First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) The Christian Messenger

JULY 2023

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 7

Pastor's Corner

There is an idiom that states that "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link." It first appeared in Thomas Reid's 'Essays on the Intellectual Powers of Man', which was published in 1786. This idiom is used to express that a group can only be as successful as its least successful or powerful person. Even if the other links on the chain are strong, the strength of the chain depends on the weakest link, and its failure will occur at that point. I have often used this to describe the importance of every member in the body of Christ. If it is applied literally, then it means the church is only as effective as the effort put forward by the least involved member.

Fortunately, there is another idiom called synergy. It states that, when two or more organizations, substances, or agents work together, they produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects. So when 2 people work together they produce the work of 3. So, while a chain may only be as strong as its weakest link, the coming together of separate parts can produce more than they could have individually.

As I am writing this, we are just finishing Camp Noah. I would have liked to have seen more children, but I think the children all gained a lot from their experience. I was most amazed by how many different churches and organizations came together to host the camp. Not only the ones that taught the children, but also the ones that volunteered to drive the children and the ones that fed everyone. It was synergy. That is the way it is supposed to work in the church. Different people, different talents all coming together to produce more than they can with the sum of their wholes. Perhaps enough synergy overcomes the weaknesses of our links.



Independence Day

The Membership Team will be hosting the annual Independence Day Picnic on Sunday, July 9. The church will be providing pulled pork and BBQ chicken. Please sign up for sides, salads, fruit, & desserts with Sabrina. We are looking forward to seeing everyone.

Raindrops to Rainbows

Thank you to everyone who took part in Vacation Bible School held on June 13th. Our theme was Raindrops to Rainbows which highlighted the story of Noah and God's promise to us represented by the rainbow.

The day was filled with lots of fun, laughter and good food. There were rotations of crafts, games, storytelling, experiments and music. A tasty lunch time and make your own sundaes rounded out the day.

The Christian Education team appreciates everyone that gave of their time, talents and donations to make VBS such a great time of fellowship. Thank you also to those that attended! Photos are posted on Facebook for everyone to enjoy.

Camp Noah

We, along with Pike County Relief Services, had the pleasure to host Camp Noah the week of June 19. With the help of the Camp Noah staff, which included Mrs. Dee, and volunteers the camp was a success. Our rooms were filled with decorations, laughter, puppet shows, games, and crafts. The camp provided a great opportunity for children affected by the flooding to bond with other victims.

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Appalachian Pregnancy Care Center's Baby Bottle drive. The center provides support to anyone experiencing a pregnancy related crisis.

REMINDERS

- Vespers is suspended until after Labor Day.
- Praying Pelicans will be here the week of the July 17.

Upcoming Events

Independence Day (Office Closed)

7/9 **Church Picnic**

- 7/10Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm
- Board Meeting 7:00 pm 7/16
- Community Dinner 5:00 pm 7/25





Melanie Brown	July 7	Bob Van Hoose	July 15
Bob Mayfield	July 10	Patty Sowards	July 16
Shirley Sweeney	July 10	Cathy Bartley	July 18
Kimberley Harrison	July 15	Daryl Ratliff	July 28



Bill & Ginger Van Hoose	July 15
Larry & Lauren May	July 25
Bruce & Dana Batten	July 29

LEADERSHIP

Serving Deacons

Ryan Brown Jane Robinson **Kimberley Harrison** Mike Carnes

Elder of the Week

- 7/2 Randy Roberts
- 7/9 Blake Robinson
- 7/16 Tom Thompson
- 7/23 Terry Trimble
- 7/30 Bob Van Hoose

July Communion Preparation

Bob Sweaney



July 2023								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
						1		
2 CC: Barbara	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6	7	8		
9 Church Picnic CC: Robin/ Ginger	10 Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15		
16 CC: Pam Sowards Board Meeting 7:00 pm	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23 CC: Suzy	24	25 Community Dinner 5:00	26	27	28	29		
30 CC: Lucy								

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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST As of June 30, 2023

MEMBERS Amick, Matt

Anderson, Greg Anderson, Lynn Auton, Dorothy Batten, Bruce & Dana Cantrell, Danny Cantrell, Vernon Carlson, Dorothy Compton, Mary Deskins, David & Barbara Hamilton, Thelma Harrison, Jillian Johnson, Randy & Cindy & Family Little, Meleta Mayfield, Bob Perry, Jennifer Roberts, Howard Runyon, Camella Scott, John Sharp, Shirley Sturgill, Phyllis GENERAL Abney, Kim Wilson (J. Hogg) 3/15 Amick, Jimmy Joe 9/29 Anderson, Joann (R. Roberts) 10/16 Bartley, Pam 10/19 Bentley, Ben & Sally (Ginger V.) Biliter, Peggy (P. Sowards) 8/21 Bishop, Dewey (B. Baird) 10/26 Blackburn, Eugene (L. Compton) 3/15 Bleeker, Kaleb (R. Roberts) 6/23 Boyd, William (J. Robinson) 3/30 Bradley, Tammy (J. Robinson) 1/4 Branham, Betty & Family (H.Brown) Branham, Mike (J. Branham) 4/6 Cantrell, James (C. Bartley) 10/23 Carlson, Kevin (R. Wells) 11/30 Carter, Zac (K. Harrison) 2/17 Childers, Pauline (C. Bartley) 9/25 Coleman, Barbara (C. Bartley) 6/6 Coleman, Gail (G. Justice) 11/21 Coleman, Jami (D. Branham) 8/21 Crotts, Catherine (B. Baird) 11/10 Damron, Katelyn 12/25 Daniels, Danny Joe (P. Corbin) 4/24 Darby, Keith (B. Mayfield) 11/19 Darko, Jill (J. Hall) 9/20 DeKlerk, Ann (R. Wells) 11/30 Deskins, Tim (J. Brown) 8/22 Dockery, Melissa (G. Van Hoose) 3/6 Eddington -Cook Family (LaBreche) Edmonds, Charles (G. Van Hoose) Elswick, Jeremiah (L. Compton) Epling, Deborah (S. Huffman) 4/21 Estep, Burma (G. Justice) 2/17 Fields, Regina (B. Sweaney) 9/16 Friend, Kelsey Jr. (L. Compton) 3/15 Gibson, Deb 12/18 Gilliam, Mike & Michelle (H.Brown) Gilliam, Nancy (H. Brown) 10/4 Hall, David (D. Ratliff) 3/16 Harris, Patty (M. Little) 11/25 Harrison, Hannah (M. Harrison) Heilbron, Tom (H. Brown) 7/3 Hogg, Frances (J. Hogg) 1/25 Hogg, William & Paige (J. Hogg) 1/4 Howard, Linda (G. Justice) 4/16 Howard, Marsha (K. Baird) 11/16 Huebner, Ashlee (M. Huebner) 1/22 Huebner, Ben (M. Huebner) 1/8 Huffman, Charles (K. Baird) 10/5

Hunt, Billie (G. Justice) 6/4 Ison, Barbara (S. Huffman) 5/3 Jones, Jeff (D. Ratliff) 3/16 Justice, Bridget (G. Van Hoose) 3/222 Kanney, Linda & Jerry (J. Brown) 4/25 Kehoe, Sara Walters, (K. Corbin) 11/7 Kidd, Ryan (S. DeLong) 1/11 Kruckow, Rich (K. Harrison) 3/28 Lawrence, Jackson (V.Lawrence) 4/9 Lawson, Amanda (R. Wells) 5/21 LaBreche, Dennis (S. LaBreche) 4/16 Lowe, Sandy (J. Perry) 6/27 Martin, Lori Nichols 12/11 Matney, Marie (G. Van Hoose) 3/19 McCoy, Diane 12/18 McCov, Ron 1/1 (R. Roberts) McNamee, Mary Ann (M. Thompson McNamee, Nicole (G. Trimble) 8/28 McDaniels, Brynnix (D. Gibson) 8/22 McDonough, Theresa (M. Huebner) Nelson, Ray 5/17 Newsome, Chester (D. Ratliff) 3/16 Owens, Jeannine (G. Van Hoose) 7/15 Page, John (S. Huffman) 5/10 Parada, Ibis 12/18 Prather, Sue Ann (J. Branham) 5/3 Preston, Nikki 12/18 Ratliff, Grant (A. Byers) 9/18 Ratliff, Pat (L. Compton) 5/17 Robinson, Harold (D. Caarnes) 6/4 Robinson, Jo Nell (B. Robinson) Runyon, Glenda (G. Justice) 9/5 Rutherford, John (S. Sharp) 3/7 Sanders, Billy Clyde (J. Brown) 5/14 Scott, Andrew (J. Hall) 8/11 Seticoili, Ryam 1/1 (M. Huebner) Shearer, Robert Boo(B.VanHoose)8/26 Skidmore, Tim (S. LaBreche) 2/27 Slone, Andy (T. Slone) 11/17 Slone, Brooke 12/11 Slone, Sarah 12/11 Slone, Sidney 12/11 Steitz, Pat (M. Huebner) 3/19 Stewart, Gary (C. Bartley) 10/23 Stewart, Janice (S. Huffman) 5/15 Sullivan, Kristin (L. Davis) 9/26 Michelle Tackett (K. Corbin) 4/24 Talley, Sharon (R. Wells) 10/10 Taylor, Kendra (S. Sharp) 10/7 Thomas, Reba (P. Corbin) 9/29 Thornsbury, Danny (K. Corbin) 12/2 Turner, James & Jeweline (H. Brown) Zoellers, Dave (G. Van Hoose) 3/15 Warburton, Betty (K. Harrison) 6/4 Williams, Patty 1/1 (M. Huebner) Wright, Shirley 10/19 Yates, Dereck (J. Robinson) 4/14 SYMPATHY The Family of Charlene Adams The Family of Jody Goodson The Family of Chloteel Woofter The Family of Doc Fletcher **Other** The Hungry in our community Those dealing with drug addiction People of Ukraine Civility Flood & Tornado Victims Victims & Families Affected by Violence Preschool Director & Teacher

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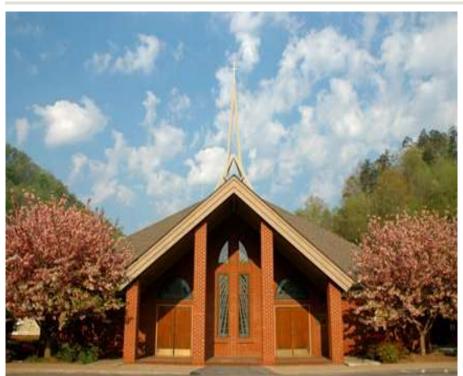
Jennifer Branham, Secretary

Email: fccpikevillesec@gmail.com

Office Phone: (606) 437-4527

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 313 Chloe Road Pikeville, KY 41501



Come Worship With Us!

Sunday School at 10:00 am

Sunday Worship Service at 11:00 am

Wednesday Night Vespers at 6pm

We are called to love God, To love Others, and to lead Others to Jesus Christ.

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