



Vacation Bible School is only a month away!  
 July 30-August 3  
 5:30-8:00 p.m.  
 Dinner will be served each evening beginning  
 at 5:00.

Register now to be a part of First Christian  
 Church and First United Methodist Church's  
 Rolling River Rampaige:

<http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3860331/Event-Registration-Form>

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 A big thank you to everyone that contributed  
 to the Colvin Mission Project. Thanks to each  
 of you, we will be sending \$3,000 to Global  
 Missions on their behalf!!  
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The deadline for submitting articles and calen-  
 dar entries for the August newsletter is Tues-  
 day, August 21.

Also, it has been a struggle filling the serving  
 schedule for July (especially deacons). If you  
 would be willing to serve in any capacity in  
 August, please help me out by letting me know  
 as soon as possible! Kim

First Christian Church  
 (Disciples of Christ)  
 P. O. Box 295  
 Dexter, MO 63841



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

Michael Williams, Pastor  
 E-Mail: [mike.fccdexter@gmail.com](mailto:mike.fccdexter@gmail.com)

Kim Williams  
 Administrative Assistant  
 E-mail: [kimdoc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kimdoc@sbcglobal.net)

224 E. Stoddard, P. O. Box 295  
 Dexter, MO 63841  
 Web Page: [www.fccdexter.org](http://www.fccdexter.org)  
 Office: (573) 624-4341  
 Kim's Cell No.: (573) 820-0971  
 June 27, 2018

**KIM'S CORNER**—Have you been asked “what will your church do while your preacher is gone?” My answer is always the same and is the same response I had when Mike shared his deployment with me. “We will be sad that he is away from us and miss him tremendously, but we know how to do this.”

The same things that we did during our many months without a pastor apply now. It was hard, but we pulled together and came out stronger in the end. Change is a part of life, and although there will definitely be a need for some extra patience and flexibility by everyone in the congregation, we will get through this... especially if we follow these tips:

- 1. Be Faithful** – The lack of a permanent pastor can make some feel less enthused or connected with the church and may promote more frequent absences. However, if there was ever a time your church needed you, this is it. Instead of finding excuses to stay away, this should be a time to increase your faithfulness in every area. Don't be a fair-weather friend of the church... but remain faithful even during cloudy times.
- 2. Pray** – Be devoted to prayer. Pray for Mike and Lily during his deployment and pray for our church. Share your prayer concerns with your Elder and the Tuesday morning prayer group. Remember that your church family is only a phone call away.
- 3. Be Extra Patient and Understanding** – With Mike being away, we will discover many things he did behind the scenes that were sometimes unnoticed. Some things may not run as smoothly ... tasks may fall through the cracks or be forgotten about. It is not a time to criticize or find fault but be understanding and pitch in and help make up the shortfalls.
- 4. Volunteer More than Usual** – The church is a relationship-based community, a family, where people serve and bless “each other” mutually. It takes everyone's participation to make it work the way it should. Another way to look at it, the church isn't as much like a restaurant, where patrons are “served” and “pampered”, but more like a pot-luck dinner where everyone brings a dish to share with each other. Step up and volunteer ... there has never been a time you were more needed.
- 5. Help Contribute to Unity** – Don't just tread water during Mike's absence. This is a moment your influence of support and encouragement is so needed to help promote peace and unity in the body. “Talk up” the church among your friends, speak encouragement and help promote harmony.
- 6. Don't Waste Opportunity** – There is often an attitude that the spiritual focus and ministry of the church is stagnant while the pastor is away, but this shouldn't be. God still has a vital purpose for every service and every speaker that shares with us during his absence. It is important for the congregation to remain faithful and engaged, so that God's intended work can be accomplished.
- 7. Don't Panic and Be at Peace!** Do your part. Pray, contribute and help out where needed. The church will do better if everyone is calm and steadfast in faith. Show Mike when he returns what a healthy congregation he had praying for him during his absence. Trust and rest in the assurance

*“For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you,  
 Do not fear; I will help you.” (Isaiah 41:13)*

**July Serving Schedule**

**Elders:** Debbie Crane & Debbie Ellinghouse

**Deacons:** Yvonne Hall & Jansen Williams (communion prep.), Gregg Miller, Mark Stidham, Mark Becker, Gary Williams

**Greeters:**  
7/01 Lisa Thrower (front); Pam Horton (side)

7/08 Pam & Tommy (front); Yvonne Hall (side)

7/15 Mark & Cathy Becker (front); Debbie Ellinghouse (side)

7/22 Kellie Reese (front); Rita Speight (side)

7/29 Gregg & Melanie Miller (front); Robin Rieffer (side)

**Welcome:**

7/01 Pam Horton

7/08 Tommy Horton

7/15 Kim Williams

7/22 Debbie Crane

7/29 Nona Robinson

**Worship Leader:**

7/01 Lisa Thrower

7/08 Pam Horton

7/15 Nona Robinson

7/22 Debbie Crane

7/29 Kellie Reese

**Acolyte:** Need Volunteer

**Computer & Sound Board:**

Eric Basham & Parker Vanslyke

**Pianist:**

7/01 Julie Rybolt

7/08 & 7/15 Kim Williams

7/22 Brandy Mouser

7/29 Kim Williams

**Special Music:**

7/01 Eric Basham

7/08 Tommy Horton

7/15 Jansen Williams

7/22 Larry Speight

7/29 Robin Rieffer

**Open/Close Church:**

Larry Thompson

**PRAYER LIST**— Kay Ables, David Adams, Reverend Tom Bass, Mary Ellen Blankenship, Bill & Dee Boesen, Carolyn Carroll, Maxine Daniel, Ginger Evans Dill, Shirley Edwards, Sue Waggoner-Flowers, Aaron Grobe, Marrine Grobe, Janet Hammock, Raydean Hendrix, Josephine Hueckel, Noreen Hyslop, Bonnie Logan, Elvena Martin, Betty & Bob Mayer, Lola Montgomery (sister-in-law of Carolyn Montgomery), Winnie Morgan, Diana Orr, Barb Owens, Angela Pope, Mae Pope (Mother of Debbie Wilson), Riley Marie Riddle (great granddaughter of Lottie McMullin); Betty Russell, Jerry Russell, Scott Russell, Emmett Stearns, Marty Thompson, Jerry Thrower, Pat Williams, Boyce Wooley, Danielle Wunderlich, Bonnie Yersak's son, Tyler

Our outreach project for July and August is for school supplies. Items needed are:

- |                     |                          |               |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| # 2 Pencils         | Folders with Pockets     | Large Erasers |
| Pencil Holders      | 70 Page Spiral Notebooks | Ink Pens      |
| Boxes of 10 Markers | Childs Metal Scissors    | Rulers        |
| Boxes of 24 Crayons |                          |               |

These items usually go on said in mid-July. We will be happy to shop for you if you desire.

Happy Shopping, Carrol

**Thank You!!!** It is hard to believe that the time has already come for me to temporarily say goodbye to everyone here in Dexter. Before I go, I want to say thank you once more for the amazing send off on Sunday. It meant so much to have Penny Ross-Corona with us and to have so many people take part in the laying on of hands. That is a moment that I will remember throughout my entire time in the desert.

That was not all, however. It seemed like everyone in the church, and then some, joined us at the parsonage for the farewell picnic. The weather held off and we had a great night. The final goodbyes were hard, but it makes it easier to know that so many people will be praying for Lily and I throughout the entire deployment. Thank you, especially, to everyone who helped with the picnic, and to all the good sports who joined in a delightfully gratuitous cheer of, "Go Cubs go!"

I love you all so much and am honored to be a small part of what God is doing in this congregation. You will all be in my prayers. Have a wonderful six months.

See you again very soon!!

Mike



**SHUT-IN OF THE MONTH**  
Winnie Morgan  
Bloomfield Living Center  
606 W. Missouri St.  
Bloomfield, MO 63825  
A visit, card or phone call would mean so much.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	<b>2</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>3</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	<b>9</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>10</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	<b>16</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>17</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba 7:00 Board Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	<b>23</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>24</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	<b>30</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba <b>VBS 5-8</b>	<b>31</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group <b>VBS 5-8</b>	<b>1</b>  <b>VBS 5-8</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00 p.m. Zumba <b>VBS 5-8</b>	 <b>VBS 5-8</b>	<b>4</b>