

The CHRISTIAN

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

Congregational Meeting This Sunday, April 10

Search Committee to Present a Candidate for Senior Minister

The FCC congregation is invited to gather **this Sunday, April 10, at 11:00 a.m.** for a called congregational meeting. The single item of business is considering the work of our Search Committee as they present a candidate for Senior Minister.

The search committee has been working for more than 18 months, first recommending our interim minister, Pastor Will Jewsbury, and then starting the search process for a settled pastor. The process recommended by our regional and national church, and our church bylaws, charges the Search Committee with preparing a congregational profile, screening and interviewing potential candidates, and then presenting one candidate to the church board and congregation.

The board reviewed the recommendation of the search committee last Sunday and voted to recommend the candidate to the congregation.

The congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary following worship. You can also join by Zoom. A Zoom link will be sent to all church members. Those joining by Zoom will be able to vote along with those who are in-person.

We celebrate and thank our search committee for their faithful work on behalf of all of us. They are: Jim Watson, Amy Wardlow, Amy Hoover, John Walsh, Sarah Knepper, & Terry Daugherty.

Join Us for Holy Week at FCC

April 10

Palm Sunday



10:00 am Worship with Special Presentation

"The Cry of the Whole Congregation"

11:30 am Lenten Pretzel making (Great Hall)

12:00-3:00 pm Pack the Pickup for MCUM

April 14

Maundy Thursday



7:30 pm Worship *"Light to the Darkness"* with cellist Adriana Contino

April 15

Good Friday



12:10 pm Community Good Friday Service at First United Church

6:30 pm Third Friday Jazz Vespers

"Good Friday Reflections"

April 17

Easter Sunday



10:00 am Worship. Join us as we celebrate the resurrection!

11:15 am Easter Egg Hunt after worship.

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Will Writes
The Anointed One, Humbly Christened to Serve

The past couple of weeks have offered us the diversions of the Oscars and Grammys, with red carpet spectacles of stars and the challenge of large egos trying to sound humble as awards were granted or lost. Movie stars and musicians serve the role of royalty in our culture, and they are often happy to indulge our fantasies during the award show season as they sweep down the red carpet and seem larger than life on our television screens.

Throughout history, there have always been those who become larger than life, set apart, or the focus of attention. Kings, warlords, the beautiful and privileged, and other power brokers receive our attention, and occasionally even our reverence.

Diana Butler Bass wrote in her Sunday blog about the story of Mary anointing Jesus, setting him apart and lifting him up. But she remarks that this was different:

Mary proclaimed Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, the king of Israel. This scene is, essentially, Jesus' coronation before he rides the donkey in triumphant procession to Jerusalem. A woman anoints him as king. That would be radical enough. But she didn't anoint his head — like the kings of Israel had been before him — rather she anointed his feet. And then Mary wiped the oil, turning her own hair into a priestly handkerchief. His feet; her hair. This kingdom was not that of headship, thrones, and crowns. Rather, this kingdom is a table of mutuality, where even the Anointed One was humbly christened to serve.

As we move into Holy Week with the grand procession of Palm Sunday and then our shouts of “He is Risen!” on Easter, it is appropriate to speak of Jesus as king. As we do, may we remember that he is unlike any other king or celebrity. Jesus is the King whose feet were anointed. He goes before us into the world, walking the paths of life we tread. He joins us in living life where we are and as we are.

I invite you to enter Holy week and Easter filled with hope that the King whose feet were anointed is also the one who walks with us on our shared journey. May we join in worship and praise!

Grace and Peace,

Will

Will



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE OF COMMUNION AND MEDITATION
 LIGHT TO THE DARKNESS
 Thursday, April 14, 7:30 PM

The Light, The Water, The Table, The Garden, The Courtyard, The Cross, The Darkness



Adriana Contino - Cellist

On Maundy Thursday, the Sanctuary Choir will be joined by guest cellist Adriana Contino as we trace the journey of Christ during the last days of Holy Week. This moving service of worship includes a series of readings, prayer, scripture, meditation and observance of communion that begins with Christ's promise of the light Christ can bring to lives and moves with the events of Holy Week through a Tenebrae service of extinguishing candles at the death of Jesus.

Our guest musician, Adriana Contino, is a cellist noted for her versatility and musicianship as a soloist, chamber musician and continuo cellist, as well as her abiding commitment to pedagogy and the profound humanity and spirituality that she brings to her art. As a professor of cello, baroque cello and chamber music at the Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Germany, she taught and concertized from 1991 to 2012. From 1987 to 1991 she served as principal cellist of both the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra and Bach Collegium with which she toured worldwide as soloist. In 1976, having completed a bachelor of music at Indiana University with Janos Starker, she was appointed to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Andre Previn. She was that orchestra's youngest member and the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra's first female principal cellist.

Currently, Adriana lives in Indianapolis and teaches at Anderson University, and is a regular guest lecturer at the University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the University of Colorado, and other schools of music around the country. In addition to her teaching and concertizing, she is regularly found sharing her healing artistry as skilled improviser and communicative player as a volunteer in hospitals, retirement communities, and hospice settings.



Good Friday Reflection
 A Special Jazz Vespers Service
 Friday, April 15 at 6:30 pm

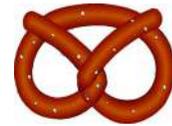
This month's Jazz Vespers Service on Good Friday evening will offer a time of reflection on both the persecution, pain and suffering of Jesus and on the suffering of countless of God's children throughout our world experienced each and every day. We will also reflect on our response to that suffering. The Garrett Spoelhof Trio will be joined by singer Marina Alba Lopez to lead us with meditative music. During our reflection through psalms, poetry, and prayer, we will contemplate transgression, then remorse, and finally embrace God's redemptive love. Please join us in person to sing and pray as we come to the end of Holy Week and Lent in expectation of the joy of Easter. The service will be live in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm and live-streamed on our website – www.fccbloomington.org.

FCC Family Ministries Update

Palm Sunday at FCC!

This Sunday is Palm Sunday and there are some special things happening! First, there will be a special “reader’s theater” style worship service dramatizing Holy Week events. Children and youth will be invited to gather in the PrayGround at one point to shout the Palm Sunday *hosannas!* After this moment, young children will be invited to join Haley Norris and Linda Abe in Worship and Wonder.

After worship we will make Lenten pretzels in the Great Hall. Lent pretzels are a fun activity that reminds us to focus on prayer during Holy Week. Thanks to Carie Johann for making the dough again for the pretzels! ***Please let Sarah Lynne know if your family will attend.***



Finally, this is your last opportunity to bring donations for our MCUM resource drive. Please talk to your children about the work of MCUM and decide together what your family can bring for the resource drive.

Easter Sunday



Be sure to bring your Easter basket on Easter Sunday. We will host our annual Easter Egg Hunt following worship!

Easter Coffee Fellowship

We will be hosting a Pitch-In Coffee Fellowship for Easter Sunday! Kate Kroll is coordinating this effort. Please consider bringing fruit, pastry, or Eastery finger food to share! Contact Kate or Sarah Lynne to let them know if you can contribute.

Youth Pizza Night & Egg Hunt Preps

Saturday, April 16th from 5-7 pm youth are encouraged to gather, eat pizza, and stuff the Easter eggs for the next morning’s Easter egg hunt after worship. Please contact Ashlyn Reynolds if your youth plans to come. Please let Ashlyn know if they can help hide eggs on Easter morning as well.



Sunday April 10 and 17, 2022

A special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund



supporting general ministries of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Lenten MCUM Drive Pack the Pickup!

On Palm Sunday, April 10, you will have one last opportunity to participate in this important drive! You can drive through our East side alley from Kirkwood and fill Pastor Will's pickup truck. He will be out there waiting for your donations from noon to 3:00 pm. MCUM would appreciate non-perishable pantry items, cleaning supplies, or supplies for their preschool.

Preschool Supply Requests

Books for 1-4 year olds
Blocks
Dress-up items
Classroom supplies (various art supplies)

Food Pantry Ongoing Needs

Reusable cloth bags	Frozen meat
Canned meat	Canned Vegetables
Peanut Butter	Cereal
Dried Pasta	Ready to Eat Soup

Exodus Refugee Co-Sponsor Team Meeting

Sunday, April 24 at 1:00 PM



**EXODUS
REFUGEE**
The life ahead.

It's not too late to join our team with Exodus Refugee Bloomington. Join us for a team meeting on Sunday, April 24 at 1:00 pm on Zoom. Contact Sarah Lynne for the Zoom Link!

This meeting will last for around 1.5 hours and will provide you with all the information you need to make a final decision about joining an FCC Co-Sponsor team with Exodus Refugee Bloomington. Joining this meeting is not a commitment, but I will be asking you to send me your decision afterwards so we know if we have enough participants for a team. Thanks to everyone who is considering this exciting opportunity!

An Invitation from the FCC Thriving Connections Dinner Group

Prior to the pandemic, for several years, a group at FCC volunteered to work with families participating in the Thriving Connections (TC) initiative, a part of the South Central Community Action Program. On a quarterly basis, our group cooked and served dinners for the families at their Thursday evening meetings. TC participants are individuals or families who are motivated to get out of poverty. Each individual or family is paired with "allies" – people with stable resources who have been trained to work with and support them. Thriving Connections is currently needing volunteers to serve as allies. Please consider helping these "folks" in their determination to move forward in a different direction with their lives. **Contact Joanne Weddle** if you have questions about Thriving Connections and have interest in becoming an Ally. We are hopeful there are others in our congregation who are interested and willing to help support our community members who are making connections to leave poverty behind.

Update from BMA F4RE's Capstone Event & opportunities to get involved!

Bloomington Multifaith Alliance Faith for Racial Equity (BMA F4RE) had their capstone event for *The Sum of Us* Bloomington-wide book read last Sunday. There were two presenters, Ashley Pirani and April Hennessey. The event was hybrid: in-person and online. FCC's Sarah Lynne Gershon hosted the Zoom section of this event.

Ashley Pirani presented on the Monroe County Black Democratic Caucus' work researching the history of housing discrimination in Monroe County. This research is being done to consider if there is a need for housing reparations for people of color. So far, they have found a lot of racially restricted housing deeds and covenants. It is important to note that these covenants were enforced long after they were deemed unconstitutional, some put onto new homes as late as the 1980's! Ms. Pirani explained how these restrictions and other policies prevented people of color from owning homes and building equity and wealth through home-ownership. The restriction remains on the housing deeds, but there is a way to repudiate them on the document. *There is still work to be done researching and mapping the areas that have racially restrictive covenants. Sarah Lynne will be attending a training through the history museum on how to do this research and add information to a map online. Please contact her at sarahlynn@fcbloomington.org if you would like to join her in the training.*

April Hennessey discussed the intersection between poverty and race and the challenges that poses to students and educators in our public schools. She shared data related to the disparity between people of color and white students in disciplinary action, showing that both poverty and being a person of color correspond with more disciplinary action. She discussed the equity goals the school board currently has and encouraged participants to be informed about candidates for the school board and support candidates that want to work towards those equity goals. She also noted that there is an upcoming referendum for bringing more money into MCCSC schools.

If you are interested in practical, faith-inspired racial equity work, you are encouraged to contact bmaf4re@gmail.com to join their email list and attend their meetings. This group will continue to follow up on education and work towards racial equity in Bloomington. The next BMA F4RE meeting is Thursday, April 24 at noon.



Benefit Raises Nearly \$3,000 for Ukraine Relief

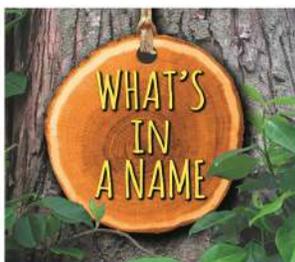
Thank you to all who came out in support of the concert benefiting relief efforts in Ukraine. The Ukrainian Studies Organization at IU that hosted the event in our sanctuary reports that they were able to raise almost \$3,000 that evening! Thank you also to Joe and Bess Lee for creating the beautiful pins available for a donation.



Honoring our 2022 Graduates!

Spring always brings warmer weather, beautiful flowers... and **graduations!** We are looking forward to celebrating our graduates and their accomplishments. We are developing our list of high school and college graduates now and will celebrate them soon! Please **email Sarah Lynne Gershon or call the church office** to let us know if you are graduating or have a child graduating so that we can recognize them! We will need a short bio for our high school grads, degree received for our college grads, and addresses for all of our grads. Way to go class of 2022!!

Sign up for Summer Camp today!



We are happy to cover 50% of camp fees for all of our kids and youth. Please let Sarah Lynne know you are signing up. Make sure you indicate when you sign up that you are from First Christian Church of Bloomington, IN and pay **your** portion of the fee. If you need more help financially, please don't hesitate to let us know. It is important to us that our kids are able to go to camp! Early Bird Deadline is May 15! Prices go up \$25 after deadline.



2022 Summer Camps

Christian Church in Indiana (Disciples of Christ)

	GENEVA	BEDFORD	
You and Me 1 (3 days)	June 13-15		(age 5+ and an adult)
New Beginnings (3 days)	June 13-15	June 27-29	(completed gr. 1-3)
Explorers	June 13-18	June 20-25	(completed gr. 4-5)
You and Me 2 (3 days)	June 20-22		(age 5+ and an adult)
M.A.D (Music Art Drama)	June 20-25		(completed gr. 6-8 & 9-12)
Middle School	June 27-July 2	July 11-16	(completed gr. 6-8)
High School	June 27-July 2	July 4-9	(completed gr. 9-12)
CROSS (Recreation/Sports)	June 27-July 2		(completed gr. 6-8 & 9-12)

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Join us on Palm Sunday for a special reading of
“The Cry of the Whole Congregation”
Worship for the Way of the Cross
By Walter Wangerin

**Scripture Readings
For Sunday Worship**

April 10

Palm Sunday

The Cry of the Whole Congregation

April 17

Easter Sunday

John 20:1-18

Midwives of Hope

*Join us for coffee fellowship and our
annual egg hunt following worship on
Easter Sunday*