

## 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*



It's the Law! Exodus 20:1-20, John 2:13-25

Lent 3B, March 3, 2024

Theme: The Law

### THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW!!

How many times have we heard that shouted! We've heard it in courtrooms. We've heard it in the council chambers and senate halls. We've heard it on the streets and even at dinner tables.

Sometimes, it seems there is never a law which applies to a certain injustice, or lawyers find a loophole which allows injustice.

We are shocked! "How could such a thing go unpunished!?"

We say this, but law libraries are full of law books with laws for and against thousands, perhaps millions of different infringements of justice. There are the laws themselves, then there are recordings of court rulings which set precedence. It's an unending maze of entanglement!

I am reminded of walking through an ornate park -- a maze of beautiful flowers and manicured lawns. There were signs everywhere with a simple law written. "DO NOT WALK ON THE GRASS!" Yet there were places where paths were worn by people cutting across the lawn. I came upon a construction project where workers were putting in a new sidewalk. In conversation with them, one exclaimed, "It seems like every time we pave a place where people are walking across the grass, they find another place as a short cut. Pretty soon this whole place will be paved!"

Sometimes our laws are like that park and their sidewalks. Whenever a law is written, it seems like someone finds a 'shortcut' which allows another injustice.

In this Sunday's texts, first we find the Exodus version of what is famously called *The Ten Commandments*. According to the author of the second book of the *Torah*, God gave these laws to Moses while he was there praying. The laws were fashioned by God on stone tablets. But that is not the end of it. Deuteronomy, Numbers and Leviticus are full of regulations written interpreting the first ten laws in even more detail.

Then in the New Testament reading, we find Jesus in the Temple nine hundred years later. He finds money changing tables. The Roman coins containing Caesar's likeness were not acceptable for purchasing sacrificial animals. These coins had to be exchanged for Temple coins. The changers were charging excessive exchange fees. While watching the process Jesus discovers the injustice of what they were doing. These charges resulted in the poor not being able to purchase the animals and other ingredients for required sacrifices. This angered Jesus to the point he wrecks the tables set up by money changers. The money changers claim that they are simply following the Levitical law.

A simple ten laws are convoluted into a monstrous confusion of addendums which circumvent God's intentions.

Jesus is recorded in Mark 12:29-32 quoting in part from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 his interpretation of what all those laws boil down to. He says, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Join us this Sunday at First Christian Church Warrensburg, Missouri in one of our services as we pray for proper justice.

### Thank You Note to CWF

It is so great to hear from our friends at First Christian Church. We miss you all so much since we moved to John Knox Village in Lee's Summit, MO. We are adjusting to the new living arrangements and have plenty of activities to keep us busy and engaged, but we still miss our Warrensburg friends. We would like to thank CWF for the notes and best wishes we received from CWF for VALENTINES DAY.

We don't have words enough to tell you what it meant to receive them.

Lyman & Claudeen Hannah

## **Coffee Connection**

*We need Hosts for Coffee Connection March 24 & 31!  
If you are available for Sunday, March 24 or 31,  
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 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.

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 Sharae Kelly and Teresa Spear who has been ordained.

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**

### **Weekly Calendar**

#### **Wednesday February 28**

11:00 to 12:00 – Grab ‘N Go Lunch  
6:00 – Young Adult Meet, Greet & Eat  
6:00 – Discussion on Jesus’ Parables in the Parlor

#### **Thursday February 29**

11:00 to 12:00 – Devotion & Singing at  
Warrensburg Manor  
12:30 to 3:00 – Help at the Food Center  
5:00 - Harmonayres Practice

#### **Friday March 1**

9:00 – Bell Choir Practice  
2024 World Day Of Prayer  
Community-wide Service  
5:30 to 6:00 – Church of the Brethren,  
info on page 6

#### **Sunday March 3**

9:15 – Sunday School  
9:15 – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary  
10:15 – Coffee Connection in the CLC lobby  
10:45 – Celebration Service in the CLC

#### **Tuesday March 5**

6:30 – Advisory Council

**Please keep reading, there are two more pages!**



**First Christian Church**

# **Ladies Game Night**



**Friday, March 15th**

**6:00 PM**

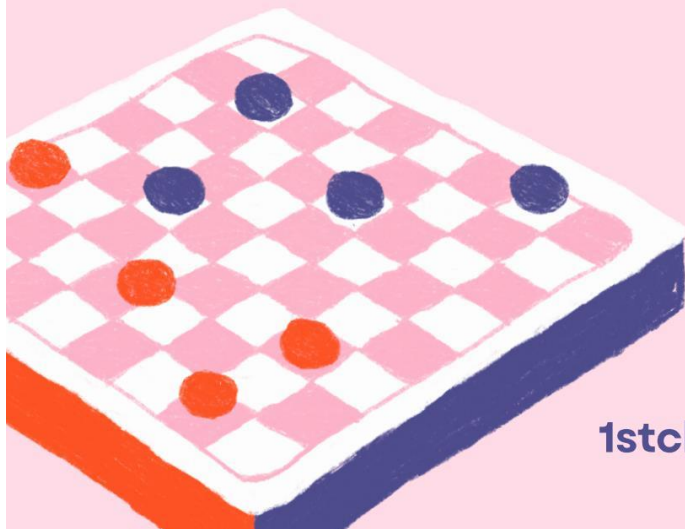
**First Christian Church  
Warrensburg, MO  
(CLC Lobby)**

**Enjoy a night of fun and  
fellowship with the  
ladies of FCC!**

**Bring your favorite game  
to play & share!**

**(Pizza, Drinks, and  
Desserts Provided)**

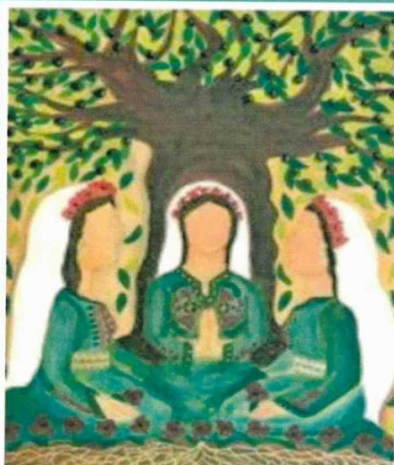
**\*Childcare Available\***



**Please RSVP to:  
First Christian Church, DOC  
(660) 747-6815**

**1stchristianchurchwburg@gmail.com**

# 2024 World Day of Prayer



This community-wide service will be centered around prayers sung, silent and written. All are welcome.

*The leaves of the tree [of life] were for the healing of the nations.*

*Revelation 22:2*

**Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**5:30 pm to 6:00 pm**

**Warrensburg Church of the Brethren**  
**702 E Hale Lake Rd in Warrensburg, MO**



*This service is sponsored by the  
Warrensburg Ministerial Association*

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian initiative. The organization's motto is "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action." The day is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March.