



On Sunday, May 6 we will be celebrating our two seniors, Addie Kruse and Sean Rybolt. There will be a breakfast honoring them at 9:00 a.m. in the Disciple Center. They will also be sharing with us during worship. We hope you will make plans to attend this special Sunday!



***Pentecost Special Offering May 20 & 27***

“Planting a church can make a huge and lasting impression in the community it serves,” says Terrell L. McTyer, minister of New Church Strategies and church planter. “By empowering the oppressed, praying for the disenfranchised, caring for the poor and promoting hope in a fragmented world, the church can literally help change the world,” he adds.

Each year, half of the Pentecost Offering is designated to the local Christian Disciples Region/Area in an effort to start and sustain new churches. The other half is used by Hope Partnership to support the recruitment, assessment, training and coaching of new church leaders at events like Leadership Academy.

Disciples are on course to starting 1,000 new churches by 2020.

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
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**THE CHRISTIAN CRIER  
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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*The Pastor's Corner*

On my last drill weekend, I received an email from the executive officer at my wing that simply said, "congratulations." There was no further information. Unsure of what I was being congratulated about I started to do some investigating. It turned out that the Air Force Reserve Command had seen fit to promote me to major effective immediately. Apparently, I was out of uniform while wearing the captain bars on my collar.

Although I had submitted my information to the promotion board to compete for a slot to move up, no results had yet been announced. Normally, a person's commander individually calls the promotee before the public release. In this case, the boss was away on a mission and therefore unable to make the announcement until his return. Additionally, because I was moving in to a vacancy slot with enough time in grade, my new rank was effective as soon as the notice came out.

All of this adds up to the fact that we are having a fairly short notice promotion ceremony at Scott Air Force Base next week on Saturday, May 5. The plan is to bring together the military, church, and family sides of my life for a time of celebration. Family from both Iowa and Missouri are going to make the trip. A dozen representatives of First Christian Church are going to join us. Lily and Larry Thompson will put on my new rank. Charles Kruse will administer my oath of office.

Even if you are not able to make the trip yourself, I want to say thank you for all the support that you have provided to me over the past several years. You have heard me say it before, but it bears repeating, the simple fact of the matter is that I could not do what I do without the flexibility, capability, and spiritual maturity of this congregation. When I leave for drill I am able to do so knowing that the ministry of the church is in good hands.

What is true for me on a drill weekend, is going to prove equally true during the six months of my deployment. Although we are going to spend a great deal of time apart, there is no doubt in my mind that God is going to be with all of us. The elders of the church are stepping up to take over pastoral care, coordinate preaching, and to administer the sacraments. Backup plans are in place to handle any emergencies which may arise. When I depart to the other side of the world, this church is going to carry being the body of Christ in this place.

This reality is why I am so eager to include the congregation in my celebration next week. You are a significant part of the reason that this promotion is happening. My chaplaincy service is truly a mission of this entire church. Thank you all for everything you have done and will continue to do in the years ahead.

**May Serving Schedule**

**Elders:** Kellie Reese & Larry Speight

**Deacons:** Mary Worley & Yvonne Hall (communion prep.), Rachel Cobb, Dallas Norman, Tommy Horton, Kenton Pope

**Greeters:** Mary Worley & Judy Rhodes

**Welcome:** 5/06 Debbie Ellinghouse

5/13 Pam Horton

5/20 Eric Basham

5/27 Carolyn Carrier

**Worship Leader:**

5/06 Angela Pope

5/13 Melanie Miller

5/20 Tommy Horton

5/27 Lisa Thrower

**Acolyte:** Need Volunteer

**Computer & Sound Board:**

Eric Basham & Parker Vanslyke

**Pianist:**

5/06 Julie Rybolt

5/13 Kim Williams

5/20 Kim Williams

5/27 Brandy Mouser

**Special Music:**

5/06 Addie & Sean

5/13 Tommy Horton

5/20 Andie Kruse

5/27 Joyful Noise

**Open/Close Church:**

Jon Thompson

*(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**— 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, Janet Hammock, Friend of Eric & Sandra Basham, Jess Hardin upon death of her aunt, Raydean Hendrix, Josephine Hueckel, Noreen Hyslop, Debbie Lewis, Bonnie Logan, Elvena Martin, Betty & Bob Mayer, Lola Montgomery (sister-in-law of Carolyn Montgomery), Winnie Morgan, Diana Orr, Barb Owens, Mae Pope (Mother of Debbie Wilson), Friends and Family of Adam Pixley, Betty Russell, Scott Russell, Friends and Family of David Swindell, Marty Thompson, Jerry Thrower, Marsha and Pat Williams, Danielle Wunderlich, Bonnie Yersak's son, Tyler

*Shawn and Shannon Wright and their families would like to invite you to celebrate the retirement of their mother, Nancy, for 25 years of service at Dexter Schools. Dexter CTA will have a Retirement Tea on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the BEC lobby for all 2017-2018 school retirees.*



During May and June, Outreach will be collecting items for “baby bundles”. This will give you 2 months to purchase the following items for our precious babies: receiving blankets, sweaters or sweatshirts, sleepers, onesies, and disposable diapers. All items except diapers (of course) may be “gently” used. These will then be put together by the Outreach Committee into complete packs that will be distributed this Fall at the ShareFest to charities in our area. As usual, we will be happy to shop for you. Thanks for your participation.



**SHUT-IN OF THE MONTH**  
Lois Vaughn  
13655 Chad Drive  
Dexter, MO 63841  
A visit, card or phone call would mean so much.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 8:00 Prayer Group	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> ★NATIONAL★ DAY of PRAYER  12:00 at City Hall 6:00 Zumba	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Mike's Promotion Ceremony at Scott Air Force Base
<b>6</b> 9:00 Senior Breakfast 10:00 Worship Service	<b>7</b> 11:30 CWF Meeting at Airway's 6:00 Zumba	<b>8</b> 8:00 Prayer Group	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:00 Zumba	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:15 Elders Meet 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service 	<b>14</b> 6:00 Zumba	<b>15</b> 8:00 Prayer Group	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00 Zumba 6:15 Cabinet Meeting 7:00 Board Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service 5:00-7:30 End of Year Youth BBQ at the Parsonage	<b>21</b> 6:00 Zumba	<b>22</b> 8:00 Prayer Group  6:00 Ladies Meeting at Morina's	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 Zumba	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> 8:00 Prayer Group	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00 Zumba	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>