

## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

602 North First Street  
P O Box 865  
Louisburg, KS. 66053



February  
2021

The First Christian Church Caller  
Church phone / fax: 913.837.4760 e-mail: [churchoffice@fclouisburgks.org](mailto:churchoffice@fclouisburgks.org) —  
[www.fclouisburgks.org](http://www.fclouisburgks.org) Facebook.com/fclouisburgks

Dear Church,

The season of Lent is soon upon us! Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17th and runs until Easter on April 4th. During this time, I'll be preaching a series of sermons based around the theme "echoing the way of Jesus." Why focus on this? I've been thinking over how Lent was celebrated in the early church and how we can benefit from their example.

The early church summed up the purpose of a three-year process for preparing people for baptism with the term catechesis. It culminated in a very intensive final stretch of the third year during Lent. The word catechesis for many Christians today has lost this context and become more associated with another word, "catechism." Many think "a catechism" is a list of answers one is supposed to memorize in response to a series of questions about Christian teaching. Others may be more familiar with the term "confirmation," used to summarize a series of classes and/or retreats leading up to Christians publicly confirming their faith after their baptism.

All of these uses do not get at what the word catechesis actually intends. Catechesis comes from two Greek words, "kata" and "akouw," which together literally mean something like "to listen alongside." We also get our word "echo" from the word "akouw." This is the sense behind the early Christian usage of the word catechesis. It's the process by which the church comes "alongside" us to help us learn how our lives can become a "living echo" of Jesus. Catechesis and the forty days of Lent were particularly about helping people learn how to live the way of Jesus. These forty days were barely about doctrine.

In this spirit, I believe we will greatly benefit from the same practice of focusing on being living echos of Jesus. How will we do this? We'll be exploring the Gospel Lectionary texts and asking the questions: How does this help us come alongside Jesus to better follow him? What practices are we encouraged to follow so that we may be living echos of Jesus?

I look forward to being on this journey with you.

*Prayer is an important part of our congregational life. If you have an update for prayers and praises, please contact the church office 837-4760 or email: [Churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org](mailto:Churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org)*

**FIGHTING CANCER** Janet Whitmer; Tom & Linda Reppell; Julia's friend, Emily Albright; Mary Schaumburg's brother, Bob Fleming; Jim & Debbie Melvin; Susan Ewing's daughter, Melinda Dragush

**Remember our shut-in friends:** Winona Hornbuckle; Myrtle Lee Reed; Anna McConnell; Peg Irwin and Bill & Reno Shaffer.

**PRAYERS** Sue's granddaughter, **Jordan**; Bill's brother and family; family of Carol Keffer as she passed away December 30; Art's daughter; our country and our leaders; **Don & Christina Ward family**; Jean Mowen's friend **Lori Bailey** also friend **Bonnie Blanton** and cousin **Mary Jo Boryla**; Sandy's niece's friend, **Camilla** passed away; Julia's sister, **Bethany**; Jackie's sister; Myrtle Lee prayers for all that are sick with Covid and our nation; **Bill & Reno Shaffer**; Justin's friend, **Tecia's** mother passed; Mary Schaumburg's neighbor, Kenny McGeorge passed away; **Nick Jones and family** struggling; Bill Shaffer's friend, **Lloyd** passed; Bills brother, **Ardeene** taken to hospital January 18; **Pastor James Real**; Justin's friend, Bob Doran passed away and pray for his family; Nancy Hart Kline prayers that our local and Federal governments figure out how to not only increase the availability of Covid vaccines, but also actually figure a way to get people signed up that works; Jill Niebrugge's mother; **Alan Niebrugge**; Mary Lou Kelly's mother-in-law; **Liam Marr's** husband Kirby passed; **Matthew O'Connell family** as he passed; Betty Brown's cousin, **Larry**; Julia's friend **Emily Albright**;

**PRAISES** Paul and Brenda blessed with a new granddaughter; Joan's sister **Kathy** doing well; **Bill & Reno** thankful to be getting the Covid shot; Jackie's nephew got married; Sue's granddaughter, **Jordan** went back to work after having the virus; Julia's sister, **Bethany** recovering from Covid; **Bill Shaffer** doing better; **Dean Eslinger** celebrated anniversary of his surgery; **Peg Irwin** got first Covid shot and thankful for all the birthday cards she received;

**CONCERNS** **Jim & Debbie Melvin**; **Asher family**; prayers for church board; **Betty Reed**; our Nation; our church family; **Dixie Forney**; **Ruthie Boles**; all of our missionaries, the **Pronins**, **Barkers & McKnights**; **John Barker**; **Bob Jester**; Joe Shaffer's daughter, **Lesley**; **Pastor Justin**; **Youth Ministry**; residents at Vintage Park and Louisburg Health & Rehab; **Marilee Barker** and her family also all those who give care!

We are accepting donations for **Blessings in a Backpack**

We need single serving non-perishable food items. For example tuna packets, granola bars, Mac and cheese etc. For more information email [churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org](mailto:churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org)

Serving In February

Elder

Offering & Communion

10:30am— Jim Ward

**Church Board Officers  
For 2021**

**Board Chair** David Dellinger

**Vice-Chair**

**Secretary** Brandon Stecklein

**Treasurer** Raymond McLanahan

**Treasurer Asst.** Dean Eslinger

**Financial Secretary**

Jill Niebrugge

**Deacon Co Chairs**

Chris Niebrugge &

Greg Armstrong

**Elder Chair** Rotates monthly

**Trustee Chair** Betty Brown

**Education Committee**

**Chair** Kate Stecklein

**Pastoral & Personnel Relations**

**Chair** Alan Niebrugge

**Property Chair** Jim Ward

**Worship Chair** Jackie Dellinger

**Outreach Chair**

Dan & Karen Cook

**Historian** Karla Dennis



If your birthday does not appear on our list and you would like it to, please send your birth date, **only day and month**, to Jean at the church office, or call 837-4760. Also, please let us know if we have made an error in recording your birthday.

**Birthdays  
February**

2 Alex Cook

6 Karen Lien

7 Chris Cook

John Cleek

8 Alan Niebrugge

9 Acacia Brueggen

11 Jennifer Leikam

12 Samantha

Mowen

14 George Reed

19 Kayleigh

Kohlenberg

22 Dixie Forney

Donna Cook

25 Glenn Raines

Tanya Whitmer-

Young

27 Russ Whitmer





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**Worship on snow days...**  
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Our Church Board has often affirmed the intention of the church to provide a worship experience even on days when there is snow on the ground and driving is tricky. Our intention remains the same.

If our community has lost power and there is no power at the church for lights and heat, only then will we cancel worship for the day.

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Join us for Bible Study Thur. 10am  
and Sunday School at 9am

<https://zoom.us/j/808946274>  
Meeting ID: 808 946 274

**Online Sunday School**

**Adult Sunday School Classes** on Zoom  
Sunday Mornings @ 9am

**Older Children:** Don Aye is holding  
Zoom Sunday School on **Sunday morn-  
ing at 9am.** Contact the church office  
for more information.

**Young Children:** To watch videos for  
Children's Wonder and Worship (in place  
of Sunday School), please visit the Fam-  
ilies and Children DHM YouTube  
channel.

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCL10TN4Jh\\_3Pa0wEGXTeFSg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL10TN4Jh_3Pa0wEGXTeFSg)

Sympathy is extended to the family of Carol Keffer as she was killed in a car accident on December 30 in Texas where she was currently living.



Live streaming on Sundays @ 10:30am  
Watch recordings of 10:30 am worship  
Subscribe and click on the bell for notifications

[www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCcmalyRQbVlgryyYU6U9Yzg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcmalyRQbVlgryyYU6U9Yzg)

Would you like a  
phone call from  
Justin or one of  
our church Elders?



Or maybe a visit from  
one of them?

Contact our church  
office:

phone 837-4760 or

email [churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org](mailto:churchoffice@fcclouisburgks.org)

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Our next newsletter will be published the week of **February 21**

Please have items into the church office no later than **Friday, February 19**

The **Church Board** meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

**The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, February 18 — 7 p.m.**

**Virtual Women's Ministry Spring Retreat - March 11, 12, 13**

Keynote speaker will be Rev. Melissa Strong. The theme is "It is Well With my Soul".

Registration deadline is **Friday, February 19** to confirm your ontime Retreat packet arrival.

Cost is \$20.00 A portion of your registration fee will be sent to Tall Oaks in lieu of us being there.

Register at [KCDisciples.org](http://KCDisciples.org) or mail payment to [GKC Regional Office, 9401 Johnson Dr., Shawnee, KS. 66203](http://GKC Regional Office, 9401 Johnson Dr., Shawnee, KS. 66203).



**Follow us on Social Media**

Facebook: [@fcclouisburgks](https://www.facebook.com/fcclouisburgks)

Instagram: [@fcclouisburgks](https://www.instagram.com/fcclouisburgks)

Twitter: [@fcclouisburgks](https://twitter.com/fcclouisburgks)

Weekly Bible Study

Thursday mornings on Zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/808946274>

Meeting ID:

808 946 274

9:30am Fellowship

10:00am Bible Study



**Pastor Justin Schwartz**

[pastor@fcclouisburgks.org](mailto:pastor@fcclouisburgks.org)

Cell: 913-837-5666

Church Office: 913-837-4760

For God   
SO LOVED THE WORLD  
THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONLY   
BEGOTTEN   
SON SO   
THAT WHOEVER  
BELIEVES  
IN HIM SHALL  
HAVE EVERLASTING  
Life 

*Happy Valentine Day*