

Our Mission

We are an open and welcoming community that God calls and the Holy Spirit empowers us to:

- *Share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all ages*
- *Explore and express a growing faith*
- *Equip believers for ministries which expand the kingdom of God*

THE PAIN OF CHANGE

Jeremiah 31:27-34
John 12:20-36

The Pain of Change, Jeremiah 31:27-34, John 12:20-36

Lent 5B, March 17, 2024

Theme: Transformation

I remember as a child having the opportunity to travel by ship from New Orleans, USA to Matadi, Belgium Congo. I was 5 years old and holding onto a deck rail on the port side of the freighter Del Aro.

I watched the heavy thick shoring lines being cast off and the rumble of the ship's engines as they began to turn the giant propellers. Almost imperceptibly, the dock receded from below my feet.

For me there was a sense of vertigo as, far below me, I could see a gap widening. There the water churned as the propellers caused swirls of muddy frothy waves to form. The gap widened between the ship and the wharf, and a logical part of my mind made me aware that instead of the dock receding away from me, I was moving away

from it. For a moment, my head swirled like the frothing water below me as my senses reoriented to a new reality.

Later, as an adult, I realized this is how we as humans perceive change. Often, we first think the world around us is changing when it is actually we ourselves who are the ones transforming. When we feel others are moving away from us, we often fail to realize it is us who are doing the moving.

Well, everything is moving, but we fail to realize we ourselves are also moving.

When we finally realize what is happening, we often experience disorientation resulting in a type of vertigo. When this happens, we become afraid.

According to the writer of the gospel of John, even Jesus experienced this as he became aware of how his life was eventually going to end. Being of unusual intelligence, Jesus is described as being able to discern the way his teachings were leading him on a collision course with the influential leaders of his day. His cousin had already met that end.

Jesus said, "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." (John 12:27-28)

Change is not always as dramatic as what Jesus experienced, but it is always the death of our comfort zone. Change forces us to new frontiers of existence where our future is pregnant with infinite possibilities. God has said, "I will glorify it."

Join us at First Christian Church, Warrensburg, Missouri where we will call upon our loving God to lead us forward through the changes we will inevitably face.

CWF MEETING THURSDAY & GAME NIGHT FRIDAY!

Reminder!! This Thursday, March 14th is the next CWF meeting with a devotion from Chris Simon and a program from Linda Hoover. Cheryl Belanger and Toni Frandson will be our Hostesses. It is a very important meeting because the agenda includes this Summers Calendar of Events. We continue to collect toiletries for Grab 'N Go as our Outreach project. All Ladies are welcome! Also, if you have not yet RSVP'd for The Ladies Game Night this Friday, March 15th at 6:00 pm, please call the Church Office at 660-747-6815 to reserve your spot. This includes pizza, games, and crafts! Wear green for St. Patrick's day if you're able! All Ladies and their kiddos are welcome!

Coffee Connection

*We need Hosts for Coffee Connection for April!
If you are available for any Sunday in April or early May,
please stop by the bulletin board in the CLC lobby
and sign up or call the Office! If you have the time, please
know that you need not pay for items out of pocket.
A Walmart card will be provided. Thank you!*



Prayer Concerns and Praises

Prayers for Chuck Ludlam, Pat Sterling's Son-in-law.

Prayers for Heaven Martin & baby Amari, friends of Kristal Shaumeyer.

Prayers for Emberlynn, Sierra Alley's daughter.

Prayers for Theresa Schibi's daughter, friends of the Goodwin's from the Clothes Closet.

Prayers for Steve, friend of Grab 'N Go.

Prayers for Jimmy & Brian Petty, Janice Wolff's friends.

Prayers for Phillip Bodenhamer.

Prayers for Brenda Dougherty, Kristal's mother, she's back in the hospital.

Prayers for Kathy's nephews, Eric Mueller and Trevor Browning.

Prayers for Ann Patterson Scott.

Prayers for Rick Dooley.

Prayers for Melvin's cousin, Erin Rogers.

Prayers for the Basye family.

Prayers for Ed and Bubbles Goodwin, Bill's parents.

Prayers for the Search & Call Committee.

Prayers for our members who are homebound, in an assisted living community and nursing homes.

Praises for Jim Metcalf, he's out of ICU and improving every day.

Praises for Andy Gosney who is cancer free.

March Birthdays

1 – Elle Schnakenberg
4 – Dana Baldwin
6 – Zane Spalding
6 – Chris Burton
7 – Jake Turner
9 – Carol Dunham
10 – Mary Shoop
14 – Debbie Haller
14 – Kameron Key
16 – Noah Cromer
17 – Donna Hays
17 – James Dooley
17 – Caroline Smith
19 – Cindy Gabel
20 – Noel Dougherty
20 – Sam Jones
20 – Lee Younce
21 – Ellen Woody
21 – Bill Goodwin
22 – Easton Burchard
24 – Garrett Osborne
25 – Vyrdel Basye
25 – Cory Shaumeyer
26 – Janet Ritchhart
26 – Christina Blevins
27 – Kaylin Piper
28 – Kierston Newberry

March Anniversaries

11 – Jon & Toni Frandsen
13 – Jim & Megan Stuck
17 – Lee & Mary Ann Younce
26 – Lyman & Claudine Hannah
26 – Doug & Ellen Woody



**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
101 East Gay Street
Warrensburg MO 64093**

Church phone: 660-747-6815
Pastor Lem Whitmer's Cell phone: 816-695-3002
Website: fccwburg.com
Office Email: 1stchristianchurchwburg@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00-2:00

Two Important dates coming up:

Palm Sunday, March 24th.

Maundy Thursday, March 28th at
the United Methodist Church. Brunch
from 5:00 to 6:30 with Service starting
at 6:30. UMC and FCC Combined Choir
and the Bell choir will be performing!

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday March 13, TODAY!!!

11:00 to 12:00 – Grab ‘N Go Lunch
6:00 - FCC Young Adults, Rob Bell Series
6:00 - Discussion on Jesus' Parables in the Parlor
RSVP for Ladies Game Night this Friday!

Thursday March 14

9:30 – CWF Meeting, Parlor
11:00 to 12:00 – Devotion & Singing at
Warrensburg Manor
5:00 - Harmonayres Practice

Friday March 15

9:00 – Bell Choir Practice
6:00 - Ladies Game Night in the CLC!

Sunday March 17

9:15 – Sunday School
9:15 – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary*
*Don't miss today, the Bells are playing!
10:15 – Coffee Connection in the CLC lobby
10:45 – Celebration Service in the CLC
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Tuesday March 19

6:30 – Board Meeting

Please keep reading, new info on two more pages!

WELCOME TO FCC - YOUNG ADULTS

What is This Group All About?

We are hoping to start a group of any "Young Adults" who are searching for support and connection through Christ.

This group will be catered to those who are navigating the balance of careers, families, relationships, and life changes while searching for a deeper foundation in their faith.

We will be using the Rob Bell video series for discussion over dinner on Wednesday nights.

Basketball & Games: 5:30-6:15

Dinner & Discussion: 6:15-7:15

(Childcare Available)

**We are all just trying to "figure life out,"
so why not figure it out with friends?**

**BEGINS TONIGHT!! WEDNESDAYS: MARCH 13, 20 & 27 AND
APRIL 3 & 10!**

Verdaderamente, Cristo ha resucitado. ¡Aleluya!

예수님은 진실로 부활하셨습니다. 할렐루야!

Le Christ est vraiment ressuscité ! Alléluia !

Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Five words. Our united and active response to Easter.

"Jesus is risen indeed. Alleluia!" is an affirmation of faith. It is our faithful response to the power of resurrection at work in our congregations, communities, and ministries across the world. Because Jesus is risen, we are set free, indeed, to share the limitless love of God, set free from the grip of sin and death, set free to rise together in shared ministry, language, and service.



CHRIST IS
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ALLELUIA!
MARK 16:1-8

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Received in most congregations

SUNDAY
MARCH 24 & 31, 2024

Supporting general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

CHRIST IS
RISEN
INDEED,
ALLELUIA!
MARK 16:1-8

On Easter, we celebrate the power of the resurrection together with the whole body of Christ as one united church in multiple places with many gifts and languages.

Gifts to the Easter Special Offering support ministries that help Disciples share the limitless love of God that overcomes death. General Ministries of the Christian Church share the good news from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth through:



- Health and social service ministries that meet basic needs for neighbors.
- Mental health resources for pastors and congregations.
- New congregations worshipping in a variety of languages and worship styles.
- Leadership development programs that nurture new leaders in the church and the world.
- Support for hospital and military chaplains serving around the world.
- Stewardship education for congregations to grow in their practice of generosity.
- Relationships with global mission partners serving in communities impacted by conflict and climate change.
- Opportunities like the General Assembly, where the church can gather for worshipful work.
- And so much more...

The Easter Offering supports these general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

Center for Faith and Giving, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries (Obra Hispana), Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Division of Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, and Treasury Services.

Please give generously to the Easter Offering on March 24 and 31 in your congregation or make a gift at disciplesmissionfund.org/give.