

# The CHRISTIAN



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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
*(Disciples of Christ)*

# Visitor

## Important FCC Celebrations to Attend this Summer

*Save the Dates (June 26, July 10 and July 24)!*

This summer will be a very special time in the life of FCC's church family as we show our appreciation and love for the interim ministry of Pastor Will Jewsbury (June 26), and prepare to welcome FCC's new Senior Minister, Pastor Kyrmen Rea. Pastor Kyrmen's first Sunday with us will be July 1 and her Installation Service will be on July 24. We will also get back to one of our beloved traditions with an All Church Picnic (FCC Style) on July 10.

It's been almost a year since Pastor Will joined us as our Interim Minister. The role for an interim minister is to lead a church during a time of transition, helping congregants reflect on who they are as a church family and where they would like to be under new pastoral leadership. When Will arrived, we had been worshipping apart for over a year due to the pandemic, and church life was very different. Many felt isolated and disconnected, and Zoom had become the number one communications tool. Pastor Will guided FCC's Pastoral Search committee and held our church family together through a very unusual and difficult time. *Join us on Sunday, June 26, for a worship service that will include a Farewell Liturgy and a reception/lunch of thanks for Pastor Will in the Great Hall following worship.*

FCC has traditionally hosted an All-Church Picnic over Memorial Day weekend. This year, we will be moving our picnic to *Sunday, July 10, at 1:00 pm at the Lion's Den Shelter at Cascades Park*. You will have the opportunity to get to know Pastor Kyrmen Rea and also time to reconnect as a church family. FCC will provide burgers (beef and veggie) and hot dogs, you bring a side or dessert to share.

*On Sunday, July 24 we will formally install Rev. Kyrmen Rea as Senior Minister of First Christian Church of Bloomington during worship.* While her first Sunday preaching will be July 1, we will celebrate Pastor Kyrmen's installation with an All-Church reception/lunch in Great Hall immediately following worship on July 24.

Plan to join us for all three of these important events in the life of our church, First Christian Church. If you would like to help with any or all of these events, contact Jennifer in the church office. *See you there!*



**May 20 at 6:30 pm**  
Meet & Greet with Pastor Kyrmen following in the Chapel Gathering Space

## Will Writes

### *What is God Calling Us to Do?*

In these final weeks of my time with you as interim minister I (along with Sarah Lynne) am sharing a series of sermons around who we are as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and then a series built around the statement that emerged from your conversations in 2019: ***FCC exists to share the inclusive love of Christ, through serving, welcoming, learning and offering spiritual connection.*** The next two weeks we will be sharing about how we are a sacramental community (May 22) and then, on May 29, I will invite us to consider what being a part of the restoration movement means today.

In June I will share my thoughts on serving, welcoming, learning, and how we build spiritual connection. And you will be invited to share your thoughts as we gather at tables for Lemonade on the Lawn. On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, we will celebrate the gifts that each of you bring to this community of faith. On the 12<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate and commission those heading off to church camp (both campers and counselors/directors) and will welcome Scott Cripe and his Bluegrass/Americana band as they lead us in song.

As many of us have discussed in recent months, this is a tenuous time in church life. The culture of institutional membership that helped the church and many social groups thrive in the middle of the last century has changed. It has been more than 20 years since Robert Putnam published his book, *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. He documented the decline in membership and participation across many social and cultural organizations, including the church. The pandemic has accelerated that trend. So, the challenge before us is not merely how to “compete” with other congregations for members or “attract” new people. Our challenge is a deeper one: “What does it mean to be the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?” Or another way to think about this challenge is to ask three questions: Who are we? What is our context? What is God calling us to do?

My sermons over the next few weeks will not answer those questions, or even do much more than scratch the surface of who we are in this time. But I pray that in the months and years to come that sermons, studies, conversations, and prayer will guide FCC to be what God needs it to be for this time. I am honored to play a small part on that journey.

Grace and Peace,



Will



Join us for this special Jazz Vespers service THIS FRIDAY at 6:30 pm as we welcome incoming Sr. Minister Kyrmen Rea and celebrate this season's Third Friday Jazz Vespers series.

We will be on hiatus this summer. Stay tuned for more details on Jazz Vespers at FCC in the fall of 2022. Thank you for your support of the return of in-person Jazz Vespers services this year.

Be well and have a wonderful summer!

**Help us Welcome Pastor Kyrmen  
To FCC and to Bloomington**

Very soon, we will be rolling out the welcome wagon for Pastor Kyrmen Rea and her family as they make their move to Bloomington. Amy Hoover and Jennifer Fettchenhauer will be coordinating a sign-up to provide both home-cooked meals and gift cards from local restaurants as they get settled. Moving is HARD WORK, and having some meals provided makes it so much easier. We will probably also put together a little welcome basket of information and things from the area to help acclimate the Rea family to their new home in Bloomington. If you would like to join the Welcome Wagon, contact Amy or Jennifer. Thank you!

**Give to FCC While You Shop!**

If you shop online on Amazon or if you shop for groceries at Kroger... you can give to FCC while you shop. Both companies have giving programs. At Kroger you give through your shopping card. Log in to your Kroger card and go to the Community Rewards page to choose First Christian Church. Amazon's program is through Amazon Smiles. Be sure to choose the Bloomington, Indiana First Christian Church. Thank you!



Join us for Worship on Pentecost  
at 10:00 am on Sunday, June 5



Please remember to wear red for Pentecost Sunday, June 5, as we celebrate the birth of the church. We will also collect the Pentecost Special Day Offering that supports local new church development and also trains and equips new church leaders. Planning, nurturing and sustaining new places of worship is part of the Disciples' vision. Participation in this Special Day Offering helps this vision come to life. After worship we will celebrate our gifts with cake and cards on FCC's lawn! Join us!

**May Sermon Theme**  
"We Are Disciples of Christ"

**May 22**  
"People of the Table"  
I Corinthians 11:23-33

**May 29**  
"People of the Book"  
Romans 14:1-12

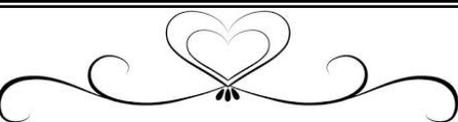
**June Worship Series**  
*Living Into Our Why!*

**June 5**  
Pentecost Sunday  
*Gifts of the People of God*  
Acts 2:1-21

**June 19**  
Learning  
*Present Yourself*  
Romans 12:1-8

**June 12**  
Bluegrass Music Sunday  
Camp commissioning  
*Welcome One Another*  
Romans 15:7-13

**June 26**  
Spiritual Connection  
*Live Peaceably With All*  
Romans 12:9-21



*Congratulations to  
Ashley and Sergio King  
On the occasion of their wedding  
May 12, 2022*

*Ashley is the daughter of  
Dr. and Mrs. Peggy Stafford*

*The couple will reside at  
583 W. 215th Street, Apt. B9  
New York, NY 10034*



**Attention FCC Families!**

Worship & Wonder will be on summer vacation beginning June 5, and will return after school resumes in August. We will provide Kids' Worship Bags and the PrayGround area will be open during the summer months. Thank you!

## Lemonade on the Lawn



a summer of  
fellowship &  
outreach

### Lemonade on the Lawn Summer!

This summer we will provide a time of connection to FCC's *Why* with fellowship and fun on the front lawn. There will be chairs, tables and awnings for people to sit and chat, lawn games and chalk for play, and light refreshments. Each week the theme will be slightly different, but they will all be focused on connecting to FCC and God's work in our community. Table tents with discussion questions and information will be on each table. Most of all though, we just want to gather and enjoy each other's company, so come prepared to relax, eat treats, and have fun! **Please contact the church office if you are able to help with set up, refreshments, or lawn games. We need 3-4 people to sign up to provide some snacks for June 5, 12 (Elders), and 19 (Deacons).** *Please contact the church office to sign up for one of these dates.*

#### June Themes

*Living Into Our Why!*

##### June 5

Pentecost

Celebrating Our Gifts with Cake & Cards

##### June 12

Blessing Our Campers!

##### June 19

Sharing Christ's Inclusive Love  
Through Serving and Welcoming

##### June 26

Farewell Lunch for Pastor Will  
Please bring a dessert or side to share!

#### July Themes

##### July 10

All Church Picnic at 1:00 pm  
Lion's Den Shelter at Cascades Park  
Bring a side or dessert to share!

##### July 17

Refreshments and Starters  
with the Campbellite Class

##### July 24

Installation of Pastor Kyrmen  
Celebration lunch following worship  
Please bring a dessert or side to share!

##### July 31

Refreshments and Starters  
with the Sharing Table group

### MEN'S RETREAT

Men of FCC are invited to join with the men of Woodhaven Christian Church for a half-day retreat with the theme "A Man After God's Own Heart." The event will be Saturday, June 11, from 9:00 am to noon at Woodhaven Christian Church, 3345 S. Leonard Springs Road. Our interim pastor, Will Jewsbury, will be the keynote speaker. To register for this free event call or text 317-987-0123 with your name and please note that you are part of FCC. RSVP deadline is Friday, May 27.

### We Did It!

A big Thank You to all those who contributed to the dishwasher fund. We raised enough to move ahead with purchasing a new unit for the church kitchen. It will be several weeks until it is delivered and installed, but we can look forward to being able to soon be hosting meal events in Great Hall.

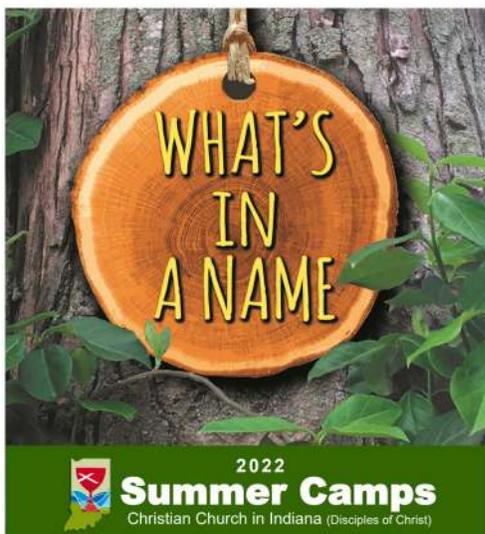


### Help Us Get FCC's Building Spruced Up *Sign up for a Project to Complete On Your Own Schedule*

Do you see cobwebs from your favorite pew on Sunday mornings, perhaps a burned-out light bulb or dirty windows? Your help is needed to spruce up the building before our new minister arrives! Instead of one "work day", the Property Commission is asking for volunteers to do the work on their own timeframe by July 1. So, there is plenty of time to get lots of projects done!

Projects will need to be done in coordination with the church calendar as some events are scheduled for May and June. Volunteers can work alone, with a friend, or a group. Supplies will be provided as needed. You will find [a sign-up sheet on the reception desk](#), or you can call the church office to sign up. Please consider pitching in as you can! Many hands make light work!

Projects include but are not limited to: window washing, changing light bulbs (requires climbing on ladder), helping clean the kitchen (group project), and dusting of furniture. If you have a project in mind please inform Jennifer, Cindy, or Peggy to make sure the project is not being duplicated by others. Questions can be addressed to Cindy Welch or Peggy Stafford. Thanks!



### Sign up for Summer Camp today!

FCC Families... time to sign up for camp is NOW! We have passed the early bird deadline, but you can still sign up! Just don't wait! We are happy to cover 50% of camp fees for all of our kids and youth. Just go online to the [indianadisciples.org](http://indianadisciples.org) website to sign-up. **Please let Sarah Lynne know you are signing up.** Make sure you indicate when you sign up that you are from First Christian Church Bloomington, IN and pay your portion of the fee. If you need more help financially, please don't hesitate to let us know. Contact Sarah Lynne, Ashlyn or the church office. It is important to us that our kids are able to go to camp!

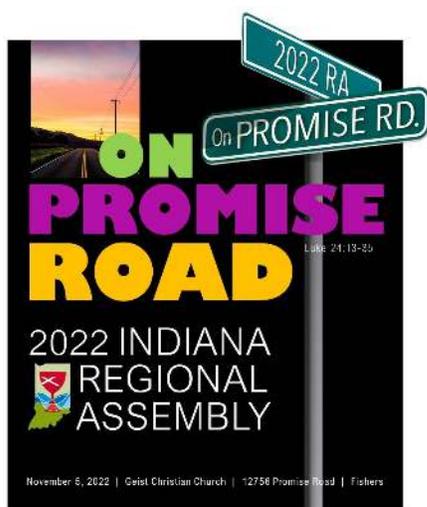


## JUNE BIRTHDAYS



06/01	Max	Fettchenhauer	5337 E. State Rd. 46	Bloomington IN	47401
06/04	Mary Alice	Martin	4243 W. Lynwest Drive	Bloomington IN	47404
06/06	Samuel	Knowles	1732 W. 7th St. Apt. 1	Red Wing MN	55066
06/07	Allen	Griggs	9376 S. Harbour Pointe Dr.	Bloomington IN	47401
06/15	Ryan	Robinson	4694 S. Viola Drive	Bloomington IN	47403
06/16	Sawyer	Houchins	3821 S. Westmont Ave.	Bloomington IN	47403
06/16	David	Jackson	3693 S. Sowder Square	Bloomington IN	47401
06/17	Cliff	Travis	4682 E. Heritage Woods Rd.	Bloomington IN	47401
06/18	Melissa	Jackson	3693 S. Sowder Square	Bloomington IN	47401
06/20	Flossie	Fox	709 Keystone Ct.	Bloomington IN	47408
06/22	Jennifer	Goins	4081 W. Ardsley Lane	Bloomington IN	47404
06/24	Arch	Dalton	1322 S. Winfield Rd.	Bloomington IN	47401
06/27	Jacob	Lee	3421 W. Tyler Lane	Bloomington IN	47403
06/30	Maely	Robinson	4694 S. Viola Drive	Bloomington IN	47403

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



### Save the Date!

### Regional Assembly on November 5

Disciples author and minister Sandhya Rani Jha will be the keynote speaker and Janae Pitts-Murdock (Sr. Minister at Light of the World Christian Church) will be our worship leader for this year's Regional Assembly. Both will help us unpack the Emmaus text: Luke 24:13-35.

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 5, at Geist Christian Church in Fishers. Exhibits open at 9:00 am with Assembly concluding at 4:00 pm. This is a "hybrid" event that can be attended in person for \$45 or online for \$25.

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

812-332-4459  
fcc@fccbloomington.org  
www.fccbloomington.org  
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**May Sermon Series**

*Being a Disciple  
in a Time of Change*

**May 22: People of the Table**

**May 29: People of the Book!**



**Scripture Readings  
For Sunday Worship**

**May 22**

Corinthians 11:23-33

*People of the Table*

**May 29**

Romans 14:1-12

*People of the Book!*