



August 3, 2023



On Sunday, July 30, the message I shared with you in worship focused on how our call as Jesus' Disciples

is rooted in embodying his ministry of reconciliation. In my message I only scratched the surface of the meaning of reconciliation as it is synonymous with the "Gospel" or

"Good News", and as such, there are an infinite number of stories, sermons, and revelations about its power in our lives. It is God's hope that is lived out by Christ's Church, who is called to transform lives wherever separation from each other brings suffering within, around and beyond our own purview.

The upcoming 4-week preaching series in August, entitled "Within, Around and Beyond," is rooted in the theme and preaching

texts of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) which Pastor Kevin and I just attended. We'll be exploring reconciliation in more concrete ways and how it is the very essence and is the "stuff" of the "Kin-dom" of God all around us. We will reflect on our own branches and future in our personal lives and at FCC. This will be an opportunity to share some of my own stories and experiences and revelations from my sabbatical time and the General Assembly of our church. I will be considering important questions about our future together, before we gather for a retreat this fall to re-imagine our vision for the future. I look forward to sharing the Good News of reconciliation with you and the kind of "Kin-dom" it builds when we discover it's power to grow, heal, renew, and give hope to a world waiting for Good News!

*Grace and Peace,
Darla*

August Sermon Series

WITHIN, AROUND, AND BEYOND

DATE	TEXT	TITLE	PREACHER
08/06	Luke 17:20-21	Look Within	Rev. Darla Goodrich
08/13	Isaiah 58:8-12	Look Around	Rev. Darla Goodrich
08/20	Genesis 11:1-9	Eyes Wide Open	Rev. Darla Goodrich
08/27	Mark 4:30-32	Look Beyond	Rev. Darla Goodrich

It's Good To Be Home With You!

As I mentioned 2 Sundays ago, after three months of Clergy and Congregational Renewal (CCR) time, I hesitate to say that it's so good to be back in the saddle (so to speak), because I have not come **back** but have come **forward**—as I hope you have too! What an incredibly renewing experience I have had that was well beyond anything I could have hope for or imagined!

I say all of this, because I am more energized, and even more excited, than I was my first Sunday here nearly seven years ago, this August 15, because I know your hearts here and the faithfulness of this church! I was overwhelmed with gratitude when I watched you online share your courageous stories from week to week and your willingness to be deeply personal and vulnerable. This paved a new road and created a new opening for others to feel “at home” here at FCC with their own life and faith stories!

I look forward to also sharing my experiences, gleanings, and revelations, which I'll be doing in the weeks and months ahead in the Pathfinder newsletter, in preaching, in an upcoming congregational retreat in the fall, and in listening deeply to your stories, experiences and gleanings.

I couldn't be more proud, more grateful, and more humbled to get to serve at First Christian Church where you understand and highly value the well-being of your pastors, staff, and leaders! I am deeply grateful for the trust you placed in me to ensure my time away was faithfully attended to and used wisely. I especially want to thank all of our church leaders and story tellers who faithfully stepped up and went the extra mile to include my Pastoral Relations Committee headed by Linda Weaver; our staff; the Congregational Renewal Team, chaired by Kate Lindsay; Board Chairs, Dave Maharry and Carolyn Snyder; our archivist, Judy, Michael, and the history team the board, council and elders, the congregation, and my most amazing ministry partner, Pastor Kevin, whom I couldn't be more honored to get to serve with. What an outstanding job he did in leading and pastoring our church family through these months along with all these amazing leaders!



Pastor Darla by a very old tree in Herefordshire, England, the home county of her ancestors.

Finally, along these lines, I was so overwhelmed to discover I had a completely newly designed office space!! It is a surprise beyond anything I could've ever imagined or hoped for. I'm so grateful to Kay Nannet, Kelly Stanley, the leadership and all those who slugged boxes, files and furniture up and down 2 flights of stairs. I hope you'll come up and see the space even as a new one is being made in my old office for smaller church meetings and pastoral care with families! I am also deeply grateful to Gary Isenberg who continually is behind the scenes offering his time and resources to upgrade our building including lighting throughout, like fellowship hall, the childcare center, the office, the narthex and gallery space and the parlor, to make us more hospitable and energy efficient! What a humbling gift of love & care all of you have given. I'm so blessed to get to be your pastor at First Christian Church and am so thrilled to be heading forward together on this journey towards the future God has in store!

—Pastor Darla

DOC General Assembly in Louisville, KY!

This past weekend, Pastors Darla and Kevin and Nick Hedrick went across the Ohio River to join Disciples from all across the country for daily worship, prayer, education, and fellowship at the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).



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.



NEW GALLERY EXHIBIT

This coming Sunday, August 6, First Christian Church Gallery Hall is featuring paintings, drawings and photos and some of the art journey Pastor Darla has been on over the past 50 years. You will also see two large collages, and an array of books and memorabilia, that unveil some of the things she experienced while away on her clergy renewal time. This will be a time where you can ask specific questions or share your own experiences with her about our three-month renewal time. I hope you will join us for worship and her exhibit following worship this week!



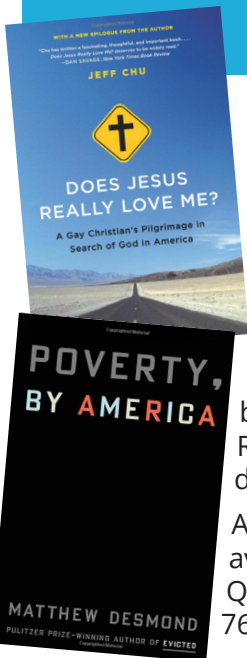
The word I keep hearing about the direction of our music ministry is “variety.” To continue offering variety in our music, we are offering several opportunities in the near future.

Our next **Praise Worship** will take place at **7:00 pm on Thursday, August 31**, in the parlor. A new activity will be **Old Time Hymn Worship** which will begin at **7:00 pm on Thursday, September 7**, in the parlor. If there is interest, we will offer these once per month.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, August 30, in the sanctuary. We’ll gather before for a potluck reception (light snacks) at 6:30 pm in the parlor followed by our 7:15 pm rehearsal. New members are welcome and needed. If you don’t have a lot of experience, we will patiently and gently help you learn your part. Child care is available, if there is a need.

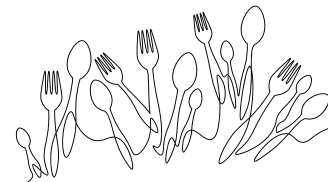
Also, if you feel called to lead congregational singing or provide special music or liturgical dance, contact Jerry Whipkey at jeromewhipkey@gmail.com or (765) 401-4399. Opportunities abound to provide variety in our music ministry.

FCC BOOK CLUB



Our next meeting, for which we hope you will join us, will now be on **Tuesday, August 8 from 6-7:30 pm**. We’ll 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, and Warren Rosenberg has offered to lead the discussion.

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

We’re taking a one month break in August, but will return for a restaurant gathering on Thurs. Sept. 21 at 1pm. Location will be announced closer to that date.

Cheers!! ~ bonnie



*Disciples Mission Fund
Indiana Region*

Here are all the statistics for First Christian Church, Crawfordsville for 2021 and 2022....

2022 DMF Giving: \$24,265
2021 DMF Giving: \$14,808
Increase: \$9,457

Easter Offering for both 2022 and 2021:
 \$1,290 each year

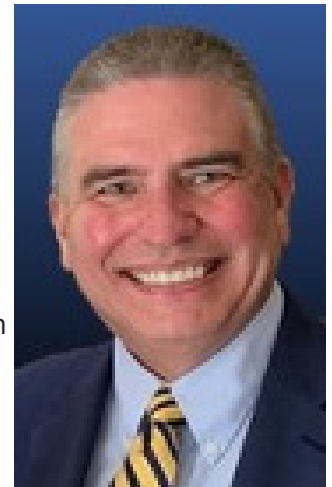
Pentecost for both 21 & 22:
 \$585 each year

Thanksgiving Offering for 2022:
 \$1,110 (\$0 in 2021)

Christmas Offering for 2022:
 \$2,365 (\$0 in 2021)

What these numbers may show is that 2021 funds were received and credited after the end of the 2021 deadline. That is often the case when Christmas Offerings in particular fluctuate from year to year. That may have also impacted the overall DMF giving. Regardless of timing, it is all put to good use and appreciated! We're so grateful for all the ways that First Christian Church in Crawfordsville supports the work of the Region and the wider church.

Rick Spleth's Retirement Celebration



WHERE: Indiana Interchurch Center: Krannert Hall, Second Floor, 1100 W. 42nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46208

WHEN: Saturday, August 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m. with a program at 3:00 p.m.

WHO: ALL ARE WELCOME!

SEND A LETTER:

You are invited to share your appreciation of Rick by sending a letter to be presented to Rick in a collection of greetings. Mail to the regional office, c/o Sarah Riester, or email to sarah@indianadisciples.org before August 15.

Christian Church in Indiana
 Attention: Sarah Riester
 1100 W 42nd St, Suite 150
 Indianapolis, IN 46208

SUBMIT A VIDEO: You are also invited to send a video of yourself or your congregation or other assembled group simply saying "Thank You." Again, these should be submitted to sarah@indianadisciples.org by August 15 to allow time for compilation.

MAKE A GIFT: If you'd like to make a gift in celebration and honor of Rick's ministry, he has requested that gifts in his honor support the Indiana Region's FLOURISH! Program. FLOURISH! supports Indiana Disciplesclergy and their families. <http://indianadisciples.org/donate/>

A Little Update from HHCL!



We are working hard over here to implement a new social emotional curriculum called Conscious Discipline. **We are currently in need of a few small art supplies** that we would love some donations of! If you are able and willing, the kiddos are running low on pom poms, pipe cleaners, construction paper, google eyes, popsicle sticks, and markers/crayons! Our kiddos love to use all these art products and more! Our Pre K class is seeking toy trains! They recently added a train table to their room and would love to add some more trains to it! We have a few big kids graduating on August 4th! We want to say congratulations to Zayra and Michael as they move to Kindergarten and to Sutton as she moves to Pre K!



YOUTH news from Rev. Kevin Toth

Follow us on Instagram
@fccyouthcrawfordsville



VBS: Thank You!

Words can hardly express how grateful I am for another successful VBS this summer! We had 23-25 children present each night and an overabundance of amazing adult and teenager volunteers! Every evening, all the children would be smiling as they had so much fun and joy in their hearts as they learned how God is a hero in our lives and how we are called to follow Jesus, work together as a team, and care for others like heroes do. I especially want to thank this summer's VBS Director, Tammy Meyers, for her amazing leadership! In addition, I want to thank everyone who was involved in making VBS such an awesome experience this year! This includes everyone who was present each night to help supervise the children at each station, everyone who led the craft, recreation, and bible story stations, everyone who organized and led the music, everyone who acted on stage in the opening and closing, everyone who operated the media and sound booth, everyone who prepped and prepared all the meals, everyone who donated food, crafts, and other items needed for the week, everyone who coordinated, organized, and assisted with all the decorations, everyone who took pictures, everyone who helped take down all the decorations, and everyone who promoted VBS throughout the whole summer! One of my favorite qualities that I love about FCC is how much this community loves and supports our youth so thank you for continuing to make FCC a place where children come to have fun, learn, and grow in their faith journey.

Pastor Kevin





WOW Save the Date: September 13th!

WOW Directors, Andrea Venis & Emily McLaughlin-Jenness, and Pastor Kevin are SO excited for WOW to begin next month! Be on the lookout for registration forms and information in the upcoming weeks.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

Date	Bible Story	Teacher
August 6	The Light	Mary Fossnock
August 13	The Ark & the Tent for God	Beth Lindsay
August 20	The Good Shepherd	Kate Lindsay
August 27	The Promised Land	Gwen Carlson

All children ages 4 to 12 are invited to participate in our Worship and Wonder curriculum!

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer. Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scouts Update

In July the Crossroads of America Council decided to increase the cost of Scouting for our youth membership. Going forward the cost of Scouting has doubled and it will be \$160 per youth for 2024. So to help offset costs we are doing multiple fundraisers in and around the community this fall. Please help where you can, we certainly appreciate it.

August Activities:

- Weekly meetings on Monday evenings at 6:30pm
- August 2-5, T365 boys will be hiking in the Hoosier National Forest
- August 7th & 8th: Back to School nights at the Elementary schools (Partnering with Pack 909)
- August 12th Pancake breakfast—funds benefit Eagle Scout projects
- August 13th: Court of Honor—celebrating 2 Eagle scouts and rank advancements for troop members
- August 19th: Drew Crosby Eagle Project work day—New Market Shelter at the park
- August 26th: Scout Family Cookout—Milligan Park 4 pm-8 pm

Upcoming Events

- September 9th: Food vendor and parking cars at Community Airport day
- September 16th: Relay for Life—Honor Guard-Flag presentation @ noon
- September 16th: Car Show—Waynetown Fish Fry
- October 7th - 8th: Feast of the Hunter's Moon
- October (fall break): T247 Indiana Dunes trip
- November 18th: T247 Campout
- December 2nd: Christmas in the Park—Waynetown

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 6:30 pm to 8 pm. During the summer months watch the Pathfinder for location or give us a call...we like to be outdoors during the summer.

Contact information: troop247.365.acct@gmail.com
Michele Enlow 765.401.6228



PRAYER

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.



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**

SHANNON & DOUG HUDSON—on the loss of Shannon's mother

MALACHI MEYERS—recovering from an appendectomy

KAY NANNET—in process of cleaning up after upstairs pipes in their home burst and flooded multiple areas

FRIEDA COSBY—has recovered from her fall and will be staying at Brookville Healthcare Center.

Family and friends of **CRIS MANKER**, who recently passed away

DALLAS McDONALD—ongoing cancer treatment

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—treatment for cancer

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



Pastor Kevin on Vacation—August 10-20.



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



FCC OFFICE

Office Manager: Kay Nannet

765.362.4812

Email: 211fccville@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Friday,
10 am – 2 pm

PASTOR DARLA

CELL: 314-805-0347

darla.goodrich@gmail.com

PASTOR KEVIN

CELL: 724-825-0997

katoth112792@gmail.com

Monday is Rev. Darla's day off.

Friday is Rev. Kevin's day off.

On their days off, please contact the other pastor or the Church Office with questions, concerns or emergencies.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

DUSK TO DAWN BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

Cheryl Furman and Jai Miranda
765.267.1760 | dusk-to-dawn.org
info@dusk-to-dawn.org

FISH FOOD PANTRY

Distributes grocery items to meet emergency needs.

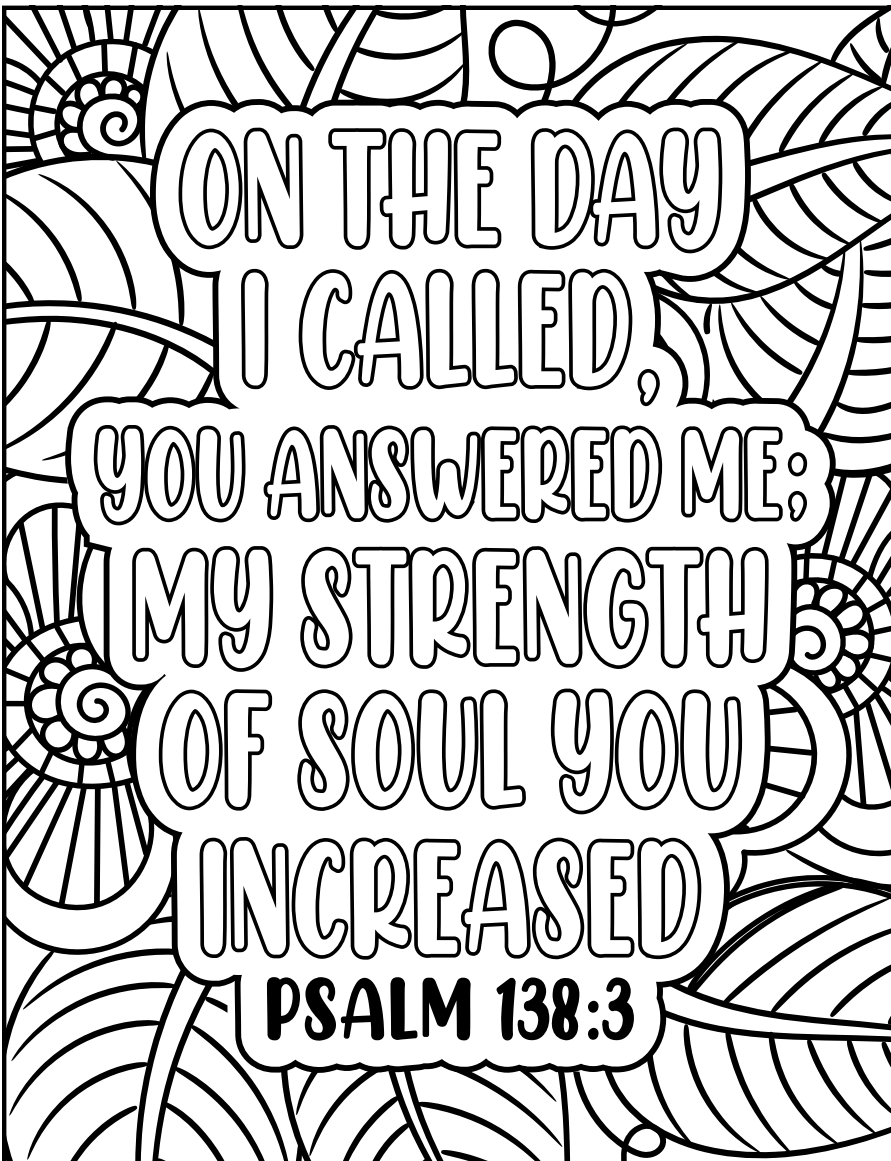
Located at St Bernard's Church,
1306 E. Main St., Crawfordsville,
765.362.3474

HAND IN HAND CREATIVE LEARNING

Chantel Allen, Director
765.367.1727 | hhcdirector@gmail.com

MONT. CO. FREE CLINIC

Offers local, uninsured residents high-quality medical & dental care and other health services
816 S. Mill Street, Crawfordsville
www.mcfreeclinic.org
765.362.3244





August Calendar

See calendar online at www.fccville.org/events
To add something to the schedule, email 211fccville@gmail.com

- Tues. 8/1 **DOC General Assembly**
- Thurs. 8/3 New Pathfinder newsletter
Men's Coffee—9-10 am
Cruisers (Pizza Hut)—11:30 am
- Sun. 8/6 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
- Mon. 8/7 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Tues. 8/8 **Book Club:** *Does Jesus Really Love Me? A Gay Christian's Pilgrimage in Search of God in America* by Jeff Chu (parlor)—6-7:30 pm
Elders Meeting—7 pm
- Thurs. 8/10 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
- Sun. 8/13 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
- Mon. 8/14 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Tues. 8/15 **Euchre** (Parlor)—1 pm
Coordinating Council—7:00 pm
Governing Board Meeting—8:00 pm
- Thurs. 8/17 New Pathfinder newsletter
Men's Coffee—9-10 am
No **Ladies Lunch Bunch** this month
- Sun. 8/20 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
- Mon. 8/21 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Tues. 8/22 **HHCL Board Meeting**—7:30 pm
HHCL Board Meeting—7:30 pm
- Thurs. 8/24 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
- Sun. 8/27 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev. Darla Goodrich—10:15 am
- Mon. 8/28 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Wed. 8/30 **Choir practice** (Potluck reception in parlor at 6:30 followed by rehearsal at 7:15 pm)
- Thurs. 8/31 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
Praise Worship (Parlor)—7 pm

Pastor Kevin will be on vacation August 10–20.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Dowd	August 4
Wyatt Woodall	August 4
Melanie Dowd	August 8
Eric Spencer	August 8
Tom Lowe	August 12
Merlin Guthrie	August 14
Jack Wyatt	August 15
Owen Siddens	August 16
Lois Williams	August 16
Justin Meyers	August 16
Barb Foster	August 17
Debra Morrett	August 25
Tim Nannet	August 25
Kevin Priebe	August 28
Amber Rohr	August 31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Rick & Jan Stout	August 4
Brad & Gwen Carlson	August 9
Paul & Jutta Hutson	August 13
Dave & Ginny Maharry	August 14
Alan & Janene Plunkett	August 16
Ken & Sandy Brown	August 17
Ron & Bonnie Yund	August 24



If you would like your birthday and anniversary included in the bi-monthly Pathfinder newsletter, please let Kelly know.

Blessings???

A reflection for FCC shared anonymously

Several of our presenters who have shared their 'roots' in our church have described First Christian as a 'blessing'. How do you define 'blessing'? Questions of origins and definition of a 'blessing' prompt a critical analysis of how one relates to, defines, perceives and treats a blessing personally.

Having its English origins several centuries ago from 'bledsurge' – a state of spiritual well being or joy – and 'bletsunga' – protectional influence of a deity – the current use of the word 'blessing' is typically confusing. Some perceive its meaning as a personal attribute that you or some other person personify, experience, or exhibit while others see it focused only on material or tangible objects possessed by yourself or others. In either sense, there seems to be a general consensus that all blessings, whether an attribute or possession, are good and beneficial, at least for those receiving them. The source of blessings has been debated over the centuries with theories ranging from a Creator to fate. The issue remains unresolved by our culture but continues to dramatically affect one's understanding and relationship to a blessing of whatever nature. Those who attribute it's origins from a Creator tend to view it as a gift or an undeserved benefit. Others sensing its etiology as secular, whether by choice or semantics, many times view a blessing as some thing or attribute they have created themselves or having originated from fate. Frequently those approaching blessings secularly tend to exhibit an attitude of entitlement to the 'blessing'. The issue is further confused by semantics for many common words utilized in describing a 'blessing' have multiple meanings – suggesting something both bestowed, earned, or possessed for no reason. Whether spiritually or secularly based, a blessing is commonly viewed as something good or beneficial. But, what if our relationship to a 'blessing' was turned on its head and it, the 'blessing', was not seen as a 'benefit' but, rather, was thought of or perceived as an obligation, a burden, and attribute or possession not to be used to enhance the life of the person receiving the 'blessing' but, instead, a responsibility or burden assigned to the 'blessed' to utilize for the benefit of others? Whoa! Would we continue to want a 'blessing' And even more

importantly, for whom do we perform such duties? God? Ourselves? Others benefitting from it — who? What is the penalty for ignoring this 'duty'? And how would our conflicting concepts of the origins of a 'blessing' affect, guide, or direct our sense of obligation or responsibility to use it?

So, with what attribute, circumstance, trait, person or event have you been or being blessed? How has your past assumptions of blessing's origin affected or prompted your response to its receipt? Can one experience and respond to a blessing appropriately without having critically analyzed the reasons for its existence and contemplated the intriguing "Why me?" Have you thought of how you identify, relate to, define, perceive and treat a received blessing? How does the church impact that perception? Has it induced you to contemplate how you have been blessed and the formulation of a 'blessing ethic', i.e., how you should relate to and use the blessing?

BLESSING ETHIC So many of our blessings are unrecognized, ignored, taken for granted, underutilized, and/or mistreated. Many of our inane possessions, bad habits, even pets, are more appreciated than so many of the plethora of blessings bestowed and showered by God upon humankind. For example, how often (if ever) have you considered the blessing of sight? When, if ever, have you thanked God for your sight? Had you been born blind, would your recognition of sight as a blessing been acknowledged earlier and celebrated as a blessing before now? Should there be a 'blessing ethic' – a moral imperative that produces a 'should' in our lives to recognize, relate to, and celebrate our blessings and, if so, how should we define it? Is it important to have a blessing ethic?

What is an 'ethic'? Many would describe it as principles or truths that guide our conduct. If 'x' is true, then one should conduct their lives in the accordance with and pursuant to a recognition of its validity and guiding principles. How one interprets 'x' and utilizes it in life will many times vary from person to person – even among those who believe 'x' is true, arising from one's different upbringing, life experiences, relationships, and attitudes all reflecting the uniqueness of each individual and his or her different perspective towards 'x'. Unfortunately judgments

disapproving the conduct of others who also believe 'x' is true arises from differences in past experiences shading interpretations of 'right' and 'wrong' and, more importantly, the necessity of discussion, explanation, and a willingness to listen. You 'may' be right but we all have an obligation to continue our search for the truth... respectfully considering the beliefs of others... recognizing the importance of everyone's right to explain the factual, rational foundation of their truths.

Ethics refers to one's well-founded standards of right and wrong produced by beliefs that prescribe what he or she ought to do, usually in terms of rights, obligations, benefits to society, fairness, or specific virtues. Many times people equate 'ethics' to their feelings, their religion, society norms, or the requirements of law but a blessing ethic must be one's personal sense of what constitutes 'right' and 'wrong' not a ethic of others. Like our need to determine who we really are – it entails a constant self-examination. For me, the ongoing search for a 'blessing ethic' is a re-examination process – a self-imposed, reoccurring wake-up call to recognize, to assess the value of, and make a moral judgment on a proper use of blessings received that one should share with others and how such sharing can be best accomplished. For me, the concept of loving your neighbor assists in defining a 'blessing ethic'. It is a rational act – not a feeling – not an emotion – but, instead, conduct based upon your belief in what is true that justifies or requires you to support, induce, and aid your neighbor to become a better neighbor, i.e., with a belief that your neighbor will recognize it as a blessing inducing an ongoing obligation on their part to also share with their neighbor, i.e., to pass it on. I believe this is important because one must remember that sharing blessings can sometimes violate the blessing ethic. For example, loving your neighbor by sharing a blessing that creates more problems that it solves, a gift that creates a dependency, destroys good relationships, implements abuse, only glorifies the giver, or is likely to be used inappropriately violates my blessing ethic.

I believe blessings we receive do come with strings attached, namely; a blessing ethic. If you agree, what's your blessing ethic and how can First Christian help you utilize it?