

The CHRISTIAN

 FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH *(Disciples of Christ)* *Visitor*

Summer at FCC

Sunday Worship and Forum Series in July

Although the rainy weather may feel more like spring, summer is, in fact, upon us. As we edge closer to July, some plans are underway for the heart of the summer at FCC. We hope you will join us, and bring a friend as we welcome guest preachers and musicians to FCC. Pastor Helen will be away from Bloomington much of July, enjoying some vacation time and attending General Assembly in Des Moines (see her Pastor's Pen on page 2), but we will continue to offer a welcoming place for all and worship that is uplifting and purposeful.

Summer worship in July will include a special Sunday Jazz Vespers Service on July 7th, and sermons from Chuck Jones (July 14) and Linda Abe (July 21). We will welcome guest musicians too! See Jan Harrington's article on page 3 for the line-up! Our children will continue to worship with us on the PrayGround where quiet time bags with activities will be provided.

FCC's Summer Forums will continue following worship in July as Terry Daugherty leads us in this series titled "Talking Faith - Reflections with Each Other." The series will include weekly small group reflections and activities that will provide opportunity for discussion and a deeper dive into the day's sermon and scripture. Come for one or all of these sessions *each Sunday in July at 11:15 am in the Chapel Gathering Space.*

While adults embark on this study, FCC's children will continue to explore stories from the Children's Bible and from a collection called *Does God Have a Big Toe?* Activities related to the story will be provided as well as free reading time.

FCC's Lawn ministry is getting ready for a fun morning on our lawn watching the Fourth of July Parade and welcoming our community with games and popsicles. Please join us for this great Bloomington tradition. Contact Jean Thompson or Maria Lee to volunteer for this fun event. Details on these and other events inside this newsletter. Join us for a great summer at FCC!

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Volume 61, number 11 June 19, 2019

Pastor's Pen

Summer Plans and Updates

Summer is here, which includes a change of pace for many of us. Bruce and I have settled on July as our “vacation adventure” month, and on July 1, we’ll be boarding a plane to the Republic of Ireland, a destination that has long been on my bucket list! We’ve booked a couple of self-guided walking tours that will allow us to see the beauty of Ireland close-up and without having to drive on the “wrong” side of the road! Our tour company reserves the nightly B&B accommodations, provides the maps/instructions, offers historical and geographic highlights, and transports our luggage. Our “job” is to enjoy the countryside (Dingle Way and Wicklow Way) as we find renewal on our “gentle” walk of 8-12 miles a day. We’ll return (arriving in Chicago) just in time to drive straight to Des Moines to attend the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Our total time away, including the Assembly, will be July 1 – July 25.

As always, some of our own FCC clergy members, staff, and elders will be available to tend to pastoral emergencies and offer worship leadership. I am thankful for their gifts and willingness to serve. Bruce and I covenant to hold all of you in prayer while we are away, and we trust that you will do the same for us.

Speaking of prayer, thank you for your prayers for my father, who suffered a stroke in April. He remains in residential rehab, where he continues to work on “resurrecting his half dead side” (his words). The good news is that

his speech, sharp mind, and quick wit remain intact. His motto is “The Three P’s: Patience, Perseverance, and Prayer.” It’s a motto that we might consider adopting for ourselves.

Thanks, Dad!

One final bit of personal news: my daughter Allison and her husband Jared are expecting their first child (my first grandchild!) in November. To say that we are excited is an understatement!

I’ll see you June 26 and June 30 in worship. We’ll be finishing up our mini-series on the book of Colossians, and we’ve got a special surprise planned for June 30. If you are in town, please make Sunday morning worship a priority. And if you are not in town, please plan to keep your pledged giving up to date. We don’t want to stress out those who keep an eye on our finances!

Blessings,



Pastor Helen

PS: Our Sunday morning Summer Forum Series (11:15 am-12:15 pm in the Chapel-Gathering Space) continues to be wonderful! I encourage you to attend!



MUSIC IN WORSHIP THIS SUMMER

While the choir is on break and Jihye is gone home for awhile to Korea, we look forward to music offerings and leadership in worship from several wonderful guests and members of the congregation.

Already we have been blessed with leadership from keyboard artists **Sue Fettchenhauer** and **Vicki King** and with solos from guest baritone **Brandan Sanchez** and our choral scholar **Maria Izzo-Walker**. **Geneva Stonecipher** will be back on the organ for the next two Sundays – Geneva has been an attendee of worship at FCC and has substituted for us before and we welcome her to the organ console. On June 23, the **Sounds of Indiana Barbershop Choir** will once again share their talents with us, and on June 30 –Fifth Sunday Intergenerational Worship Service – we will get to hear our versatile Director of Service Ministries **Chuck Jones** share with us for the first time his *musical* gifts, singing *and* playing from the piano. (He'll be preaching again later in July – when music will be provided by **Patti Parkes**!)

The next Sunday – July 7th – will be a wonderful Sunday morning worship service led by our Jazz Vespers ensemble the **Elena Escudero Quartet**. Friday July 5th and the Sunday July 7th service may be the last time we get to hear Elena as she will be moving to Chicago in early August. So do not miss this wonderful service.

THE CONGREGATION

Oh, Yes – most of our music this summer is provided by **THE CONGREGATION** singing devotedly and with gusto during the service – as it should be! Historically we sometimes have the tendency to elevate musicians and preachers as somehow separate from the larger crowd, a crowd that tends to become spectators instead of participants. Just in case you need a reminder of what to do – here are John Wesley's *Directions for Singing* from 1761, intended for each of us and still relevant after some 258 years!

- I. **Learn these Tunes** before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.
- II. **Sing them exactly** as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.
- III. **Sing All**. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up and you will find a blessing.
- IV. **Sing lustily and with good courage**. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.

(continued on page 4)



FCC Prepares for XPLOR Residents!

We are preparing for something very exciting here at FCC! We are about to be part of an amazing national program of the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) called XPLOR. This has been a long process, waiting to hear if we'd be invited to become a Host Church. Waiting to learn about the young adults who will become part of the FCC Family as they engage in direct service and justice work here in Bloomington.

The wait is over. We will welcome those XPLOR Residents in August. Preparations for a physical space for the Residents to live as well as a spiritual place to grow have begun. Soon, you will be receiving an informative mailing with information about the program and the Residents that we will welcome. Please, consider your own special talents and how you will join us for this program. There will be many roles to fill and opportunities to get involved. Are you ready? How do you see yourself playing a role in the XPLOR at FCC?

Currently, renovations are underway in our basement as we convert classrooms and bathrooms into apartments for our Residents. **On Sunday, August 18th we will host an open house and Fill the Pantry event following worship.** Come and tour the apartment and bring your favorite pantry item to help fill the XPLOR pantry. Our residents will arrive the following weekend. Let's make them feel welcome and at home here at FCC.



National Benevolent Association
XPLOR
 FAITH, JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 3)

V. **Sing modestly.** Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.

VI. **Sing in Time:** whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can. And take care you sing not too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

VII. **Above all sing spiritually.** Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your Heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.



Koji Abe, husband of Linda Abe, passed away in their home on June 14. Please continue to hold Linda in your prayers. A Celebration of Life Service will be on August 3 at First Christian Church. An Internment of Ashes Service will be on August 4 at Washington Park Cemetery East in Indianapolis. Hours for the services are yet to be determined. Cards and notes can be sent to Linda at 600 S. Hawthorne Dr. 47401.

It's Time for Summer Camp!

Send a card or note of encouragement to our campers.

June 24-26

New Beginnings Camp (grades 1-3)
Zoe Hill
Ethan Fletcher
Pacer Norris
Haley Norris, Lifeguard and Nurse

Notes & Cards can be mailed to:

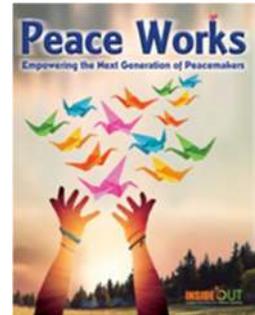
Bedford Christian Camp
33 Church Camp Road
Bedford, Ind. 47421

July 1-6

High School Camp (grades 9-12)
Lauren Johann
Jetta Norris
Alexander Trippel
Olivia Walsh
Patrick Walsh
Haley Norris, Lifeguard and Nurse
Jonathan Enari, Counselor

July 15-20

Middle School Camp (grades 6-8)
Claire Johann
Aubrey Ballou (Claire's friend)
Maya Norris
Haley Norris, Lifeguard and Nurse
Ashlyn Reynolds, Counselor
Jonathan Enari, Counselor



Join us on the FCC Lawn for the July 4th Parade!

FCC's Lawn Ministry will welcome folks to our lawn during the city's annual July 4th Parade. This Bloomington tradition brings many families to the downtown area. It's a great opportunity to introduce FCC to the greater Bloomington community... and to have some fun! As the parade rolls by, we will have lawn games to play and popsicles to share. We also have one of the best spots on Kirkwood to view the parade!

Jean Thompson and Maria Lee are organizing all of the fun, and will need plenty of volunteers to make this a success. Please, consider being a part of this fun event. The more the merrier, and the more fun we will have and the more welcoming we will be! We will need help passing out popsicles and leading games as well as greeting guests. We will also need coolers and bags of ice. So, bring a lawn chair and plan to join us!

Contact Jean Thompson or call the church office (812-332-4459) to be a volunteer. There will also be a sign-up form on the back of the attendance card during Sunday worship.

2019 Graduates



High School

Alexandra Michelle Donham, daughter of Julie and Mike Donham, graduated from Bloomington High School North. During high school Alexandra enjoyed any type of exercise, painting, cooking and baking. She plans to attend Ivy Tech in the fall to pursue a degree in Nutrition and Physical Fitness. Please send cards of congratulations to 5900 N. Maple Grove Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401.

Maxwell Scott Fettchenhauer, son of Jennifer and Scott Fettchenhauer, graduated from Bloomington High School North with an Academic Honors diploma. While at North, Max was part of the JV and varsity swim team, jazz bands, and Tri-M Music Honor Society. Max also starred as Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid* and as Teddy (one of the lost boys) in *Peter and the Star Catcher*. He participated in Boy Scouts through his sophomore year, earning the rank of Life Scout. This fall Max will attend Ball State University, where he will major in film production at the David Letterman School. Cards may be sent to 5537 E. State Rd 46, Bloomington, IN 47401.

Jackson Moore, son of Ann and Scot Moore, graduated from Bloomington High School South. During his high school years, Jackson was Vice President of Morale for the BS Dance Marathon; a 4-year member of Sounds of South; a varsity soccer player earning the "B" award for excellence in competition, sportsmanship and leadership; and an All-State Ultimate Frisbee Player. Jackson will be attending Purdue University to study Kinesiology/Athletic Training. Please send cards to 3308 S. Snoddy Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401.

Patrick Walsh, son of John and Michelle Walsh and Susan Garcia, graduated from Bloomington High School South, where he was active in the Film Club. Patrick also played violin for four years in the Hoosier Youth Philharmonic, performing at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and in Orlando, St. Louis and New Orleans. Patrick received a Cox Research Scholarship to attend IU, where he will major in English and history. Cards of congratulations may be sent to 3006 S. Olcott Blvd., Bloomington, IN 47401.

College and Graduate School

Carter Adams graduated from IU with a Bachelor of Music Education degree and is currently seeking a teaching position. While at IU he was honored with the Ray E Cramer Wind Ensemble award for outstanding undergrad wind ensemble member and was the drum major for the Marching Hundred. Carter also served FCC as music intern, children's music director, bell choir director, substitute organist, ad hoc percussionist and choir member. Cards may be sent to 2583 S. Flat Rock Rd., Bloomington, IN 47403.

2019 Graduates

College and Graduate School *(continued)*

Jihye Choi has completed her Performer's Diploma Degree in Organ at the IU Jacobs School of Music and will begin her doctoral studies in organ at IU in the Fall. After a trip home to Korea, Jihye will continue to serve as FCC's organist, handbell director and assistant music director. Cards of congratulations may be dropped off in the church office.

Elena Escudero earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Vocal Performance and was awarded the coveted Performance Certificate for excellence in performance at the IU Jacobs School of Music. Elena has been FCC's director of jazz vespers for the past year and lead singer the year before that. In August Elena will be moving to Virginia, where she will be expanding her career as a jazz musician in the Roanoke and Washington DC area. Please send cards to Elena at 511 S. Mitchell St., Bloomington, IN 47401.

Braden Mishler earned a Master of Arts degree in History from Indiana University. During his studies Braden presented a paper at the history graduate student conference and attended the Indiana State Historic Preservation Conference. Braden plans to take a year off—to work, read, garden, draw, watch movies and take care of his cat—and then apply to PhD programs for the fall of 2020. Cards of congratulations may be sent to 1034 W. 12th St., Bloomington, IN 47404.

Haley Norris graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in the accelerated master's program at IU, which allowed her to complete a year of graduate studies while earning her undergraduate diploma. At FCC Haley has led the college Bible study and provided childcare for our MOPS ministry. This fall Haley will continue her work toward a Master of Library Science, but she dreams of being a lavender farmer. Please send cards to Haley at 406 E. 2nd St., Bloomington, IN 47401.

Lindsay Stafford completed a pediatric residency at the University of Oklahoma, Tulsa, Department of Pediatric Hospital Medicine and is board certified with the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians. On June 30 Lindsay will begin work at the University of Oklahoma Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City as a Pediatric Hospitalist and Clinical Associate Professor in Pediatrics. Cards of congratulations may be sent to Lindsay at 837 NW 33rd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73118.



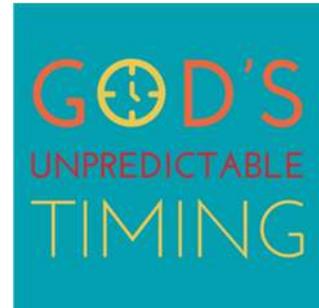
Get Ready for FCC's All-Church Retreat! August 24-26 at Camp Bedford

Tick tock.

Have you marked your calendar yet? Please reserve **August 24-25** for FCC's 2019 retreat held at Bedford Christian Camp. You won't want to miss experiences including:

- intergenerational group study of the theme: "God's Unpredictable Timing"
- a fun talent show
- getting to know our new XPLOR residents
- campfire and s'mores
- interactive worship
- swimming and games
- abundant free time for conversation or rest
- a beautiful wooded setting

Look for the brochure and registration form in next month's newsletter.



RECAP!

Interfaith Friends: Saving the Earth!

Thank you for supporting FCC's efforts to strengthen relationships with local faith communities through intergenerational, interfaith activities like our "Saving the Earth" event. We estimate that about 75 people gathered on Memorial Day at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington to learn about bugs, bees, composting, and more. I was at the messiest station—where participants could make seed balls from a mixture of dry clay, potting soil, wildflower seeds and water—and getting my hands dirty (literally) with preschoolers to octogenarians was a fun and unique experience. Working with leadership from the UU, First Presbyterian, Trinity, Beth Shalom, and the Islamic Center has been a pleasure. Connecting with folks from all of these faith communities makes me hopeful that Bloomington can continue to be a peaceful neighborhood for all people. We're hoping to have another activity in the fall or winter. Let me know if you'd like to be part of the team! —Connie Myers

FCC Gets Ready for General Assembly 2019 in Des Moines, IA
 July 20-24, 2019



Imagine this:

- Worship that lifts your soul.
- Stories that touch your heart.
- Educational resources to assist your congregation in ministry.
- Conversations that stretch your mind.
- Messages that call you to action.
- Connections that remind you that God’s family is bigger than a local congregation.

And 2019 will feature some very special history with a celebration of the Merger Agreement between the National Christian Missionary Convention and the International Convention of Christian Churches resulting in 50 years of The Design, our foundational document.

Helen Hempfling, Chuck Jones, Ashlyn Reynolds, Amy Hoover, Lily Hoover, Judith Olmstead and Bob Bernacki will represent FCC at this year’s General Assembly. They will have the opportunity to worship with thousands of Disciples, attend workshops and classes that will include both inspiration and practical topics, and participate in business sessions that are open to all registered attendees, with some being designated by FCC as a voting representative. It promises to be exhilarating to worship with literally thousands of Disciples, and energizing to gather new ideas and insights from speakers and learning communities. Please pray for our FCC delegation and all Disciples as they travel to General Assembly.

Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 30 at 11:15 am

Please plan to be present in worship on June 30 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.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Betsy Watson	Julie Donham	Braden Mishler	Shari Sprinkle
Charlie Sinn		Chad Whaley	
Brian Jackson	<u>Financial Secretaries</u>		<u>Assistant Treasurer</u>
Alexander Trippel	Patti Parkes		Tom Trippel
Joe Lee	Mary Swarthout		
	Melissa Jackson		

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
07/15	Martha	Sullivan	1764 S. Ramsey Dr.	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

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

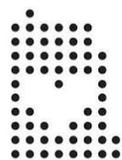
For the latest newsletter, upcoming church events, or to give a financial gift online, visit our website: www.fccbloomington.org





The
Elena Escudero
Quartet

Join us on July 5 at 6:30 pm
for First Friday Jazz Vespers!



Thank you to everyone who donated during our MCUM food and supply drive during the season of Easter. We will report the drive totals and the overall totals for our 2019 MCUM Challenge in the July newsletter.

FCC Office Closed July 4

The FCC Offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4th in Observance of Independence Day. Have a safe and wonderful holiday!

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Sunday, June 23

- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:15 am Summer Forum Series
- 11:15 am Children's Reading Program

Tuesday, June 25

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

Thursday, June 27

- 5:15 pm Daring Greatly book study

Sunday, June 30

- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:00 am Congregational Meeting
- 11:15 am Children's Reading Program
- 11:15 am Summer Forum Series

Monday, July 1

- 7:00 pm Women's Arts & Crafts

Tuesday, July 2

- 5:30 pm Listening to God meditation

Thursday, July 4

- FCC Offices Closed for Holiday
- 10:00 am July Fourth Parade!

Friday, July 5

- 6:30 pm First Friday Jazz Vespers

Sunday, July 7

- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:15 am Summer Forum Series
- 11:15 am Children's Reading Program

Tuesday, July 9

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

Wednesday, July 10

- 5:15 pm Daring Greatly book study

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Bloomington, IN 47408

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

Vol. 61, no. 11

Join us on July Fourth for the Parade!

The Bloomington July 4th Parade is a great tradition that brings many families downtown, and we've got one of the best spots to watch! Our lawn! As people gather along Kirkwood to watch the parade, we will be welcoming folks to our lawn for games and popsicles. You'll find details inside this newsletter. Join us!

**Scripture Readings
For Sunday Worship**

June 23

Colossians 2:6-19

June 30

Colossians 3:12-17

July 7

Jazz Vespers Worship
"Connection"