



the VISITOR

May 8, 2026
Vol. 82, No. 37

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

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, MAY 10

- 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
- End of Year Youth Group Party, 6pm, Endress House (3405 Bray St)

TUESDAY, MAY 12

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Ladies' Book Club, 11:30am, Linda Hutton's House (2252 Country Ln)
- Bible Study, 12pm, **Zoom Only**
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

THURSDAY, MAY 14

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, 3rd Floor

SATURDAY, MAY 16

- Breakfast for Our Brethren, 7-9am, RATI
- Visitation for Tom Hughey, 12:30-2pm
- Memorial Service for Tom Hughey, 2pm

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Graduation Sunday

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH



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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10TH

"Naming the Unnamed"

ACTS 17:22-31

REV. DR. TOPHER ENDRESS, 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)"

Breakfast for Our Brethren

Serving Breakfast Saturday Mornings in May

First Christian Church serves breakfast each Saturday during the months of May & October to folks who stay the night at Room at the Inn. Those who volunteer help cook, serve, and/or clean up from 6-9:30 a.m. (or any time between)! We are looking for food donations and volunteers. If you'd like to sign up to donate food items or to volunteer, sign up using the sheets in the Church

Office or online at <https://bit.ly/maybfast>. Feel free to reach out to **Debbie Potthast** (dapotthast@gmail.com) or **Erin** in the Church Office if you have any questions about serving or donating. We are so grateful for all of you for making this ministry possible!



Graduation Sunday

Celebrating Graduates on May 17

We will

celebrate
Graduation



Sunday on

Sunday, May 17. We will recognize our graduating high school seniors and their accomplishments during worship at 10:30 a.m. on May 17. We would also like to celebrate **all** of FCC's "promotions" and graduates in next week's newsletter! If you have a graduate (college, grad school, preschool, etc.) that you'd like us

to recognize, please send us information about your graduations by Sunday, May 10 so we can feature them and all of their accomplishments in an upcoming newsletter!

May Ladies' Book Club

Ladies' Book Club at Linda Hutton's Home

Ladies' Book Club will meet Wednesday, May 13, at 11:30 a.m. **Barb Rothenberger** will lead our discussion of *The Flower Sisters* by Michelle Collins Anderson. This novel is based on an actual event that took place in West Plains, Missouri, in the 1920s. Due to FCC parking restrictions, May's meeting is at **Linda Hutton's**, 2252 Country Lane. Feel welcome to bring your own lunch/snack/ beverage. Please call Linda, 573-268-8901, for directions.



Summer Worship Schedule
One Service at 9:30am
May 24 - September 6

Memorial Day Sunday—Labor Day Sunday



News of the People & Places

Sympathy...

• **Tom Hughey** passed away on Wednesday, April 15. Services for Tom will be held on Saturday, May 16 at First Christian Church at 2:00 p.m. with a reception to follow. A visitation will be held from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Tom was 73 years old. Please keep **Carol Hughey, Cherry Hinderberger**, and the rest of Tom's family and friends in your prayers during this time of grief and transition.



• **Pat Hoehle** passed away on Friday, May 1. Services for Pat will be held on Friday, May 8 at Eppe Chappel at 2:30 p.m. Please keep Pat's family in your prayers during this time of grief and transition.



Welcome to the World...

• **Samantha Watson**, one of our Mother's Day Out teachers, gave birth to baby Nora on Thursday, April 30. Both mom & baby are healthy! Welcome, Nora!

Office Updates...

• **Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg** will be on vacation from Thursday, May 7 - Wednesday, May 13. All pastoral matters should be directed to **Rev. Dr. Topher Endress** or the Church Office during that time.

Pentecost Special Offering

Pentecost Special Offering Shared Sundays May 17 & 24

Every May, we take a special offering at the beginning of Pentecost for New Church Ministry. New Church Ministry is a ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that trains, equips, assists, and multiplies emerging and affiliating congregations and leaders from the DisciplesNEXT methodology, which focuses on contemplative action, prophetic advocacy, and faith-rooted organizing. Through these ministries, new spaces are created where people can encounter God, build meaningful relationships, and serve their neighbors with compassion. Your gift helps these communities grow in neighborhoods seeking connection and hope. Thank you for giving generously to this year's Pentecost special offering on Sundays, May 17 and

24!



Annual Stewardship Campaign

What Shall We Bring Week 3 by Amy Marrero

I've been a member of this church since I was a child. I grew up in this building—and honestly, as a building, not much has changed! The carpet was a big change for me... it was always red, and now it's blue—but I've learned that change can be a good thing.

What shall we bring?

Over the years, there have been many changes in leadership. I remember hearing sermons from Sam Langley and Mike Crouch, then John Yonker and Jimmy Spear, followed by Larry Veatch, and now Brad and Topher. But through all of those changes, one thing has remained the same: the people who fill these pews—my church family.

There have been seasons where our numbers have grown and seasons where they've been smaller, but what has never changed are the qualities that define this church. We are consistent. (We even tend to sit in the same seats each week!)

We have a lot in common. We care deeply about one another. We want the best for each person here and for every visitor who walks through our doors. We help, we give, we grow, and we show up for one another.

What makes this church special is not that we are all the same—but that we each bring different gifts.

Some give financially. Some serve through physical work. Some care for others through meals, or by delivering communion and flowers to those who can't be here. Some help behind the scenes with technology or teach and care for our children. And some may not be able to be here in person, but we know they are lifting this church up in prayer. Every one of those gifts matters.

Stewardship isn't just about one kind of giving—it's about offering what we have, in the ways we are able, to support something we believe in. And what we share in common is a deep devotion to this church and to one another. When we each bring what we have, we grow stronger together.

Amy Marrero

Stewardship Campaign Pledge Cards & Surveys

There's still time to turn yours in!

We'll accept stewardship materials until June. Pick up additional materials in the office or fill out your information online:

<https://firstchristian.org/stewardship-campaign>

Fellowship's High Tea & Trivia

Healthy Competition & Good Turn Out at Annual Tea & Trivia

FCC's fourth annual High Tea & Trivia brought Yonker Fellowship Hall to life this past Sunday with laughter, cheers (only a few jeers!), and a spread of the most fancy and fabulous tea sandwiches and cookies in town!



57 friends, (yes, I counted!) made up ten teams who tested their trivia mettle, tackling some real mind-benders like, "What color is Big Bird, primarily?" and "How many fortnights are in one score?" We seriously had the best time, proving once again that fellowship is the best when we're all together.

Big congratulations to **Paula, Kira & CK Hoenes**, and **Tracy & Steve Evers** (aka The Masters), who secured the grand prize with the most points! Round winners, table trivia winners, and door prize recipients added to the festivities, making sure plenty of folks went home with prizes. Big thanks to **Topher Endress** for creating the questions that ran the full spectrum of stumpers...like Pre-K to PhD level, lol! Fellowship, fun, fancy food, and a few brain-breakers - honestly, how much more fun could anyone even ask for?

With thanks from your devoted Fellowship Team:

Holly & Dan Gieseke, Jacki Davidson, Karen Hobson, Paula Hoenes, Janelle Patterson, Edie Pigg, Kim & Hartley Rogers, Marcia Smith, & Carla Tanzey



Birthdays

- May 11** - Mary Bancroft, Makali Hawkins
- May 13** - Abby Pine
- May 14** - Linda Hutton
- May 15** - Vaughn Dietzel
- May 16** - Richard Barnard
- May 17** - Cindy Ruffolo



Anniversaries

- May 12** - Don & Brenda Mosby (63 years!)

First Christian Church Scholarships

Scholarships are now available through First Christian Church and through the Mid-America Region of Disciples for those who are currently in undergraduate programs or seeking higher education.



First Christian Church Scholarships

The applications for FCC Scholarships are now available for those members who are in undergraduate programs or higher education to apply. The deadline for applications is **Friday, June 5**. Applications can be found in the Church Office or by emailing fcc@firstchristian.org.

Mid-America Disciples Christian Ministries Scholarship Fund

The Christian Ministries Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance for those preparing for Christian Ministries - both in seminary and undergraduate education. This fund is primarily aimed at supporting those persons from the Christian Church of Mid-America (CCMA) Region who are preparing for the Christian ministries. Apply for these scholarships online at <https://www.mid-americadisciples.org/christian-ministries-scholarship-fund> by **Sunday, May 31 at midnight**.

Summer Worship Schedule

Worship, Fellowship, and Programming Changes for Summer

The Summer Worship Schedule is nearly upon us! Adult & Youth Sunday School and youth groups will come to an end on Sunday, May 10. Beginning May 24, coffee hour will meet at 9:00 a.m. before our one worship service at 9:30 a.m. This schedule will last from Memorial Day Sunday until Labor Day Sunday, with the return to our regular schedule on Sunday, September 13. We will also have double newsletters this summer beginning May 22 through early September. The summer newsletter schedule will be shared in next week's issue.

End of Year Youth Group Party

May 10 @ 6:00 p.m.

at the Endress Haus (3405 Bray Ave)





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

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265
email: fcc@firstchristian.org
web: firstchristian.org

Electronic Service Requested



WEBSITE



GIVE

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, May 10, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Don Mosby
WELCOME STATION: Valerie Freed
FLOWER MINISTRY: Dave & Debbie Potthast
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Carla Tanzey
EARLY SERVICE HELPERS:
Mark Goodwin & Kathy Ramser
COMMUNION PREP:
Shannon & Scott Schaefer
GREETERS: Susan Ramsey (N. DOOR),
Gerald Ramsey (S. DOOR),
Chris Fuemmeler (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Noah Stagg
LITURGIST: Chris Fuemmeler
8:30 ELDER: Stacia Schaefer
10:30 ELDERS: Fred Mottaz, TBD, Janelle
Patterson (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Judy Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Jessica Humble
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Jerry Miller and Cindy & Doug Smith