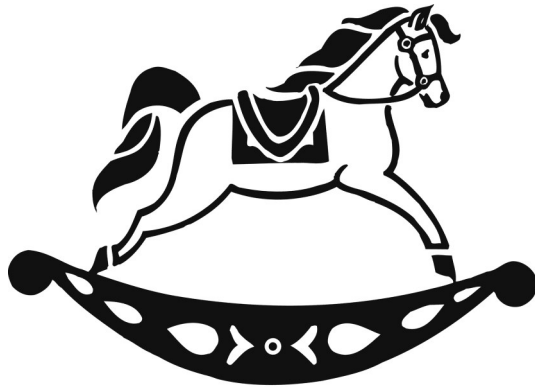




**WORSHIP IN
THE PARK
SUNDAY JULY 7
AT 9:00 A.M.**

Bring a lawn chair and come enjoy God's beauty at Boon Park on Sunday, July 7 at 9:00 a.m. We will have doughnuts and juice available.

**CHURCH
IN THE
PARK**



**NURSERY
Volunteers**

If you would be able to volunteer in the nursery during the month of August, please contact Candice Garner.

Special music is now being coordinated by Jansen Williams. If you would like to share with us one Sunday, please let her know.

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
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Kim Williams
Administrative Assistant
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224 E. Stoddard, P. O. Box 295
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June 25, 2019

The Pastor's Corner

This morning I was reminded that exactly one year ago I was finishing up my deployment preparations and preaching my final sermon in Dexter. We gathered at the parsonage on the last Sunday of June to say our goodbyes before I headed to Kuwait for what was simultaneously one of the most rewarding and exhausting experiences of my life. Even though the calendar assures me that this much time has passed, the fact of the matter is that to me it does not feel like it.

One of the weird parts of deployment is that it puts the individual in a bit of a time warp. The experience is so overwhelming that it feels like years of activity are squeezed into just a few days. At the same time, there were also stretches that are boring and frustrating. To make it even more confusing, life simply continues on for everyone else. What were huge changes for me were simply the incremental results of day to day events of life in Dexter.

Previous deployers had warned me about this phenomenon, but I will admit that it still caught me off guard. Even though I have now been home for four months, it feels like two. Arriving two days before Lent and walking through a difficult season where we lost several members of our congregation has made readjusting harder and slower than I had expected. It has felt like I have been constantly three steps behind. Throughout this time I have been incredibly grateful for the patience, flexibility, and prayers of this congregation.

Slowly, but surely, I am starting to feel like I am getting my feet back under me. With the start of summer I have been able to readjust and finally start to get ahead of sermon planning. Instead of constant emergency response, over the last few weeks I have finally had time to get back into the routine of regular pastoral care. Although I am not yet caught up with all the visitation I would like to do, I am appreciating the opportunity to spend more time with the shut in members of our church.

This return to normal church life is what I have most enjoyed about the summer so far. In June I saw once again the amazing ministry that is Feeding Christ's Children. This month we are going to have the opportunity to experience several other significant events. On Independence Day weekend we are once again going to celebrate the beauty of God's creation with worship in Boon Park. July 20-24 a delegation from Dexter will be attending the Disciples of Christ General Assembly in Des Moines. Finally, we will once again be partnering with First United Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School.

Summer does not have to be a break from church. It has many special and unique ways to get involved. I encourage you to take part in some of the special activities and worship services that are scheduled in the weeks ahead. I pray that this summer will allow you to feel as re-engaged and re-energized by what God is doing in our congregation as I have.

July

Serving Schedule

Elders: Debbie Crane & Jean Swinger

Diaconate: Debbie Crane & Susie Grobe (communion prep.); Ann Marie Long, Larry Thompson, Kenton Pope, Gary Williams

Greeters

6-30 Sue Christian & Volunteer
7-07 Jim & Yvonne Hall
7-14 Debbie Crane & Volunteer
7-21 & 7-28 Jim & Yvonne Hall

Welcome & Worship

Leader

6-30 Nona Robinson
7-07 Tommy Horton
7-14 Debbie Crane
7-21 Susie Grobe
7-28 Nona Robinson

Acolytes:

Need Volunteers

Computer/Sound:

Need Volunteers

Open/Close Church:

Need Volunteers

Special Music:

6-30 Eric Basham
7-14 Quinn Garner
7-21 Addie Kruse
7-28 ?

Nursery Attendant

7-14 Janice Barney
7-21 Pam & Tommy Horton
7-28 Yvonne Hall & Helper

(If you will not be able to serve on the Sunday listed, please find your replacement and notify the church office who will be serving in your place.)

PRAYER LIST— Bill & Dee Boesen, Carolyn Carroll, Mona Chilcutt, Caryl Clippard, Amanda Corbett, Maxine Daniel, Elizabeth Demaree, Angie Dugan, The Family of Shirley Edwards, Sue Waggoner-Flowers, Louise Francis, Nina Geary, Juanita Gossett, Lori Hawkins, Raydean Hendrix, Josephine Hueckel, Elvena Martin, Betty & Bob Mayer, Lottie McMullin, Brian Merritt, Carolyn Montgomery, Winnie Morgan, Diana Orr, Mae Pope, Betty & Randy Russell, Jim Russell, Scott Russell, Jerry Thrower, Lois Vaughn, Bonnie Yersak



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 28 – August 1

First United Methodist Church

5:30-8:00

(Meal Served at 5:00)

Our congregation will be serving the meal on Sunday, July 28, Tuesday, July 30 and the BBQ on the final night which is Thursday, August 1. Please talk to Carrol Russell or Kenny Pope if you are willing to help!



SHUT-IN OF THE MONTH

Maxine Daniel
Central Gardens
302 N. Elm, Room 107
Dexter, MO 63841
A visit, card or phone call would mean so much.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	1 6:00 Zumba	2 7:30 Delivery of Food Bags 8:00 Prayer Group	3	4 	5	6 <i>Gym Rental</i>
7 9:00 at Boon Park 	8 6:00 Zumba	9 8:00 Prayer Group	10	11 6:00 Zumba	12	13
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	15 6:00 Zumba	16 7:30 Delivery of Food Bags 8:00 Prayer Group	17 7:00 Board Meeting	18 6:00 Zumba	19	20
21 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	22 6:00 Zumba	23 8:00 Prayer Group	24	25 6:00 Zumba	26 <i>Gym Rental</i>	27
28 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 5-8 AT METHODIST CHURCH	29 6:00 Zumba	30 7:30 Delivery of Food Bags 8:00 Prayer Group	31	1 6:00 Zumba	2	3