

The CHRISTIAN





FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

Visitor

Join Us As We Honor Our Saints on November 6

Join us for a very special worship service at 10:00 am this Sunday, November 6, 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 special music and we will light a candle in memory of each member of our FCC family who has passed on in this last year. Additionally, a candle table will be available for you to light a candle in honor or in memory of the saints in your life. We hope you will join us for this very special Sunday.

Remembering FCC's Saints

Mildred Blackburn

Doris Brineman

William "Bill" DeMier

Andrea "Andie" Dutton

Gary Hill

Ryan Hill

Sharon O'Bryan

A Note to Elders and Deacons

Our Elders and Deacons are reactivating to serve our congregation. If you are a current elder or deacon, please plan to attend these important meetings. Here are some important dates:

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

What's inside...

Page 4 Commitment Sunday details

Page 4 Reign of Christ Sunday

Page 5 Advent is coming!

Page 6 Exodus Refugee Update

Page 6 November Drive for Beacon

The Minister's Missive *Gratitude for Our Church*

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, Most High;
to proclaim your loyal love in the morning,
your faithfulness at nighttime. . . (Psalm 92:1-2)*

Dear Church,

We were made for gratitude! Throughout the scriptures, we are encouraged to give God our thanksgiving for God's goodness and for the many blessings of the created world. I would like to invite you to take some time to give thanks for one particularly special gift: our church!

Here are some of the ways in which I am experiencing gratitude for FCC:

- I am grateful for the beautiful music that is offered to glorify God each Sunday morning in our sanctuary.
- I am grateful for the close relationships that are nurtured within our small groups.
- I am grateful for a hard-working, talented staff that is committed to Christ's ministry.
- I am grateful for our neighborhood guests who join us for refreshments and often for worship; they offer us the gift of their trust when they come into our building.
- I am grateful for this congregation's commitment to doing justice and sharing compassion.
- I am grateful for new ministries that are being dreamed, planned, and executed, such as last week's wonderful pitch-in dinner and movie.
- I am grateful for old ministries that are finding new life, such as our cookie ministry for visitors.
- I am grateful for our spacious building which invites us to imagine the many ways it can bless our community as we steward its use.
- I am grateful for the kids from Stages Youth Theater who are filling the Great Hall with music, dancing, activity, and joy four times per week.
- I am grateful for the volunteers who have been working hard to reimagine and reactivate Sunday morning fellowship time so that we can share conversation and care over a cup of coffee and snacks each week.
- I am grateful for the energy that is building in our church as we seek to discern what great plans God has in store for us.

I could go on and on, but how about if you take a turn instead? What about our church makes you feel grateful? Why not take a few minutes to jot some ideas down? Maybe you could even share those ideas with someone else in the church! Wouldn't it be wonderful to get a note from a church friend about the ways in which our church is a blessing?!

May your heart be filled with gratitude this day!

Shalom,

Pastor Kyrmen

317-408-9782

pastorkyrmen@gmail.com



Ecumenical Effort Brings Singers Together

By Tim Jessen

What makes a choir of almost 100 participants from 5 congregations of Protestant Reformation churches want to sing together a Catholic Requiem Mass to honor “All Saints’ Day?” (All Saints’ Day is November 1, and the night before always a “hallowed Eve.”) Perhaps it is their desire to get together again in song after the long period of pandemic, when singing was discouraged. At any rate, local churches representing Presbyterian, Methodist, Disciples, Unitarian-Universalist, and uniting (Baptist/Congregational) denominational streams will soon join to sing such a Requiem by Gabriel Faure.

Perhaps the Faure is a choral favorite because of its rich melodies and beautiful, yet traditional words from the Latin mass for the dead. But it is also a profound prayer for peace at a time when nationally and globally we remain divided and it has been a long time since anything like this has happened here.

This Chorus will perform the work as a benefit concert **at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church on the bypass at 4 P.m. Saturday, November 5th**. In addition to the choristers, the Directors have shared preparation and will share conducting duties. They will include Susan Swaney, from the Jacobs School of Music and the UU congregation, and students Alex Koppel (Presbyterian), and Eric Meincke (First United). In another delightful example of “town-gown” cooperation, soloists for the work will be chosen from Choral Scholars in the participating congregations. Many churches employ IU Jacobs School of Music students to augment their choral ensembles and assist in musical activities. The two organists also share an affiliation: Christopher Young is organist at First Presbyterian, and his student Shayla VanHal is his graduate student serving at First Christian Church. Partners Jan Harrington and Gerry Sousa, long known for

conducting careers in University and community, have helped bring it all together. There will also be a small orchestra providing accompaniment, and that cost has been jointly shared by the participating churches.

This marvelous effort also mirrors another ecumenical concern: It is a Benefit concert (free-will offering) for Monroe County United Ministries (often referred to as “Mac-Um”). This joint effort begun many years ago by local churches now has interfaith dimensions, but continues its main work of helping local citizens climb out of poverty, with also a long history of child-care, and services to alleviate hunger. MCUM says that during the last year demand for its services and assistance has doubled, largely due to the pandemic. The five congregations singing together are all great supporters of this effort to cooperatively serve the neediest among us.

Writing about the Requiem, one of the musicians writes that “perhaps the most beloved and innovative of Requiems is this one by the Parisian composer Gabriel Fauré-- almost childlike in its peacefulness, serenity, and elegant and subtle musical language.”

As we view a polarized and divided country and world, it is good to highlight the experience of people coming together to share music of comfort. Exactly 505 years after the Reformation began, All can join in a joyful—yet somber affirmation of our much-needed unity, a solemn prayer for peace—not just for the departed, but for all people. Joining University and town to reach out to the neediest among us is a virtue we can all commend, and for these moments and beyond, all of us can strive to be “living saints”—bringing some hope to others and proclaiming peace to all humankind.

“O blest communion, fellowship divine!

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;

Yet, all are One in Thee, for all are Thine:

Alleluia! Alleluia!”

“For All the Saints”, William How, 1864



Go and Do the Same

Commitment Season at FCC has been a time to explore Christ’s call to share compassion with our care, our time, our talents, and our monetary resources.

As you consider how you will share your resources supporting FCC Ministries, consider what the church means to you. Fill out your commitment card and bring it to worship on November 13 for Commitment Sunday as we answer “Yes!” to Christ’s command that we “Go and do the same.”

Then, join us in the Great Hall for an All-Church Soup Lunch celebration. You can sign up to help with this lunch at the signup on the reception desk at church, or the online signup:

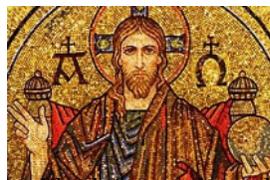
<https://signup.com/go/FqZwPTx>

Third Friday Jazz Vespers

- Listen -

The Keller-Tuberg Trio
with
Marina Alba López, vocalist

Join us on Nov. 18 at 6:30 pm
For Third Friday Jazz Vespers
At FCC



Reign of Christ Sunday November 20

The last Sunday before Advent in the liturgical calendar is **Reign of Christ Sunday**. On this Sunday we celebrate Jesus’ authority as the Christ and look forward to when all creation is saved in him. We will read and sing through stories about Jesus’ life and ministry. The scriptures remind us that Christ’s authority does not come through coercive rule, but sacrificial love. Jesus’ teachings assure us that God’s authority does not limit our freedom or work against our well-being. Instead we find freedom and joy, the ability to be fully ourselves in community, when we are able to conform ourselves to Christ, receiving and sharing Christ’s love.

We will celebrate Reign of Christ Sunday with a service of scripture readings, hymns, and special music. Join us for this special Sunday as we conclude our church year.



Thanksgiving Offering Received Nov. 13 & 20

The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses. We will receive this offering on Nov. 13 and 20.

Advent is coming!

Our Advent theme is Be Ready! Please pick up our Advent devotional when you leave worship on Nov 13 or 20. The devotional focuses on the way the traditional Advent themes—hope, peace, joy, and love—inspire ministries of relief, refugees, preparedness, and recovery.

In the children's Sunday school Jude will be leading a special craft project for the four Sundays of Advent and we have signed up to sponsor one MCUM family's Christmas gifts. We will send out a date for Christmas shopping soon. Please come and Be Ready! for this season by setting aside Sundays for your family's faith formation. We won't be creating an Advent calendar this year, but in the spirit of our devotional's focus on service ministries, I encourage you to use this **"Reverse Advent Calendar"** and donate these nonperishables to MCUM.

Pastors Kyrmen and Sarah Lynne will lead the Family Christmas Eve Service this year and it will be a little bit different, so stay tuned! We look forward to worshipping with you and your littles on Christmas Eve.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

**FYI... Advent Devotional Books will be available
beginning November 13 before and after worship.
Be sure to get your copy!**



Hanging of the Greens on Nov. 20

Mark your calendars for the Hanging of the Greens following worship on Sunday, November 20th. Join us as we decorate FCC for the Advent Season!



Exodus Refugee Update

Our family is slowly adjusting to a very different world! They are learning to use modern appliances, shop at a grocery store, budget their (limited) funds, and get themselves around town on the bus.

Our FCC team is committed to making sure they have adequate food for another month. Many members of our team have taken the family on weekly shopping trips and Eve (FCC's Office Assistant Admin) showed our family how to make good, budget-friendly choices at the grocery store. The family is well on their way to being able to shop for themselves! Cindy and Ashante taught them how to bus to Kroger (it might be their favorite place right now!) and Exodus has gotten them signed up for food stamps. Judith has been making regular visits, getting to know the family and assessing other needs. Thank goodness she is able to notice the little things they are still confused about (like what food goes in the fridge or the pantry)! Betsy has taken the lead on getting them their own checking accounts and David has been the driver of the year. He picked up a new family member that just arrived in Indy! It turns out that there are more family members waiting to be relocated to Bloomington. An older son arrived last week and we are grateful for his presence. The newest development is that (thanks to Linda's hard work!) the family has signed up for daily English classes. Sarah Lynne taught them how to bus there on their first day of class, Oct 31st, and they bussed there on their own the next day.

We remain grateful to congregants who have helped furnish their apartment and provide the funds that allow us to buy them groceries and other essentials as we help them get oriented to life in Bloomington. Many of you have asked if there is anything else you can do. Right now the big need is finding them work! If you notice places that are hiring where someone with limited English might be able to work, send that info along with an application (or a link to the application online) to sarahlynnne@fccbloomington.org. We have also brought the family to church once and they want to come again. Make sure to say hello when they do come! The younger members of the family (the three sons) are learning English and will practice with you. Finally, if you want to really get involved, I would welcome more people who want to visit and help the family directly. That could be you! Please reach out to Sarah Lynne if you would like to connect with our family in that way.

Thank You for Making October's MCUM Drive a Success! Voices of Faith Announces November Drive for Winter Clothing

Thank you to all FCC members who responded to the October drive for menstrual and incontinence supplies for clients of Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM). We were excited to deliver your donations to MCUM. They are thankful for your generosity to those in need in our community.

With cold weather upon us now, Voices of Faith is hosting another important drive for November. ***We will be collecting hats, gloves, scarves, long underwear, thick socks, boots, and hand warmers for those (men and women) experiencing homelessness in our community.*** Your donations will be delivered to Shalom Center (Beacon) at the end of the month. Boxes will soon be set up in the Narthex. Both new apparel and gently-used items in a variety of sizes for men and women are welcome. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Sandy Bate at sbate1@mac.com or Sue Fettchenhauer at sfsoprano@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for sharing and for helping us offer aid to those in our community who are experiencing homelessness and poverty.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



| | | | | | |
|-------|----------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 12/01 | Connie | Daugherty | 4412 Hillview Drive | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 12/02 | Judith | Olmsted | 4495 N. Benton Ct. | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 12/03 | Linda | Campbell | 1087 S. Fieldcrest Ct. | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/04 | Evelyn | Butler | 2414 E. Fifth Street | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 12/04 | Maria | Lee | 3421 W. Tyler Lane | Bloomington IN | 47403 |
| 12/05 | Mary | Polk | 715 S. Meadowbrook | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/05 | Elma | Jessen | 3632 W. Indian Creek | Bloomington IN | 47403 |
| 12/11 | Thomas | Thompson | 2430 Arlington Rd. | Bloomington IN | 47404 |
| 12/14 | Noah | Knepper | 3918 S. Woods Edge | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/16 | Jennifer | Fettchenhauer | 5337 E. State Rd. 46 | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/16 | Mary | Droste | 800 N. Bell Trace | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 12/18 | Iver | Gershon | 909 N. Blair Ave. | Bloomington IN | 47404 |
| 12/20 | John | Adams | 3911 W. Maybury Mall | Bloomington IN | 47403 |
| 12/21 | Jean | Thompson | 3636 S. Glasgow Circle | Bloomington IN | 47403 |
| 12/25 | Marc | Wagner | 2260 Olde Mill Drive | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/28 | Chuck | Jones | 2615 E. Second St., | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/29 | Gerry | Miller | 2455 N. Tamarack | Bloomington IN | 47408 |
| 12/29 | Cole | Watson | 864 S. Coriander | Bloomington IN | 47401 |
| 12/31 | Bess | Lee | 1028 S. Henderson St. | Bloomington IN | 47401 |

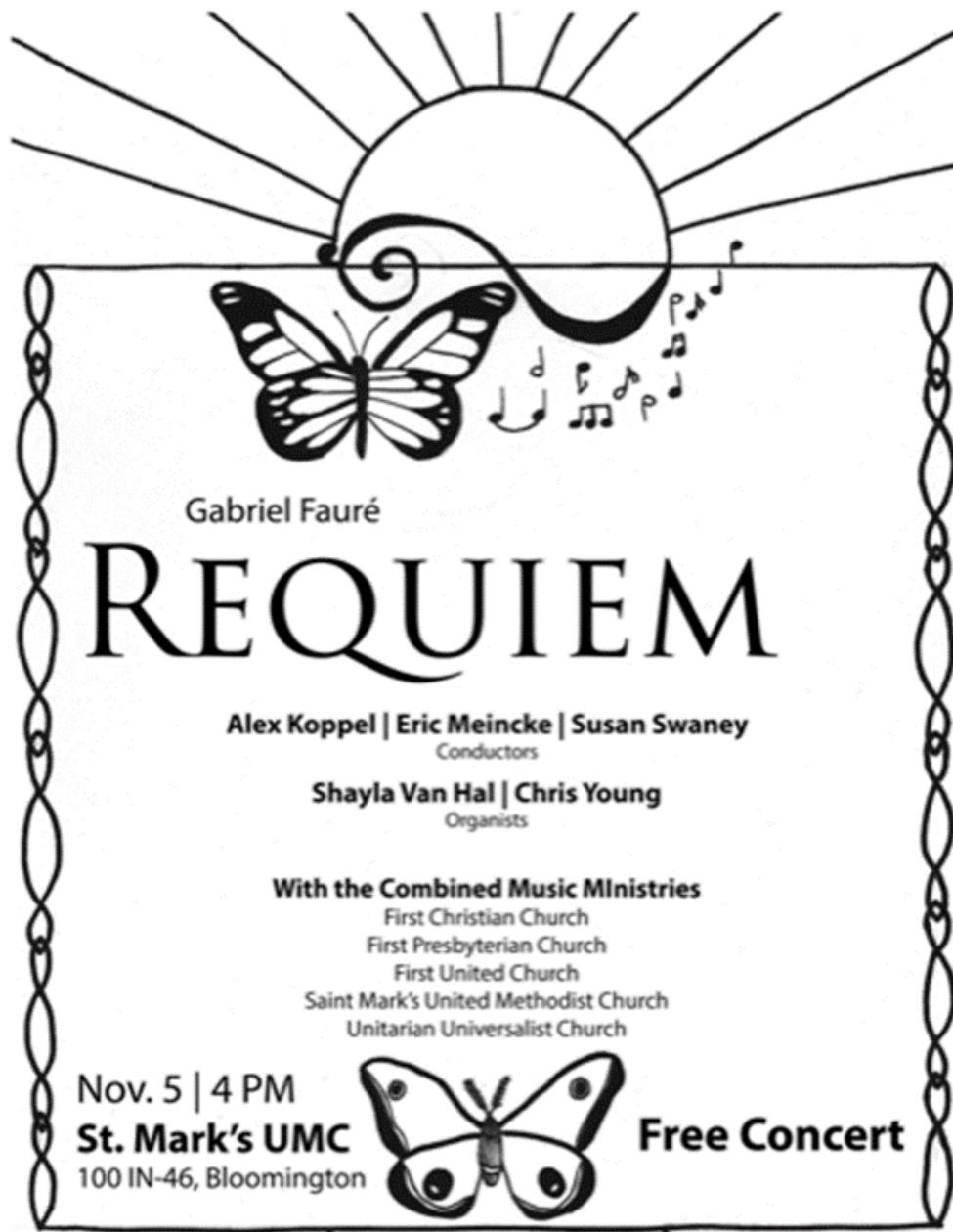
Please let us know if we have left anyone off of the birthday list!

Congratulations Smith and Welch Family!

Congratulations to Allie and Terrance Smith on the birth of their baby boy, Terrence "Tripp" Anthony Smith III, on October 5. Allie is the daughter of Chip and Cindy Welch, who are elated to welcome their new grandson Tripp.

Congratulatory cards and notes can be sent to Allie and Terrance at 13128 Glenside Dr., Fishers, 46037 and to Cindy and Chip at 930 W 2nd Street, Bloomington, 47403. Welcome to the world, Tripp!





Gabriel Fauré

REQUIEM

Alex Koppel | Eric Meincke | Susan Swaney
Conductors

Shayla Van Hal | Chris Young
Organists

With the Combined Music Ministries
First Christian Church
First Presbyterian Church
First United Church
Saint Mark's United Methodist Church
Unitarian Universalist Church

Nov. 5 | 4 PM
St. Mark's UMC
100 IN-46, Bloomington



Free Concert

**All Donations
Support MCUM**

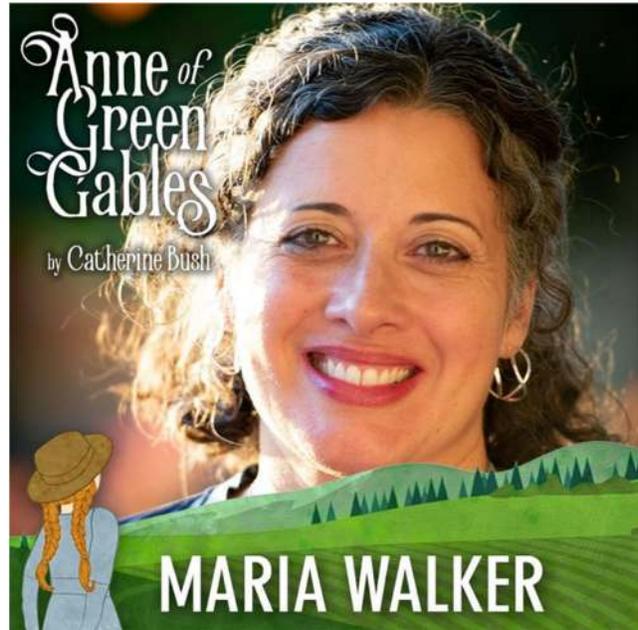


Poster Art: Anna Voskuil

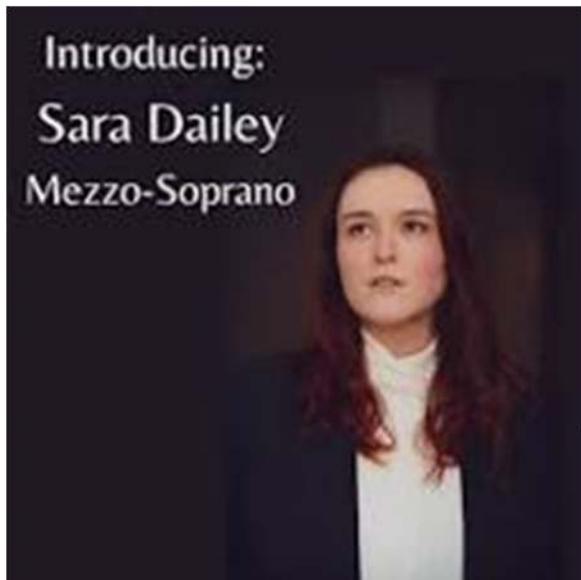
FCC Choral Scholars in the Community!

Maria Walker Izzo On Stage in November!

You may recognize one of the leading characters in Constellation's production of "Anne of the Green Gables." FCC's Choral scholar Maria Izzo Walker plays Marilla Cuthbert in the production set to run November 10-27 at the Waldron Auditorium. Get your tickets online at <https://seeconstellation.org/kids/anne/>



Sara Dailey in Concert in November!



And FCC's Choral Scholar Sara Daily will be performing as a guest soloist with the Bloomington Chamber Singers this month. Their concert of American Choral Music takes place on November 12 and includes the music of Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Dominick DiOrio, Lauridsen, and others. A concert you won't want to miss! Get your tickets online at:

<https://www.chambersingers.info/concerts-all/american-choral-gems>

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

812-332-4459
fcc@fccbloomington.org
www.fccbloomington.org
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Bloomington, IN 47408
Permit #217



The Christian Visitor

Vol. 64, no. 18



**Scripture Readings
For Sunday Worship**

November 6

Job 19:23-27a

Luke 20:27-38

November 13

Isaiah 1:10-18 (CEB)

Luke 189:1-10 (CEB)

November 20 -Reign of Christ

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

November 24 - First Sunday of Advent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 100