



the VISITOR

July 25, 2025
Vol. 82, No. 2

OUR MISSION
**To know God and
follow Jesus Christ.**

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, JULY 27

Scholarship Sunday

- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Worship, 9:30am, Sanctuary

TUESDAY, JULY 29

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

No Chancel Choir Rehearsal

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor

THURSDAY, JULY 31

No Bell Choir Rehearsal

- COAM 20th Anniversary, 3-5pm, Love Coffee

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

- MDO Lay-In Luau & Movie Night, 3:30 - 6:30pm, YFH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Worship, 9:30am, Sanctuary

MONDAY, AUGUST 4—FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

MDO Not In Session, Teacher Work Week

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Worship, 9:30am, Sanctuary



A congregation related to
The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
www.disciples.org

7TH SUNDAY IN LENT

JULY 27TH

"But God"

GENESIS 18:20-32

REV. DR. TOPHER ENDRESS, PREACHING

8TH SUNDAY IN LENT

AUGUST 3RD

REV. DR. TOPHER ENDRESS, PREACHING

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 930 AM

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

AT-HOME, ONLINE: Tune in to our livestream on Sunday mornings on YouTube, or watch the recording of the live service—available on Monday via email/YouTube channel/FCC Facebook page.

*"First Christian Church
(Columbia, Missouri)"*

MDO Lay-In Luau Movie Night

Mother's Day Out Lay-In Luau on

Saturday, August 2 from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Grab your beach blanket (we'll also have tables and chairs for any non-floor friends) and join us for a cool and relaxing summer afternoon at our Lay-In Luau as we celebrate the end of our summer season at Mother's Day Out! The movie will begin at 4:00 p.m. (with popcorn) and dinner will be available afterwards!

We'll kick back together in Yonker Hall for some food, fellowship, and a showing of The King of Kings! The King of Kings, by Angel Studios, is the animated telling of the life of Jesus--from birth to resurrection-- and is based on The Life of Our Lord, by Charles Dickens. Menu for this multi-generation event will be announced in the upcoming days. Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to lend a hand with setup, food, greeting guests, and cleanup. Reach out if you would like to join the fun behind the scenes of this special MDO/FCC event! Please RSVP online at <https://firstchristian.org/rsvp> so we can plan food accordingly!



Ladies Book Club Choosing Lunch

Ladies' Book Club Choosing Lunch on Wednesday, August 13

On August 13 at 11:30 a.m. Ladies' Book Club will have its annual Choosing Lunch at The Club at Old Hawthorne, and I'm excited about the book submissions I am getting from you. I am trying to get a private room for us, but this may not be possible. Lunch must be paid by credit card, as The Club will not accept cash. Please let me know if you will be coming, so that I can tell the staff in advance and they will have a place prepared for us. My email address is meg4vteach@yahoo.com (all lower case). Please feel welcome to join us. We have great discussions! The reading list for Ladies' Book Club will be in upcoming issues of the newsletter. We will continue to



THIS IS A DOUBLE-ISSUE OF THE VISITOR!

KEEP IT HANDY UNTIL AUGUST 8.

meet in Morris Parlor at 11:30 a.m. beginning the second Wednesday in September.

Peggy Veatch

Upcoming Special Music

While the organ renovation is underway, **Topher Otake** & the Music Department have worked hard to arrange special music for the Sundays we'll be missing the organ. Last week, we got to hear a wonderful duet from **Kameron & Cole Freed** on the cello and violin. This Sunday, July 27, we'll get to hear the Boonslick Chordbusters perform during worship at 9:30 a.m. We have music coming from the chancel choir, flute solos, and bell choir performances coming up over the next few months to bide our time while we await the completion of the organ project!



COAM 20th Anniversary

Celebrating 20 years of COAM on Thursday, July 31

Columbia Older Adult Ministries is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year with a party and a new logo reveal on July 31, 2025 at Love Coffee from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. All are invited. RSVP to Sally @ 573-819-5043 or sally@olderadultministry.org. At the event we will ask for 20 people to pledge to give \$20.00 per month. We also have a new website to be revealed soon. COAM has contracted with Floating Axe – Ellis Benis to maintain the website for us. You won't want to miss it!

Loaves & Fishes

Serving Dinner on Monday, August 25

This month's Loaves & Fishes serving date falls on Monday, August 25 and we are looking for volunteers to help prep, deliver and serve food! Volunteers are needed at Room at the Inn (1509 Ashley St) from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. for serving and cleaning dishes. We are also in need of two co-serving leaders, who will act as point people for transporting food, serving and cleaning up at Room at the Inn. There is an online sign-up available, if you'd like to see where volunteers are still needed: <https://bit.ly/augloaves25>. If you can't join us this month, but want to be added to the Loaves & Fishes email list, contact **Erin** in the Church Office and you'll hear from us in October. Thank you all so much for making this ministry possible!



Welcome, New Member!

Welcoming Basil Isle-Colon!

Basil Isle-Colon joined First Christian Church on Sunday, July 20. Basil first began attending worship earlier this summer, where she was quickly engaged in both choir and volunteering in the kitchen at VBS (thank you, Brenda Mosby). We are grateful for the ways Basil has jumped into community at FCC and we are so lucky to have her. We are excited to officially welcome her into the community of FCC—please introduce yourself and offer Basil welcome the next time you see her!



Organ Renovation Updates

Pipes Removed, Organ Chamber Work Begins

The organ renovation project officially began on Wednesday, July 9 when Reinhardt Construction arrived at the church to construct scaffolding in the sanctuary that would help them remove the large wooden grates from the walls. This scaffolding stayed in place to assist Levsen Organ Company and volunteers from FCC in removing pipes from the organ chambers early on Tuesday, July 15.



Thanks in part to our AWESOME volunteers, the first phase of the project is nearly complete. All but the very biggest few pipes have been removed from our organ chamber, and have been safely relocated for cleaning. Our deepest gratitude goes to everyone who helped with this effort. Your time, energy, and good spirits have truly made a difference. The final "chests" will be removed by volunteers this week, allowing Reinhardt Construction to begin repairing damages to the organ chamber.

We're also pleased to share that the team from Levsen Organ Co. commented on how remarkably helpful and enthusiastic our volunteers have been. Rodney Jr. and his grandson both told me separately that our team stands out as one that was particularly eager and engaged. In the coming days, Reinhardt Construction will begin addressing water damage and other issues in the organ chamber to... *(cont'd on page 3)*

Department Rosters



Don't forget Department Chairs! Rosters for your department are due to the Church Office (fcc@firstchristian.org) by **Friday, August 1st**.

These rosters are included in the annual Administrative Handbook and help us navigate our year together.

2 Contact **Erin** in the office if you have any questions.

Organ Renovation Updates Cont'd

(cont'd from page 2)...prepare the space for restoration. We're grateful for the skilled hands and collaborative spirit of both Levsen and Reinhardt as they work together on this important project. Stay tuned for more updates as the renovation continues!



AUGUST

Birthdays

July 28 - Watson Veatch

July 29 - Shane Bower

July 31 - Hayley Batterson

August 3 - Lauren Hofmann, Ryan Hughey, Brian Mottaz

August 4 - Kayla Von Tagle

August 5 - Larry Veatch

August 6 - Jeff Underwood

August 7 - Hartley Rogers

August 8 - Don Mosby (91!)

August 9 - John Yonker

August 10 - Max Schaefer, Robert Seltsam, Carolyn Snow

Anniversaries

August 2 - Ben & Katie Carrier

August 3 - Mike & Mary Bancroft (57 years!)

August 4 - Kurt & Stacia Schaefer

August 6 - Bryan & Debbie Garton, Jeff & Amy LaHue
Thom & Cindy Rose, Richard & Allie Schomaker

August 9 - Roy & Joy Overacre (56 years!)

August 10 - Jesse & Jordan Barnes

Jay & Mona Stevenson (51 years!)



News of the People & Places

Prayers of Health & Healing...

- **Sharon Ronchetto** is home after a stay in Boone Hospital recovering from a virus.
- **Donaleigh Richardson** returned home from her stay in the hospital for a hiatal hernia, but returned again over the weekend for additional testing.
- **Dana Heavin** returned home from both the hospital and Southampton Rehab Center last week.
- **Tommy Tomlin** was in the hospital last week and plans to see his cardiologist this week.
- **Tom & Carol Hughey's** son, Ryan, will have in-patient leg extension surgery on Wednesday, July 23.
- **Charlie Koelling** was in the hospital over the weekend for issues relating to his blood pressure.

Out Of the Office...

- **Brad Stagg** will be on vacation from Monday, July 28—Sunday, August 10. All pastoral concerns should be directed to **Topher Endress** or the Church Office in the meantime.
- **Erin Perry** will be on vacation from Friday, July 25 - Monday, July 28. All questions can be directed to **Justin DeWick** (businessmanager@firstchristian.org) during that time.

Thank You...

Many thanks to **Dan and Holly Gieseke** for delivering the very beautiful bouquet and for the enjoyable visit. And "thank you" to the church for this program of delivering flowers to those of us who can no longer come to the church services. Not only will the flowers make a bright spot here, but it was great to visit with friends who are church members and get updates on what is going on in the church. Keep up the good work!

Tommy Tomlin

Thank you so much to **Brenda Mosby** for delivering the beautiful flowers from the church. Thank you to **Dr. Brad** for visiting me in the hospital, it meant so much. Thank you to my church family for your prayers.

Sharon Ronchetto

News from Memphis

FCC Youth, Clergy & Members Attend General Assembly



A full report of First Christian Church's time in Memphis will come in the next newsletter. The assembly and youth mission trip were filled with sacred worship, fellowship, and service together!



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First Christian Church

*Our Mission: To know God
And follow Jesus Christ.*

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister
topher@firstchristian.org

Music Staff

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry
Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist
Travis McFarlane, Early Service Musician

Sunday Morning Staff

Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian
Izzy Arnett, Nursery Staff
Amelia Leon-Rudy, Nursery Staff
Cheryl Stevens, Nursery Staff

Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Hayley Batterson, Director

Columbia Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director

Support Staff

Justin DeWick, Business Manager
Erin Perry, Office Manager

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, July 27, 2025

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Don Mosby

WELCOME STATION: Steve McCormack

FLOWER MINISTRY: Eric Seaman

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Marcia Smith

COMMUNION PREP:

Hayley & Ryley Batterson

GREETERS: Carrie Batterson (N. DOOR),
Chuck Scott (S. DOOR), David Potthast
(ATRIUM), Debbie Potthast (PORTICO)

AV TEAM: Tiger Li

LITURGIST: Dan Gieseke

9:30 ELDERS: Jennifer Alexander, Jacki
Davidson, Janelle Patterson (Balcony)

DEACONS: The Hunsaker Team

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Hayley Batterson

OFFERING COUNTERS: Janelle Patterson and
Cindy & Doug Smith

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, August 3, 2025

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Tracy Fuemmeler

WELCOME STATION: Steve Humble

FLOWER MINISTRY: Anne Crousore

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: The Rogers'

COMMUNION PREP:

Debbie & Dave Potthast

GREETERS: Doug Smith (N. DOOR), Cindy
Smith (S. DOOR), Peggy Veatch (ATRIUM),
Larry Veatch (PORTICO)

AV TEAM: Luke Stagg & Cole Freed

LITURGIST: Jessica Humble

9:30 ELDERS: Hayley Batterson, Tori Pine,
Ryan Hunsaker (Balcony)

DEACONS: The Potthast Team

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Jessica Humble

OFFERING COUNTERS:

Jerry Miller and Deb Batterson