

The CHRISTIAN



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ) Visitor

FCC's Preaching Talent Pool is Deep

Summer Sermons to Include Messages from Minister-Members

It can be a challenge for some congregations to fill the pulpit while the pastor is away. FCC does not have this problem! We are very fortunate to have within our congregation many members who are also ministers. This summer we will have the opportunity to hear from three of these talented preachers.

Rev. Linda Abe grew up in Indianapolis where both of her parents worked for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She served as a missionary in Hirosaki, Japan from 1977-1984 where she taught English in a Christian girls school and college. In 1978 she married Koji Abe in Tokyo, whom she met in New York. Upon returning from Japan, Linda completed studies toward a Masters and Doctorate in Applied Linguistics at IU. She and Koji began attending FCC. In 2000, she began work toward a Masters of Divinity at Christian Theological Seminary (CTS) in Indianapolis. In 2004, she was ordained at FCC where she serves as our Wedding Minister. On July 8, Rev. Abe will deliver a message on a Psalm that is familiar to many, Psalm 46.

Rev. Dr. David Presley attended seminary at Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University in Ft. Worth, Texas. There he met and married Linda, also a minister. They were called as co-pastors to the first and last (full-time) churches of their careers. They are both now retired. David earned a Th.D. in Christianity and the Arts from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. He has also taught as an adjunct professor of Worship and Church Music at CTS. He characterizes himself as a thorough-going Disciple and seeks out places with many choices and opportunities and with a commitment to diversity. Rev. Dr Presley will preach at FCC on July 15.

Rev. Heather Godsey has spent over 15 years in ecumenical campus ministry. She recently finished her tenure as Program Director for the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. During this time, she has also acted as interim pastor at First Christian Church, Oak Ridge, TN and The Table Christian Church in Knoxville. Heather grew up at FCC and credits Kate Kroll with every Bible story she ever memorized. She preached her first sermon at an Easter Sunrise service in the Chapel before it's renovation. Her Grandmother insisted that she attend the 8:30am service, a dictate she fought and lost, but the candy doled out by the other worshippers kept her from outright hari-kari. Having been so well-loved at FCC, Heather imagines that the congregation at the time held a secret meeting and plotted how to strategically raise a minister. She is quite grateful. Heather will preach at FCC on July 22.

Volume 60, number 12 June 14, 2018

PASTOR'S PEN
A Time for Reflection and Renewal

As you read this article, I am on retreat, where my main goal is renewal. We are fortunate to have friends who are letting us use their retreat home in Brown County, where there is no internet, Wi-Fi, TV, and limited cell phone coverage. My mornings will be spent praying with and reflecting on the Psalms, as I practice the spiritual disciplines of journaling, painting, *lectio divina*, and walking. Afternoons will be spent doing some catching up on some of my reading, including *The Book of Joy*, by the Dalia Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and *For the Beauty of the Church: Casting a Vision for the Arts*, by W. David O. Taylor, and several issues of *The Christian Century*. Evenings will be spent relaxing over dinner with Bruce (who will have been doing his own "thing" in another room during the day), taking evening strolls, reading a novel, and engaging in friendly yet competitive games of cribbage.

I am grateful that my Letter of Call includes two weeks of renewal each year, as well as a three month renewal time every seven years. You all *really* know how to make sure that your pastor takes care of herself, and I am grateful! Thank you!

While I am on retreat, our "own" clergy members, staff, and elders, will be available to tend to pastoral emergencies. On Sunday, worship will be led by some of our staff members: Mark will preach, Connie will serve as worship leader, and Jan will oversee our music.

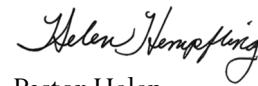
Speaking of pastoral care, if you are aware of a pastoral care need, such as a hospitalization or

critical illness, please do not hesitate to let me and/or the church office know. The hospital does not let us know when our members are admitted as patients. I would rather have multiple calls than none at all! If you don't have my cell phone number (I don't have a landline), please call the church office (812-332-4459) and they will give it to you!

Finally, on Friday, July 6, we will be saying good-bye to Will Barnard, our Director of Jazz Vespers, and Katherine Sherman, our jazz vocalist. They are moving on with their jazz careers. If you have never been to one of our First Friday Jazz Vespers Service, I encourage you to be present in July, not only to say goodbye to Will and Katherine, but also to engage in a wonderful worship experience.

In August, we will be welcoming Stefan Lenthe and the Lenthe Trio, with Jazz Vocalist Elena Escudero. Stefan has been playing bass for our Jazz Vespers Services and is looking forward to providing more leadership. We anticipate a seamless transition!

Blessings,



Pastor Helen

PS. Please plan to attend the Summer Forum that offers critical information about mental health issues. This Sunday, Sandy Rampley will share information about the role of mental illness in substance abuse. Also, take another look at the front page! Sundays in July will be a real treat as we hear from some of "our own!"

An FCC Story Update

From Chris Martoglio

At the start of this mission, we called it the Future Story. Then, we renamed it the FCC Story, because it's no longer in the future, it's happening now. We're living this now.

Today, there are three teams actively advancing the FCC Story. The Avenues Team, the Cornerstone Team and The Communications Team.

Under the Leadership of Amy Hoover, **the Avenues team** is progressing in three ways:

First, through the Arts

- With Jazz Vespers – a wonderful musical series open to the community taking place on the first Friday of each month
- And Caregivers Create – an outreach arts program for full-time care givers to allow them some respite
- And Other programs designed to allow people to express their spirituality through Art and explore the connection between healing and arts.

Second, actively engaging the community from our lawn on Kirkwood including

- The Fourth of July Popsicle Handout,
- Trick or Treat,
- Blessing of the Pets,
- and other events

In addition, as part of the Avenues team, Mark Knowles is advancing our application for *Xplor* a residency program designed for 21- to 30-year-olds looking to explore lives of care and service

Under the leadership of Mike and Sandy Ramply, **the Cornerstone Team** is focused on making the best use of this sanctuary and the rest of the FCC property. The team has hired an architect. And are actively working on ways to make the sanctuary more flexible and accessible.

The third team, **the Communications Team**, led by Sandy Bate, recently hired a communications intern, Katherine Homer. This team not only orchestrates verbal and written communications regarding the FCC Story, but also visual communications like the flowers and signs in front of the church and the lawn banners.

Today, the Avenues team needs volunteers. Specifically

- coordinators for one or more of the Lawn Ministry events,
- coordinators for the Art sessions
- And, helpers with setup and takedown for events.

To become more involved in living the FCC Story through these ministries, just contact me or Pastor Helen at fcc@fccbloomington.org. Everyone has special skills and talents, and we would love to see everyone participate in their own way as we enjoy this wonderful journey.

**More from Pastor Helen:
*Partnerships, Police, and Presence***

I have always appreciated the partnerships we have within our community. One of our partnerships is with our police officers. Over the years I have served as your pastor, they have responded appropriately in those few times we have had to call on their services. Truth be told, in recent years, as the Kirkwood Avenue landscape has changed, we have been grateful for their professionalism and their willingness to serve and support.

Last year, after several consecutive Sundays in which some minor and medium-sized disruptive incidents occurred in the Narthex during worship, the board began to discuss appropriate ways to help us worship, remain welcoming, and also be safe. After much thoughtful and careful discernment, they wisely decided (by unanimous vote and with the Trustees' support) to contract with several plainclothes off-duty police officers, who will be in worship with us on Sunday mornings and will be prepared to offer assistance on the off-chance that there is a disturbance that we don't feel equipped to handle. After checking in with our "frontline deacons" (i.e. Jim Watson and Doug Cull, aka "the boys in the back!"), an officer will simply sit in the back of sanctuary during worship. John Adams will remain at his post by the Washington Street door.

The board's action was another step in its ongoing discernment of what it means to be a downtown church located in the heart of a vibrant and changing community. If you recall, its first step was to give out codes so that people will be able to access the church during non-office hours when the doors are locked. While the board's most recent decision was not an easy one to make, it was, in my opinion, the right one. As each and every member of the board offered perspective and thought that added to the discernment process, it became clear that the purpose behind this decision is to free all of us up to focus on both worshiping and welcoming all who come through our doors. I must say that I was impressed by the way our very diverse board came to consensus on this matter.

We have reached out to some officers with FCC connections to help us recruit a team of 4-5 officers who will rotate the responsibility of being in our sanctuary on Sundays from 9:30 – 11:30. This trial period will be until the end of the year. Once they are on board offering their gifts of service, let's welcome them as God has welcomed us!

For the latest newsletter, upcoming church events, or to give a financial gift online, visit our website: www.fccbloomington.org



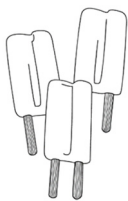


**FIRST FRIDAY JAZZ VESPERS:
FREEDOM JULY 6 – 6:30
Saying farewell to Will Barnard and his Trio**

Be sure to not miss the July 6 First Friday Jazz Vespers when our theme for the evening will be “Freedom.” If you have not attended one of our Jazz Vespers services, try to attend this one for sure. These 45-minute encounters present a combination of jazz music, hymns, scripture, readings of poetry and a chance to meditate in an informal and restorative format. On July 6, we will reflect just a bit on what it means to be free – our music, prayers, and readings will reflect two notions of freedom: freedom to act in ways that benefit the common good, AND freedom from acts that keep us and the world imprisoned and caged.

It will also be our last chance to say goodbye and thank you to the Will Barnard Trio and Kathryn Sherman who have guided us the past year with their music and spirit while developing for us an evolving experience for the Jazz Vespers. This month, Will is moving to Chicago where he will be studying for a Masters degree in Jazz Studies at DePaul University and looking to establish his career in the vibrant Chicago music scene. Kathryn will also be leaving to enroll in the fine Jazz Studies program at North Texas University in Denton, Texas. And our regular drummer Jake Richter has already moved to New York City where he will also be continuing his studies and establishing a professional base. Our bassist Stefan Lenthe will be continuing here to form a new trio that will begin with us in August. We are grateful for the chance to have had the Will Barnard Trio in our midst this year, and for the wonderful music they have brought us.

Come to hear their final performance and to thank them in person for their music and plan to stay after for a farewell reception in the Chapel Gathering Space! Bring a friend or two along as well!



Popsicles Anyone?

Want to have fun with your FCC family with a front-row seat for the Bloomington 4th of July parade? Want to tell the world who we are and share the inclusive love of Christ?

Through the Lawn Ministry, FCC connects to the community on the corner of Kirkwood and Washington. These types of events give us an opportunity to reach out to folks and let them know what we believe and how warm and friendly we are. It is also a great opportunity for volunteers to have fun and fellowship and meet lots of new people!

These events cannot take place without YOU. The Avenues Team ***needs volunteers*** to hand out popsicles during the parade. Set up will begin around 9 am; the parade starts at 10, and we will hand out popsicles and enjoy the parade until it ends. Please contact the church office or talk to Amy Hoover if you can help!

Please Pray For Our Campers

Send notes of encouragement to:

Camper's Name
Bedford Christian Camp
33 Church Camp Road
Bedford, IN 47421

July 16-21
Middle School (grades 6-8)
Maya Norris
Jetta Norris

June 25-27
New Beginnings (grades 1-3)
Ethan Fletcher
Pacer Norris

Additionally, Henry Street was a camp counselor this year at the Explorer Camp at Geneva Center on June 11-16.

July 2-7
High School (grades 9-12)
Lauren Johann
Alexander Trippel
Olivia Walsh
Patrick Walsh

Several campers will attend Eagle Sky Christian Camp on June 24-27. You can send notes of encouragement to campers **Matthew Griffin, Andrew Mondoza, Clay Guenin, and Carson Cicenas.**

July 9-14
Explorer (grades 4-5)
Claire Johann

Eagle Sky Christian Camps
1 Eagle Sky Drive
Piedmont, MO 63957

Building a Neighborhood Together

The May 29-31 Neighborhood Build was a wonderful experience for everyone involved. (Check out the photos on the FCC Group Pictures Facebook page, or read the June 7 *Herald-Times* article.) Judith Olmsted and I served as FCC's event organizers, but around two dozen other FCC folks were involved as participants, nursery staff, food donors (such wonderful soups and bagels!), or volunteer workers. In spite of a 3.5 hour power outage on Friday, the show went on, thanks to FCC volunteers and staff who jumped in with offers of flashlights, cell phones and LED lights.

The cooperation among the five congregations on the planning team (Congregation Beth Shalom, FCC, First Presbyterian, Trinity Episcopal and Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington) was fruitful and inspiring...so much so, the leadership team is already planning quarterly mini-events to strengthen the bonds among our faith communities. Possible future activities include an afternoon of cooking for Community Kitchen or Shalom Center and a conservation hike with the Sycamore Land Trust.

God's unifying spirit is alive and well in our community, dear friends. Thank you for being part of Building a Neighborhood Together! I look forward to sharing more opportunities to strengthen the neighborhood we've built.

--Connie Myers, director of Faith Formation and Family Ministries

First Christian Church Presents:



Road Trip

Revival

2018

Join us on August 18-19 for a time-traveling adventure to the early 19th century! We begin in Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, once home to the third largest Shaker community in the United States. From there it's on to the Cane Ridge Meeting House near Paris, Kentucky, site of the great revival of August 1801 and birthplace of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Throughout our weekend together, opportunities will abound for intergenerational learning, fellowship and memory-making.

Important Information

Cost: \$20 per person, with a maximum of \$50 per family. The church will provide the following: transportation (see below), all meals, a guided tour and riverboat cruise at Shaker Village

Lodging is not included.

Transportation: The church will rent vans for the trip. (You may drive your own car, if you prefer.)

Lodging: *The church cannot pay for hotel accommodations.* A block of rooms is secured at Comfort Inn & Suites, 2400 Buena Vista Road in Lexington, Kentucky. Hotel amenities include free Wi-Fi; free hot breakfast; indoor, heated pool and fitness center; microwave and refrigerator in guest rooms. **Call (859) 293-6113 and ask for the First Christian Church—Bloomington block. Rooms are \$89 + tax and will be held through July 13.** Double rooms accommodate up to four guests.

Schedule and registration card is inside this newsletter.

Registration Deadline is July 13.

Learn More; Love More – Starting the Conversation About Mental Health

- June 17** **Sandy Rampley** is a retired licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) who currently volunteers for the Monroe County CASA program as a child advocate, and teaches in the CASA volunteer training program with a focus on addictions. Sandy will help us explore **the role of mental illness in substance abuse**. Many people addicted to drugs or alcohol began using in an effort to self-medicate for clinical depression and/or anxiety. This means their treatment must address not one but two different disorders. Further complicating treatment, substance abuse actually alters neural pathways in the brain. Thus, treatment must encompass the physical, mental and emotional health of the person who is addicted.
- June 24** **Christy Duffy**, PhD, HSPP, Clinical Psychologist and Director of Under the Umbrella, LLC, will help us understand more about **eating disorders**. While eating disorders have easily recognizable stereotypes, they are widely misunderstood and often overlooked. In this interactive presentation, Dr. Christy Duffy will discuss signs and symptoms of eating disorders, offer guidelines for how to approach someone you are concerned about and how to access help.
- July 1** Guest speaker **Jan Bays**, PT, Director of Program Development and Education at Jill's House, Founding Member of Dementia Friendly Bloomington Dementia Friendly Location Training, will teach us **how to become a dementia-friendly congregation**. We need to acknowledge that there are community members who are no longer participating in activities of daily life they once enjoyed. Due to worry that others will not understand what is happening to them, they remain isolated. Care partners are at times embarrassed and/or worried about how others in the community will see their loved one and how they may respond to them when they are in public and unexpected situations occur. This training will help us understand dementia and help us support community members living with its challenges.
- July 8** Guest speaker **Carrie Ann Lawrence**, PhD, Visiting Assistant Scientist at Indiana University School of Public Health, will dive into the **stigma that surrounds mental illness**, and educate us on ways we can identify and stop it.



Let's give a warm welcome to Tim and Martha Sullivan who joined FCC during worship on June 3. Tim and Martha live at 1764 S. Ramsey Drive, Bloomington, 47401. We're so glad you've chosen FCC as your church home!

Do you have 15 minutes to spare following worship on Sundays?

We are looking for additional help in preparing for communion and cleaning up after worship on Sunday. You can help out as much or as little as you are available. It takes only about 15 minutes to pick up and put things away in our communion preparation area. Please, contact the church office or Peggy Stafford if you are able to help out.

Thank you!



In Our Prayers

Please hold Donna Ray in prayer as she recovers from a severe bacterial infection that required hospitalization. She will continue to receive daily IV treatment for six weeks. Donna asks for your prayers and cards (no phone calls or visits, please). Notes of encouragement may be mailed to 2001 E. Hillside Drive, Stier Park #4, Bloomington, Ind., 47401 or mailed to jaray39@gmail.com.

Please also include Janet Parrot in your prayers. Janet fell and broke her arm earlier this week. She will undergo surgery on Thursday to repair the injury. Cards and notes of encouragement can be sent to 543 Green Road, Bloomington, 47403.

**Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 24 at 11:15 a.m.**

Please plan to be present in worship on June 24 and for our Congregational Meeting immediately following worship at 11:15 a.m. We will be voting to approve new church leadership. Those names are listed below.

Board Member

- Lisa Autry
- Scott Cripe
- Terry Daugherty
- Andy Fletcher
- Peggy Stafford

Financial Secretary

- Patti Parkes
- Mary Swarhout
- Melissa Jackson
- Jean Thompson, Treasurer

Deacon

- Sharon Robinson
- Olivia Walsh
- Patrick Walsh
- Alexander Trippel
- Matthew Griffin

Elder

- Amy Hoover

Trustee

- David Schilling

July Birthdays

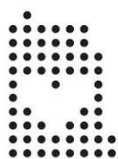
07/02	Amy	Cheek	410 Eastside Dr.	Bloomington IN	47401
07/03	Terry	Daugherty	4412 Hillview Drive	Bloomington IN	47408
07/07	Alexander	Trippel	1497 E Commander Ct	Bloomington IN	47401
07/07	Giselle	Gasana	4199 Innisbrooke Dr.	Bloomington IN	47408
07/08	Alex	Cartwright	2927 N. Bankers Drive	Bloomington IN	47408
07/08	Margaret	Hathaway	2455 N. Tamarack Trl, Apt. 208	Bloomington IN	47408
07/08	Jim	Watson	1026 S. Mitchell St.	Bloomington IN	47401
07/11	Lynn	Sinn	2559 S. Smith Road	Bloomington IN	47401
07/17	Jan	Harrington	537 E Fawn Ridge Trail	Bloomington IN	47408
07/18	Peggy	Stafford	1628 Bellemeade Ave.	Bloomington IN	47401
07/19	Carole	Ambler	3674 Tamarron Drive	Bloomington IN	47408
07/20	Roger	Isaacs	2959 Ramble Road West	Bloomington IN	47408
07/23	Sandy	Bate	736 E. Moss Creek Circle	Bloomington IN	47401
07/25	Claire	Johann	3057 E. Chase Lane	Bloomington IN	47401
07/27	Jane	Watkins	1144 E. Benson Court	Bloomington IN	47401
07/28	Betsy	Watson	1026 S. Mitchell St.	Bloomington IN	47401
07/31	Liz	Knapp	3687 Tamarron Drive	Bloomington IN	47408
07/31	Natalie	Garshaw	3740 N. Russell Road	Bloomington IN	47408
07/31	Pat	Wise	49 W. 72nd St., Apt. 8E	New York NY	10023

Please, let us know if we have left someone off of the birthday list.

Summer Sunday Fundays at FCC!

During worship this summer June through August the *PrayGround* will be open at the front of the sanctuary. In this sacred space, mats are laid out in advance, inviting children to work with quiet time bags or to read books about God and Jesus. We'll also provide a small "feast" for communion time. If you can be a caring presence among the children this summer, please contact Connie Myers.

After worship, **Sundays are FunDays** at FCC! We'll have games on the lawn and "Where Do You See God?" walks around the block. Inclement weather will find us indoors, enjoying Veggie Tales and popcorn, among other activities. We need adults *and* youth to keep our children safe while they're having fun! Please sign up for a Sunday or three at <http://signup.com/go/BhUEoDK>.



2018 MCUM Challenge

2018 Goal: 2,000 pounds
Most recent trip: 70 pounds
Year-to-date: 1108 pounds

June Pantry Needs!

MCUM is in need of canned potatoes, Mac N Cheese, condensed soups, pasta sauce, canned mixed vegetables, baking mixes, crackers, all-purpose spray cleaner, laundry detergent, deodorant, and soap.

Please, consider donating what you are able!

Thank you for showing how much you care.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day)

8:30 am Meditation Group
 9:00 am Learning Session I
 10:00 am Worship
 11:15 am Summer Forum
 11:15 am Sunday Funday

Tuesday, June 19

5:30 pm Listening to God

Wednesday, June 20

6:00 pm Cuba trip meeting

Sunday, June 24

8:30 am Meditation Group
 10:00 am Worship
 11:15 am Summer Forum
 11:15 am Sunday Funday

June 25-27

New Beginning Camp

Tuesday, June 26

1:30 pm Caregivers Create
 5:30 pm Listening to God meditation

June 28-30

You & Me Camp

Sunday, July 1

8:30 am Meditation Group
 10:00 am Worship
 11:15 am Summer Forum
 11:15 am Sunday Funday

Tuesday, July 3

5:30 pm Listening to God meditation

Wednesday, July 4

Church office closed for holiday.

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

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fcc@fccbloom.org
www.fccbloom.org
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The Christian Visitor

Vol. 60, no. 12

Summer Forum: Learn More; Love More

Join us following Sunday worship at 11:15 am for a thoughtful discussion on the important topic of mental health

June 17: The role of mental illness in substance abuse

June 24: Signs and symptoms of eating disorders

July 1: Understanding dementia and supporting those living with its challenges

**Scripture Readings
For Sunday Worship**

June 17

From 2 Kings
Mark Knowles preaching

June 24

Psalm 86:11-17

July 1

Psalm 145: 15-19
From Psalm 104