown – graduated from Crawfordsville High School; will be attending Indiana University's Kelley School of Business in fall; daughter of LeAnne & Neil Brown and granddaughter of Ron & Bonnie Yund.

Katie Daniels – graduated from National University with Masters in Marketing; continuing marketing job; daughter of Kelly & Tim Stanley

Addison Keller – graduated from Edgewood High School (Ellettsville, IN); will be attending Indiana University (Bloomington) Ezkenazi School of Architecture, Art & Design in fall; daughter of Susan & Jim Keller and granddaughter of Marilyn Patton.

Ethan Krekeler – graduated from Ross High School (Ross, OH); will be attending Miami University (Oxford, OH) studying environmental science; son of Mark & Jennifer Krekeler and grandson of Daryl & Mary Helen Fry.

Nicole Kyger – graduated from Indiana Wesleyan with Masters in Business; teaching 7th grade math at Crawfordsville Middle School; daughter of Mark & Leanah Brown; mother to Nina Kyger.

Tammy Meyers – graduated from Indiana State University with Ed.S degree in school leadership; works as Special Education Instructional Coach for Indianapolis Public Schools and plans to apply for Ph.D program in 2024; spouse of Justin Meyers; mother to Malachi & Harrison Meyers.

Richard Michal – graduated from UPenn (University of PA) with D.Ed in Higher Education Management; works as Senior Vice President of the Purdue Research Foundation; son of Judy & Phil Michal.

Jacob Rangel – graduated from Crawfordsville High School; future plans to be determined; grandson of Juanita Merritt.

Samantha Snyder – graduated from University of Missouri with Bachelors of Social Work; will begin work at Aspire Behavioral Health in Fishers, IN; daughter of Jamie & Tammy Snyder; granddaughter of Carolyn and Bob Snyder.

Emma Teague – graduated from Reading University (England); works in Admin office of Molecular Medical Research in Oxford; daughter of Dawn & Greg Teague; granddaughter of Arleen Wilhite.

Patrick Wantz – graduated from University of Kentucky with BS degree in Business Administration & Management with certificate in International Film; currently traveling throughout Europe during summer; son of Ryan & Ann (Fry) Wantz and grandson of Daryl & Mary Helen Fry.

Aliva Williams – graduated from Southmont High School; plans to attend Indiana University in fall; daughter of Matt & Angie Williams and granddaughter of Arch Alexander.



“Home”

In 1923, the church board purchased the house at 211 S. Walnut to be a parsonage, a home for the minister of the church.

When Rev. Miller moved to Crawfordsville in 1963 to be the minister, he and his wife wanted to purchase their own home rather than use the parsonage. The house then became the home for Sunday School rooms, a church office, and a pastor's study.

Recently, when one of our current church members was asked to reflect on “The first time I knew this church was ‘home’ was”, he responded, “When I walked into the former parsonage for Sunday School class, I felt like I was home.”

That house was torn down in 1969 to make room for the Education Building to be built on that spot. The new building became a home of a different sort when the women of the church started a nursery school there. One day one of the children who attended was so excited when she told her mother, “Mommy, there is a church in my preschool!”

May God help us to continue making our church a “home” to those who come here.



YOUTH news from Rev. Kevin Toth

Follow us on Instagram
@fccyouthcrawfordsville



COKEBURY'S
HERO HOTLINE
Called Together to Serve God!




<https://tinyurl.com/HeroHotlineFCC>

Vacation Bible School is July 19-21!
Registration is now open! Follow the QR code to sign up online or follow the link. Contact Pastor Kevin or Tammy Meyers for a physical registration form.



Scouts Update

We had a great turnout to our meeting on Monday night the 15th that met at the Sugar Creek Nature Park. We had a visit from Sam Lovold with the Soil and Water Conservancy Dept of Montgomery County to show us some examples of some invasive vegetation that is dominating our area. With this, the scouts learned what a "Weed Wrangle" was and then we proceeded to go along the trail and pull up a bunch of Garlic Mustard that is taking over a lot of areas along Sugar Creek.

Coming Up Next:

Weekly meetings on Monday evenings at 630pm
22nd - we will be meeting in Darlington to load the trailer for our next outing.

29th - no meeting

June 5th - possible service project - helping w/Eagle project

June 12th - if needed - helping w/Eagle project

May/June Activities:

26th heading to Red River Gorge for camping/climbing/fishing, etc.

undetermined dates (sometime in June): Eagle project work days - Drew Crosby / Cameron Enlow

June 17th - Presentation of flags at Darlington - Rocky Ridge 9am

June 18-24 - Summer Camp @Camp Cullom - Frankfort

June 24th - Flag Ceremony - Waynetown Freedom Festival - just before fireworks

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



Fun Pool Day: July 22nd!

After a fun 3 days of VBS, we would like to invite all our youth for a **fun day at the Milligan Park Pool on Saturday, July 22nd!** A generous donor of the church has purchased a 25 visitor pass so if your family would like to participate; please RSVP to Pastor Kevin. We are looking forward to this wonderful fun day in July!



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.

WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH in New Orleans for discernment and compassion as they deal with the sale of their Sanctuary and Mission Station

The family of **BETTYE HUDSON** as they mourn her loss

DALLAS McDONALD and family as they mourn the loss of **KAREN** and for Dallas's continued cancer treatment

The family of **CAROL AIREY BANDY** on the loss of Carol's mother, Catherine (Kit)

FRIEDA COSBY—recovering from a fall

ELIZABETH MORTON—recovery from arm surgery

THOMAS MAY (Sandy Brown's son-in-law and Lisa Lofland-May's husband)—suffering from Stage 4 Cancer and is taking chemo but is seriously ill. Lisa and Thomas have a 12 year old son, Connor.

JOHN HOOPER—ongoing Parkinson's issues

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.

GAIL MERRIMAN—health issues

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

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 (Ron Yund's friend's son)—beating victim, long recovery ahead

CHURCH STAFF, MINISTERS, AND LEADERSHIP

DARLA GOODRICH—for a meaningful and rejuvenating time of clergy renewal

Pray for our Shut-ins

Our shut-ins would enjoy visits.

BICKFORD: TIM NANNET, ROD GONSO

WHITLOCK: CAROLYN SIMPSON (#151)

HOME: DALLAS McDONALD, NANCY ROGERS, BOB DIXON, PAUL & MARIAN CASS

THE LANE HOUSE: BETTY CEDARS



Thank You!

A very warm thank you to everyone who helped make HHCL's May Basket sale a success! We were able to raise \$650 for short term tuition assistance. A special thanks to Carolyn Snyder, Bonnie Yund, and everyone who helped deliver baskets.

Who to contact during the clergy renewal time

Rev. Kevin Toth is lead pastor during this time. He will fulfill all of Pastor Darla's normal duties.

Contact the church office (765.362.4812 or 211fccville@gmail.com) for adding events to the calendar and for **assistance with anything other than pastoral care.**

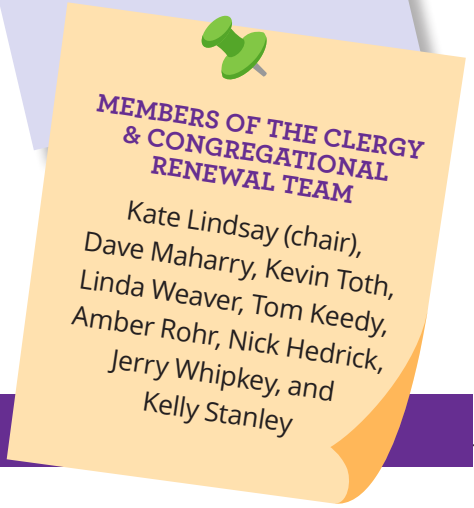
If Kevin is not available or you have questions, you may reach out to our lay leaders: **Dave Maharry** (Governing Board Chair), the **elders**, or the **leaders of any of the ministry teams.**

If you need information about church activities or have news for the congregation, reach out to our **communications administrator, Kelly Stanley.**

You may also reach out to the **members of the clergy renewal team:** Kate Lindsay (chair), Dave Maharry, Kevin Toth, Linda Weaver, Tom Keedy, Amber Rohr, Nick Hedrick, Jerry Whipkey, and Kelly Stanley.

All contact information can be found in the church directory. If you need a copy of the directory, contact the office.

We ask that you respect Pastor Darla's time away by not contacting her directly during this time. She will not be answering her phone or email so that she can return rested and recharged.



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** *Kay Nannet*, Office Manager, 211 S Walnut St, Crawfordsville IN 47933
765.362.4812 (voice mail checked on weekdays)
Email: 211fccville@gmail.com
- PROPERTY** *For general property issues*, call office and leave a message.
For urgent property issues, call Tom Keedy
Cell phone: 765.376.2699
- 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** *For a full list of our leaders, go to www.fccville.org/our-lay-leaders or consult your church directory*

