



the VISITOR

September 11, 2026
Vol. 83, No. 6

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

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Regular Worship Returns

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Children's Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- Youth Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Energy Bus Lunch-N-Learn, 11:45am, YFH
- JYF, 4pm, YFH
- CYF, 5pm, YFH

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Newsletter Mailing, 1pm, Morris Parlor
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor
- Board Meeting, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, 3rd Floor

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- Supper Club, 6pm, Bangkok Gardens

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- CROP Walk, 1pm, Stephen's Lake Park
- CYF, 5pm, YFH



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

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 13TH

"Differing Opinions"

ROMANS 14:1-12

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)"*

REGULAR

WORSHIP

SCHEDULE RESUMES

Sunday, September 13

8:30 & 10:30 Worship

9:30 Coffee Fellowship &
Sunday School

Regular Worship Schedule Returns this September

Two Worship Services, Sunday School, Youth Groups, & Weekly Newsletters Return

Our regular worship schedule resumes this Sunday, September 13. We will return to two worship services at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. with a host of activities in between at 9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday Schools will return on September 13 on the third floor. *The Chosen* Adult Sunday School class will return next Sunday, September 20 in the 3rd Floor Cinema. Coffee Fellowship Hour will return to the 9:30 hour in Yonker Fellowship Hall with coffee and snacks available to anyone in need of their daily fix! The Church Library will remain open to anyone looking for a quiet, contemplative time between worship services with books to peruse and comfortable places to sit. Youth Groups will also return this Sunday, with JYF (Grades 3-6) meeting in Yonker Fellowship Hall at 4 p.m., and CYF (Grades 7-12) meeting at 5 p.m. This return to two services will also be celebrated with a Brown Bag lunch & presentation from the Energy Bus immediately following the later service at 11:45 a.m.

Energy Bus Brown Bag Lunch-N-Learn

Learn About the Energy Bus on Sunday, September 13 following worship

The Energy Bus invites everyone to gather for a brown bag lunch as we all return to our regular worship schedule on Sunday, September 13! The Energy Bus is a group of dedicated volunteers cleaning up the church building one room and project at a time. **Brenda Mosby** will offer a presentation about the philosophy of the Energy Bus during lunchtime on Sunday, September 13 that you just don't want to miss! The brown bag lunch will be provided by the Energy Bus and the Fellowship Committee (and include FCC famous pie made by Brenda & The Energy Bus). If you'd like to join us, please RSVP in your pew pads on Sunday mornings or online:

All Aboard the Energy Bus!
good vibes only, seats always open!

We want YOU to join the
Energy Bus team!



News of the People & Places

Sympathy...

• **Sherry Kaye Dobbs** passed away on Monday, August 31. Sherry Kaye was 76 years old. Please keep Sherry Kaye's sisters, **Marilyn Schappert**, **Jeanie Dobbs**, **Sue Dobbs**, and **Carol Kvanvig** and the rest of Sherry Kaye's family and friends in your prayers during this time of grief and transition. Services for Sherry Kaye will be held on Saturday, October 17 at First Christian Church. A visitation will be held at 10:00 a.m. with a memorial service to follow at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow the service.



Just Married...

• **Mason Silverwood** & Heidi Baranuskas were married on Saturday, September 5 in Arkansas. Congratulations to the growing family of **Ryan & Stacy Silverwood**!

Prayers for Health & Healing...

- **Mary Ann Atteberry** had a successful shoulder surgery on August 28 and has moved to Columbia Post Acute for rehab.
- **Maria Clark** had a mild stroke at the end of August and continues to recover at home.
- **David Meyer**'s hip replacement was postponed indefinitely. He will have cataract surgery on his left eye on September 16 and then surgery on his right eye on September 23.
- **Carol Slusher** has been discharged from rehab and is staying with her son, Scott Slusher, as she continues to recover.
- **Ryan Stem** did not have a heart ablation—but a spinal ablation! This is a correction to the August 28 newsletter.
- **Lorene Trickey** had hip surgery on Tuesday, September 8 at Missouri Orthopedic Institute.

Dear FCC Family,

Now that the summer has at least somewhat settled, I want to extend deep thanks to everyone who helped make our family's transition from FCC so meaningful. It was a beautiful reminder of the love, friendship, and community we have shared over the years (plus great food).



I will carry with me so many memories of worship, laughter, difficult conversations, celebrations, and ordinary moments shared together. Our final Sunday was all of those things, from the kids (and cow) singing in worship to the tears shed at leaving the brunch, wrapped into a few short hours. Thank you for the work that went on behind the scenes to make that day so special.

Thank you as well for sending us forward with such generosity. We certainly did not expect a love offering, but are very grateful for the care FCC provided. While our time together has come to a close, I trust that the memories we have made together will continue to be a blessing.

With deep gratitude,

Topher, Sam, Wilson, and Grover Endress

Many thanks to everyone in extending love and sympathy at this sad time of my sister's passing (Sherry Kaye Dobbs). **Anne Crousore** delivered a beautiful bouquet and very kind note on Sunday after church. It really meant a lot to me and my family.

Brad has been the absolute best at this time of deep sorrow. Thanks to all those who called and sent cards as well. We appreciate your thoughtfulness so much.

Marilyn Schappert and the Dobbs Family

Thanks to **David & Debbie Potthast** for bringing me flowers & visiting me on July 12 after my five day stay in the hospital with pneumonia. Also to **Dr. Stagg** for visiting me in the hospital. Thanks as well to those who send me get well cards & prayers!

Ruth Ann McAtee

Dear Church Family,

We appreciate the meals and cards of good wishes.

Thanks, also, for the lovely bouquets delivered by **Eric Seaman** and by **David & Debbie Potthast**.

Also thanks to **Pastor Stagg** and **Trish** for your visits and prayers. We love our church family.

Cherry Hinderberger and Carol Hughey

Birthdays

September 15

Cindy Smith

September 16 - Donaleigh Richardson

September 17 - Christina DeVenney, Maddie Marrero

September 19 - Ben Carrier, Brad Stagg

September 20 - Kyle Boger, Donna Kessell, Carleigh Snow

Anniversaries

September 18 - Russ & Monica Palmer

September 19 - **Emily & Chuck Scott (52 years!)**

September 20 - Brad & Khons Volmert

Happy Belated Birthday!

September 9 - Shannon Schaefer

september



Fall Sunday School Schedule

We are so excited to return to our regular worship schedule this fall beginning Sunday, September 13, with a host of Sunday School options during the 9:30 hour! Read below for more information about Sunday School classes, schedules, and teachers for this fall!

Children's Sunday School—Begins September 13

Children's Sunday School classes will run weekly starting September 13 to December 20. Children grades K-6 will meet in the 3rd floor map room during the 9:30 hour weekly on Sunday mornings. Classes will involve art, games, and creative opportunities to learn about The Lord's Prayer. The Children's Sunday School classes will be taught by **Carrie Batterson, Rebecca Bailey, and Audrey Miller**.

Youth Sunday School—Begins September 13

Youth Sunday School will return on Sunday, September 13! Youth grades 7-12 will meet in the 3rd floor yellow room during the 9:30 hour weekly on Sunday mornings. The curriculum for youth will ask hard questions about the Bible, Creed, Discipleship, Jesus, and tough questions like "*Is it okay to be angry with God?*" and "*Why does God let bad things happen?*" The Youth Sunday School classes will be taught by **Ryan & Stacy Silverwood**.

Adult Sunday School—Begins September 20

The Adult Sunday School class will kick-off this fall on September 20 during the 9:30 hour. The first class will include a recap of what's been covered in previous classes and an introduction to how the class is structured. The Adult Sunday School Class will return their focus to the series *The Chosen* this fall. *The Chosen* is a powerful series that brings the Gospels to life by showing the ministry of Jesus through the eyes of the people who encountered Him. With rich storytelling and authentic characters, it draws you into the cultural and spiritual world of the New Testament, making familiar stories feel fresh and personal. Each Sunday, the class gathers and offers a short recap of the previous week's episode and topics discussed. Then the class will watch a portion of an

episode and discuss how the episode relates to our lives today.

Adult Sunday School FAQs

- **Is there homework?** No! Our class is discussion-based.
- **Do I have to talk?** Only if you want to!
- **Who are the leaders?** Katie Carrier, Ben Carrier, and Fred Mottaz

Who Are Our Sunday School Leaders?

Adult Sunday School (Katie and Ben)

Katie grew up in New Franklin and Ben grew up in Parkville. Katie and Ben met at Mizzou during Katie's freshman year. They both graduated from Mizzou's accounting school and were married in Columbia in August 2014. After spending five years in Kansas City working for a public accounting firm, they moved to Zurich, Switzerland for two years and then back to Kansas City for a year before settling down in Rocheport where they currently live with their children – James (5), Henry (4), Anna (2), and Ella (newborn). Their hobbies include spending time with family, traveling, skiing, and attending Mizzou, Cardinals, and Chiefs games. They found FCC in March of 2022 after visiting many area churches and felt an immediate sense of belonging thanks to the warm, welcoming parishioners, thought-provoking sermons, and traditional style of service.



Adult Sunday School (Fred)

Fred Mottaz also leads the Adult Sunday School Class. Fred served in the church office for 17 years as the Business Manager, is currently a church Elder and Trustee, and has served as the Elder Chair, a faithful property & landscaping volunteer, and a dedicated member of FCC. Fred has also previously offered Adult Sunday School classes focused on books by Max Lucado, and has supported Katie & Ben from the beginning of this current series on *The Chosen*. Listening to and learning from Fred is a gift you don't want to miss!



Youth 6-12 Sunday School (Ryan and Stacy)

Stacy and Ryan have been working in children and youth ministry for over 20 years. Ryan works for Shelter Insurance and coaches gymnastics at Tiger Academy. Stacy works for the church, as an office assistant at Tiger Academy, and as a homeschooling mom to Faith. Ryan and Stacy have been married since 2000. They have 4 children and 2 bonus children: Mason (his wife, Heidi), Ryley (her fiancé, Thomas), Jodie, and Faith. They love spending time with their family.



Children's K-5 Sunday School (Carrie and Rebecca)

Carrie lives in Columbia with her husband, Rick, and their three cats. She loves photography, birds, flowers, concerts, animal rescue, being outdoors, and spending time with her family. She has a special place in her heart for children, especially children with special needs. She'd love to create a fun, welcoming place where every child feels loved, included, and cared for.



Rebecca has a special passion for working with children, especially those with special needs. As a mother of two sons with autism, she has learned valuable lessons about patience, behavior, communication, and the importance of understanding each child as an individual. Her biggest goal is for every child who comes into the Children's Sunday School classroom to feel welcomed, loved, and accepted. She wants them to know that they belong and that God made each of them special in their own way. She looks forward to getting to know our children and families, having fun together, and helping create a safe and caring place where every child can grow and learn about God!

Sunday School & Youth Group Return!

Well, it's finally here - the kick-off for Sunday School and Youth Groups. I am so excited!



Just a few reminders...

Our Pre-K kids will go to the nursery on the second floor for Sunday School with Ms. Hayley and our MDO teachers; Children (Grades K-6) will be on the third floor with Ms. Rebecca, Ms. Carrie, and Ms. Audrey. Youth (Grades 7-12) will be on the third floor with myself and Ryan. Children's Sunday School will be studying The Lord's Prayer for the next six weeks, and Youth Sunday School will be talking about the Bible for five weeks.

Children's Worship will be following a similar format to the church worship and will be for Grades K-5. There will be busy bags (filled with small toys, coloring pages, and possibly a small snack) in the Narthex for children's Grade 6 and up. Pre-K will go to the second floor nursery area for a lesson and play time.

Youth Groups also return this Sunday!

JYF: Grades 3-6 will start on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Parents, if you could plan to stay for just a bit so we can go through the schedule and paper work, that would be great!

CYF: Grades 7-12 will start on Sunday at 5:00 p.m.. Parents, if you would like to get your paperwork done and get a copy of the schedule that would be great as well.

Some of you may have noticed the new busy bags for children in the Narthex. There are a couple that are Preschool specific and others that are geared a bit more toward older children. My hope is that children will be able to quickly find them each Sunday as needed. Once you are done with them please return them to the cabinet.

As always, if you have any questions please reach out!

It is never to late to volunteer!!!! If you would like to help with our children & youth ministries this fall in any way, please let me know. You can always reach me by email at stacy@firstchristian.org.

Stacy Silverwood

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry



New Date! FCC Supper Club Meeting this September

Supper Club meeting Friday, September 18

FCC Supper Club is an opportunity for fellowship with other FCCers and to explore restaurants downtown (with the added benefit of free childcare for the evening). Join the Supper Club at Bangkok



Gardens on Thursday, September 18 from 6-8 p.m. (childcare drop off at 5:45 p.m.). **Please RSVP to Erin Perry** at fcc@firstchristian.org by Monday, September 14 if you'd like to join. Please note if you'll need childcare with your RSVP.

Mid-Missouri CROP Walk

Mid-Missouri CROP Walk on Sunday, September 20

Mid-Missouri CROP Walk will fall this year on Sunday, September 20. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk fundraising events held in cities and towns across the



United States, created to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. After a CROP Hunger Walk ends, 25% of the funds raised is returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts. Please see **Kathy Ramser** on Sunday mornings in the Narthex to sign up to walk, donate, or support this year's Walk!

Save the Date! Church Picnic

Church Picnic on Sunday, September 27

The Fellowship Committee isn't slowing down at all this summer! The date has been set for the annual church picnic. This year's picnic will be held on Sunday, September 27 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. This year's picnic will be held at Albert Oakland Park. Please RSVP ahead



of time so the Fellowship Committee knows how much food to buy - you can RSVP with your pew pads on Sunday morning or online: firstchristian.org/rsvp. We hope you'll join us for this fun fellowship opportunity!

Ladies' Book Club



Ladies' Book Club meets August-May with a break in December when we have no assigned book...just lunch and maybe some book talk. Our meetings are in Morris Parlor on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. You are welcome to bring a sack lunch. Come and join us for some good exchange of ideas with a great group of ladies. If you are new, let us know you are coming and we'll meet you at the gym door so you won't have to find your way by yourself.

The following is this year's schedule and book list:

- ♦ **Sep. 9th** - *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi (Barb Rothenberger)
- ♦ **Oct. 14th** - *Mary Magdalene Revealed* by Meggan Watterson (Amy LaHue)
- ♦ **Nov. 11th** - *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby van Pelt (Linda Hutton)
- ♦ **Dec. 9th** - December Lunch
- ♦ **Jan. 13th** - *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans (Sarah Yonker)
- ♦ **Feb. 10th** - *To Rescue the American Spirit* by Bret Baier (Genie Rogers)
- ♦ **March 10th** - *James* by Percival Everett (Janelle Patterson)
- ♦ **April 14th** - *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks (Peggy Veatch)
- ♦ **May 12th** - *The Calamity Club* by Kathryn Stockett

Breakfast for Our Brethren

Volunteer with BFOB Saturday Mornings in October!

For several years, the downtown churches have served breakfast on Saturday mornings for folks who are unhoused or living with food insecurity. First Christian Church serves breakfast every Saturday in the months of May and October. We cook and serve food for folks staying at the Waypoint Shelter at the Opportunity Campus. We often serve a variety of options for breakfast - sometimes casseroles, sometimes biscuits and gravy, always paired with breakfast bars, fruit, breakfast breads, and cereal. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with this fun and rewarding work! If you are interested in helping us cook and serve next month, please contact **Debbie Potthast** (dapotthast@gmail.com) for more information. Keep an eye out closer to the end of the month if you're interested in volunteering or donating food—we'll have signups online and in the Narthex on Sunday mornings!



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573-449-7265

email: fcc@firstchristian.org

web: firstchristian.org



WEBSITE



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First Christian Church

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

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org

Stacy Silverwood,
Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
stacy@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 Dunning, 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

GRAMMY NOMINATED

GRAMMY-NOMINATED ORGANIST

JAN KRAYBILL



"FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION"

BACH • GUILMANT • REGER • RACHEL LAURIN AND OTHERS

FREE CONCERT

PROVIDED BY CENTRAL MISSOURI CHAPTER

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

3 PM, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

MISSOURI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - PARKING LOT ENTRANCE

204 S. 9TH STREET, COLUMBIA, MO

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

FREE PARKING HITT ST. GARAGE (JUST ACROSS ELM)



Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, September 13, 2026

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Don Mosby
WELCOME STATION: Cliff & Meg Judy
FLOWER MINISTRY: Jacki Davidson
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: The Schaefer
EARLY SERVICE HELPERS: Joe & Kim Reardon
COMMUNION PREP: Steve & Jessica Humble
GREETERS: Trish Stagg (N. DOOR),
Jacki Davidson (S. DOOR), Peggy Veatch
(Atrium), Larry Veatch (PORTICO)
AV TEAM: Tiger Li
LITURGIST: Cole Freed
8:30 ELDER: Cherry Hinderberger
9:30 ELDERS: Fred Mottaz, Mark Mills,
Dan Tevis (Balcony)
DEACONS: The Judy Team
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Stacy Silverwood
OFFERING COUNTERS:
Deb Batterson and Jean Juba