

October 26, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
211 South Walnut Street
Crawfordsville IN 47933



THE GIFT OF NOT BEING PERFECT A Pastoral Message

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



Several months ago, when I visited my sister and baby nephew Noah, I was introduced

to a show that has now become a personal favorite of mine: Bluey. After only watching a few episodes with my nephew, I returned home and have watched every episode at home. The animated show features a family with a mother, father, and two children (ages 6 and 4) living their lives. There are many episodes which offer a life lesson for both children and adults and the one episode I wish to share here in this message is called "Bike." In this episode, one of the children (named Bluey) is trying to learn how to ride a bike but fails each time. She gives up in frustration but after a talk with her dad (and watching her friends and sister struggle to accomplish their own goals on the playground), she is encouraged to try again and eventually succeeds in riding her bike! When I watch this episode, I am reminded of the disciples Jesus called at the beginning of each gospel. Most of them were fishermen and had no religious training before meeting Jesus. Normally Rabbis would call

individuals who studied their scriptures and were already planning to follow in the footsteps of the religious leaders of their time; but Jesus does not do this. Instead, he calls individuals who were going to make mistakes and fail at times. To me, this is a gift... to know that Jesus doesn't call the "perfect" to be his followers but instead calls us instead to try to do the best we can in spreading his love into the world. Every time I make a mistake, I am grateful for this reminder that Jesus calls me to be who I am and to simply keep trying; for no matter what, I and all of us, will always be loved by God and Christ. May this message speak to you where you are in your spiritual journeys and many blessings to you all.

Peace,
Kevin



PLEDGE SUNDAY THIS WEEK!

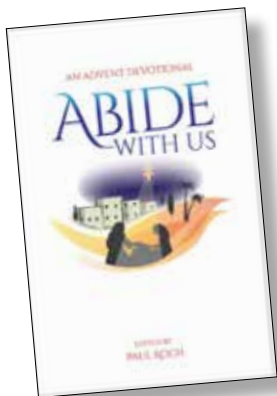
This Sunday, October 29, is Pledge Sunday. What that means is that we will be receiving pledge cards from those who would like to make a commitment of giving for FCC ministries for the 2024 year. There will be a basket just as you enter the sanctuary this week for pledge cards. Pledges can also be mailed or received at the church during weekly office hours. Thank you in advance for all the many many ways you already give of your time, your gifts and your resources to build up the body of Christ in this place and our call to serve the world together through Jesus ministry of love, healing and reconciliation!



Donating poinsettias

The Worship Team would like to know if you would like to donate a poinsettia for the sanctuary during Advent in honor of or in memory of someone special to you. We already have the names of those of you that signed up at the Ministry Fair, but would need to know the same information from you as well. Leanah will be purchasing the poinsettias and they should be around \$12-15. She will let you know the exact amount later.

Please email either Leanah Brown (lmeb9975@gmail.com) or Cindy Grimes (cynthiamayrose@gmail.com) by **November 6th** to let them know whether you would like to donate, and if it is in memory or in honor of someone, who that is.



Abide With Us: An Advent Devotional Order yours now for \$5

The Christmas carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" closes the invitation, "O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel" — the hope, prayer and ultimately the knowledge that God is with us in our quiet moments, whether that's in the holy manger of Jesus' birth or

the sacred moments amid a frenetic season that calls us to do just about anything other than abide with our God. *Abide With Us* is a daily devotional walks us through the four weeks that lead to Christmas, reflecting on what we can do to create a welcoming space for God in our hearts and our world. Each devotion contains scripture, a short reflection, and a prayer.

Abide With Us is written by the regional ministers of the the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The Disciples' 33 regions are intricately involved in congregational vitality, new church starts, key ministry operations, and outreach and mission activities. Regional ministers are the faces of these ministries and represent the diversity of the denomination. A sign-up sheet will soon be available in the welcome center or you can contact the church office.

FCC Calls New Music Director!



The FCC Board and Personnel Team, led by Daniel Petrie, is thrilled to announce that **Dr. Sarin Willams** has answered the call to be our new Music Director. Sarin is the **Choral Director and Associate Professor of Music at Wabash College**, which includes directing the Wabash Glee Club and Tee tones. She will begin her call with FCC on **Monday, November 6!** Sarin may be joining us this Sunday so we may introduce her to you in person. More details will be coming with Sarin's background! Welcome Sarin! We look forward to your arrival and to welcoming you in person!

Special thanks to **Ryan Venis** (our former Personnel Team Chair), and **Daniel Petrie** and the current personnel team (**Kim Mason, Diane McLaughlin**) for your long, faithful, and prayerful work to call a New Music Director! We especially give thanks to our current Interim Music Director, **Jerry Whipkey**, who has joyfully, faithfully and successfully led our choir, our congregation, and special music through this interim period! What a blessing his giving spirit and leadership has been to our music ministries!!



Bible for the People Podcast explores 1 & 2 Kings

Pastors Darla & Kevin and Chuck Ranspach are continuing to discuss the books of 1st and 2nd Kings. We will be recording and releasing episodes every other week. All episodes will be shared on the church Facebook page and you can find the podcast on Apple, Spotify, and Google. As always, you can reach out to us and ask any questions you have at bibleforthepeople@gmail.com.

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.



State Park Outing SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 AT 1 PM

Let's enjoy the restorative beauty of nature—and fun and fellowship—together! Join us at Turkey Run for an all-church outing. There will be plenty to do for the whole family, but no activities are required. FCC has reserved the Tennis Court "C" Shelter, which is a large, wheelchair accessible shelter with a large stone fireplace and cooking areas. There are plenty of picnic tables under the shelter and many more just outside. Wheelchair-accessible modern restrooms are nearby, as are a playground, ball courts, and some grills. Come hang out with us, have a s'more and some hot chocolate, and just enjoy spending time with one another.

Admission to the park is \$7 per vehicle. If you need a ride or would simply prefer to carpool, several people have indicated that they could take folks with them. Please contact the church office this week if you're interested in a ride or need help with the admission fee.

We will have snacks and beverages or you can bring lunch.

We will provide: Cups, plates, utensils, napkins, hot chocolate mix, marshmallows, graham crackers, chocolate for S'mores, bottled water, and apple cider.

What to bring:

- Snack to share with others (ideas for finger foods: apple/orange slices, hot dogs, popcorn, peanuts, nuts, trail mix, sausage balls, carrots, stuffed celery, cheese, crackers, summer sausage, cookies, perhaps some candy).
- Lawn chairs, if picnic benches are not your cup of tea.
- Hot dog/marshmallow roasting sticks, if you'd like.
- Shoes for hiking (if desired) or games to share with others: corn hole, horseshoes, frisbees, soccer ball, etc.

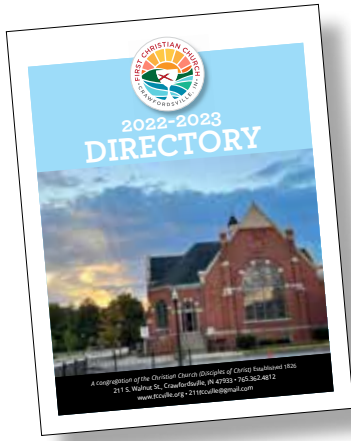
Contact Kate Lindsay (kate@donandkate.org) with questions.



All Saints Soup Lunch NOVEMBER 5

Please join us for a time of laughter and fellowship on All Saints Sunday. Stay after church that day, and we'll provide the soup, beverages, and tableware. Please bring veggies, cheese and crackers, and/or desserts. **But even if you can't bring anything, you're invited to show up with only your appetite!**

Events like this require lots of hands, so please contact Kate Lindsay (kate@donandkate.org) if you can volunteer to help make soup. Also, we'll need lots of help to clean up and wash dishes afterwards, so please plan to stay and help if you are able!

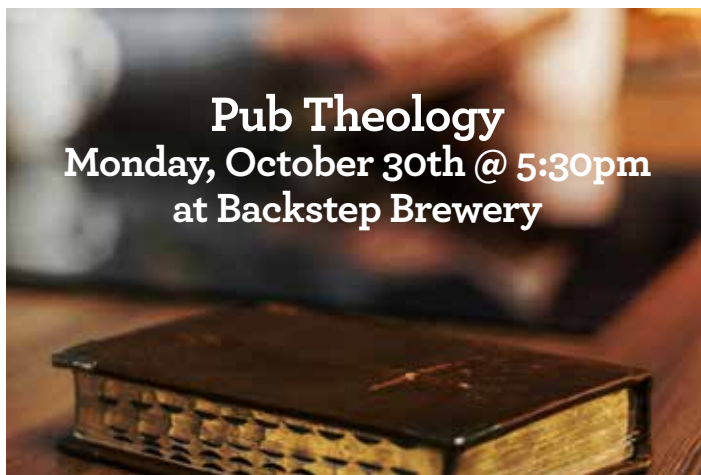


Get your new Church Directory!

The NEW Church Directory is hot off the press and ready for pickup in the Nartex the next 2 Sundays before and after worship services. The Directories are in alphabetical order with a label so there is one for each member/family group. If you are picking up for someone else other than yourself, please, identify for whom and who you are. They will be available in the Church Office during the week between 10-2, also. After that time, we will be mailing or delivering copies.

If you need an additional copy of the Directory, a list will be collected and copies made available in the near future.

If you find an error in our database, please, let the church office know so we can get make corrections and notifications.



Our next pub theology will be October 30th @ 5pm at Backstep. We will be discussing the questions: Why is going to church so important? Does God care if we go to church on Sunday? Everyone is invited to join Pastor Kevin and Father Christian Baron from St. John's Episcopal at Backstep Brewery for some amazing conversations on our faith and living.

Singles to gather at Blue Cactus

The Good News/New Ministries committee will host a singles lunch after church Nov. 12 at Blue Cactus, next to Rent-A-Center at Crawfordsville Square. While the event is geared toward unmarried church participants, everyone is invited. RSVP to Ellen Oakes at erok41@aol.com by Nov. 10.

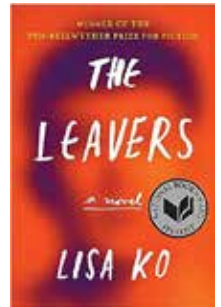
Ladies Lunch Bunch

will convene on Thurs. Nov. 16 at 1 pm for fun & fellowship at The Breakfast Co.!! All Gals welcome!!! Pls let bonyund@hotmail.com know if you can make it!! Hope you can!!!

FCC BOOK CLUB

November's book is **The Leavers** by Lisa Ko. And on Dec. 5, we welcome **Agata Szczeszak-Brewer**, local author of **The Hunger Book: A Memoir from Communist Poland**. She will be happy to sign books and answer questions, so place your order for a book soon (or contact me to request that I order one for you). Books are \$24.95 plus tax. One copy of each book is available to borrow through our church library.

Remember, this group is open to the entire community. Feel free to invite friends, particularly for the December event, because I think it will be amazing and because I want to have a good turnout for the author! Questions? Reach out to Kelly Stanley, 765.366.6709 or fcc.comm211@gmail.com.



FISH Food Pantry in Need of Pasta Sauce

Spaghetti and sauce are always in demand, and right now, FISH is completely out of sauce! If you can, please donate!



YOUTH news *from Rev. Kevin Toth*

Follow us on Instagram
@fccyouthcrawfordsville



We had a wonderful time helping Christ Lutheran's Seeds of Hope Garden this past Sunday with the youth at CLC and WAPC! Our next youth group will be on November 26th, details will be sent later.



MULTI-CHURCH YOUTH GROUP



Trick or Treating @ FCC!

On Tuesday, October 31st @ 5pm, we will be passing out candy to all the trick or treaters around Main Street at the corner of Walnut & Pike. We will have our fire pit, chairs, and s'mores supplies for an evening of fun and fellowship. All are welcome to join, and costumes are optional.

Celebrating our youth!

We are so excited to see the many ways our youth participate in their school and community. I am not going to say any names, but you and your families know who you are. From fall sports, cross country, football, volleyball and tennis and soccer to plays and musicals and scouts, it is amazing what you are contributing to make this world a better place to live. We would be glad to highlight these activities in the Pathfinder if you would submit them to Pastor Kevin or Carolyn Snyder.

Meanwhile, congratulations for your total effort! We are proud of each of you.

~Carolyn Snyder



WOW Agape Fund—Items still needed

The WOW youth are continuing with their Agape Outreach Project, where they will be assembling care bags for individuals who come to the church seeking help. The following items are being collected for the care bags:

- Granola bars or trail mix
- Ziploc bags, gallon size
- Hats, gloves, socks
- Hand sanitizer
- Small flashlights
- Travel size toiletries (body wash, deodorant, dry shampoo, bar soap, toothbrush, & toothpaste)
- Combs or brushes

We thank everyone so far for the items we have so far collected and ask all donations be brought to the church until November 5th. There is a collection box located in the Narthex. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Andrea Venis (aalkavenis@icloud.com) or Emily McLaughlin-Jenness (emilyd.mclaughlin@gmail.com).

Responding to War in the Middle East

Since the Hamas attacks in Israel on October 7, violence and devastation have escalated in the Middle East, with years of political tension and conflict bearing out in the most horrifying and heartbreaking ways. Thousands of civilians have been killed and thousands more injured as the warfare persists. Week of Compassion has been in frequent contact with trusted partners, including through Global Ministries, the Middle East Council of Churches, and ACT Alliance. These partners are in close conversation about immediate needs in Israel/Palestine and the broader region—food, water, shelter, medical care, sanitation—and know there will be many considerations to come regarding a long-term solution and recovery.

Our partners are ready to respond with medical relief and community-led initiatives including food, shelter, and sanitation. 100% of your gifts to Week of Compassion, designated 'Middle East Crisis,' will be used for responses in the region. To give, go to:

<https://www.weekofcompassion.org/give.html>

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.

GEORGE VENIS—came home from the hospital this past weekend and has been placed in hospice care due to heart and renal failure

RANDALL GARRETT—after two rounds of lengthy radiation treatments for cancer of the esophagus, the area has been damaged and Randall will have surgery soon in Indianapolis.

JERRI STEWART—at Lafayette Franciscan Hospital with lung issues

SHEILA CLARK—now at home, recovering from hip surgery

JORDAN TURNER (Gerry Turner's grandson) and family—recovering from surgery to repair broken bones following a motorcycle accident

AMY WOODALL—ongoing serious health challenge; surgery scheduled for Oct 25

CARRIE SAUNDERS (daughter of Joe and Phyllis Boswell)—at home

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

DALLAS McDONALD—ongoing cancer treatment

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

GAIL MERRIMAN—treatment for cancer

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.

GERRY TURNER—health issues

JACK WYATT—Rehabilitating at Restoracy of Whitestown

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



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



THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING COMING SOON

On Sundays, **November 12 and 19**, we'll be collecting the Thanksgiving Special Offering which benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses.

The Colleges and Universities of the Christian Church provide quality education through classes offered by some of the nation's top undergraduate and graduate faculty. The Thanksgiving offering supports everything from scholarships, to religious life offices, to faculty growth and development. Each of our seminaries and divinity houses is committed to educating and forming Christian leaders for church and society. Generations of pastors, community leaders, and agents of social transformation have been educated at our theological institutions. They have flourished and made a difference in the world, thanks to gifts from Disciples congregations and individuals throughout the ages. By giving to the Thanksgiving Offering you are helping our institutions invest in students as they prepare themselves to become faithful leaders for a new age.

WABASH THANKSGIVING MEAL OPPORTUNITY

FCC will be participating in cooking and serving again this year at the Wabash Annual Thanksgiving dinner for the students who have nowhere to go. **We will join Bethel AME, Second Baptist and Wabash Avenue Presbyterian churches in this wonderful ministry of service and hospitality at the Malcolm X Institute.** This is a great opportunity to not only fellowship with the students at the Thanksgiving meal but to also fellowship amongst the churches as we serve and share a meal together. Leann Parrish, who organizes special activities for Wabash students and Pastor Joan Richardson (Bethel AME) will be the large-scale coordinators of this event.



Monetary donations as well as frozen turkeys and hams can be donated. There will be a detailed menu sign-up sheet in the near future as we get closer to the date.

Monday, November 20 at 4 pm: Table & Chair Set Up at the Malcolm X Institute

Tuesday, November 21 at 4 pm: Preparing the food & setting the buffet

6 pm - 7 pm: Serve students then we'll join them in the meal.



November Calendar



- Wed. 11/1 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Conversation Café adult class (Parlor)—
5:30-6:30 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm
- Thurs. 11/2 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
Cruisers (Pizza Hut)—11:30 am
- Sun. 11/5 Daylight Savings Time ends
The Wired Word—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev.
Darla Goodrich and FCC choir—10:15 am
All Saints' Soup Lunch (Fellowship
Hall)—after church
- Mon. 11/6 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Wed. 11/8 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Conversation Café adult class (Parlor)—
5:30-6:30 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm
- Thurs. 11/9 New Pathfinder newsletter
Men's Coffee—9-10 am
- Sun. 11/12 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev.
Darla Goodrich and FCC choir—10:15 am
Singles lunch at Blue Cactus—after
church
- Mon. 11/13 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Tues. 11/14 **Crawfordsville Community Chorus**
rehearsal—6:30-8 pm
Elders Meeting—7 pm
- Wed. 11/15 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Conversation Café adult class (Parlor)—
5:30-6:30 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm
- Thurs. 11/16 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am
Ladies Lunch Bunch (The Breakfast
Co.)—1 pm
- Sun. 11/19 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship (in sanctuary or online) w/Rev.
Kevin Toth and FCC choir—10:15 am
**Decorating the church for the
holidays**—time TBA
- Mon. 11/20 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
Wabash Thanksgiving Dinner—
table and chair set-up (Malcolm X
Institute)—4 pm
- Tues. 11/21 **Euchre** (Parlor)—1 pm
Wabash Thanksgiving Dinner
(Malcolm X Institute)—preparing food
and setting up buffet at 4 pm; serve
students and join them in the meal
from 6-7 pm
Crawfordsville Community Chorus
rehearsal—6:30-8 pm
Coordinating Council will not meet
this month
Governing Board Meeting—8:00 pm
- Wed. 11/22 **WOW** will not meet because of
Thanksgiving
Conversation Café adult class will NOT
meet
- Thurs. 11/23 **Thanksgiving Day**—church office is
closed
- Fri. 11/24 Church office is closed
- Sun. 11/26 **The Wired Word**—9 am
Worship w/Rev. Darla Goodrich and FCC
choir, in sanctuary or online • First week
of Advent—10:15 am
- Mon. 11/27 **Scouts**—6:30 pm
- Tues. 11/28 **Crawfordsville Community Chorus**
rehearsal—6:30-8 pm
- Wed. 11/29 **WOW**—4:30-7 pm
Choir Practice—7:15 pm
- Thurs. 11/30 **Men's Coffee**—9-10 am

Celebrations

November Birthdays

4 Addie Lindsay
 6 Raymond Williams
 8 Parker Ranspach
 10 Barbara Tibbets
 11 Myrna Thompson
 12 Hailey Lobaugh
 13 Brett Spencer
 15 Dave Lunsford
 18 Jan Stout
 19 Amy Weliver
 19 Emily Weliver
 21 Anders Nicodemus
 22 Carolyn Simpson
 24 Emerie Venis
 27 Darlene Cass
 27 Kevin Anthony Toth
 28 Sawyer Ranspach

Nov. Anniversaries

5 Pete & Crystal Hahnstadt
 21 Kris & Amber Rohr
 22 Steve & Diane McLaughlin
 26 Joe & Kristy Reese
 28 Paul & Marian Cass
 29 Justin & Tammy Meyers



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.*



Pam's Promise

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you enjoy baking?
 Need a Team Building
 Exercise? Want to give
 back to the community?
 Pam's Promise needs your
 help baking pies for their
 Annual Pie Fundraiser!



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
 300 W. SOUTH BLVD.

NOVEMBER 7-9
 OR 13-16

WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE BEST KIND OF PEOPLE

BAKE WITH US!



SCAN THE CODE FOR AVAILABLE
 TIMES! OR CALL/TEXT ELIZABETH
 TO SCHEDULE YOUR GROUP!
 765-307-8027
 WWW.PAMSPROMISE.ORG

PAM'S PROMISE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING IS A SIX MONTH PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN. THE PROGRAM WORKS SIDE BY SIDE WITH CLIENTS TO TEACH LIFE SKILLS AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TOOLS TO END HOMELESSNESS.

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 | hhcldirector@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