

# The CHRISTIAN



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
*(Disciples of Christ)*

## Visitor



### Go and Do The Same

Commitment Season begins October 16 as we explore Christ's call to share compassion with our care, our time, our talents, and our monetary resources. Be transformed as we answer, "Yes!" to Christ's command that we "Go and do the same."

### It's Time to Sign-Up for the FCC Fall Retreat on October 22-23!

*Deadline to Sign-Up is October 14*

We hope you are planning to join us for some or all of this year's all-church retreat at Camp Bedford on Oct 22-23. The theme is *Seasons of the Spirit*. Pastors Kyrmen and Sarah Lynne will help us explore the meaning and significance of the Church's liturgical calendar through prayer, worship, activities and lots of fun. Saturday evening will feature a group game, evening vespers, and delicious s'mores. Sunday morning we will gather for worship and conversation and share in a craft after lunch that will allow EVERYONE to contribute to this year's Advent chancel covering!

The retreat is designed to be intergenerational, so bring your entire family, or bring a friend to meet your church family! Time is running out to get registered. The deadline to register is Oct. 14, so pick up a brochure at FCC and register NOW! You'll be happy you decided to join! See you at Camp Bedford.

#### *What's inside...*

Page 3 Jazz Vespers on Oct. 21!

Page 4 Elders and Deacons meetings

Page 5 All-Church Pitch-In on Oct. 26

*Look inside for pictures from the Blessing of the Animals!*

*Volume 64, number 17 October 5, 2022*

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## *The Minister's Missive*

*Commitment Season*

Dear Church,

October has arrived, so 'tis the season in which church folk expect to hear news of this year's stewardship campaign. I have an announcement to share: there will be no stewardship campaign this year.

Now that I have your attention. . . while we will not launch a stewardship campaign, we will observe a Commitment Season. Allow me to explain why that distinction matters. According to Google's English dictionary, stewardship is "the job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property." Practicing good stewardship means being thoughtful, responsible, forward-thinking, and ethical regarding those tangible things which we value, such as our money, our homes, our church building, and the earth itself. We also steward that which is less tangible, such as our skills, our time, our talents, and our care. When we put stewardship into a Christian context, we use the resources we have available to us to live out the command to love God and to love our neighbor.

The definition of campaign is "an organized course of action to achieve a goal." We often associate campaigns with military action or with political activities undertaken to win an election. A campaign has a clear ending point: when the war has ended or the election results are in, the campaign is over, and the executers of the campaign have either won or lost.

My problem with the term "stewardship campaign" is the implication that stewardship is something which deserves our attention for a few weeks out of the year. At the end of the campaign, our drive to exercise good stewardship is over. But that is not how stewardship works in the life of Christians. For those who endeavor to faithfully follow Christ, stewardship is a way of life to be practiced in all seasons. The topic of stewardship must be constantly engaged in our worship, in our small groups, in our meetings, in our outreach, and in everything we do as a church - not just in one season, but all year round.

This approach to the constant development and exercise of stewardship does not negate the reality that fall is budget-making time for our church. As our staff and church leaders plan the coming year's activities, we have to know how much money we will be able to transform into ministry. That's why it is crucial that all church members and participants consider prayerfully how much money they will commit to share with the church in 2023. We need that information so that we can plan for the great and powerful ways we will nurture faith inside this church and share compassion with those outside of it – and vice versa.

Beginning Sunday, October 16, our Commitment Season will begin as we engage in intentional, prayerful consideration of our monetary giving for 2023. On November 13, Commitment Sunday, we will dedicate our commitment cards in worship and celebrate with a fellowship luncheon.

May our church become stronger, more faithful, more generous, and more joyful through the Commitment Season ahead!

Shalom,

*Pastor Kyrmen*

317-408-9782

[pastorkyrmen@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkyrmen@gmail.com)





**Performance of Gabriel Fauré’s Requiem  
On November 5 at 4:00 pm  
Freewill Offering Received to Benefit MCUM**

The combined choirs of First Presbyterian Church, Unitarian Universalist Church, St. Mark’s United Methodist Church (UMC) and First Christian Church will come together for a performance of Gabriel Fauré’s Requiem on *November 5 at 4:00 pm at St. Mark’s UMC* located at 100 N 46 Bypass. The concert is free, although a freewill offering will be collected to benefit Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM).

Gabriel Fauré once described his *Requiem* as “a lullaby of death.” The creation was most probably a tribute to his father, who died in 1885, three years before work on the *Requiem* began. You will not here morose themes in his Requiem. Instead, Fauré focuses on the restful and fear-free nature of death. In fact, he called death, “a happy deliverance... rather than a painful experience.”

We hope you will consider joining us for this special performance on November 5 which is purposefully scheduled near All Saints Day.



**— unity —**

The Keller-Tuberg Trio  
with  
Marina Alba López, vocalist

**Join us**

on October 21 at 6:30 pm  
for Third Friday Jazz Vespers  
at First Christian Church.

This service combines readings of poetry and psalms with jazz music that will soothe your soul.

If you haven't attended a Jazz Vespers service, consider joining us on October 21 as we reflect on the theme of “unity.”

### A Note to Elders and Deacons

After a period of dormancy, our Elders and Deacons are reactivating to serve our congregation. If you are an Elder or Deacon and have NOT recently received a communication from Pastor Kyrmen, please contact her. Here are some important dates:

**Wednesday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m.** – Organizational meeting for Elders

**Saturday, November 12 at 9:00 a.m.** – Visitation training for Elders and Deacons

**Saturday, November 12 at 11:00 a.m.** – Worship service training for Deacons



### A New Opportunity to Lead during Worship

For those who enjoy reading scripture aloud, an opportunity awaits! Beginning Sunday, November 27, the first Sunday of Advent, a new role will be introduced in our worship service. Every Sunday, a Worship Leader will lead the Call to Worship and read the first scripture passage. Our Worship Elders will continue to assist in leading other parts of the service.

Anyone who would enjoy this opportunity is invited to serve; you do not need to be an Elder or even a member of the church. Youth and children are welcome and encouraged! To find out more or to be added to the Worship Leader schedule, please contact Linda Abe at [abels@iu.edu](mailto:abels@iu.edu) or Jennifer in the church office at 812-332-4459 or [fcc@fccbloomington.org](mailto:fcc@fccbloomington.org).

### Church Chat with Pastor Kyrmen

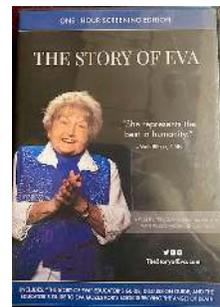
Have you been visiting FCC for a while and are now finding yourself interested in learning more about our congregation? Are you curious about the history, beliefs, and practices of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)? Are you considering whether membership in our church might be right for you? Come and chat with Pastor Kyrmen in her office after worship this Sunday, October 9 from 11:15 to 12:15 to explore these questions and more! This will be an informal opportunity for conversation and getting to know one another better.



### All Church Pitch-In and Movie on October 26

Please join us for an opportunity for fellowship Wednesday, October 26 at 6:30 pm in Great Hall for a potluck and showing of the film, *The story of Eva*...the amazing transformation of child Holocaust survivor Eva Kor. It is an uplifting story of her transformation from loss to forgiveness and joy. We will provide ham and a vegetarian entrée along with drinks. Bring a side dish or dessert if you are able.

**See you there!**



### *In Our Prayers...*

Please pray for the family of Marlene Vass (91) who passed away in her home on September 18. Memorial contributions can be made to the Marlene Vass Camp Fund at the Monroe County YMCA where she was Executive Director until her retirement in 1999.

### **Congratulations Santos and Breeden Family!**

Congratulations to Gena and Bryan Santos on the birth of their baby boy, Angelo, on September 24. Gena (daughter of Richard and Joanie Breeden) and Bryan were married at FCC on October 26, 2019.

Congratulatory Cards and notes can be sent to Joanie at 3808 Woods Edge Bend, Bloomington, 47401.

### ***Blessing of the Animals 2022***

*FCC Friends and Family gathered on our beautiful lawn on this sunny fall day to celebrate our animal friends with a special blessing.*

*Pictures are sprinkled throughout this edition of :*

***The Christian Visitor.***





### Register Now for Regional Assembly on November 5

Reasons to go to Regional Assembly:

1. You get to connect with people from Disciples of Christ congregations from across the state.
2. You get to serve as a voting representative of our congregation regarding matters of business that are important in our Region. Our church may take up to five voting delegates; currently, only two voting delegates are registered. Talk to Pastor Kyrmen if you want to know more about what it means to serve in this way.
3. You get to participate in an awesome service of worship which will include inspiring preaching by Janae Pitts-Murdock, senior pastor of Light of the World Christian Church in Indianapolis.
4. You get to learn from keynote speaker Rev. Sandhya Rani Jha, a nationally known anti-oppression trainer and consultant.
5. You get to carpool with Pastor Kyrmen (if you so choose) and enjoy a day of getting to know the Assembly participants from FCC better.

Why wait? Registration closes on Oct. 22. If you need assistance with the \$45 registration fee, get in touch with Pastor Kyrmen. If you'd like to participate but just can't make it to Indianapolis, there is an option to attend on-line. Register here: <https://indianadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2020/>



### Exodus Refugee Update *Donation Request*

Our family is gradually getting settled here in Bloomington, and our Host Team is busy helping them with shopping, and learning their way around town. One of the things our team is helping with is grocery shopping. Our volunteers are busy taking them shopping as they learn new ways of providing food for their family. Grocery stores here are very different from the markets they are used to. So, we are in need of gift cards for Kroger that we can use on these grocery shopping outings. We are asking for Kroger gift cards in amounts of \$50, \$75 or \$100. If you can help by providing a gift card, please bring your purchased gift card to Jennifer at the FCC office or to Sarah Lynne Gershon. Thank you!



### Menstrual Care and Incontinence Products Drive *for MCUM during October!*

Voices of Faith, a network of Disciples Women, has committed this year to address women's health and wellness in our community.

In October, we are conducting a drive to collect menstrual care and incontinence products for Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) clients. Please drop off donations to FCC during the month of October. A box will be available at both of the sanctuary entrances.



### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



|       |                       |                                  |                |       |
|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 11/01 | Fay McIntyre          | 1918 S. Wilton Dr.               | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/03 | Hannah Watson         | 864 S. Coriander Court           | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/03 | Crystal Hammon        | 1838 E. Water's Edge Dr. Unit 77 | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/04 | Gale Hill             | 1007 E. Sherbrooke Dr.           | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/07 | John Ambler           | 915 E. Juniper Place             | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 11/09 | Scott Fettchenhauer   | 5337 E. State Rd. 46             | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/09 | Connie Myers          | 4813 N. Ashcroft Ln.             | Bloomington IN | 47404 |
| 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 | Sara Dailey Munoz     | 4363 W. Gifford Rd.              | Bloomington IN | 47403 |
| 11/17 | Joanie Breeden        | 3808 Woods Edge Bend             | 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 | Charlotte Irvine Sinn | 2743 E. Buttonwood Lane          | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/18 | Lilah Knepper         | 3918 S. Woods Edge Bend          | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 11/25 | Wren Humphrey         | 900 S. Grant St.                 | 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 |

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



**Candy Donations Needed for Downtown Trick or Treating!**

FCC will once again be a stop on Bloomington's Downtown Trick or Treat event! It takes place on Friday, **October 28 from 5-8pm.**

Please drop off your donated candy (individually wrapped) at FCC by Sunday, October 23. This is such a fun event! If the weather is nice, we will be on the lawn. Join us for all the fun as we welcome families to this downtown tradition!

Happy Halloween!





First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
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**Scripture Readings  
For Sunday Worship**

**October 9**

*Sarah Lynne Gershon preaching*

Psalm 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

**October 16**

*Go and Do the Same*

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Luke 10:25-37

**October 23**

*David Garshaw preaching*

Timothy 4:16-18

Luke 18:9-14