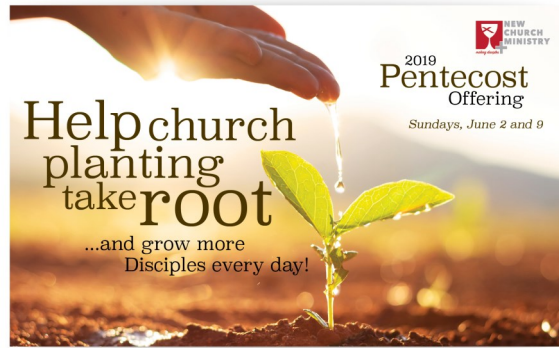


In the Mail ...

We want to express our heartfelt love and support from “our” church family. Mike, thank you for beautiful words and kind, compassionate thoughts. Kim, you are a pleasure. A very special thank you to all the members who helped with the meal. Great facility, good food, wonderful family in Christ!

Thanks so much,
The Family of Jim Smith



Don't forget to wear RED to church on Sunday, June 9 in observance of Pentecost Sunday!



**SAVE THE DATES!!
July 28—August 1**

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

Kim Williams
Administrative Assistant
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224 E. Stoddard, P. O. Box 295
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Mikes Cell No.: (573) 820-3712
May 29, 2019

The Pastor's Corner

On September 18, 2006 our congregation took a leap of faith when we borrowed \$450,000 to finance the construction of the Disciples Center. Plans were made. Designs were compared. Ground was broken in 2007. After months of effort on the part of many members of our congregation we were able to double the space that our church had for ministry, administration, and fellowship.

The amount of work that was put in defies explanation. Even though I was not here to see it firsthand, I have heard the stories of everyone who pitched in with planning, oversight, and decoration. It remains a defining era in the life of our congregation. I remain incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to making the new wing so beautiful and inviting.

Our congregation has changed a great deal since the time this project began. Despite his illness, Vaughn was still serving as our pastor. The generation of leadership that had guided our church through WWII, Korea, and Vietnam was still very much front and center. We had not yet remodeled the sanctuary or choir loft. Ministries like Feeding Christ's Children and Zumba were nowhere on the horizon. We struggled to host dinners and the Cookie Walk in a fellowship hall that had largely been outgrown.

Since that time things look very different. We have new people in our congregation. New generations of leaders have stepped in to fill gaps left by those who have moved or gone on to their heavenly home. The Disciples Center has allowed us to expand our ministry in new directions. We have been able to care for families in their moments of grief through funeral dinners. Funds have been raised for the Stoddard County Gospel Mission. Children have been fed. Fellowship has been by youth, seniors, and members of the community in ways that were made possible by the addition of the gym.

Despite all the changes in people, facilities, and ministries, one thing has remained consistent. This congregation has trusted God's guidance in sharing Christ's love with our community. We undertook a huge risk and it has paid off. We prayerfully stepped out in faith and trusted that God would provide the resources necessary. Throughout the past decade we have carefully made our payments and were on track to pay off our loan on schedule three years from now.

In the end God provided in a way that none of us could have expected. Earlier this spring we received an anonymous donation which allowed us to completely pay off the remaining balance on the building loan of \$29,744.14. The final check has been written and our congregation's liabilities have been reduced to zero. Please join me in giving thanks to God for this extravagant gift and pray that we might have wisdom and commitment to use this newfound freedom to follow the Holy Spirit into new and even more exciting forms of ministry in the years ahead.

**June
Serving Schedule**

Elders: Nona & John Robinson

Diaconate: Candice Garner (communion prep.); John Hunter, Lily Williams, Bob & Janice Barney, Brooklyn Staggs

Greeters
6-02 Debbie Crane & Volunteer
6-09 Sue Christian & Volunteer
6-16 Debbie Crane & Volunteer
6-23 Sue Christian & Volunteer
6-30 Sue Christian & Volunteer

Welcome & Worship

Leader

6-02 Debbie Crane
6-09 Susie Grobe
6-16 Debbie Crane
6-23 Jim Hall
6-30 Nona Robinson

Acolytes:

Need Volunteers

Computer/Sound:

Need Volunteers

Open/Close Church:

Need Volunteers

Special Music:

6-02 Robin Rieffer
6-09 Kellie Reese
6-16 ?
6-23 Tommy Horton
6-30 ?

(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, Charles Carrier, Carolyn Carroll, Mona Chilcutt, Carryl Clippard, Amanda Corbett, Family of Carolyn Corlew, 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, Brian Merritt, Carolyn Montgomery, Winnie Morgan, Diana Orr, Mae Pope, Jack Rodgers, Betty Russell, Jim Russell, Scott Russell, Linda Smith, Marty Thompson, Jerry Thrower, Lois Vaughn, Bonnie Yersak



We have a great bunch of volunteers to run the computer and sound board on Sunday mornings. However, during the summer months we some weeks need a little extra held. If you would be willing to help out either on the sound board or computer,

please let the church office now as we are working on setting up new training.

In planning worship for the summer months, if we do not have a volunteer to run the computer by Wednesday of each week, we will go with the sound board only that following Sunday.

Thanks to everyone who so willingly shares their time in this ministry of the church.



CHECK THE DATE!!

Please remember that throughout the year the calendar for the Disciple Center fills up fast! We have standing rentals that go on throughout the year along with birthday parties, family reunions, weddings, etc. Before planning any church or other activity that would require the use of the Disciple Center, please check with the church office for availability first. In some instances there are dates reserved up to a year in advance. How blessed we are to have such a beautiful facility to be utilized by our members and community.



SHUT-IN OF THE MONTH

Carolyn Montgomery
Cypress Point, Room 2
801 Bailiff Drive
Dexter, MO 63841
A visit, card or phone call would mean so much.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	3 6:00 Zumba	4 8:00 Prayer Group	5	6 6:00 Zumba	7	8 Gym Rental
9 PENTECOST 8:15 Elder's Meeting 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	10 6:00 Zumba	11 8:00 Prayer Group	12 6:00 Zumba	13 6:00 Pack Night for Summer Food Program	14	15
16 FATHERS DAY 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	17 6:00 Zumba	18 7:30 Delivery of Summer Food Bags 8:00 Prayer Group	19 6:00 Zumba	20 6:00 Pack Night for Summer Food Program	21	22
23 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	24 6:00 Zumba	25 8:00 Prayer Group	26 6:00 Zumba	27 6:00 Pack Night for Summer Food Program	28	29 Gym Rental
30 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	1 6:00 Zumba	2 8:00 Prayer Group	3	4 	5	6 Gym Rental