



the VISITOR

July 3, 2026
Vol. 83, No. 1

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

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, JULY 5

- Adult Sunday School, 8:30am, Morris Parlor
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Worship, 9:30am

MONDAY, JULY 7

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

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

THURSDAY, JULY 9

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, JULY 12

- Adult Sunday School, 8:30am, Morris Parlor
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Worship, 9:30am

TUESDAY, JULY 14

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

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

THURSDAY, JULY 16

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, JULY 19

- Adult Sunday School, 8:30am, Morris Parlor
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9am, YFH
- Dedication of Harrison Hunsaker
- Worship, 9:30am



A congregation related to
**The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**
www.disciples.org

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 5

"The Truth Sets Us Free"

JOHN 8:31-36

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12

"The Sower and the Seed"

MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 9:30 AM

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

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)"*

New Leadership at First Christian Church

The new fiscal year brings new life and leadership to the church—new executive officers, members of the Administrative Board, and new Elders & Deacons. This year, we are welcoming **Pat Wright** as a new elder, as well as **Izzy Arnett**, **Carrie Batterson**, **Karen Hobson**, **Joe Reardon**, **Kim Reardon**, **Carla Tanzey**, and **Suellen Wells** as new deacons. We are excited to welcome **Jacki Davidson**, **Elizabeth Mottaz**, **Suellen Wells**, and **Mark Mills** as our new elder and deacon representatives on the Administrative Board. We have two new executive officers this year—**Jessica Humble** will step into the role of Moderator and **Eric Arnett** will step into the role of Vice-Moderator. We are grateful for the service of our outgoing moderator, **Mark Mills**, for his four years of dedicated service to the board and the church community! We are also grateful for the ongoing leadership of our officers who have said yes to another year of service—**Tracy Evers**, our board treasurer, and **Tracy Fuemmeler**, our board secretary.



Meet our New Officers!

Jessica Humble, Moderator: The Humble family joined First Christian in 2000, and have been faithful members over their 26 years with us. Jessica has served in numerous ways over the years—currently she serves as the Advent Department Co-Chair, our beloved VBS organizer, a leader in Children's Worship, a check signer, and an Elder. Jessica believes that the Church is not just about worship but about the

community of people we build around us and care for every day. Christ calls us to give to others and put others above ourselves, so by serving FCC as the Moderator or in any other duty, she is working toward becoming a better person and following of Christ. Thank you, Jessica, for saying "yes" to this new role at FCC!

Eric Arnett, Vice-Moderator: Eric & Tammy Arnett joined First Christian in 2003, and the entire Arnett family has served this community in a variety of ways ever since. Eric has

previously served FCC in the role of Vice-Moderator and Moderator, and we are so grateful for his committed service to our community again. Welcome back, Eric!

THIS IS A DOUBLE-ISSUE OF THE VISITOR!

KEEP IT HANDY UNTIL JULY 17.



News of the People & Places

Prayers for Health & Healing...

• **CORRECTION:** Dana Heavin had her **bladder** (not gall bladder) successfully removed on Tuesday, June 9. Our apologies for the miscommunication!

• **Samantha Endress'** grandfather, George Sherman, is home recovering from two successful, yet unexpected, heart surgeries last week in Austin, Tx.

• One of our MDO teachers, **Jill Anderson**, requests prayers for her aunt, Tammy Lujan, who fell, possibly due to stroke.

Sympathy...

• **Bryan Garton's** father, Bob Garton, passed away on Tuesday, June 29, after being placed on hospice care over the weekend. Please keep **Bryan, Debbie, Logan, and Josh** in your prayers during this time of grief and transition.

Thank You...

A HUGE thank you to **Mike Randerson** for solving a very big weed problem at Higbee this morning. It seemed too large a task for me alone and when I asked for help, Mike did the whole job instantly on his own. It looks amazing. Thank you, Mike, for the many ways you help us at FCC!

Mary Daugherty



Birthdays

July 6 - Rebecca Bailey

July 7 - Jack Estes

July 8 - J.D. Estes, Barb Rothenberger, David Weber

July 9 - Erin Bower

July 11 - Teddy Nichols

July 13 - Eric Seaman, Bragg Stanley

July 14 - Anne Campbell

July 15 - Tammy Arnett, Kathy Miller

July 16 - Ann Stone-Meyer, Connie Street

July 17 - Cullen Snow

July 18 - Kim Boger, Judy Cunningham

July 19 - Sonya Carney, David Ross

Anniversaries

July 5 - Jerry & Kathy Miller (52 years!)

July 7 - Becky & Jim Baumgartner

July 13 - Matt & Sally Felts

July 18 - Bud & Deb Batterson (62 years!)

Mark & Janet Mills

Brad & Trish Stagg

July 19 - Russ & Linda Chandler



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

Wow! What an amazing week we had our Barnyard Bash VBS! We had 95 kids attend throughout the week between the MDO program and our evening program. Thank you to the MANY volunteers listed below that donated money, food, time and talents. We couldn't have done it without you!

- ★ All the dessert & cookie bakers
- ★ All the MDO Staff
- ★ Topher Otake and the FCC Choir
- ★ Hartley Rogers for the DQ ice cream
- ★ CWF for their generous monetary donation to VBS
- ★ Eric, Tammy and Izzy Arnett
- ★ Hayley Batterson
- ★ Deb Batterson
- ★ Ben & Katie Carrier
- ★ Maria Clark
- ★ Topher & Sam Endress
- ★ Valerie & Paige Freed
- ★ Chris & Tracy Fuemmeler
- ★ Holly & Dan Gieseke
- ★ Karen Hobson
- ★ Paula Hoenes
- ★ Vicki & Alex Johnson
- ★ Amy Marrero
- ★ Brenda Mosby
- ★ Fred Mottaz
- ★ Rochelle Parker
- ★ Janelle Patterson
- ★ Deb Potthast
- ★ Scott & Shannon Schaefer
- ★ Stacy, Ryan, Riley, Jodie & Faith Silverwood and Thomas Eaton
- ★ Ryan Stem
- ★ Jeff Underwood
- ★ Suellen Wells



Thank you!! **Jessica Humble**

From the VBS Kitchen

A special thanks for the four days at VBS preparing meals for our kiddos, teachers and family members to the following: **Janelle Patterson, Deb Batterson, Suellen Wells, Karen Hobson, Paula Hoenes, Deb Potthast, Jeff Underwood, and Ryan Stem.** (We had other friends who offered to help, but our kitchen could only hold so many!)

Thanks also to those who made cookies and brownies for each day, **Hartley Rogers** for the ice cream and **Mary Ann Atteberry** for the juice boxes. You all were a true blessing!

Amy and Brenda Mosby

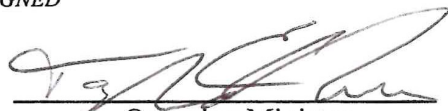


Covenant of Closure

MINISTER

1. I will separate myself from participation in the life of the congregation from which I am resigning or retiring during the interim/transitional period and for at least one year after the arrival of the new pastor.
2. I will be a true and loyal friend to my former congregation and to its minister by not making pastoral calls, hospital calls, or counseling with members, not presiding at weddings or funerals of former parishioners, and by declining all offices, positions and responsibilities in this, my former congregation, **except at the invitation of the current minister.**
3. I will confer only with the Regional Minister or the current minister of this congregation about any problems I perceive in the congregation, and not discuss them with members of the congregation or others.
4. I will communicate with the Regional Minister should confusion, conflict or other differences arise between myself and this congregation.
5. If at the end of one year after the arrival of the new pastor I wish to participate in this congregation, I will communicate such interests to the Regional Minister who will facilitate discussion of this possibility with the congregation and its pastor. If such participation is deemed appropriate, a "Covenant for a New Ministry When the Previous Minister is Remaining in the Community"* will be established.
6. I reaffirm my vows as an ordained/licensed minister. Relying on the grace of God I also reaffirm my commitment to the "Ministerial Code of Ethics" of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

SIGNED


Outgoing Minister

30 JUNE 2026
Date

CONGREGATION

1. We accept that our former minister will separate *him/herself* from participation in the life of this congregation during the interim/transitional period and for at least one year after the arrival of the new pastor.
2. We will be true and loyal friends to our former minister by not asking *him/her* to make pastoral calls, hospital calls or to counsel with members. We will not ask *him/her* to preside at weddings or funerals of parishioners nor will we offer positions, offices and responsibilities in this congregation, **except at the invitation of the current minister.**
3. We will confer only with the Regional Minister or the current minister of this congregation about any problems we perceive in the congregation, and not discuss them with the former minister(s).
4. *We will communicate with the Regional Minister should confusion, conflict or other differences arise between the former minister and this congregation.*
5. If one year after the arrival of the new minister we wish our former minister to participate in this congregation, we will communicate such interests to the Regional Minister who will facilitate discussion of this possibility with the congregation and its new minister. If such participation is deemed appropriate, a "Covenant for a New Ministry When the Previous Minister is Remaining in the Community"* will be established.
6. Relying on the grace of God, we reaffirm our commitment to the "Congregational Code of Ethics" of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).


Officer of the Congregation

6/30/2026
Date

Rev. Dr. Paul Koch
Witness for the Region

06/30/2026
Date

THE VIEW FROM HERE

CELEBRATING TOPHER ENDRESS!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL





Scholarship Sunday

Scholarship Awards Announced on Sunday, June 28

On Sunday, June 28, the FCC Scholarship Committee presented the 2026-27 Academic Scholarships during worship. Those awarded scholarship on behalf of the church include Ryley Batterson, Alex Johnson, Sam Pine, Jodie Silverwood, Paige Freed, Amelia Leon-Rudy, Lillian McCormack, Izzy Arnett, Delaney Batterson, Kira Hoenes, Cooper Mast, Kayla Von Talge, Aleena Li, Ella Rogers, Lena Schaefer, Annie Stagg, Kameron Freed, and Abigail Reardon. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients—your church family is so proud of you! As always, a huge thank you to this year's Scholarship Committee—**Shannon Schaefer, Sam Endress, Laura Hunsaker, and Topher Endress**. We are so grateful to the donors and First Christian Church families that have made this amazing ministry possible.

Below: The Lord's Supper: VBS Edition



Save the Date!

Harrison

Bennett

Hunsaker

Sunday, July 19

ISO: Missing Aprons

Searching for missing First Christian Church Aprons

There are a set of First Christian Church aprons missing from the kitchen. If the aprons accidentally returned to your home during a kitchen laundry run, no worries! Please bring them back to the church when convenient - our kitchen volunteers are missing them!



Chancel Flowers

2027 Dates Available to Donate Flowers

The beautiful flowers that grace our chancel every Sunday don't just magically appear. They are purchased by wonderful people just like you to honor someone special, to celebrate an anniversary or to remember a departed family or friend. Anyone who wishes to sign up to donate flowers for the chancel for \$30 per Sunday in 2026-27 can sign up in the Church Office. **The dates still available in 2027 are January 10 & 17.** Those who would be willing to arrange and deliver their flowers, please indicate when you sign up your willingness to help. Otherwise, we'll arrange a schedule of volunteers to arrange and deliver through the Church Office. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!



Seasoned Spirits

Seasoned Spirits at Broadway CC on Monday, July 6



a 50+ Fellowship of
BroadwayChristian Church

The Broadway Christian Church Seasoned Spirits group (50+) usually meets once a month for a meal and a shared program. This July, Seasoned Spirits will gather to hear our very own **Col. John Clark's** story of his time in Vietnam. The program will be held on Monday, July 6 at 11:30 a.m. - everyone is invited to arrive early or on time as to give Col. Clark more time for questions after 1:00 p.m. The cost of the meal and program is \$10 per person. Those interested should RSVP online: <https://bit.ly/seasonedspirits26>.



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

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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

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister
topher@firstchristian.org

Music Staff

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry
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
Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian
Justin DeWick, Business Manager
Erin Perry, Office Manager

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, July 5, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Don Mosby
WELCOME STATION: Steve Humble
FLOWER MINISTRY: Holly & Dan Gieseke
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Holly & Dan Gieseke
COMMUNION PREP: Paula & C.K. Hoenes
GREETERS: Cindy Rose (N. DOOR),
Janelle Patterson (S. DOOR), David Potthast
(Atrium), Debbie Potthast (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Dan Gieseke
LITURGIST: Brenda Mosby
9:30 ELDERS: Dan Backues, Fred Mottaz,
Sarah Storm (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Potthast Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Jessica Humble
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Eric Seaman and Sarah Storm

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, July 12, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Carrie Batterson
WELCOME STATION: Cliff & Meg Judy
FLOWER MINISTRY:
Mary Daugherty & Karen Hobson
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Kim & Hartley Rogers
COMMUNION PREP:
Hayley & Ryley Batterson
GREETERS: Dan Gieseke (N. DOOR),
Holly Gieseke (S. DOOR), Chuck Scott
(Atrium), Bud Batterson (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Cliff Judy
LITURGIST: Dan Gieseke
9:30 ELDERS: Paula Slusher, Becky
Baumgartner, Fred Mottaz (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Judy Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Hayley Batterson
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Jennifer Alexander and Sarah Storm