



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
211 South Walnut Street
Crawfordsville IN 47933
June 30, 2022

REFLECTIONS ON PRAYER FROM YOUR EDUCATION CHAIR

765-362-4812
www.fccville.org
211fccville@gmail.com

Prayer... it's such a hard thing, isn't it? Except when it isn't. When things are bad, prayer is usually one of my first instincts. (Wish I could say that was *always* true, but it's not.) But when things are good, or even ordinary, I occasionally struggle with what to say. That's part of the reason I love to create the prayer prompt calendars—because I think sometimes we could all use a little help.



Recently, I got to teach a four-week "Prayer Reboot" class here at FCC. One of the main questions we discussed was this: How do I know when God answers me? What if I've been praying for EVER for a certain thing and I just never hear from God? I don't hear a voice, I don't see "coincidences," and I just don't know if the lack of answer means "no" or if God just hasn't answered yet.

I wish I had good answers for that. I think it's one of the most frustrating aspects of prayer—relying on our own judgment and observations and having to trust ourselves when we believe we've received an answer.

Not long ago, I read Sue Monk Kidd's *The Book of Longings*. I often enjoy biblical fiction, because through it so many stories from the Bible have come to life for me, but I was reluctant to read this one at first because I'm wary of someone

trying to portray Jesus (especially Jesus as someone's husband).

I ended up loving the book. While the author doesn't profess divine insights or even a religious background or reason for writing it, the way she portrayed Jesus brought me to tears—and to my knees.

The character of Jesus was leading a resistance, in effect, and trying to decide what to do and where to go and all of that. People tried to lift him up on a pedestal and he wasn't having it. But in order to figure out what he needed to do next, he went off to pray, and then he struggled—as each of us does—with whether or not to trust his instincts, to listen to that inner voice.

Before he began his public ministry, the *character* of Jesus (as portrayed in the book and contrary to some teachings I've heard), wondered whether he could truly make the leap to profess God as his father to others. Could he be bold enough to proclaim what he believed to be true, what he felt God telling him, and move forward in faith with the ministry he felt called to?

And I thought, whoa. I'd never considered the possibility that Jesus might have had questions or doubts, too. Of course, it's quite possible that he did not. Perhaps

he always knew exactly who he was and what he was meant to do.

But what if he *did* have those moments of wondering before he fully embraced his role? Scripture shows us clearly that he DID acknowledge and profess it, but it seems to me it's possible that he had to wrestle with God to get to that point. If so, then one more way we can learn from Jesus is knowing that he let the voice of faith—God the Father's voice—speak more loudly than his doubts.

Maybe this idea gives us another hint into the ways that Jesus was like us. Is that what it meant for him to be both fully human and fully divine—wrestling with his human side? Learning to lean on the voice of God, which isn't always booming and loud and audible? If so, if there is any part of this idea that might be accurate, how beautiful and encouraging for *us*.

When we wrestle, when we seek wisdom and answers, when we learn to take those baby steps towards trusting God, maybe it is in those moments when we are most like Jesus. Perhaps we don't need big, obvious signs after all. Perhaps we have already been equipped with the faith we need to get through the good and the bad and in the in-between.

Thanks be to God, the author and finisher of our faith, and the bringer of hope.



DATE	SERMON TITLE	SCRIPTURE	PREACHER
June 19	Rest as Resistance	Matthew 11 Exodus 20: 8-10	Rev. Darla Goodrich
June 26	A World of Difference	John 3:16 Genesis 1: 1-5	Rev. Darla Goodrich
July 03	Freedom From or For?	Matthew 10: 1-14 Galatians 5:1, 13-15	Rev. Darla Goodrich
July 10	Our Friends Grace & Mercy	Psalm 23	Rev. Darla Goodrich
July 17	Jesus the Healer	Mark 5: 25-34	Rev. Darla Goodrich
July 26	Are We Really What We Eat?	John 6: 25-35 I Cor. 11:23-25	Rev. Darla Goodrich
July 31	Mid-Summer Peace & Renewal Service	TBA	Rev. Darla Goodrich

UPCOMING EVENTS

The calendar of events and activities for July is being emailed with this Pathfinder— but you can also always find an updated schedule online at fccville.org/events

Need Covid tests?

Mark Allen, through his volunteer work with the Health Department, obtained some free Covid test kits for the church. They're simple to do at home—just follow the written instructions. If you need tests to keep at home, stop by the church office during office hours, call 765-362-4812, or email 211fccville@gmail.com and we'll set them aside with your name on them.

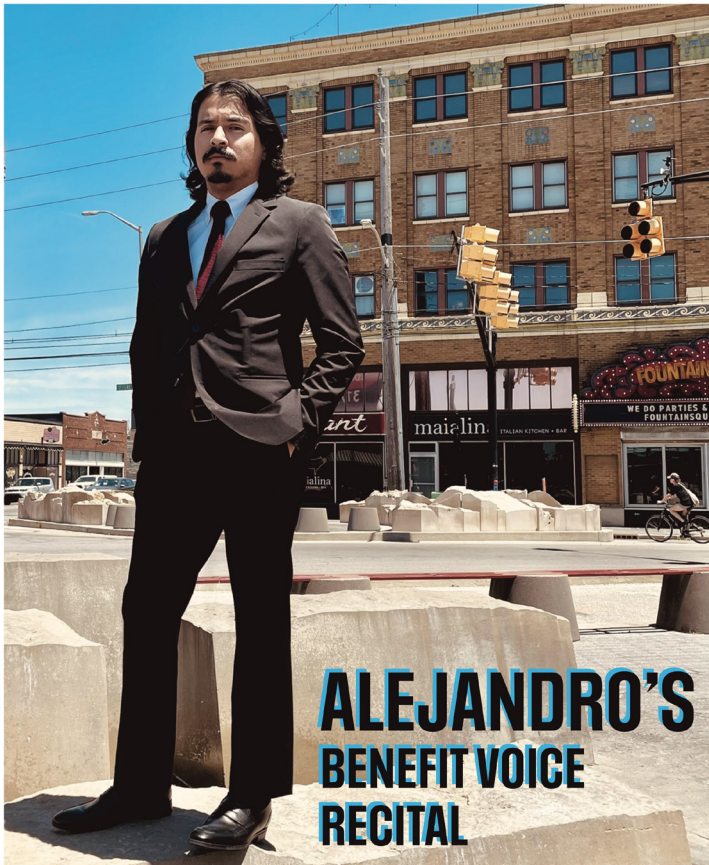


FCC Hats

We received our first batch of FCC hats—so stop by the office to purchase one! They are \$25 apiece and although we only have a limited number available right now, we can always order more. Wear the new logo proudly to baseball games, cookouts, and other outdoor events!

PODCAST

The Podcast is on a break throughout all of June and will return the first week of July. In the meantime, you can take this opportunity to catch up on any past episodes you have missed! <https://directory.libsyn.com/shows/view/id/bibleforthepeople>



ALEJANDRO'S BENEFIT VOICE RECITAL

INCLUDING WORKS BY G.F. HANDEL, J. HAYDN, G. VERDI, A. LARA, AND SEVERAL MUSICAL THEATRE NUMBERS
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ★ **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 6:30 PM**
 OPEN ADMISSION. DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

FCC Hosts Alejandro Reyna Benefit Voice Concert!

We are excited to announce that First Christian Church will be hosting a Benefit Voice Concert for our former Associate Choir Director, Alejandro Reyna, on **Wednesday, August 3 at 6:30 pm** for the whole community at large. Through free-will donations, concert goers will help fund Alejandro's special honor of being accepted to the **Aspen Music Festival for Seraphic Fire's Professional Choral Institute**, August 6-22. The concert, which will take place in the FCC sanctuary, will feature works by G.F. Handel, J. Haydn, G. Verdi, A. Lara, and several musical theatre numbers! All are welcome!



After the Amen

Conversations about Sunday's Scripture & Sermon

Beginning with **Sundays in AUGUST**, on the weeks Pastor Darla is preaching, she will be gathering **in the Parlor from 11:45 – 12:30** for the **"After the Amen" class**. This is a class for anyone interested in exploring deeper conversations and questions about the scripture and sermon offered in worship. We will re-read the scripture together and spend more time talking about the many themes that are present and perhaps those that were not touched upon in the message. This will be a time when any questions, comments, challenges, or reflections about both the sermon and scripture itself will get to be shared with each other. In addition, we will specifically reflect upon what the scripture means for our daily lives. **Feel free to bring a brown bag lunch** (optional). Hope I get to share some meaningful conversations with you beginning Sundays in August!



Do you like to draw, color in coloring books, paint, knit, crochet, do word finds or puzzles, or other kinds of creative activities, all while socializing and getting to know others? Here is a great new group for you at FCC! The **Creativity Circle is going to begin to meet in AUGUST on Thursdays at 1 pm in the Church Parlor**. Tables & chairs will be available as well as comfortable couch seating. If you are interested in coming together for creativity, fun and fellowship with others beginning in August, please let Kelly O'Dell Stanley know at fcc.comm211@gmail.com or call the church office.



YOUTH news from Rev. Kevin Toth

Follow us on Instagram
@fccyouthcrawfordsville



REGISTER NOW FOR VBS!



JULY 13-15, 5:30-7 pm at FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, CRAWFORDSVILLE fccville.org



VBS Food Donations Needed

If you are able to help provide the food we need for VBS July 13-15, we'd be so grateful! Sign up on the list in the church office, or call or email Kelly Stanley (765-366-6709, fcc.comm211@gmail.com). These are the items needed:

- Ham—4 lbs
- Turkey—4 lbs.
- String cheese
- Plain Bagels—4pks
- Bread—2 loaves white, 2 loaves wheat
- Chips—individual variety bags
- Small bottles water
- Kool-Aid (just add water; already sweetened)
- Teddy Grahams—3 boxes
- Small marshmallows—2 bags
- Chocolate chips—3 bags
- Fresh fruit—Pineapple, grapes, strawberries, bananas
- Coconut Flakes
- Small ziplock snack bags
- Small sandwich bags

Deadline is July 5th! Reach out to Leannah Brown or Pastor Kevin for any questions or assistance in registering for VBS!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

Date	Bible Story	Teacher
July 3rd	Acts 16:11-15	Kate Lindsay
July 10th	Acts 16:16-40	Diane McLaughlin
July 17th	Ephesians 4:1-16	Sara Nicodemus
July 24th	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Kate Lindsay
July 31st	James 1:19-27; 2:1-7	Gwen Carlson

We love to have your children, ages 4 to 12, join us for fun, fellowship, and great learning!

Camp Blessings!

We are excited for our youth and church members who are attending camp the next two weeks.

Ashlyn Adams and Justice Strietelmeier are attending the Middle School camp at Camp Bedford, July 11-16!

We send our prayers and blessings to these campers and look forward to hearing their stories when they return!

Looking for baby/kids clothing, toys, and more at a great price? Visit our

KIDS YARD SALE

**SATURDAY
JULY 16TH
8AM – 12PM**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PARKING LOT
211 S. WALNUT ST.
CRAWFORDSVILLE**

A fundraiser supporting Hand in Hand Creative Learning, a non-profit childcare ministry



RAIN DATE:
SATURDAY
JULY 23RD



**DONATIONS
WELCOME!
CONTACT
HHCLFUNDRAISER@
GMAIL.COM**



*Happy Father's Day from HHCL!
To celebrate, we invited our families to join us for
"Donuts with Dad or Someone Who Loves Me."*



**Food Finders
Food Bank, Inc.**
fighting hunger, giving hope



Special thanks to all the incredible volunteers who helped serve about 130 families on June 17th in the hot sun with the Food Finders event! Special appreciation goes out to Carolyn Snyder for helping to organize this and Kelly O'Dell Stanley and Pat Hooper for getting pictures in between serving!

WOW Volunteers Needed

We are trying to go back to a more normal WOW program next fall, so we are looking for volunteers. Would you be interested in cooking a meal every 4-6 weeks for the 24-26 WOW kids and teachers? We would also love volunteers for clean-up and to serve as table parents. Please email okeydyvet@sbcglobal.net or call Tom at 765-376-2699 to volunteer.



New 2022-23 FCC Leaders and Celebration Potluck

This past Sunday, June 26, at the FCC congregational meeting following worship, our wonderful new 2022-23 leaders were approved! Outgoing and continuing leaders were also lifted up and celebrated! The new list of ongoing and newly affirmed leaders will be sent by email with this edition of the Pathfinder. Copies will also be available at church if you have trouble printing.

During the congregational meeting, we also acknowledged and celebrated j Miranda's service as the volunteer staff Minister of Bereavement care here at FCC over the past year. j will continue to offer their same wonderful gift of presence and grief care here at FCC and in the community through j's ongoing official position as a grief counselor with Dusk to Dawn Bereavement Services, a ministry FCC supports. Feel free to continue to reach out to j by e-mail or phone if you wish to meet with j. We also continue to celebrate & cherish j's music ministry leadership as our incredible pianist and member of our church staff.

In addition, during the congregational meeting, Pastor Darla briefly shared an introduction about her upcoming 3-month sabbatical in the spring/summer of 2023 with the theme "Roots and Branches". Information will continue to be communicated over the next 9 months as plans and details come together.

Following worship, we celebrated the beginning of this new leadership year and all those who have given so much to enable FCC not only survive but thrive over the many long months (and years) of the Pandemic. Special thanks goes out to the Linda Spencer and the Lay Leadership Team for all of your prayerful discernment and hard work in creating a wonderful new leadership team for 2022-23! Thank you to all of our outgoing leaders for your faithful service!

Carolyn Snyder Award Presented June 17

After decades of a career advocating for students' health, a distinguished service award was created in Carolyn Snyder's name, to honor her legacy of excellence in with the Indiana Association of School Nurses (IASN). On June 17 IASN awarded two recipients with the **Annual Carolyn Snyder IASN Award of Distinguished Service!** Carolyn was present to give the award to the 2 recipients this year. Congratulations Carolyn on this award, given in your name, that seeks to lift up excellence in nursing based on your many years of distinguished service!

prayer concerns

Pray for Our Church Family, Friends, and Other Concerns

Continue to pray for the protection, health, and well-being of those people who are serving in various ways that put them at higher risk of exposure to COVID-19. We give thanks for their service.

ARLEEN WILHITE—Home recovering after heart related hospitalization on June 27-28.

FAMILY OF BLAINE NORTON, the 7-year-old boy we prayed for, who passed away on June 17 after being injured in a water accident

ALLEN GOFF (friend of the Keedys)—cancer

RAVEN DAVIS—recovering from gall bladder surgery

HOWARD, DARLENE AND DARLA GOODRICH on the loss of their cousin Greg Northcutt

SANDY RUBY—recovering from a heart catheterization procedure

NANCY ROGERS—temporarily in hospital; will return to Wellbrooke

BEV QUIGLEY and family on the loss of Bev's husband Tim Quigley

BOB HUDSON—cancer

DALLAS MCDONALD—recovering from complications from eye surgery

JACK WYATT—ongoing health concerns

BEN McCORMICK—ongoing health concerns

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

SANDY & KEN BROWN—ongoing health concerns

JERRI STEWART—breast cancer

BOB MASON—cancer

CATHY MOFFETT (Marilyn Moffett's daughter-in-law)—chemo for breast cancer

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

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

CARSON COLLINS and family (friends of Kym Bushong's)—leukemia

JENNIFER (FRY) KREKELER (daughter of Daryl & Mary Helen Fry)—chronic fatigue syndrome

GARY MEEK—ongoing health concerns

CHURCH STAFF, MINISTERS, AND LEADERSHIP

Pray for our Shut-ins

Long-term care facilities are open again to visitors, even without vaccination. Our shut-ins would enjoy visits.

WHITLOCK: **CAROLYN SIMPSON** (#151)

WELLBROOKE: **MARGE KOPERSKI** (Marge Michael's mother)

HOME: **DALLAS & KAREN McDONALD**

SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE PARKWOOD: **RUSS RUBY**

ST. ANTHONY'S, LAFAYETTE: **MARILYN MOFFETT**

THE LANE HOUSE: **BETTY CEDARS**

Help us keep this list up to date!

Please notify the office or email fcc.comm211@gmail.com if you wish to have a name removed or provide an update. Otherwise, the prayer requests will remain on the list. Thank you for your help with this—and for your ongoing dedication to holding each other in prayer.

Thanks for your kindness

First Christian Church Family:

Thank you for all the cards, texts, phone call, and prayers before, during, and after my surgery to remove my gallbladder. I appreciate each and every one of them, and am recovering and getting better every day.

~Raven Davis

Our family would like to thank our First Christian Church family for the kindness and support during Bob's illness these past months. You all are a blessing to me and to our children. My faith has sustained me and given me hope for the future.

~Carolyn Snyder

Summer vacations

Kelly Stanley will be on vacation from July 17-25. Her email will be monitored by Darla or Kevin while she's away.

Pastor Kevin's Schedule

Pastor Kevin will be away from the church to counsel one more camp. He will be back for July 3rd Sunday worship.

June 27th to July 2nd

High School/Middle School Camp at Geneva Center



**“God whispers to us
in our pleasures,
speaks in our
conscience,
but shouts in
our pains; it is
His megaphone
to rouse a
deaf world.”**

C. S. LEWIS

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays and anniversaries are now being emailed at the beginning of each month (with paper copies of the list sent to all who receive the Pathfinder by mail), so watch your email inbox around July 1 for all the birthdays and anniversaries in July!



HOW CAN WE HELP?

PASTOR DARLA

Please contact Rev. Kevin with questions, concerns or emergencies when Darla is unavailable.

CELL: 314-805-0347

EMAIL:

darla.goodrich@gmail.com

PASTOR KEVIN

See Kevin's schedule for June on the youth page. Please contact Rev. Darla with questions, concerns or emergencies when Kevin is unavailable.

CELL: 724-825-0997

EMAIL:

katoth112792@gmail.com



Those who are fully vaccinated and not at risk of severe Covid or influenza are welcome to show their smiles. **Masks are optional for all church activities!**

We encourage those who are not fully vaccinated, who might have been exposed to someone who is ill, or who simply feel more comfortable wearing a mask, to continue to do so. Disposable masks are freely available in the Narthex in both adult and child sizes. Thank you for your continued care and concern for the health of our community!

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 10-1

Wednesday 10-1

Thursday 10-1

The FCC doors will remain locked during office hours in order to maintain safe space for our Hand in Hand children and staff, and our FCC staff who may be in the office by themselves. Please simply ring the bell during office hours (at either the Walnut Street or Parking Lot doors) and FCC staff will be delighted to “buzz” you in!

OFFICE STAFF

Arleen Wilhite, Volunteer

765.362.4812 (Leave a message. Voicemail is checked on weekdays.)
EMAIL: 211fccville@gmail.com

GRIEF AND LOSS

j Miranda

Dusk to Dawn Bereavement Services

CELL: 765-720-2829 (call or text)
EMAIL: jmiranda@coachj.com

FINANCIAL CONCERNS

Andrew Nicodemus

FCC Financial Administrator

765.362.4812 (leave a message)
EMAIL: fccvillefinance@gmail.com

HAND IN HAND CREATIVE LEARNING

Chantel Allen, Director

765.367.1727
EMAIL: hhcldirector@gmail.com

HAVE INFO FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS?

Kelly Stanley

Communications Administrator

EMAIL: fcc.comm211@gmail.com
CELL: 765.366.6709

For a full list of our leaders, go to www.fccville.org/our-lay-leaders