

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH VISITOR

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Published Monthly

by

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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**First
Christian
Church
Visitor**

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
100 South 10th Street
Richmond IN 47374
765.962.6287

Enabling God's People to Serve

FCC@firstchristianrichmond.com

Pastor: Rev. Cindy Ploughe

Worship: 10:30am

Volume 52

Number 8

August 22, 2022

FROM Cindy's Desk...

FCC Family,



I've always liked the beginning of school. Even as a kid, I looked forward to the new school year as an adventure waiting to unfold. Well, this September, we're going to try something new.

On September 18, we're going to begin a once-a-month Sunday service that is ...different. We'll have more upbeat and modern music. The sermon style may change a bit. We may have more skits.

Please know that our message will NOT change. That message is and must always be...the Good News of God's redeeming Love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Only the way of offering that message will change...for one Sunday a month.

To tell the truth...this kind of change is outside my comfort zone, and it makes me nervous. But I believe that it's always good to occasionally take a step into the unknown. How can we ever strengthen our wings...if we don't take a flight now and then. We may stumble on some of this. But we may also find new and invigorating ways of worship that will astound us. It's time to let our imaginations soar.

Here's to blessed flights of faith!

Cindy

INVITE EVERYONE: FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEIGHBORS, CO-WORKERS, PEOPLE YOU MEET, TO WORSHIP AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT 10:30AM ON SUNDAYS!



OPEN ARMS UPDATE

Dear Partners In Christ,

These are not normal times, but you likely also know this. For many in our community who live at the margins, the problems are converging. Grocery prices have increased steadily. Gasoline prices are up. And rent has also suffered noticeable increases. If you are living on a fixed-income, or working a low wage job, the options for adapting are few and limited in scope.

That's where we came in, for some families facing economic crisis. We connect people with other resources in our community. We do basic budgeting education. Under a number of circumstances we can help with rent and utility bills. And when the sums owed are very large, we combine our relief funds with other agencies in an effort to resolve those larger sums.

Your support through prayer, volunteer service, and financial contributions are a huge source of resources for our ministry in the community. Each of our partner churches has their own pattern for volunteering, and allocating donations during any given year.

We thank God for your concern for families in our community, and for the resources and Volunteers that you share through the ministry.

Sincerely,
Derek Parker, Asst. Director



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Client numbers are starting to rise again with the rising costs of food and other necessities. We were almost double the last 2 months as compared to the same months in 2021. So, what can you do to help? Food staples are always needed: canned items, cereal, dry goods, peanut butter, crackers and anything else that is shelf stable. (Make sure it is not expired if cleaning out those cabinets!) Another way to help is to go to Meijer and participate in the Meijer Simply Giving campaign. The 2 for 1 match day coming up is September 10. And, as always, your monetary donations are always welcomed!

Samantha Bryant,
Community Food Pantry, Secretary



Samantha will be out of the office the following week:

October 10 to October 17

We will need volunteers to man the office and answer the phones and the door, Monday through Thursday, 8:30a to 2:30p. If you are available, please let Samantha or Cindy know!

Thank you!

NEW WEBSITE

Have you checked out our new website yet? It is easy to use and full of information all in one convenient place. Sermons, calendar, newsletters, and more are all available. It also has links to the Regional and National DOC websites and Facebook, as well as local nonprofits we support.

The website is still:
<https://www.firstchristianrichmond.com>

SERVICE DAY

September 4 is Labor Day Sunday and will be a "Service Day" for us. Our "formal" worship will occur at the regular time. But, it will be much abbreviated. After scripture, a song, Communion, and prayer, our worship of God will take a more hands-on form. We'll walk through our community picking up trash and offering smiles to our neighbors. Some may choose to stay inside and prepare notes for our First Responders and our Special Members who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis. All is done in love and in service to others. Thus, it is all worship! We hope you can join us! P.S. Don't forget to wear your work clothes!



CHOIR IS BACK!

Bell and Sanctuary Choir members will meet for a Choir year Kick-off meal at 6:00pm on Thursday, September 1. This will be followed by Sanctuary Choir's first practice of the fall season at 7:00pm. Bell Choir will resume practice Thursdays at 6:00pm starting September 8. New and returning singers and ringers are welcome. We look forward to another year of making music to the glory of God!

Come! Join Choir!
Rex Bailey, Director of Music



FIRST RESPONDERS DAY

We all know the heroic work of First Responders of all kinds: firefighters, law enforcement, and dispatchers. They are on the front line of danger and chaos in our communities. We appreciate them. We honor them. Join us on Sunday, September 11, as we thank God for their service and pray for their safety and well-being.

POTATO BAR UPDATE Mark Your Calendars!!!

The CWF is happy to announce the return of the popular Potato Bar on Sunday October 9th immediately following worship.

For the price of \$9.00 you will be treated to a baked potato with a choice of toppings, salad, dessert and beverage. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Come enjoy a delicious lunch, a time of fellowship, and an opportunity to support the missions of the CWF.

CHRISTIAN SERVICES UPDATE

The gift of love area has a new look. A dry erase board on the wall has replaced the tree.

Each month a place of giving will be posted along with suggestions for that giving. Donations can be placed in the baskets below the board. If you want to donate each month but don't have time to shop you can make a cash donation and place it in an envelope on the back of the pew and write on it for the gift of love project and place it in the collection plate.



BLESSING BOX AND FENCE SCHEDULE

Month	Group
2022	
September	CWF

DEADLINES

- Announcements for the Bulletin are due to the office by Tuesday, 9:00am, each week.
- Articles and information for the Visitor are due to the office by Wednesday, September 21. This will help insure that the newsletter goes out on time.

Submissions can either be dropped off in the office or e-mailed to FCC@firstchristianrichmond.com.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

For safety and security reasons, please remember that the church is not to be left unlocked. If you are here for a meeting, you should plan to have someone wait by the door or call the church office and we will be able to let you in.

HOSPITAL VISITS

If you are admitted to the hospital, please have a friend or loved one contact the church office so we will know you are there. The hospital has made several changes and there is no good way for us to know you have been admitted. If you are in a nursing home, please ask a staff member to notify us if you are transferred.

When we are notified, we will ask if you want to be placed on the prayer concerns list or Prayer Chain. If you wish to keep your hospitalization confidential, your privacy will be respected. The church has assigned volunteers for hospital visits, so someone from the church can see you while you are there.

BUDGET UPDATE as of July 31, 2022

July Contributions Received:	\$ 9,779.46
July Total Expenses:	\$ 13,237.09
July Net Income:	\$ -3,457.63

Total Contributions:	\$ 81,315.90
Total Expenses:	\$ 107,709.73
Total Net Income:	\$ -26,393.83