

The CHRISTIAN



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

Visitor



Join Us As We Honor Our Saints on October 31

FCC's Sanctuary Choir and Guest Musicians

Present Excerpts of Mozart's Requiem

Join us for a very special worship service at 10:00 am on October 31 as we remember and celebrate the Saints in our lives, those members of the family of God - past and present - whose lives of witness, service and love have strengthened, supported and guided us.

Worship will include very special music as our Sanctuary Choir with special guest musicians bring music from Mozart's *Requiem in d minor, K. 626*. The music from Mozart's *Requiem* will be woven throughout this special service of remembrance. The service will commemorate the passing of congregation members who have died in the past year, as well as the 700,000 Americans who have died from COVID-19.

Sarah Lynne Gershon has planned a special time of remembrance for the children present in worship. They are invited to go with Sarah Lynne to the Chapel Gathering Space for a special art project in honor of the Saints in their lives.

All Saints Sunday has always been a very special time in the life of First Christian Church. We will gather both online and in person for worship. If you choose to worship in person, please bring a mask (or we can provide one for you). We ask that everyone inside our building follows all COVID-19 safety guidelines from the CDC and the Monroe County Health Department.

Remembering FCC's Saints

Harold Bond

Evelyn Brown

Gene Davis

Robert "Bob" Martin

Charles "Charlie" Parker

Janet "Jan" Parrott

Pamela Walters

Judy Schmid

Marie Settle

Geraldine "Gerry" True

William "Bill" Weber

Charles "Chuck" Zebendon

Volume 63, number 18 October 20, 2021

Will Writes

Serving Our Community and Loving Our Neighbors in The Name of Christ

On my desk this week are newsletters from various community organizations. Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) reminds us of the ongoing need in our area for food and personal care items. While they have received more than five tons of such supplies from congregations this year, more is always needed. We are responding this month. See the information in this newsletter about “Pack the Pickup” this Sunday.

The Community Kitchen of Monroe County shared a picture of their new food truck which will enable them to provide meals in outlying areas and in underserved neighborhoods. They also celebrate their volunteers and donors.

I do not have a current newsletter from Shalom Center/Beacon but am constantly in awe of the wide range of services they provide for those in our community who are homeless, housing-insecure, or impoverished.

Middle Way House has an electronic newsletter that celebrates 50 years of “Resilience.”

“For 50 years, Middle Way House has been able to withstand and adapt so that survivors have a safe space to heal, recover and grow. We could not do that without you, our community. Your belief in our work, your care for survivors, and your knowledge that Middle Way House can be a part of making this world a better place. Thank you for believing in us and thank you for being a community of resilience!”

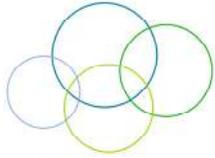
We will be gathering clothing and personal care items for Middle Way House during Advent. These are just a few of the many ways our community seeks to serve and care for our neighbors who struggle with life, health, and safety. I lift them up today to remind us that when we gather in worship and sing or preach about loving our neighbor or serving in the name of Christ that we have many ways to do so. We can contribute money, volunteer our time, donate needed items and food, provide transportation, and lobby our elected officials. We can also lift these groups up in prayer and remind our neighbors and friends of both the need in our community and ways to meet that need.

While we pray that homelessness, hunger, addiction, and abuse would end in our community, we face the reality that such conditions will be with us into the future. May we be people who care and serve in the name of Jesus. May we love our neighbor as ourselves.

Grace and Peace,



Will



FCC’s Fall Stewardship Emphasis Concludes this Sunday
Join us for Consecration Sunday on October 24

Our sermon series and our Stewardship emphasis this fall has explored the “WHY” statement:

FCC exists to share Christ’s inclusive love through serving, welcoming, learning, and offering spiritual connection.”

We have reflected on what it means to serve, to welcome, to learn, and to offer spiritual connection as a community of faith and individually. This Sunday (Oct. 24) we will each have the opportunity to dedicate our resources anew to the ongoing support of this church’s mission to share the inclusive love of Christ. Consider your commitment to FCC’s ongoing and important ministries and join us (online or in person) for Consecration Sunday. Bring your commitment card to worship (if you plan to worship in person) or mail your card to the church. Returning your commitment card will help our financial committee and board leadership plan for FCC’s future ministries and programs. Thank you

FCC’s Pastoral Search Committee Hosts Congregational Update Meetings
Small Group Gatherings will give the Opportunity to Provide Input and Receive Updates

FCC’s Pastoral Search committee is busy putting together information gathered in our recent congregational survey for a profile of what we are looking for in a new Senior Pastor. In November, they will be inviting you to attend one of several small group meetings. These meetings will give you an opportunity to hear an update from the committee including details on the survey outcomes, to ask questions, and to provide additional input as we work toward calling a new Senior Pastor.

The meetings will be Sunday, Nov. 7 at 11:15 a.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. in Great Hall and Sunday, Nov. 14 at 11:15 a.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. on ZOOM. Sign up information will be sent out next.

We hope you will make it a priority to attend a small group. These meetings will be helpful in gaining a clear understanding of what qualities we should look for in a new pastor, and what direction the congregation is most focused on in the future.

From the Pulpit in November

November 7

Scripture: Mark 12:38-44
“Verse 42 (*See Verse 40)”*

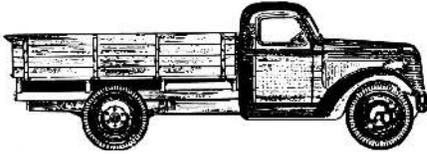
November 14

Scripture: Mark 13:1-8
Jesus, Give Me a Sign!

November 21

Scripture: John 18:33-37
Telling the Truth

PACK THE PICKUP FOR MCUM



**Join Us in Supporting Our Partners in Ministry
at Monroe County United Ministries**

***Food and Supply Drive Ends on October 24 with the
Pack The Pickups Event from 1:00-3:00 pm***

It's time to pack MCUM's pantry by packing Pastor Will and Toni Pittman's pickups! We have been collecting non-perishable food and cleaning supplies for MCUM this month, and will conclude our drive on October 24. You can bring your donations to worship on Sunday morning or join us between 1:00-3:00 pm when we pack the pick-up trucks. We will be out in the alley (between FCC and Habitat) with the accepting donations so drive through the alley and drop off your donations. We will take all the donations to MCUM that day.

MCUM Supply Closet and Food Pantry Needs

Food Pantry Needs

- Reusable/Cloth Bags
- Canned Meat (Tuna, chicken, beef)
- Peanut Butter
- Dried Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Cereal
- Ready to eat soups / chili / pasta
- Frozen meat (1-2 lb. ground beef, whole chickens)
- Canned vegetables (carrots, greens, potatoes)

Cleaning & Hygiene Closet Needs

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- All-purpose cleaner
- Wipes
- Dish Soap
- Diapers, sizes 5 & 6
- Laundry Detergent
- Shaving Cream
- Sponges

Family Ministries Update

FCC Families will be gathering on Sunday October 31 for a special Requiem All Saints Day service. Sarah Lynne will be taking the kids out during worship for a fun All Saints Day activity in the Chapel Gathering Space. There will be candy, candles, and we welcome costumes too, if you'd like to wear one! Kids will have the opportunity to remember loved ones who have passed away through a special art project. Please bring black and white photos for decorating, if there is someone that you would like to remember with this project.

Youth Halloween Party on Oct. 31

FCC's Youth will be gathering for a Halloween Party in the Youth Room from 4:00-6:00 pm on October 31. We will have dinner, play games, and make candles! Bring friends too! Just remember to RSVP to Ashlyn so she will have enough food! See you there!

Faith Formation Update

By Sarah Lynne Gershon

Get Ready for Advent!

It's time to get ready for Advent and Christmas! Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus' birth. The season is focused on our anticipation of Christ's coming to heal the world, both in Christ's birth and Christ's return. Much like Lent, it is a time of increased prayer and reflection to prepare us for Christmas. In fact, like Lent, some traditions even fast during Advent, but with all the Christmas parties, I think that might be an undue burden!

I would love to know that our particular outpost of God's people are preparing together during Advent, so like last year I will order Advent candles, Advent rings (the candle holders), and a daily devotional for our community to engage in together. I will also have other devotional materials that will correspond with the Sunday worship service and a new Advent calendar designed by Ashlyn Reynolds! Please fill out the order form below so we know how many devotionals, candles, and candle rings to order. I will include something for children when you order your materials. We would appreciate a donation to cover the expenses.

Advent worship packs will be ready at the end of November, but I need your orders in by November 7.



ADVENT MATERIALS ORDER FORM

Return to the church office or drop in the Sunday offering plate along with your payment.

Note: All orders will come with a weekly devotional that goes along with our worship theme and an advent calendar created by Ashlyn. If you *just* want these other devotional materials, please indicate that on the form. To ensure you can receive these materials, please have your orders in by **November 7**.

Your name _____

___ **Candles**- suggested donation \$3-5 (*Note: this is 3 purple candles and 1 pink candle. You will need to provide your own central "Christ" candle to light on Christmas Eve.*)

___ **Brass ring candle holder**- suggested donation \$6 (*Note: this only holds the 3 purple candles and 1 pink candle. The central "Christ" candle needs to be a pillar candle, a votive in glass, or otherwise have its own holder.*)

___ **Daily Advent Devotional** by Sandhya Rani Jha: *Traveling With Our Ancestors*- suggested donation \$5

___ **I just want the other devotional materials** (weekly devotional and Ashlyn's calendar).
Please make a small donation to help cover expenses as you are able.

Family Ministries



Sunday, Nov. 14 4:00-6:30 pm
Interfaith Friends is hosting
a Lantern Walk!

This is one of my favorite fall traditions, which for Christians was inspired by Saint Martin when he gave his cloak to a person freezing on the side of the road. When I mentioned it to the Interfaith Friends group, I was delighted to find that Beth Shalom has also gone on lantern walks in celebration of Hannakuh. This year our group of faith communities will gather together to walk with our little lanterns. I hope you will join us!

Details our forthcoming, but we will start with lantern-making and end with warm beverages and treats. Stay tuned!

All Saints Day Celebration
Sunday, October 31 during worship

This will be a special requiem All Saints Day service, and I will take the kids out for a fun All Saints Day activity in the Chapel Gathering Space. There will be candy, candles, and I can't imagine anyone would complain about costumes either.

If there is anyone, family member or otherwise, that has passed that your kids would like to remember, please bring photos or write down their names. Black and white photos for decorating (much like Bess Lee's icon craft) would also be welcome.

Traveling with our Ancestors Advent Devotional

by Sandhya Rani Jha

Sandhya Rani Jha has served as an anti-racism/anti-oppression trainer with Reconciliation Ministries for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and is a popular author, pastor, and teacher. In this new daily Advent devotional Sandhya calls on our spiritual ancestors—biblical and modern day—to help guide us on our Christmas journey.

Jha calls upon biblical guides – from Zechariah, to Elizabeth, to Mary – to offer wisdom and direction for the weeks leading up to Jesus' birth. On Saturdays, Jha invites a contemporary “ancestor” such as Rosa Parks, Cesar Chavez, and Father Greg Boyle to help us reflect on how we can be better ancestors for those come after us. Each entry includes an Advent scripture, reflection, and prayer.



MOZART *REQUIEM* ON ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

In observance of All Saints Day on Sunday October 31, our service music at First Christian will commemorate all those souls who have gone before us with music drawn from the majestic *Requiem in d minor, K. 626* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In this service we will honor the 700,000 Americans who have died of Covid-19, those who died 20 years ago on 9/11/2001, and those members of our own community of believers who have passed on this past year. The Sanctuary Choir, soloists Maria Izzo-Walker, Sarah Dailey, Nick Stevens, and Tyler Williams will be joined by a Chamber Orchestra of guest musicians drawn from the Jacobs School of Music conducted by Jan Harrington.

A Requiem (or Mass for the Dead) is an ancient liturgical service for the repose of the souls of the deceased. It is notable for the large number of musical compositions that it has inspired since 1470, including the requiems of Mozart, Verdi, Brahms, Berlioz, Fauré, and Duruflé. Originally, such compositions were meant to be performed in liturgical service; eventually however, the dramatic character of the text began to appeal to composers to an extent that made the requiem a genre of its own, and today such compositions have been taken out of their sacred context and have become perennial favorites of the concert stage.

Mozart himself died at age 35 before he was able to complete his *Requiem in d minor*; commissioned under mysterious circumstances through visits from a strange messenger during Mozart's final illness, the composition took on an other-worldly meaning in Mozart's mind as a prescient symbol of his own eminent death. After his death, his student Franz Süssmayr undertook to fill out and complete the sketches left by Mozart, thus preserving it for the generations that so are moved by it today.

On this All Saints' Sunday, we will reclaim the ancient practice of presenting a composed requiem in the context of a service that will include a ritual remembering of all those who rejoice with us, but from a farther shore, and in a greater light, and with whom we are one in Jesus Christ.

+ + + +

It is hoped that following links to performances of this music, will inspire and console you as we prepare to worship on Sunday.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54h8TxJyNy0> (with English subtitles!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dp2SJN4UiE4>

Mozart on death:

“As death, when we come to consider it closely, is the true goal of our existence, I have formed during the last few years such close relationships with this best and truest friend of mankind that death's image is not only no longer terrifying to me, but is indeed very soothing and

Surprise Visitors

By Jane Zebendon



Those of us worshipping in the sanctuary on Sunday, October 10, were greeted with a pleasant surprise. Sitting in the front row were Mark, Danielle, and four month old Samuel William Knowles. Mark and Danielle brought their son, born June 6, to FCC to introduce him to friends here and to dedicate themselves and ask our congregation to accept Sam into the loving care of the Church and to share responsibility in his growth toward fullness of life in Christ.

The congregation was invited by the Knowles to gather at Bryan Park in the afternoon to reconnect. The North shelter house was full of friends visiting and becoming reacquainted with the Knowles family. It was a beautiful afternoon – perfect for a demonstration of love and visiting.

Mark and Danielle have been a special part of our congregation. They moved from Bloomington to become missionaries to Lesotho, in South Africa, in December 2018. Their commitment was for three years but because of COVID-19, they returned to the United States after a year and a half. Mark told me that the vaccination rate in Lesotho is improving and they expect to be able to go back, perhaps by the end of the year, to serve out the remainder of their commitment.



They are presently living in Red Wing, Minnesota near family there. They were on a “road trip” through Bloomington, and from here they were going to Columbus, Ohio where they will introduce Sam to Mark’s grandmother and visit Mark’s family.



In Our Prayers . . .

Please hold in prayer our office administrator, Jennifer Fettchenhauer, and her family as they grieve the death of Jennifer’s mother, Linda Waco. She passed away on Friday, October 15 in Texas as she was getting ready to move to Bloomington. Cards and notes of support can be sent to Jennifer at 5337 E. State Rd. 46, Bloomington, IN 47401.

Congratulations Pastor Will and Marcia Jewsbury

Congratulations to Will and Marcia Jewsbury on the birth of granddaughter Hazel Ann on October 4. Hazel is the healthy, happy daughter of Chad (Will and Marcia’s son) and Kate. She is welcomed by big brother Easton, who is five. Cards and well wishes for the new grandchild can be sent to Will and Marcia at 6035 Cookie Drive, Charlestown, Indiana, 47111.





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



11/1	Fay	McIntyre	1918 S. Wilton Dr.	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/03	Peg	Albertson	1727 E. Windsor Drive	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/04	Gale	Hill	1007 E. Sherbrooke Dr.	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/07	John	Ambler	3674 Tamarron Drive	Bloomington	IN	47408
11/09	Sharon	O'Bryan	c/o Jill's House, 751 E. Tamarack Trail, Rm.	Bloomington	IN	47408
11/09	Connie	Myers	4813 N. Ashcroft Ln.	Bloomington	IN	47404
11/9	Scott	Fettchenhauer	5337 East State Road 46	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/11	Jasmine	Martoglio	4624 S. Whooping Crane Ln.	Bloomington	IN	47403
11/11	Aurelia	Martoglio	4624 S. Whooping Crane Ln.	Bloomington	IN	47403
11/15	Ken	Shafer	P.O. Box 1254	Bloomington	IN	47402
11/15	Sara	Dailey	4363 W. Gifford Rd.	Bloomington	IN	47403
11/16	Gabby	Johnson		Loogootee	IN	
11/17	Joanie	Breeden	3808 Woods Edge Bend	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/17	Gary	Hill	1007 E. Sherbrooke Dr.	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/17	Rhonda	Trippel	1497 E Commander Ct	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/17	Maya	Norris	3194 N. Dahlia Lane	Bloomington	IN	47404
11/18	Lilah	Knepper	3918 S. Woods Edge Bend	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/21	Henry	Street	4153 Hector Drive	Bloomington	IN	47408
11/22	Mildred	Blackburn	800 N. Bell Trace Cir. #107	Bloomington	IN	47408
11/25	Wren	Humphrey	900 South Grant Street	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/25	Mark	Knepper	3918 S. Woods Edge Bend	Bloomington	IN	47401
11/26	Jenn	Richards	1651 W. Dove Drive	Bloomington	IN	47403
11/27	Ben	Wesenberg	956 E. Hillside Dr.	Bloomington	IN	47401

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

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

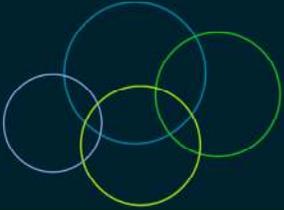
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The Christian Visitor

Vol. 63, no. 18



SHARING CHRIST'S INCLUSIVE LOVE
SERVING | WELCOMING | LEARNING | SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

**Join us October 24 at 10:00 am
as we wrap up our Stewardship emphasis
on Consecration Sunday.
*Sharing Christ's Inclusive Love
through Serving, Welcoming, Learning,
and Offering Spiritual Connections.***

**Scripture Readings
For Sunday Worship**

October 24
Mark 10:46-52
Consecration Sunday
Sarah Lynne Gershon preaching

October 31
All Saints Sunday
*Mozart's Requiem in d minor, K. 626
FCC Sanctuary Choir & Guest Musicians*

November 7
Mark 12:38-44
Verse 42 (*See Verse 40)*