

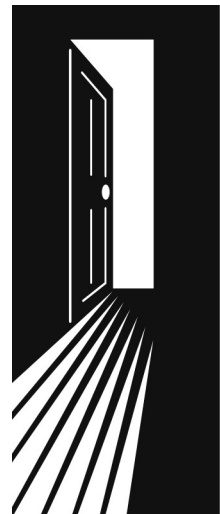


The Stoddard County Children's Home has an opening for a house parent. The house parent would have their own apartment that is provided in addition to their pay. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this position, please contact Susie Grobe.

HELP US MAKE A DECISION!!! The original plans were for the annual Kettle Beef Dinner to be held on Sunday, October 18 this year.

We know that having dine in is not possible this year due to the pandemic. However, several have discussed the possibility of having it drive-thru only with pick ups in the alley as usual and also under the canopy. Our food service rep thinks this would be a great idea since carry-outs are so popular right now.

Please share your thoughts on whether or not you think this would work with either Kim or Debbie Crane. Also, if the decision is made to have it, we need to have firm commitments from those who would be willing to volunteer their time for preparations ahead of time and working the day of the dinner. We can only do this if we have enough commitments!



Do not grumble against one another...

**BEHOLD,
the Judge
is standing at
the DOOR.**

JAMES 5:9, ESV

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
E-mail: kimdoc@sbcglobal.net

224 E. Stoddard, P. O. Box 295
Dexter, MO 63841
Web Page: www.fccdexter.org
Office: (573) 624-4341
Mikes Cell No.: (573) 820-3712
September 2, 2020

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Last week marked the beginning of the fall semester. In our congregation we are blessed with teachers, administrators, staff, and students in four different area school districts and several regional colleges and universities. The start of school is different this year because we are operating under stringent COVID-19 constraints. Educators and pupils are wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and making contingency plans in case infection rates get worse.

One of the challenges facing schools nationwide this year has been the extreme shortage of substitute teachers. Retired teachers are in the high risk age category, and this year fewer younger people are willing to take the risk of being in the classroom. During the Stoddard County health department's weekly phone-in meetings, some area superintendents expressed concern that in-person classes might become impossible if multiple full-time teachers were to be quarantined at the same time.

We just do not have a deep enough bench of substitute teachers for current conditions. This is why last week I asked the church board if they would be willing to support me making myself available one day a week (either Monday or Friday) to substitute in Dexter schools if needed during this semester. The board offered their support of my request. I have completed the DESE substitute teacher application, submitted my transcripts, and am awaiting the results of my background check.

This is definitely not a vocational change for me. My congregational duties will continue to take precedence. Pastoral appointments and meetings will preclude accepting a teaching assignment. Part of what is making this possible for my schedule is that I am currently on temporary leave from the Air Force Reserve. As most of you know, I have been struggling with some physical and emotional injuries from my deployment. For the next few months I will not be participating in drill weekends while I await the results of a medical evaluation board. While that process is ongoing, it is my hope to use some of that extra time to give back to our community in another way.

It is my belief that God has given us each gifts that we can use in service to the world around us. Education was my first career out of college. What experiences or talents do you bring to the table? In our congregation people with a passion for good governance volunteer as election officials. Others use their interest in sports to coach little league teams. Still others get involved in civic groups, charities, or social causes they believe in. What is Jesus calling you to do during this difficult time for our community and our world? Is there something that your church can do to support your idea? Let us know. We would love to equip you to follow the Holy Spirit's leading for your life.

September Serving Schedule

Elders: Eddie Pope & Kellie Reese
Diaconate: Lily Williams & Kristi Booker (communion prep.), Mark Booker, Mark Becker
Greeter Sue Christian
Welcome & Worship Leader

9-06 Lily Williams
 9-13 Kristi Booker
 9-20 Kellie Reese
 9-27 Debbie Ellinghouse
Acolytes, Computer/Sound, Open/Close Church: Need Volunteers

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

PRAYER LIST— Iva Jean Bay, Bill & Dee Boesen, Mona Chilcutt, Amanda Corbett, Kathleen Dover, Sue Waggoner-Flowers, Louise Francis, Nina Geary, Juanita Gossett, Lori Hawkins, Raydean Hendrix, Noreen Hyslop, Elvena Martin, Karyl & Wendell Minson, Mildred Miller, Carolyn Montgomery, Ron Morgan, Lori Noyes, Darryl & Diana Orr, Olivia Pind, Jim Russell, Scott Russell, Gayla Smith, Lucy Thornton, Pastor Mike Williams' Father, Dave Yates, Friend of Kristi Booker (kidney transplant), Bonnie Yersak and her son, Tyler

Dear First Christian Church, Our family greatly appreciates the outpouring of love and support shown to us these past months of Daddy Bob's illness with COVID 19 and his passing. Thank you, too, for the kind donation given to Feeding Christ's Children program in his memory. All our love, Susan, Betty and Family

OUTREACH NEWS— We are starting our third and last kit for the year. Our family food boxes are more important this year than ever, due to the virus. Needed are:

- Cans of vegetables
- Cans of fruit
- Cans of chicken
- Cans of tuna
- Cans of pasta sauce
- 1 pound packages of pasta
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Jars of peanut butter

Bring any or all of these items no later than Sunday, September 20. We will also shop for you if needed. The approximate cost per box is \$28. Thanks for all you do to help.

Carrol Russell



Here are the different ways you can continue to support the church during this time: **Go to our website at www.fccdexter.org and scroll down and you will see a link for Online Giving. Click on that link and you will be walked through the process.

** Or from your cellphone text 8449151254 and in the message box put the amount of your giving (i.e. 5.00) and send the text. You will receive a link back to complete your transaction and the church will receive an e-mail notifying them of your gift.

** Or, you may mail your giving to First Christian Church, P. O. Box 295, Dexter MO 63841



If you are not available to join us in person for worship, you can go to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/fccdexter> and connect through the live stream.



SHUT-IN OF THE MONTH
 Wes Eskew
 Central Gardens
 302 N. Elm, Room 307
 Dexter, MO 63841
 A visit, card or phone call would mean so much.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 6:00 Zumba	4	5
6 10:00 Worship	7 	8	9	10 6:00 Zumba	11	12
13 10:00 Worship	14 6:00 Zumba	15	16	17 6:00 Zumba 7:00 Board Meeting	18	19
20 10:00 Worship	21 6:00 Zumba	22 9:00 Prayer Group	23	24 6:00 Zumba	25	26
27 10:00 Worship	28 6:00 Zumba	29 9:00 Prayer Group	30	1 6:00 Zumba	2	3