

In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, diversity. In all things, charity.

Contents

- 2-Choir & Bells
- 3-Founding of Morehead & Normal School
- 4-Creation Care
 - Camp Wakon'Da-Ho Camp Renovation
- 5-Thank Yous
 - Donations & Birthdays
 - Thanksgiving Arrangement
- 6-Holiday Outreach
- 7-Calendar
- 8-Advent Film Festival



The Echo

First Christian Church of Morehead

Volume 21 Issue 12

December 2021

Advent at Home Kits



Craft your own spiritual practices with our Advent at Home kits for individuals and families. Each kit includes a daily devotional booklet, Advent calendar, craft ideas, candles for an Advent wreath, and more. Pick up your kit at the church during office hours (M-Th 9-1pm) or Sundays @10:45am.

Message from the President

Greetings Church Family,

November has come to an end and we are moving into Advent Season. We had a successful Silent Auction raising over \$1200. Thanks to everyone who participated. The Outreach Committee delivered Thanksgiving Baskets to 10 families in need. Thanks to Jeff and Ronetta Brown and to everyone who donated and helped to deliver them. As we enter the Advent Season, please take some time to think about the many ways in which you and your family can help someone else have a blessed Christmas this year.



Anne Buckner
President

Message p4

Notes From Pastor Nancy

For lack of attention a thousand forms of loveliness elude us every day.

—Evelyn Underhill

Dear Disciples,

As I write this column, we have just entered the season of Advent. After three months of livestreaming worship only, our first Sunday with many back in the sanctuary was a joyful coming home celebration. Yes, we were all wearing our masks and doing our best to maintain physical distancing. Even so, the sparkle in the eyes of those gathered in the sanctuary was an indication of many smiles behind the masks.

The reduced strain on the ICU in our hospital, the availability of booster shots, and the expansion of eligibility of vaccines to include children ages 5 and up allow us to return to in person worship carefully. We recognize that some individuals continue to need to exercise special caution because of their particular health situations, and we encourage you to make the best choices for yourself and your loved ones. We'll continue to provide livestreams of our worship services on Facebook and YouTube. In addition we've learned the value of virtual gathering spaces, so we'll keep finding ways to connect with one another on Zoom.



Reverend Nancy Gowler



"Bound" - Advent Photo-a-Day 2013

Notes p2

This year we have Advent at Home kits available for households. These kits include Advent calendars, daily devotions, candles for creating an Advent wreath, craft ideas, and more. The kits are available during church office hours this week. If you need one delivered to you, contact the office.

I encourage you to use the Advent kits to create your own spiritual practices for Advent. We've added one of my favorites practices this year, the Advent Photo-a-Day devotions. There is one word for each day of Advent. Hold the word in your thoughts throughout the day. When you see something that connects to that word, snap a photo. You can share those photos on your social media or you can keep them for yourself. Sharing them with others may spark more folks to take up the practice, and you may find inspiration in the posts others share.

I looked back in my photos, and the first time I participated in an Advent Photo-a-Day practice was in 2013.

The daily practice of reflecting on one word and taking a photo relating to it is a way to help us pay attention. We are learning to look with an openness for what is around us, to find meaning in the everyday. If you haven't tried it before, I encourage you to take a look at the Advent words for this year. See what you may discover about yourself, the world, and the Sacred which surrounds us every day.

I'd love to see what captures your attention.

If you do share your photos on social media,

use the hashtags #fccmky, #fccmorehead, #advent2021, #closetohome. May this Advent season be a time of waiting, expectant waiting, for the Holy One to be revealed.

Be well. Be kind.

And always be the church where you are.



"Awake" - Advent Photo-a-Day 2013

ADVENT PHOTO-A-DAY			
ADVENT 1	ADVENT 2	ADVENT 3	ADVENT 4
11/28 - HOPE	12/5 - PEACE	12/12 - JOY	12/19 - LOVE
11/29 - HOME	12/6 - FOUNDATION	12/13 - PROCLAIM	12/20 - SANCTUARY
11/30 - AWAKE	12/7 - TENDER	12/14 - COURAGE	12/21 - EMERGE
12/1 - RESTORE	12/8 - REMEMBER	12/15 - BELONGING	12/22 - FREEDOM
12/2 - YEARN	12/9 - FAITH	12/16 - REJOICE	12/23 - CHERISH
12/3 - PROMISE	12/10 - BLUEPRINT	12/17 - ABUNDANT	12/24 - EXTRAORDINARY
12/4 - NOURISH	12/11 - SUSTAIN	12/18 - REST	12/25 - GLORY

 #closetohome #advent2021

Pastor Nancy



Genny Jenkins
Music Director

Choir & Bells

If you are looking for a seasonal musical experience, make plans to attend a concert from the Morehead Community Choir, led by Dr. Greg Detweiler and accompanied by organist Will Murphy, of selections from Handel's Messiah. The concert will be held at First Baptist Church on Sunday, December 5, at 2:30 PM. The event is co-sponsored by FBC and FCC. Alana Scott and Mike Dobranski are singing in the choir and Anna Grayson will be soloist as well.

Genny



Sarah Chaney
Bells Director



For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6).

Our Beginnings—A History and Comment

First Christian Church by Anne Reynolds Buckner

Founding of Morehead and Morehead Normal School part 2 of 3 [John Louis Hargis, Find A Grave](#)

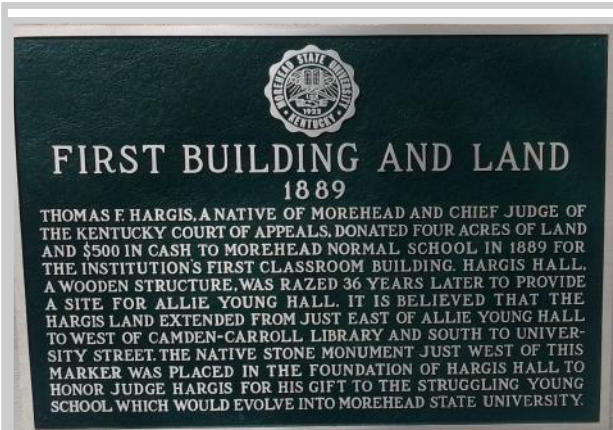
Col. John Hargis died on April 1, 1886 and was interred into the family property south of Morehead. The occasion was marked with many acts of respect for him. The funeral eulogy was delivered by Elder Henry F. Martin. It stated that Col. John donated the ground on which a church was built. It turned out to be the place where his funeral services took place. The obituary goes on to say he was a man of strong mind, fine presence and a thorough believer in the Savior. His last words were “Jesus can fix it all: He will make it right.” The article said that most of the people of Morehead attended the services. The article goes on to state that the people of Breathitt and Rowan county intended to have a monument built in the memory of Col. John Louis Hargis. As far as anyone knows, a monument to Col. John L. Hargis was never built. In fact Col. Hargis’ burial site on the family property was speculated to be south of Morehead near Paragon and Lower Lick Fork road.



During the construction of Cave Run Lake, much of that area was to be flooded. There was a cemetery relocation project conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers in which graves in 28 cemeteries were to be moved. As it turned out, that wasn’t an easy task. The old Hargis cemetery was bordered by a creek to the west and nearby water courses to the south.

As told by one of John’s great–great-grandsons, Vernon Hargis 1925-2012, there was a great flood in 1939 that came in the middle of the night. His family narrowly escaped the waters that came into the house. They got to safety but the house was swept away, along with some of the grave markers in the old cemetery.

A memory that one of Vernon’s daughters has of her father is how he would complain whenever they returned to the old cemetery over the following years, and he could not find some of the ancestors because the flood washed away some of the markers. The graves of the Hargis Cemetery were moved to the Alfrey Cemetery in Rowan County, nearer to Morehead. Once moved, all but a few graves in the Hargis cemetery were marked. Unfortunately, due to the lost headstones during the flood, not all the graves could be identified.



Thomas F. Hargis, a native of Morehead and chief judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, donated four acres of land and \$500 to Morehead Normal School in 1889 for the institution’s first classroom building. Hargis Hall, a wooden structure, was razed 36 years later to provide a site for Allie Young Hall. It is believed that the Hargis land extended from just east of Allie Young Hall to west of Camden-Carroll Library and south to University Street. The native stone monument just west of this marker in the foundation of Hargis Hall honors Judge Hargis for his gift to the struggling young school which would evolve into Morehead State University.

Disciples Websites

[Cane Ridge Meeting](#)

[Disciples News Service](#)

[Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

[Disciples Home Missions](#)

[Lexington Theological Seminary](#)

[Mission Behind Bars and Beyond](#)

Below are some opportunities where you can reach out and share your love to those who are less fortunate.

- Rowan County Families and Toys
- Elderly Holiday Project
- People's Clinic Morehead - Lunches to feed 10-12 Volunteers - Contact Chairs for info. Jeff's cell (606)776-3233 & Ronetta's cell (606)776-0576.
- Blessing Gift for our Disciples of Christ youth Camp Wakon'Da-Ho, to help with camp renovations for a new bath house and swimming pool.

Again this year we are having a four-week Advent Faith & Film Festival each Sunday evening at 7pm. Contact the office for a Zoom invitation. See page 8 for more Film Festival information.

- Week 1: Dec. 5 - *Smoke Signals*
- Week 2: Dec. 12 - *The Milagro Beanfield War*
- Week 3: Dec. 17 - *Crisp Camp: a Disability Revolution*
- Week 4: Dec. 26 - *The Visitor*

I hope you are enjoying the history articles I have been sharing with you. This month's article is a continuation of how the Hargis family's gift continues to bless all of us. In closing, I pray for God's blessings for each of you. May you feel his love and grace as you go about doing his daily work.

Sincerely,
Anne

Camp Wakon'Da-Ho New Bathhouse & Pool Campaign

We invite you to consider making a gift to continue blessing the youth and children of Kentucky's congregations with a special environment for them to experience God's creation and Christian community.

The bathhouse is the improvement that those who attend, staff and direct camps, most frequently cite as necessary for safety, comfort, and inclusion of our campers. (Ctrl + click below)

[Donate to the camp renovation online](#)

Creation Care

Arbor Day Foundation and Gift Wrap

Gift-giving at Christmas-time has a long tradition. This year, in thinking about our gifts to those we



Arbor Day Foundation will plant a tree in honor of a person, and will plant a tree for any purchase through their website.

love, why not consider our home, the Earth. The Arbor Day Foundation offers several ways to purchase planting a tree(s) in a national forest. Not only can trees be bought as a gift in honor of an individual, but also the Arbor Day Foundation will plant a tree in a national forest for any

individual purchase of Arbor Day Foundation gifts like socks, T-shirts, stainless steel water bottles, Christmas cards, etc. (website: www.arborday.org.)

Another way to give a gift to the Earth is rethinking our wrapping of gifts. "We generate a lot of additional waste overall during the holidays—25% more – roughly a million tons more each week in the United States between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve." (Indy Star online, December 2, 2019) "A great deal of wrapping paper is not recyclable because it is partially made of plastic or foil and has glitter on it. A test to discover whether the wrapping paper is recyclable is to wad up a test sample in one's fist. If the ball of wadded-up wrapping paper doesn't unfold, then it is



recyclable. Brown paper, which can be bought in bulk is a wrapping alternative that is more sustainable. Reusable or recyclable wrapping (check out Maika) a cotton-based wrapping company that uses soy ink, or Ikea, (which carries all-recyclable wrapping paper options), or even reusable bags are also possibilities. Other wrapping alternatives like cloth (think: spare curtains, old towels or unneeded bedsheets). Or you might just choose to not wrap your gift." (REI online, October 23, 2019) Or give an experience!

The FCC Creation Care Committee wishes you a very Merry Christmas and would like to invite you to join our committee in 2022!

~Thank You~

Feeding the Volunteers of People's Clinic

Fran Helphinstine and Rob Sloss were meal angels in November! Many health issues and challenges of the pandemic have prevented some of our folks from getting out to shop or make and deliver meals to the clinic volunteers. In the face of these challenges, Fran and Rob have stepped up and taken care of all three November meals. The clinic volunteers and the Outreach chairs want them to know, they are truly appreciated! ❤️

~~~~~

### RCSHS Youth Service Center

Dear FCC Members: We are sending this thank you in regards to your donation of the hoodies for our students here at the RCSHS. Your donation was greatly appreciated. It's so nice to know that our community is there to help in any way they can. Thanks again for your heart felt donation! God bless you all! Charles Graham, Coordinator

### November Treasurer's Report

Income for the first three weeks of November: \$6,261.78.

Expenses for the first three weeks of November: \$6,789.03.

### Rebate

Thank you to Fleming-Mason Energy for the rebate check for capital credits which were earned for the years 1951-1971.

\$43.68



- 1- Alta Blair
- 1- Eric Carter
- 2- Karen Ross
- 6- Larry Fannin
- 6- Rev. Nancy Gowler
- 7- Jami Hornbuckle
- 12- Sandy Gullett

### Opportunities for Connection

#### Women of the Bible Study via Zoom

Tuesdays 7:00—7:30pm  
Contact Sarah Chaney by email  
[sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com](mailto:sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com)  
or call (606) 207-2421.

~~~~~

We welcome those who want to join committees.

Congregational Life Committee

Mary Claire Williams @
(606) 776-8430

mc.williams@moreheadstate.edu.

Creation Care Committee

Mark Etherton @
606-776-1745

ginn1@windstream.net

Education Committee

Sarah Chaney @
606-207-2421

sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com



Thanksgiving Arrangement

In honor of

Margaret (Muff) Penix Scott

Robert B. Scott

**Mrs. Ethyl Fisher Peratt and
Mr. Charles O. Peratt**

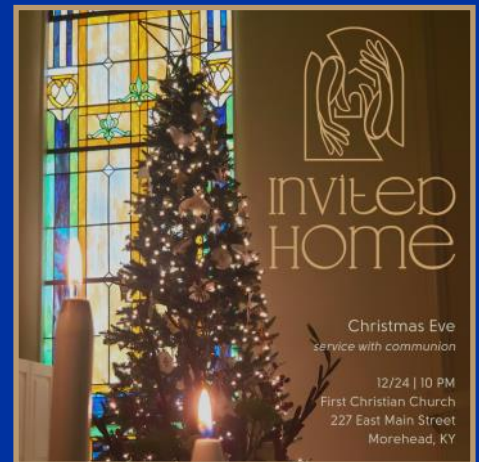
Frances Peratt Garrison

Warren M. Garrison

**Ann Rogers Garrison
Greenleaf**

by

Warren M. Garrison Jr.



Lexington Philharmonic &
Lexington Singers Dec 18

[Buy Tickets](#)

HOLIDAY OUTREACH



Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to Gateway Homeless Shelter last week, just in time for distribution to 10 needy families in our area. Thanks to all our youth and their adults for shopping for the items that helped these families have a good Thanksgiving meal! Each basket costs approximately \$60 to assemble, so we are very thankful to everyone who made a donation to help cover the cost of this worthwhile project. According to Paul Semisch, Gateway Assistant Director, "These baskets are truly a labor of love, and they are very much appreciated by the families who receive them!"

A More Expensive Christmas...

Those of us on the Outreach Committee who are purchasing clothing and shoes have found that all of these items are, on average, about $\frac{1}{3}$ more expensive than last year. We obtained the deepest possible discounts on every item we purchased, and yet, we are still well above last year's spending. We are purchasing coats, shoes, underwear, socks, pajamas, gloves, pants and tops for 43 Rowan County children, as well as hygiene and household items for their 11 families and 10 elderly couples/individuals in our area. We are so appreciative of all the monetary donations thus far. The needs in our community are very great, and we would not be able to share this tremendous gift with our neighbors without the help of everyone, and the generosity of so many. If you would like to

support this project, please designate "holiday outreach" on your donation.

Thanks to those of you who are purchasing gifts for the children we are serving this year, and thanks also to everyone who purchased food and personal items for the families and elderly. If you have not yet had the opportunity, you can still sign up to help, via the links below. All gifts and items need to be brought to church by



Sunday, December 5th; however, if you need a few more days, we will not be delivering the items until December 12th. Please let Ronetta or Jeff know that your gift will be a little late, so we know it is definitely coming. We have the best church family! These have been a difficult couple of years, yet we have still managed to come together to help the neediest in our community. This speaks volumes about the compassion, dedication, and persistence of this FCC family. Thanks from the bottom of our hearts for all the love you show through your gifts and service to others!

[Sign Up Here for Elderly Christmas](#)

[Sign Up Here for Families' Food](#)

[Sign Up Here for Children's Toys](#)



Delivery Drivers Needed Sunday, December 12th

We will be delivering gifts, food, and clothing to 11 families on Sunday December 12th. *We will need many drivers* to pull this off. You will have directions for drop off, which can be done with social distancing and minimal contact. We coordinate with the families, so all you have to do is load the items into your car, and help unload when you deliver. This is a very rewarding experience, and we hope many of you will join us as we wrap up the holiday giving.

We wish many blessings to you and yours this Christmas, and good health and happiness in the coming year. Jeff and Ronetta Brown

First Christian December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Services are in-person and online (FB & YouTube). Please join us each Sunday morning.	Office hours are Monday- Thursday 8:30-1:00pm		1	2	3 Office closed.	4
5 Advent II Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service 7pm Film Festival All Outreach gifts and food due at church.	6	7 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm	8 Bell Choir 5pm	9	10 Office closed.	11
12 Advent III Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Christmas Offering 7pm Film Festival Delivery of Holiday Gifts	13	14 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm	15	16	17 Office closed.	18 A Cathedral Christmas @ Christ the King Church, Lexington 8pm
19 Advent IV Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Christmas Offering 7pm Film Festival	20	21 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10pm Office closed.	25 Christmas Day
26 Christmas I Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service 7pm Film Festival Newsletter articles due.	27	28 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office closed.	

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Nancy Gowler, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Music Director
Isaiah Florence, Keyboardist
Sarah Chaney, Bells
Mia Caudill, Nursery
Open, Youth

Barbara Marsh, Secretary
227 East Main Street
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-4836

Monday-Thursday 8:30-1pm
Email: fccmky@gmail.com

Website: www.fccmorehead.org

Services are in person and on-line
www.facebook.com/fccmorehead

Join us for livestream
Sunday Worship
Service @ 10:45am



[www.flickr.com/
photos/
139711677@N02/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/139711677@N02/)



[www.instagram.com/
fccmorehead/](https://www.instagram.com/fccmorehead/)



[www.youtube.com/
user/TheInterper](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheInterper)

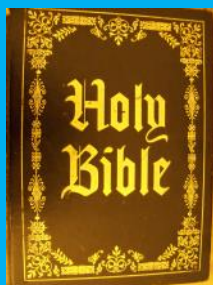


[www.twitter.com/
fccmorehead](https://www.twitter.com/fccmorehead)



Bible Lectionary Readings

Disciples of Christ



December 5—Luke 3:1-6
December 12—Luke 3:7-18
December 19—Luke 1:39-45,
(46-66)
December 26—Luke 2:41-52

SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 5—26

Advent Film Festival

Close to Home Advent Film Festival Sundays at 7PM



*Each week watch the film on your own and then join
our Zoom conversation on Sunday night. Message us for a Zoom link.*



Week 1 - December 5

Smoke Signals (1998, Rated PG-13)

Adapted by Sherman Alexie from his short story "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven," *Smoke Signals* explores issues of belonging, forgiveness, and what makes a home.
Available to rent on Amazon Prime.



Week 2 - December 12

The Milagro Beanfield War (1998, Rated R)

Directed by Robert Redford and based on the novel by John Nichols, *The Milagro Beanfield War* tells the story of a small town struggling to survive as outside development claim water rights and plan largescale projects. In this mix of folklore and harsh reality, one small act of rebellion starts a skirmish.
Available to rent on Amazon Prime.



Week 3 - December 17

Crip Camp: a Disability Revolution (2020, Rated R)

The 2021 documentary *Crip Camp* begins at Camp Jened, a ramshackle camp "for the handicapped" in the Catskills in the 1970s. From there the film follows camp alums as they become part of the disability rights community advocating for social change and accessibility.
Available on Netflix.



Week 4 - December 26

The Visitor (2007, Rated PG-13)

A widowed economics professor returns to his NYC apartment to find two people, both in the country illegally, living in it. Feeling sorry for the two he invites them to stay. What unfolds is a gentle story of loneliness, love, and life intertwined with tragedy and hope.
Available on TubiTV or to rent on Amazon Prime.