



# the VISITOR

April 10, 2026  
Vol. 82, No. 34

OUR MISSION  
**To know God and  
follow Jesus Christ.**

## Happening Soon

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

#### Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, YFH
- Combined Chi-Rho & CYF, 5pm, YFH

### TUESDAY, APRIL 14

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor
- Cabinet Meeting, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor
- Officers Meeting, 5:30pm, Zoom

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, 3rd Floor

### SUNDAY, APRIL 19

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, YFH
- Strategic Planning Department Leadership Retreat, 1-4pm, YFH
- Combined Chi-Rho & CYF, 5pm, YFH



A congregation related to  
The Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
[www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 12TH

*“Risking It All”*

JOHN 20:19-31

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

## 2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 8:30 & 10:30 AM:

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

-OR-

AT-HOME, ONLINE: Tune in to our livestream on Sunday mornings on YouTube, or watch the recording of the live service—available on Monday via email/YouTube channel/FCC Facebook page.

*“First Christian Church  
(Columbia, Missouri)”*

## Fellowship Department's High Tea & Trivia

*High Tea & Trivia on Sunday, May 3*

Tis' time to dust off your finest plumage & sharpen that impressive mind of yours, for a truly delightful afternoon awaits! You are hereby summoned to sip, snack, and strut your stuff in the *Fellowship Department's Annual High Tea & Trivia* event where we offer:

- ◆ Proper High Tea snicky-snacks & drinks
- ◆ Rousing rounds of trivia across a variety of categories - with something for every age & every era of wisdom
- ◆ PRIZES! Trivia awards *and* a door prize: plenty of opportunities to win

Whether you consider yourself a trivia powerhouse or simply someone who enjoys a flaky scone in good company, this is the afternoon

for YOU. Teams will be formed, alliances will be forged, and a top to toe good time shall be had by all. *Pinkies up, people. This is going to be fabulous.* Please RSVP to the church office ([fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org)) so the Fellowship Team can prepare accordingly.

We'll even help you start practicing now! Each week we'll feature a Trivia Question right here in the Visitor... because champions are made before they arrive! *(If we've stymied you, the answer can be found on page 3 - no shame whatsoever!)*



WHICH MAN WON THE FIGHT AGAINST  
ROME IN THE GLADIATOR WAR?

## Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off

This year's stewardship campaign will "kick-off" this Sunday, April 12. This year's theme is "What Shall We Bring?" and focuses on the varied gifts that each of us can bring to the church, not just our financial support.

This is an exciting time of year, as we consider the gifts we'll bring to the church financially or of our time & talents in 2026-27. Pledge cards and time & talent surveys will be mailed to you next week.

*What shall  
we bring?*



# News of the People & Places

## Prayers of Health & Healing...

• **Opal Stites** is home following a visit to the hospital.

### Thank You...

THANK YOU to the CWF Drennan Group for your generous donation to Mother's Day Out! Your donation will help cover the cost of the artificial turf that will provide a much-needed resurfacing of the playground as we create a safer space for all children at FCC! We chose to transition from mulch to turf because it gives children a safer, cleaner, and more accessible outdoor space to play in our downtown setting. This change also allows FCC volunteers to more-often utilize the playground space on Sunday mornings without the concern of getting church clothes muddy! Your donation will improve the outdoor space where all friends will crawl, walk, run, explore, and grow with the stability and predictability that reflect our preschool ministry!

**Hayley Batterson, MDO Director**

Friends at First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers from Sunday worship a couple of weeks ago—**Cherry Hinderberger** delivered them when I was at Boone Hospital. I am happy to be home again for a few weeks. I appreciate all your prayers and thoughts as well. Blessed Easter to everyone!

Thank you, **Mary Ann Atteberry**

A huge shout out & thank you to **Steve Humble** who delivered me communion over the weekend!

(Steve & Bonnie Jean pictured on the right)

**Bonnie Jean Backues**



FCC—My thanks to **Jacki Davidson** for the beautiful bouquet of flowers she delivered to me. My dinner tablemates also enjoyed Jacki's

uplifting smile and friendliness. We need more of that!

Miss my friends at FCC.

Thanks again,

**Jane Ann Hackett**



### Birthdays

**April 14** - Jimmy Spear

**April 15** - Ann Teel, Kate Volmert

**April 16** - Brock Mottaz, Emily Scott

**April 17** - Richard Cullen, William Green

**April 18** - Betty Montgomery

# Columbia College's New President

Welcoming the 19th President of Columbia College,

**Dr. Toby J. Arquette**

Dr. Toby J. Arquette serves as the 19th President of Columbia College. A first-generation college student, he brings a personal



understanding of the transformative power of education and a deep commitment to expanding opportunity for students from all backgrounds.

Before joining Columbia College, Dr. Arquette served as Vice President for Strategic Growth, Marketing, and Digital Transformation at St. Ambrose University, where he aligned brand strategy, enrollment performance, and digital innovation with long-term financial sustainability. He played a central role in two institutional mergers that expanded student access and strengthened institutional capacity. In parallel, he led enrollment, marketing, and financial aid teams through the complicated FAFSA simplification rollout and a rapidly evolving higher education policy environment.

Previously, he spent 15 years at Aurora University, rising from faculty member to Dean and Faculty Senate Chair. He holds a Ph.D. in Communication from Northwestern University and has completed advanced executive leadership training through the Harvard Management Development Program and the Council of Independent Colleges. He and his husband, Mark, are proud to call Columbia, Missouri home.

Dr. Arquette is eager to strengthen ties with First Christian Church and wants to see a vibrant component of our church involved in the college. Our long relationship with

the college extends to the founding of the college by members of this church and the nurturing of the college through the 1800s and close ties to the church to the present day. **Dr. Brad Stagg** was a recent Chairman of the Board and **Genie Rogers** currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Columbia College. FCC has provided many leaders of the college in previous generations.

**Genie Rogers, Administrative Department Chair**

## Loaves & Fishes

*Serving Dinner on Monday, April 27*

This month's Loaves & Fishes serving date falls on Monday, April 27 and we are looking for volunteers to help deliver and serve food! There is an online sign-up available, if you'd like to see where volunteers are still needed: <https://bit.ly/aprilloaves26>. If you can't join us this month, but want to be added to the Loaves & Fishes email list, contact Erin in the Church Office and you'll hear from us in June. Thank you all so much for making this ministry possible!



## Another Spring Landscaping Day in the Books!

Thanks to the eleven dedicated and energetic volunteers who braved chilly temperatures on Saturday, March 28, another church workday was a success! Under the direction of **Mary Daugherty** and **Peggy Veatch**, the team successfully prepared our grounds for Easter Week services and the upcoming spring growing season. As always, the workday would not have been possible without **Fred Mottaz** supplying his truck and amazing tilt trailer to pick up and spread 6 scoops of mulch! The much-needed weeding, Preen spreading, winter debris pickup, and mulch spreading started at 9:00 a.m. and was completed by 11:30 a.m. through the excellent and cheerfully executed work of the following hearty volunteers: **Brenda Mosby, David Potthast, Eric Seaman, Dan Gieseke, Paula Hoenes, Mark Goodwin, Dan Backues** and **Mike Randerson**. Thanks again to our wonderful volunteers!

*Mike Randerson*



## Youth Group Schedule



*Join this Sunday!*

**Combined Chi-Rho & CYF (Mission Trip Prep)**

April 12, April 19, April 26 @ 5:00 p.m.

**High Tea & Trivia**

May 3 @ 4:00 p.m.

**End of Year Youth Group Party**

May 10 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Endress Haus

## Scenes from Holy Week

*Palm Sunday, Egg Hunt, Baptisms, & Easter Sunday*

What a wonderful & joyous week to be together! Our community gathered this week for a palm parade, an easter egg hunt, a solemn service for Maundy Thursday, and a food and music-filled Easter Sunday! We are so proud of our Baptism Class this year (pictured on the right), **Payton Elliff** (daughter of Jessica Elliff and granddaughter of **John & Julie Hickey**), **Brock & Zeke Mottaz** (sons of **Brian & Heather Mottaz**, nephews of **Elizabeth & Stephanie Mottaz**, and grandsons of **Fred Mottaz**), and **Gage Smith** (grandson of **Marcia Smith**) who were baptized on Easter Sunday, April 5. Thank you to everyone who joined us this week and made this holy & sacred week one we can journey through together.





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web: [firstchristian.org](http://firstchristian.org)



WEBSITE



GIVE

Electronic Service Requested

## First Christian Church

*Our Mission: To know God  
And follow Jesus Christ.*

### Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister  
[brad@firstchristian.org](mailto:brad@firstchristian.org)

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister  
[topher@firstchristian.org](mailto:topher@firstchristian.org)

### Music Staff

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry  
[totake@firstchristian.org](mailto:totake@firstchristian.org)

Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist  
Travis McFarlane, Early Service Musician  
Madi Myers, Bell Choir Director

### Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Hayley Batterson, Director  
Sam Dunnings, Assistant Director

### Columbia Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director

### Support Staff

[fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org)  
Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian  
Justin DeWick, Business Manager  
Erin Perry, Office Manager

## Worship Serving Schedule

*Sunday, April 12, 2026*

**OFFICE RECEPTIONIST:** Carrie Batterson  
**WELCOME STATION:** Valerie Freed  
**FLOWER MINISTRY:** Brenda & Don Mosby  
**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:** Marcia Smith  
**EARLY SERVICE HELPERS:** TBD  
**COMMUNION PREP:** TBD  
**GREETERS:** Ryan Silverwood (N. DOOR),  
Stacy Silverwood (S. DOOR), Carrie  
Batterson (ATRIUM), Chuck Scott (PORTICO)  
**AV TEAM:** TBD  
**LITURGIST:** Jessica Humble  
**8:30 ELDER:** Cherry Hinderberger  
**10:30 ELDERS:** Debbie Garton, Bryan  
Garton, Paula Hoenes (Balcony)  
**DEACONS:** The Judy Team  
**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:** Hayley Batterson  
**OFFERING COUNTERS:**  
Sarah Storm and Deb Batterson