



Fore Thoughts

July 2017



**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**
1500 S 29th St. • Parsons KS 67357
620-421-4790
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Join us Sunday, July 16th

As we welcome

our new Senior Pastor,

Rev. Laurie Ann Lewis

reception following worship

Please come introduce yourself

to our new Pastor!

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY

July 16th

Make plans now to join us on **Sunday, July 16th**. This will be the first Sunday with our new pastor, Rev. Laurie Ann Lewis. There will be a reception following worship to give everyone a chance to meet Pastor Laurie and give her a warm welcome to our church and community. This is also a great Sunday to attend worship if you haven't been here in a while. Our new pastor will have new ideas and new ways to share God's word. Come be a part of the changes at FCC!

We are also designating Sunday, July 16th as "bring a friend" Sunday. In a recent Gallup survey 82% of people who don't attend church say they would attend if invited by a friend, yet only 2% of Christians ever invite someone to church. Your friends may know what church you attend, but may still be waiting for an invitation from you to join us. Here are three tips to help you:

1. Think of three friends who don't attend church.
2. Spend a minute each day to pray for each of those three friends by name.
3. Pray that God give you the opportunity to invite them to church with you.

Churches grow when members bring their friends – so be a friend and invite a friend!

The Disciple Women Indoor Picnic



The Disciple Women held their annual Indoor Picnic on Monday, June 12th with 26 in attendance.



Fern Woolfolk assists our youngest guest.

It was a wonderful time of food, friends and fellowship.



Congratulations to Abbie Ford and Tori Smith for receiving the Wilma Zink Scholarship for their academic achievements and participation in our church programs! Both of these young ladies will receive \$200 each semester for their first two semesters of college. Way to go Abbie and Tori!



1 - There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens...

11 - God has made everything fitting in its time... (Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 11a CEB)

The book of Ecclesiastes was my Great Grandmother Reames's favorite book of the Bible. It was so important to her that she marked it with a beautifully round braided book mark made of her hair tied with a silk ribbon and a sprig of herbs. It was within the words of Ecclesiastes she found sense for each stage of her life. She then shared it to her daughter, my Grandmother Elliott, who too found the words soothing as she faced life and its changes. As one can imagine, my Grandmother then shared it to me too. It was in its poetic words I have found much to guide me each day of my life and the ministry that God has given me. So today, as I write my last letter to you my beloved Church family in Parsons, I find in Ecclesiastes words that fit this time of saying goodbye. It is in the 22nd verse of the 3rd chapter that says: **"So I perceived that there was nothing better for human beings but to enjoy what they do because that's what they're allotted in life. Who, really, is able to see what will happen in the future? CEB"**

When I accepted the call as your interim minister I was overjoyed. I saw a church (that being all the people not the building) that had a great history and even more potential. In this God gave to me the opportunity to join with you and to do what brings me the greatest joy in my life and that is to serve Him. More than that to help all here to see God's given potential and to look to the future of the churches ministry in the community of Parsons and beyond. In this time together, we the church, have reached out in so many ways, reaching out to Labette Community College, reaching out to the foster children in our area in two ministries, reaching out to the homeless, along with many other ministries such as WIC, Red Cross Blood Drive, the Batter's Intervention Group Counseling, the DCCA, and many, many more ways. The church has looked to itself to honor those who have served so faithfully as well as calling new leadership for this time. In this it has been soul filling to watch God work in each one of you and I feel privileged to have been part of it. In this Mary and I have fallen in love with all of you in this church and in this community, this is what makes it so hard to say good bye. In all this know we will miss you deeply as we follow God's path for us in the future.

That being said, we look to the future of this church, and rejoice in what God is doing in all of you here. We rejoice in your new call to Rev. Laurie Ann Lewis and the many new ideas she will bring and we rejoice in the new energy we feel in the church family. In all things, we pray that God will bless this church and its ministry in new and fantastic ways.

Shalom,

Pastor Paul & Mary

The Disciple Women's July Project Stuff the Bus!



Summer is on the move and so are we. We're getting ready to board the bus – the big yellow school bus, that is. We have to plan ahead to be ready when the school doors open. We're going to stuff the bus with school supplies for children of struggling families.

Times are stressful with the new national administration – lost jobs or low pay make it hard to put food on the table, pay medical bills, provide clothes for growing children, keep up with high utilities – need we say more?

We are a mighty congregation – you've proven that. We love children!

A box will be placed in the Narthex for supplies – or donations can be given on Sundays and we'll buy them for you. Deal? Let's put some fun in returning to school days.

Items needed: Backpacks; binders; pocket folders; wide-rule and college-rule spiral notebooks and loose leaf paper; blue, black and red ink pens; #2 pencils; washable markers; highlighters; pink erasers; expo markers; safety scissors and pointed scissors; 3" x 5" index cards; rulers; calculators; crayons and colored pencils; glue sticks and bottled glue; Kleenex and hand sanitizers.

Monetary donations are needed to fill in the gaps of needed supplies not received.

**DW Executive Board Meeting
July 3 at 9:30 am in the Church Library**

**DW Fellowship Coffee
July 10 at 9:00 am – Fellowship Hall**

Warren & Betty Townsend invite you to a reception for their 55th wedding anniversary at their home at 1703 Belmont, on Sunday, July 9th from 2-4 pm. They request no cards or gifts. Please come by for cake and punch.

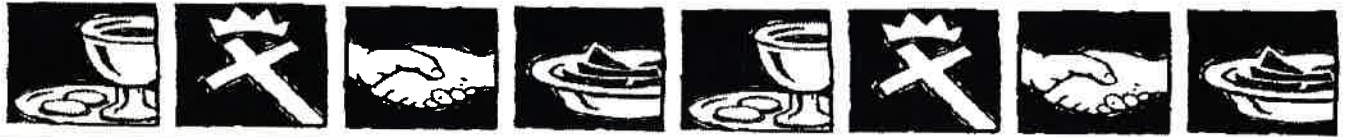


From our Board Moderator, Dean Cramer:

NOTICE: If anyone has a church related job that requires a substantial amount of hours of Jay, our janitor, please clear it through the minister or the board moderator first. Jay's hours are limited each week, so extra work may or may not fit into his schedule. He does a fine job, and he has plenty of work to perform. We must be careful to not overload him.

Thanks! Dean

Sunday, July 2nd will be Pastor Paul's last Sunday at FCC. Please join us after worship for a potluck "farewell". We want to thank Pastor Paul and Mary for their ministry to this congregation and wish them well in the future.



ALL Elders and Deacons are asked to meet in the parlor at 9:00 am for prayer.

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday, please exchange with someone and inform your team captain and the church office. (421-4790 or fcc_church@sbcglobal.net)

Sunday, July 2

Elder/Sacraments: Marian Johnson
Elder/Offering: Steve Fincher
Deacons: Elaine Harris, Valerie McElroy,
Sharon Ryan, Barbara Robbins
Worship Leader: Lori Ray
Nursing Home Devotions: Sherrie Coltrain,
Anne Maloney – Elmhaven @ 2:45
Sound Board: Dean Cramer
Narthex Kids: Barbara Robbins

Sunday, July 9

Elder/Sacraments: Dean Cramer
Elder/Offering: Lori Ray
Deacons: Jeanette Horton, Jerry Janssen,
Marlene Wegner, Sandy Womeldorff
Worship Leader: Valerie McElroy
Sound Board: David Austin
Narthex Kids: Janie Barcus

Sunday, July 16

Elder/Sacraments: Anne Maloney
Elder/Offering: Marian Johnson
Deacons: Elaine Hudson, Dori Howerter,
John Mulberry, Jean Reeves
Worship Leader: Dori Howerter
Sound Board: Lori Ford
Narthex Kids: Jared Hawks

Home Communion - Sherrie Coltrain, Janie Barcus, Marian Johnson

Sunday, July 23

Elder/Sacraments: Jewell Reed
Elder/Offering: Sherrie Coltrain
Deacons: Peggy Cramer, Sharon Ryan,
Barbara Robbins
Worship Leader: Ruby Johns
Sound Board: Lori Ray
Narthex Kids: Janie Barcus
Board Prayer (July 25): Don Barcus

Sunday, July 30

Elder/Sacraments: Steve Fincher
Elder/Offering: Dean Cramer
Deacons: Elaine Harris, Valerie McElroy,
Jeanette Horton, Jerry Janssen
Worship Leader: Janet Rexwinkle
Sound Board: Jared Hawks
Narthex Kids: Barbara Robbins

Funeral visitation: Marian Johnson, Steve Fincher

Subject to Change!!



01 Cheryl Dawson
02 Taffy Langston
04 Dorothy Feagan
04 Melissa McDaniel
06 Martha Tredway
07 Glenda Buddenhagen
07 Betty Townsend
09 Warren Townsend
10 Chad Wegner
10 Shannon Werner
13 Heather Peak
15 Lori Ford
15 Val McElroy
17 Matthew Maloney

17 Don Wilkinson
19 Mary Ashcraft
19 Robyn Baker
21 Michael Dillinger
21 Bree Flynn
22 Ashley Kemp
25 Paul Duroni
27 Eric Barnes
29 Scott Horton
29 Tracy Woodruff
30 Doris Brenner
30 Bethany Holsinger
31 Marian Johnson



Surrounding in prayer

Our nation's leaders and military
Church Ministers & Staff
Regional Church Staff
Andrew Shipps (Iona's grandson)
The family of George Mattox

Care Homes/Homebound

Eunice Blaich	Doris Brenner
Jimmy Dodds	June Dodds
Doris Drummond	Naida Harper
Rutheen Hammack	Bill Hogelin
Crystal Jump	Ivan & Lydia Lorimor
Londa Metcalf	June Miller
Betty Olmsted	Bertha Proffitt
Jack & Lacreata Stice	Martha Tredway
1Frances Whinery	

Health Concerns:

Mary Baker	Bob Brown
Jack Brown	Bob Baldwin
Bob Burnett	Jean Boss
Erlene Cares	Sharon Dillinger
Doris Drummond	Dorothy Feagan
Carol Fincher	Jerry Henry
Bill Hogelin	Ivan & Lydia Lorimor
Gay McKinney	Nancy Miller
Ralph & Dicy Janssen	Rev. Steve Martin
Betty Thomas	Mike Womeldorff
Barbara Wills	Betty Willis
LaVeta Wass	Francis Whinery
Dick Ryan	Sharon Ryan
Wyatt Warstler	Anne Wilkinson
Lee Wegner	

Our friends with continuing concerns:

Sam Blubaugh (Betty Thomas' friend)
Roger Banks (Warren Townsend's friend)
Charlotte Brown
Rick Bussinger
Karla Carl
Jenny Clemons (Joyce Austin's friend)
Debbie DePew
Kevin Mosier (Barbara Mosier's son)
Doris Stice (Sherrie Coltrain's friend)
Carole Veenis (Dori Howerter's friend)
McKenzie Wegner
Roger Wegner
Kenton Kersting (Barbara Robbin's friend)
Kara Woolfolk (Fern Woolfolk's granddaughter)
David Yeardon (Warren Townsend's family member)
JoAnn Couch
Karen Townsend (Warren Townsend's sister-in-law)
Malissa Forbes
Bill Hood (Marian Johnson's brother)
Reno Beach (Ruth Hutley's friend)
Andrew Campbell (Wegner's friend)
Dick Holroyd (Brad Bayless friend & neighbor)



ELDERS PRAYER LIST

As part of their commitment to pray for each member of FCC, the Elders are remembering these members and their families in prayer during each week (and invite you to join them.)

July 3 – July 9

Josh & Julia Warstler	LaVeta Wass
Lee & Marlene Wegner	Rose Welch
Shannon Werner	Dixie Wetherell

July 10- July 16

David & Karen Wheat	Don & Deborah Whelan
Frances Whinery	Martha Willems
Robert & Alice Williams	Betty Willis

July 17– July 23

Barbara Wills	Betty Wills
Sara Wilson	Gordon Winkler
David Womeldorff	Mike & Sandy Womeldorff

July 24 – July 30

Fern Woolfolk	Manny Gomez
Kori Tullis	Mark & Diane Watkins
Amy Rowe	

July 31 – Aug. 5

Gordon & Kathy Adams	Dale & Kay Alexander
Jason & Jessica Alexander	Nadine Allen
Mike & Tammy Alexander	Rob & Shelley Angle

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 (620) 421-4790 (Church Office)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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SUMMER FRUIT PIZZA

Celebrate summer with this tasty dessert pizza, using your favorite summer fruits as the toppings.

What you need:

- 1 tube slice-and-bake sugar cookie dough
- Knife
- Round pizza pan
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups sliced fruit
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Cut the dough into slices 1/8-inch thick. Place slices on the pan, overlapping them slightly.
2. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 minutes. Let cool.
3. Combine softened cream cheese, sugar and vanilla, mixing well. Spread this "frosting" over the baked-cookie "crust."
4. Arrange fruit on top of the pizza.
5. Slice and enjoy!

PUZZLE

Signs of summer

Jesus told his disciples that fig trees indicate when summer is approaching.

Directions: Complete the Bible verse below by placing the letter pairs from the tree into the correct blanks.

" ___ w lea ___ th ___ le ___ on
 fr ___ the f ___ tr ___: As s ___ n
 as its ___ igs g ___ te ___ er ___ d
 its lea ___ s co ___ o ___, ___ u
 kn ___ ___ at su ___ er is ne ___."

Ma ___ hew 24:32, NIV

ANSWER: NOW LEARN THIS LESSON FROM THE FIG TREE: AS SOON AS ITS TWIGS GET tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near.
 Matthew 24:32, NIV