

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Published:
01/21/2022

Weekly Newsletter

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends and folx,

I took a 3-day intensive class last week in my Doctor of Ministry program at Lexington Theological Seminary. It was for sure intensive. 15 hours of discussion and lectures over three days is intense. I so enjoyed the opportunity to learn from a great professor and have conversations with colleagues and classmates.

The professor of this class began her tenure while I was in seminary working on my Master of Divinity. She is retiring in June. It is interesting to see her tenure begin and end. Over her time at Lexington Theological Seminary, she stayed true to the teaching style she promised us when she interviewed with the student body before being hired.

This week, I am remembering all of the teachers and professors who have contributed to my learning and give thanks for all of you who have served as teachers, administrators, professors, and other school professionals. And, yes, Sunday school teachers, too.

Thankful for teaching ministries,

Pastor T



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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Tim & Sandy Taylor
- The Unkraut Family
- Jerry Bargo
- Shane Zeis
- Martin Warne
- Felicia Siegman
- Larry Henage
- Pam & Gary Bray
- Kassidy Borchers
- Noah Borchers & Maria Smith
- Sarah Jones & Family
- Joyce & John Huff

Want to add to the prayer list? Send us your prayers and praises, so that we can support and celebrate you!



UPCOMING: NEW MEMBER CLASS

Rev. Tracy Siegman will be offering a New Member Class this upcoming February! If you are a new member with our church, are considering becoming a member, or if you are just looking for a space to talk about the history and theology of our church and the Disciples of Christ, then this class is for you!

The course will last three weeks, starting February 15th, and will be on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM.

If this sounds like a good fit for you, please contact Pastor Tracy or the church office for more information.



UPDATE: PANORAMA FOOD DRIVE

The food pantry for Panorama is running low, and some items are completely gone!

As a reminder, when we are worshipping in-person all food donations can be put in the conference room or the rear of the Sanctuary. Currently, as we continue to worship at home for the safety of our neighbors and congregation, you can come drop off your donations on Thursday morning or contact Sue and Steve Rehfuss for other drop-off/pick-up options. Sue and Steve can be reached at (859) 817-1263.

The residents of Panorama thank you for your continued donations and have expressed how much they appreciate this ministry!

PANORAMA

FOOD LIST:

Currently requested:

- ⇒ Pudding
- ⇒ Soup
- ⇒ Macaroni
- ⇒ Rice mixes
- ⇒ Instant potatoes
- ⇒ Stew
- ⇒ Pop tarts
- ⇒ Instant cocoa

Also consider:

- Crackers
- Peanut butter
- Canned meats
- Canned vegetables
- Fresh fruit, fruit cups, or canned fruit
- Packaged dinners
- Little Debbie cakes

RECYCLING REMINDERS



Bring items you can't recycle at home, such as:

- Holiday Lights that no longer work
- Old gift cards or other plastic cards that no longer have value
- Small prescription or other medicine bottles that are empty



When recycling medicine bottles, keep in mind:

- **Large** bottles can be recycled at home **with the lid on**.
- **Small** bottles are **not** recyclable at home and can be recycled at CRRH.

NEW: HOW TO GET FREE COVID TESTS DELIVERED!

Starting this past Tuesday, all American households are able to get four FREE COVID tests delivered to their front door! Follow the steps below to order your free COVID tests — and don't forget to get vaccinated and boosted to help stop the spread!

HOW TO ORDER YOUR FREE COVID TESTS:

1. Go to COVIDTests.gov.
2. Click the button on the home-page that says “**Order Free At-Home Tests**”. This will redirect you to a page on the [USPS website](https://www.usps.com).

3. Fill in the required fields with your contact information and shipping address. If you provide your email address, you will be able to receive delivery confirmation and updates there.
4. Click the button that says “**Check Out Now**” on the right-side of the screen. The page will refresh with a confirmation number and order summary.



ONGOING: SPECIAL RECYCLING EVENT

Hildy is still collecting items to be recycled at the Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub (CRRH). You may bring your items the next time you are at the church for worship, and place them in the back of the sanctuary for collection. See the side panel for reminders of what to bring and helpful tips.

CURRENT: EPIPHANY SEASON

COMMAND	SCRIPTURE	DATE
Let Your Light Shine	Matthew 5:13-16	01/16/2022
Do Not Worry	Matthew 6:25-34	01/23/2022
Go and Do Likewise	Luke 10:25-37	01/30/2022
Do Not Be Afraid	Luke 5:1-111	02/06/2022
Forgive and You Will Be Forgiven	Luke 6:37-42	02/13/2022
Take Up Your Cross	Mark 8:27-9:1	02/20/2022
Feed My Lambs	John 21:15-25	02/27/2022

This week's message: Do Not Worry

The season of Epiphany is a time when Jesus reveals Himself to us as the Messiah and Son of God through His ministry and teachings. Our Epiphany sermon series is titled *"The Commands of Jesus"* and will run from 01/16/22 to 02/24/22.

During this season, we will be reading scriptures from

all four Gospels in order to hear the commands of Jesus.

Join us from the comforts of home on Facebook or YouTube as we live-stream our service this Sunday. It is a message that is so timely as we watch COVID surging and schools closing: Do Not Worry; God will always provide.

Sunday

January 23, 2022



Reminder:

Don't worry. God will care for you and meet all your needs.

Okay !

**FIRST CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

*Welcome Wholly.
Love Authentically.
Share God's Grace
Abundantly.*



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FROM OUR REGIONAL MINISTER

Daring to Dream

Scripture is full of dream stories where God delivers a message to one of God's own. These dreams always have a great impact on the life of the dreamer. A dream will make you different. Without understanding and courage, we often acquiesce to someone else's interpretations of our dreams or even begin to live a life of distorted dreams.

I am glad that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had the courage to live out his dream, share his dream with us, and be different. I am so glad that we too, with God's help, have the courage to dream and be different.

Can you imagine if the recipients of God's dream, of King's dream were to place the dream into their hearts and help live it out? Imagine what it would be like if we were a nation of Josephs, each of us proudly wearing our technicolor dream coats.

Can you imagine if we all allowed ourselves and each other to dream, to get a hold of a dream, or better yet, allowed a dream to get hold of us. A God given dream will make you walk different, it will make you talk different, it will make you think different, and it will make you act different. A God given dream will change you.

As children of the Most High God, we are called to be a peculiar people, a royal priesthood not conformed to this world, but be renewed and transformed by putting on the mind of Christ. We are called be different.

My friends, let's live in this world differently than we have in the past. Let's seek to not only love justice but to do justice, let's seek not just to love mercy but to do mercy, Let's dare to dream and live our call.

I continue to invite you on this journey! Over the next 8 months, join with me in doing three things:

- 1) Praying for the health, and growth of the Christian in Church in Kentucky,
- 2) Join with me on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays for 30 minutes of conversations where we can talk and listen to one another (please sign up on the website) and
- 3) Expanding the table for God's children.

On the Journey together!

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, II
Regional Minister
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky