

The CHRISTIAN



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ) Visitor

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

We hope that you will join us for worship and fellowship during Holy Week. We have been on this Lenten journey together, marking the final days of Jesus' ministry and life. The children of FCC learn that *Lent is the time we get ready to celebrate the mystery of Easter*. As we prepare, consider joining us for the following Holy Week worship opportunities.

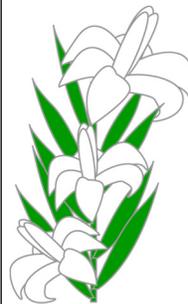
Palm Sunday (April 9) Our Children will lead us in worship at 10:00 am with a palm procession. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, days before he died on the cross.

Maundy Thursday (April 13) Join us at 7:00 pm for worship as we reflect on the events of Christ's Passion as related in the Gospel of Matthew beginning with the Institution of the Lord's Supper. Scripture readings will alternate with music from the ancient traditions of mystical music for Holy Week sung by FCC's Sanctuary Choir, congregational hymns and Taizé responses, prayers, and time for silent meditation.

Good Friday (April 14) We will join our friends at First United Methodist Church,

First Presbyterian Church, and First United Church for worship on Good Friday. The service will begin at 12:05 pm at First United Church located at 2420 E 3rd Street.

Easter Sunday (April 16) Christ is Risen! Join us at 10:00 am as we worship and celebrate with special music from our Sanctuary Choir. The celebration will continue after worship on FCC's lawn with our annual Easter Egg Hunt. FCC's Youth Group will be busy filling oodles of eggs with all sorts of sweet confections for children to hunt! Be sure to bring your basket!



*It's time to order your
Easter Lilies!*

We are now taking orders for Easter Lilies to adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The Lilies are \$12 each. A sign-up sheet can be found in the front office at the reception desk. Payment must be made at the time of the order.

PASTOR'S PEN

A few observations and questions

I attended two "back-to-back" community events on Tuesday evening. The first was a lecture by author, scholar, and Washington Post columnist E.J. Dionne, held at Franklin Hall, just inside Sample Gates. The second was Bloomington's "Be More" Awards Ceremony, which took place at the Buskirk Chumley Theater, and where our own Janet Schell was recognized for her volunteer work with Teachers Warehouse. While both events were both interesting and inspiring, I was most struck by three things: 1) the people who attended each event, 2) the people I passed on Kirkwood Avenue as I walked to and from the events, 3) the people I didn't see at either event.

At the IU sponsored lecture, Bruce and I were among the sea of gray-haired educated progressives who read the Sunday editorial pages religiously and who may fancy themselves as having the best answers to the world's most pressing problems. I didn't see students. I didn't see anyone of any color other than white. Nor did I see anyone from our congregation. I wondered how many of the folks in attendance were people of faith, active in their congregations.

At the City sponsored event, I was among a sea of folks of varying ages, skin colors, and fashion choices who offer countless hours of volunteer service to this community. I didn't see students. Nor (with the exception of Janet and her nominator Sue and Doug Cull) did I see anyone from our congregation. Again, I wondered how many of the folks in attendance

were people of faith, active in their congregations.

Along Kirkwood Avenue, I noticed the most diversity in the people I passed: a diverse mixture of ages and "life stages," economic status, and skin (and hair!) colors. Along this route, I saw a good number of students. I didn't see anyone from our congregation. Once more, I wondered how many of the folks walking along Kirkwood were people of faith, active in their congregations.

As I walked back to my car at the end of the evening, I wondered what an early spring evening on Kirkwood will look like five years from now when FCC's sanctuary doors will be open at times other than Sunday morning? Who will enter? What will they be looking for? What will they be wanting/needing to hear and experience? What will they look like? How old will they be? Will members of our own congregation be among them?

I can't answer these questions, but I do know this: Those who enter our sanctuary will receive a welcome. They will be surrounded by beauty. They will be held by peace. They will be lifted up by a sense of wonder. They will be in a place and space that was created to share and celebrate the mystery of God's love made known through Christ. They will give thanks! And, perhaps they will be transformed by their experience of the holy. And so will we!

See you Sunday!

Pastor Helen



Handel, Habitat, and Hallelujah

Messiah Sing-Along to Benefit the Habitat Build
Palm Sunday at 3:00 pm - St. Mark's Methodist Church

Begin Holy Week and help the Habitat Build by attending the **Bloomington Chamber Singers Spring Messiah Sing-Along** on Palm Sunday afternoon, April 9 at 3:00 pm held at St. Mark's Methodist Church. Instead of the Christmas section, the sing-along will cover the sections of Handel's *Messiah* that deal with the Passion and Redemption of Christ (Parts 2 and 3). The Chamber Singers invite everyone to come and participate in this FREE event. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the 2017 Interfaith COMMUNITY Habitat for Humanity Build. Singers should bring their own scores; a limited number will be available for purchase or loan at the door. Everyone who wishes to sing can join us for the many choruses; soloists chosen from BCS will sing the recitatives and the arias.

So come out and sing, OR just come and listen and prepare for Holy Week while supporting our Community Habitat Build.

PS – Two of our Sanctuary Choir members – Patti Parkes and Michaela Chybowski are also members of the Bloomington Chamber Singers!

Made to Create!

The *Made to Create!* spirituality and art class to be lead by Bess Lee and Helen Hempfling has filled to capacity! Those of you lucky enough to have reserved a spot (they went lightning fast) make sure you have picked up a supply list on the reception desk. Bring this list to Pygmalion Art store for a discount. You will be receiving an email in a couple of weeks with additional details.

Please let us know if you missed the opportunity, but are still interested in this class. We will start a "wait list" for this session and hope to have additional sessions in the future.

Lent This Week

Opportunity House: Gently Used Clothing & Housewares

We are supporting several causes during Lent, including MCUM, Opportunity House, and the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith CommUNITY Build. This week we are concentrating on donations for Opportunity House, a non-profit resale shop serving Monroe County since 1968.

Please consider bringing a donation of gently worn clothing and gently used housewares. Now that Spring is officially here, it's the perfect time to clear out those closets and cabinets!

A collection box is located on a table in the Chapel Gathering Space.

Help Us Reach Our Fundraising Goal for the CommUNITY Interfaith Build!

FCC volunteers are preparing for this weekend's kick off blitz, framing the Diaz family's home!

So far, we have raised just over half of the our goal of \$5,000 to make this build happen!

You can donate to FCC's campaign online by going to FCC's website, www.fccbloom.org, and clicking on the blue and green *CommUnity Interfaith Build* logo. That will take you to the FCC web page to donate. **You can also write a check** and place it in the offering tray on Sunday or bring it by the church office. Checks should be made out to First Christian Church with "Habitat Build" on the memo line.

Thank you for supporting FCC's sponsorship of this great event!



FCC's Youth get to work (and play!)

FCC's newly reorganized Youth Group met for the second time on March 26 with the goal of taking the next step by writing their own "covenant." Lively discussion (lots of laughing could be heard for blocks) resulted in an amazing agreement to work toward learning about faith and spirituality; supporting one another, our church community and those outside FCC and having fun!

They are really good at having fun! Following a time of discussion and a home cooked meal, the group launched into fun (which included Apples to Apples and more). The group will meet next at FCC on Palm Sunday (April 9) at 4:00pm to fill eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Meeting dates through the school year are: April 9, April 23, May 7 & May 21. For more information call the church office. Join us!



FCC's Youth to Attend 2017 Spring Youth Assembly

Youth from FCC are planning to attend this year's Spring Assembly the weekend of April 28-30 at the Geneva Center in Rochester, Indiana. This year's theme will introduce the General Assembly theme "ONE" from John 17:-20-21a which says, "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one."

The keynote leader will be Rev. Julian Deshazier, Sr. Pastor at University Church in Chicago. Rev. Deshazier has worked extensively with teens and is also an award-winning hip hop musician and songwriter known to many as "J.Kwest."

Registration can be done online at indianadisciples.org.

Future Story Marketplace Success!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Future Story Marketplace following worship on March 26. The energy in the Chapel Gathering Space was electric!

Group Leaders provided information on their committee to all and teams are now forming. We have three committees that you can join:

CORNERSTONE TEAM: MIKE AND SANDY RAMPLEY — To enhance our building to best serve a diverse schedule of ministries on the corner of Kirkwood and Washington.

EVENTS TEAM: SUE CULL — To enhance our events and services, including parking, and to better utilize our physical space.

AVENUES TEAM: AMY HOOVER — To enhance our spiritual connections through small groups, worship, and the Xplor resident program.

Copies of The Future Story can be found on the Reception Desk.



Sunday, April 30

Monroe County Convention Center

Doors will open at 12 pm for silent auction browsing. The formal program, **featuring a special announcement**, will begin at 12:30.

Tickets on Sale Now!

\$28 / Adult

\$15 / Child Under 12

\$200 / Table of 8

Prices increase April 1

MCUM.ORG/SPRINGLUNCHEON

Be sure to include the group "First Christian Church" after you pay for your ticket online. Contact Janet Schell or the church office for more information.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful organization!



Congratulations are in order for two FCC families as we give thanks to God for the birth of two precious babies!

Proud parents Parker and Tiffani Sinn Trulock welcomed **Lindy Ann Trulock** to the world on February 20. Grandparents Lynn and Charlie Sinn and older siblings Lilly, Lucas, and Lincoln are thrilled.

Congratulations to Natalie and Mike Lin on the arrival of **Audrey Caroline** on March 20 in Carmel. Grandparents, Brenda and Carey Ogborn and big brother, Connor are elated.

April Birthdays

04/01	Anne	Johnson	708 S. Cory Lane #76	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/02	Joe	Parrott	543 Green Road	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/03	Jude	Walsh	3006 S. Olcott Blvd.	Bloomington	IN	47401
04/05	David	Garshaw	3740 N. Russell Road	Bloomington	IN	47408
04/05	Allison	Donham	5900 N. Maple Grove Rd.	Bloomington	IN	47404
04/06	Craig	Paiement	260 S. Lori Lane	Bloomington	IN	47401
04/07	Wayne	Johnson	41212 N Prestancia Dr., Anthem Country Club	Anthem	AZ	85086
04/08	Connie	Gross	3485 S. Knightridge Road	Bloomington	IN	47401
04/10	David	Campbell	507 E. Woodridge Drive	Bloomington	IN	47408
04/11	Lily	Hoover	3605 W. Cockrell Road	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/11	Chip	Johnson	708 S. Cory Lane #76	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/12	Andrea	Fletcher	5678 W. Vinca Lane	Ellettsville	IN	47429
04/14	Mike	Griffin	3830 Woodhaven Drive	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/16	Kathy	Street	4153 Hector Drive	Bloomington	IN	47408
04/20	Tiffani	Sinn Trulock	901 Orchard Drive	Newburgh	IN	47630
04/23	Danielle	Murry-Knowles	3210 S. Walnut Springs Dr.	Bloomington	IN	47401
04/26	Fred	Matthews	7263 S Burch Rd	Bloomington	IN	47403
04/28	Haley	Norris	3194 N. Dahlia Lane	Bloomington	IN	47404
04/28	Lesley	Bolton	8841 S. Morning Glory Ct.	Bloomington	IN	47401
04/30	Mary Beth	Godsey	3403 N. Smith Pike	Bloomington	IN	47404
04/30	Chaz	Sinn	2743 E. Buttonwood Lane	Bloomington	IN	47401

If we have missed someone's birthday, please notify the church office to let us know.

Candy Needed for FCC’s Annual

Easter Egg Hunt! It takes A LOT of candy for a successful Easter Egg Hunt, and we are known for our spectacularly filled eggs! Please, bring bags of candy to church by April 9. Our Youth Group will be filling eggs following worship on Palm Sunday. *Please, make sure the candy does NOT contain nuts!* We have some who are allergic and want to be sure it’s a safe egg hunt for all!



Communion Prep Help Needed

Thank you to all who have signed up to help with communion prep and clean up! We have filled all of the slots through May, but we still need help for the rest of the year. Please call the church office if you are interested in helping us fill the calendar through 2017.

Thank you!



MCUM Challenge

**2017 Goal: 2,000 lbs.
Amount Donated: 642 lbs.
Last Trip: 86 lbs.**

March Items Wanted:

canned tuna, chicken, canned fruit,
canned soups, laundry detergent,
all-purpose cleaner, dish soap

*Thank you for showing how much
you care.*

UPCOMING EVENTS...

April 2

10:00 am Worship
12:00 pm Board Meeting

April 3

7:00 pm Women’s Arts & Crafts

April 6

5:30 pm Handbell choir rehearsal
6:15 pm Sanctuary choir rehearsal

April 7

5:30 pm Listening to God meditation

April 9 (Palm Sunday)

10:00 am Sunday worship (Deadline
to order Easter Liles)
4:00 Youth Group (at FCC)

April 13

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday worship
service at FCC

April 14

12:05 pm Good Friday worship
service at First United Church

April 16 (Easter Sunday)

10:00 am Worship
11:15 Easter Egg Hunt on the Lawn



Easter Offering received on April 16

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
205 E. Kirkwood Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47408

812-332-4459
fcc@fccbloom.org
www.fccbloom.org
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Coffee Fellowship Treat Schedule

*Don't Forget to
Bring Goodies!*

April 2: Womens Book Bunch &
Men's Book Group

April 9: Sanctuary Choir & Handbell
Choir

**Scripture Readings
for Sunday Worship**

April 2
Matthew 25:1-13

April 9
Matthew 25:31-46

April 16
Matthew 28:1-10