



First Christian News

*We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.
As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.*



UPCOMING *events*

- Adult Sunday School - ON HOLD
- Children's Sunday School - during service
- April 3 - Board Meeting 9:30am
- April 10 - Palm Sunday - Processional, Luncheon, Easter Egg Hunt
- April 11 - Women's Bible Study 10:00am at FCC Weston
- April 17 - Easter Sunday
- April 18 - Ladies Lunch at 11:00am
- May 8 - Mother's Day Celebration
- June 19 - Father's Day Celebration

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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Resurrection Greetings!

I want to thank everyone that had provided to the - Michael Strange Memorial Clothing & Food Drive this year. I believe it was a great success. Not just that much was contributed this year, but it shows the outpouring of the love and faith our church has for the community and those needing assistance. Thank you to all who participated.



With that said, I would like to express that as we come to the beautiful time of year called "Easter" or, as some may refer to it, "Resurrection Sunday," I want to remind you that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to us today. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:11 (NKJV) *"But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."*

I believe this life given to us is not only eternal life, but it is also life for NOW! We are truly living in very challenging days as so many lusts after power and use all means of force and manipulation to obtain it. Yet, Jesus said the following: Matthew 20:26 (NKJV) *"Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant."*

Think of it. The most amazing person to ever live on the face of this earth was Jesus Christ. He did nothing to force Himself on anyone, yet people willingly follow His teaching and example down through the ages and continue today. He laid His life down willingly so that you and I would have the example of willing sacrifice and love for others. We have seen the evils of "wars and rumors of wars" happening today as untold thousands of people have been displaced from one country to another. While that is another kind of "power" that will one day be dealt with by a just Judge, there is little doubt this kind of power produces anything but disdain and hatred for the oppressor. Jesus came that we might have life and that it would be abundant life! We may not have all the answers to "why" on this earth, but we do know that Jesus understands the beginning to the end. He is Alpha and Omega! 1 Corinthians 15:54 (NKJV) *"So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."*

Without the Resurrection, we have nothing, but WITH the power of the Resurrection, the Christian will ultimately prevail and overcome! I want to encourage you to take advantage of the fact we can (and will) gather together for Easter and celebrate His Resurrection. It's more than ritual or tradition, it's our living HOPE! Ginger and I look forward to seeing each of you on April 17th and we encourage you to begin the bridge-building by inviting a neighbor and or a friend to attend with you! He's Alive!

In Christ,
Pastor Dr. Damon "Doc" Gardner Sr.

MEN'S DEVOTIONAL

Consistency

"There I will meet you and speak to you; there also I will meet with the Israelites, and the place will be consecrated by my glory." - Exodus 29:42-43

Have you set up your tent yet? In the days preceding the Exodus, God established a special place to meet with Moses and the Israelites. He called it the Tent of Meeting; it was here that He said the words of our scripture verse above. Where is your Tent of Meeting? For me, it's the worn wooden rocking chair on the back porch. That chair is where I read this passage several years ago, on a porch in Indiana, and recommitted myself to a daily time with God.

My friend Darren was the first to jump in the water at a small group meeting I had with my small group while discussing consistency in our daily quiet times with our Creator. Darren said "Every morning, I get up and show up to work on time, I am prompt for my appointments throughout the day, and I'm always on time for my son's baseball practice after work. On weekends I like to get up at the crack of dawn and be the first off the tee so I can motor around the course. But one appointment I could never keep was the one about reading my Bible on a regular and consistent basis. I made sure I kept my appointments with everyone else, but with Jesus, I was never on time. How sad is that?"

"So, what did you do about it? I asked. "I finally got on track with a steady quiet time with God by doing three things: having a plan, setting a time, and having a place to do it uninterrupted." Consistency is a very large key to starting your day with God's perspective. Don't leave home without it. God deserves to be your first appointment don't you think? This is pretty much common sense. Without your Creator's perspective, it can be a little dangerous to face your daily circumstances. Make your coffee and make God your first appointment every day. God is never late; He is waiting for you.



*You are invited
to celebrate God's greatest gift this Easter Season!*

April 10, 2022

Palm Sunday Service at 11:00 am

*Luncheon following service
and Children's Easter Egg Hunt*

April 17, 2022

Easter Sunday Service at 11:00 am



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Minister: Dr. Damon "Doc" Gardner Sr.

MICHAEL STRANGE MEMORIAL CLOTHING & FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone that donated to the Michael Strange Memorial Clothing and Food Drive benefiting The Samaritan Inn and Grace Bridge Food Bank!



WATER COLOR PAINTING CLASS

On March 19, we hosted our first Water Color painting class taught by Michael Borne. Everyone had a great time. Be in the lookout for information on the next class. We hope to have one each month! For more information, contact Susan Mitlyng.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION—PAUSED

Feeding, Friends and Families have decided to pause our monthly food distribution until the need is greater. They will be looking at research data for the area and we will possibly start the distributions back up during the summer months.

We will keep you posted on any new information we receive. Thank you to everyone that has come out and helped with our food distributions!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to Karen Chilton for all you do as our Children's Sunday School Teacher. The children are learning so much and you are an essential part of growing their faith!



SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR APRIL

April 3	Humble Love	Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11
April 10	The Faces In The Crowd	Scripture: Luke 23:24-33
April 17	Unstoppable Love	Scripture: Luke 24:6-7
April 24	The Road to Realization	Scripture: Luke 24:13-32

EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING - APRIL 10 & 17

The Easter Special Offering, will be collected on April 10 & 17, 2022. This special offering supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.



FEBRUARY TREASURY REPORT

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$8,564.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00
 Special Offering: \$108.00
 Miscellaneous: \$0.00

Monthly Total:
\$8,672.00

Expenses

Salaries: \$4,000.00
 Utilities: \$364.93
 Supplies & Food: \$203.36
 Insurance: \$0.00
 Miscellaneous: \$58.11
 Taxes: \$0.00
 Maintenance: \$130.00

Monthly Total:
\$4,756.40

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

04/14 Linda Hornbaker
 04/14 Betty Fowler
 04/18 Marilyn Chamberlin
 04/23 Kim Tingle

Anniversaries

04/21 John & Tralyn Tadlock
 04/22 Andy & Kristie Dimock



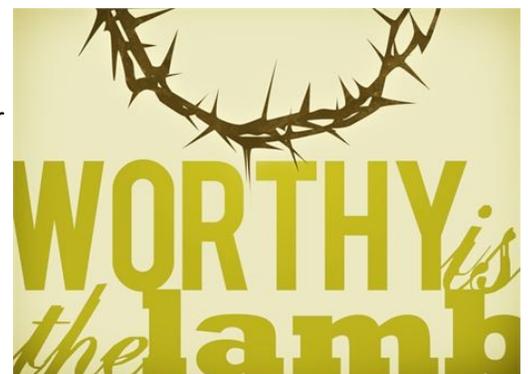
MARCH BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- Review of Minutes: The minutes from the February board meeting were approved via email after the February board meeting.
- Financial Report: Offerings for February were \$8,672.00 and expenses were \$4,756.40. Our utility bill was high at \$364.93 for the month. We need to make sure that the heat does not stay on during the week. The temperature when we leave on Sunday should stay at 55 degrees for heat and then 80 degrees for summertime.
- Pastor Contract: We will have a committee get together to review the pastor contract and make any changes as needed. Then we will present it to Doc Gardner to review as well and sign.
- CCLI license for printing music: The board discussed purchasing a Christian Copyright Licensing International License. This gives us the rights to print the words and music to hymns and keep them at the church, while honoring copyright laws. The license will also give us access to songs and sheet music, so we would not have to piece it together for print outs. The cost will be \$142.00 annually for the copyright license and \$204.00 annually for Song Select Premium.
- CD changes for bank: We currently have 4 CD's at Bancorp South which can only be accessed by the church members on each CD. The board voted to give Marilyn Chamberlin permission to go to Bancorp South, close all four CD's out, create a savings account and put the money from CD's into that savings account. This will give the treasurer access to the money in case the board votes to use it for purchases in the future.
- Women's Bible Study: The church will begin a Women's Bible Study class. The board voted to purchase 20 books for the bible study. Cost is about \$15 per book.
- Fence: The board will revisit quotes from contractors to clear our fence area and put up a new solid structure.
- Food Distribution: Community Lifeline and Feeding Friends and Families have suggested pausing our food distribution for a few months and then revisiting it in summer months when the need might be greater. We will do the food distribution on March 20, 2022 in order to tell those that come by where other distribution locations are.
- Church Pews and Carpet: The board discussed the need to look at the carpet since it is bubbling in places and could be a tripping hazard. Each pew is bolted down and will need to be removed in order to replace or re-stretch the carpet. The cushions and backs on the pews probably need to be replaced in the next couple of years. The pews were purchased over 40 years ago. The board will look in to getting a quote to refinish and repair the existing pews. We could possibly replace the pews with something new if the cost to refinish the pews is more expensive then replacing them. We will discuss this at the next board meeting.
- Next board meeting will be April 3, 2022

HYMN OF THE MONTH—"WORTHY IS THE LAMB"

Darlene Zschech is an Australian singer-songwriter and worship pastor of the famous Hillsong Church, Sydney. Zschech's best known song is "Shout to the Lord", sung by an estimated 25–30 million Christians every week. She also leads the Hillsong Conference music team each year at Olympic Park, Sydney.

This song is Zschech leading us to an attitude of gratitude for Christ's sacrifice for our sins, paying lip service to the resurrection. He is our Ruler, Savior, and Redeemer, worthy of our worship. Its central focus is on Jesus and Christ crucified, where we Christians are grateful. Zschech's language is full of Christianese terminology, yet, mostly easy for outsiders to digest.



Darlene Zschech's *Worthy is the Lamb* is a worthy song. It glorifies and praises Christ as the One who takes away our sins: bearing our shame, defeating death, and ruling on His throne.

First Christian Church of Weston

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Service: Sundays at 11:00 am
Children's Sunday School
During Service

Doc Gardner, Pastor
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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION NEEDED

To make the newsletter more personal, please send pictures or information on achievements, births, awards, or anything else of interest to Kimberly Tisserand at tisserand@outlook.com



Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Louis Cave, Tralyn Tadlock, Clark & Nancy Neill, Daisy Nicodemus, Sandra Zimmerebner, Betty Fowler, Mary & Jerry Smith in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a pew card or let Kimberly Tisserand know.