

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

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The Echo

First Christian Church of Morehead

Volume 21 Issue 6

June 2021



Welcome Back

All are welcome in God's house. We are safely gathering again. Our protocols are listed on p.5.

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

As we end the fiscal year this month, this will be my last ECHO column as president of FCC Morehead and I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you.

The last year has been a time of great challenge for us all and through that challenge we have experienced some difficulties and some growing opportunities and many ups and many downs. And through it all we've been able to maintain a healthy church and what I believe to be a vibrant presence in our community.

So, thank you.

Thank you to all those who have kept us going through your participation in worship. We've had liturgists, Vespers readers, musicians, lots of participation online and in video recordings as well as live in the sanctuary. What a blessing you have all been!

Thank you to our amazing committee chairpersons. The real work of the church seems to often be of our committees. Our committees are led by volunteers with true servant hearts.

Message p2



President Genny Jenkins

Notes From Pastor Nancy

*The life so short,
the craft so long to learn.*

—Geoffrey Chaucer

What's our Big Why? That's the question which echoes through our conversations over Tim Soeren's book, *Everywhere You Look: Discovering the Church Where You Are*. We dance around the question a bit, throwing out an answer here or there, although nothing seems to truly fit. Why are we here, First Christian Church of Morehead, Kentucky? What is the dream that God wants us to be a part of in this amazing part of Appalachia?

Sometimes it helps to begin at the beginning, to retell the origin stories of this place and this community of faith. We know the Buttons, as recounted in the Rowan County News Centennial Celebration,

The year 1887 was a memorable one for Morehead and Rowan County, for it marks the end of the county's most crucial period and the beginning of its regeneration. Reverberations of the devastating Rowan County War were still echoing in these hills when a young minister and his mother, Frank and Phoebe Button, came as strangers to Morehead and laid the foundations of the Morehead Normal School.

It was the arrival of the Buttons to Morehead which brought new purpose and much needed stability to the small church reeling from the violence.

Notes p2



Reverend Nancy Gowler

Message From The President p1

Please join me in thanking Jeff and Ronetta Brown, Joe Barrett, David Perkins, Brent Rogers, Alana Scott, Sarah Chaney, Mary Claire Williams, and Mark Etherton.

Thank you to the one and only Barbara Marsh, the most understanding and hard-working administrative secretary in town. Where in the world would we be without her? I don't know and don't care to find out. Her patience and diligence are second to none.

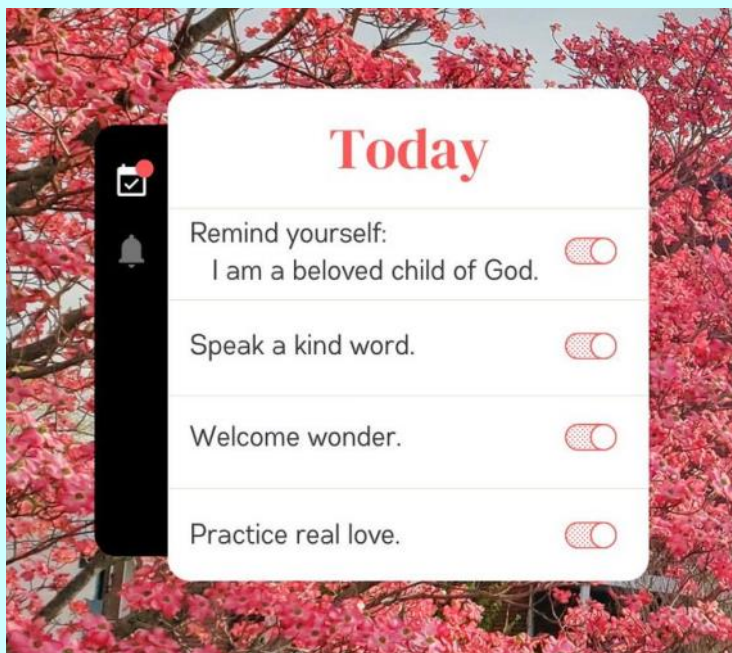
Thank you to our outstanding congregational board members, officers, elders, and deacons. Your leadership, both literal and spiritual, makes our church the beacon of hope and inclusion that it has grown to be. I am proud to be numbered among you.

Thank you to our fabulous pastor, Reverend Nancy Gowler. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, your intentionality, your willingness to move across the country to give a small church with a big heart a chance. What a blessing you have been and continue to be.

Thank you all for a year in which I have learned and grown and been blessed to be a small part of the life of this incredible church.

Love to you all,

Genny Jenkins



“A loving heart is the truest wisdom.”

— Charles Dickens

Notes From Pastor Nancy p1

There are some intriguing themes I see in this origin story of ours and perhaps some points of connection with our own time:

- Distrust, divisions, and violence in the larger community
- Poverty
- Belief in the transformative power of education
- Compassion for the people of eastern Kentucky and faith in their potential as children of God
- Commitment to the education and spiritual formation of Disciples of Christ.
- A vision for Morehead rooted in the Christian understanding of the realm of God.

My list is just a start. And you all know the story of this place and this congregation much better than I. I'd love to have conversations with folks reflecting on our beginnings. What values motivated the congregation in its early years? Is there a DNA to this congregation—a common thread connecting us to those beginnings? How have you experienced those core values lived out in the congregation? Are there other points of connection you see between the beginnings of this congregation back in the 1880's and today? In what ways has the identity of the congregation evolved since its start?

Let me know your thoughts. We as a congregation have been gifted with a rich tradition, and I believe the Spirit is nudging us into an even more rich future.

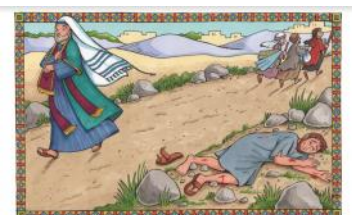
With hope and anticipation,

Pastor Nancy

Who was the first person to come upon the injured man in the parable of the Good Samaritan?

- A. Priest
- B. Levite
- C. Soldier

Bible Quiz



Answer: Priest

Our Beginnings—A History and Comment

by Anne Reynolds Buckner

Having grown up in First Christian Church, I heard many stories about how our church started and some of the names of the people who were instrumental in making it grow. Having inherited my mother's and grandmother's inquisitive nature about history and genealogy, I decided to do more research to see what else I could find out about our church and its strong connection to the Morehead Normal School and present day Morehead State University. Needless to say I am amazed at what I have learned and continue to learn. I would like to share a few articles with you and hope you will enjoy learning more too.



The Morehead Normal School was established by the Christian Missionary Society at Morehead, Kentucky on October 3, 1887. The school ceased operations on May 19, 1922 due to declining enrollment and graduates. The following fall the Normal School became a public institution and renamed Morehead State Normal School, presently Morehead State University.

Two Teachers, One Pupil from Lexington Herald-Leader 7.29.1908

Twenty-one years have gone by since the "Battle of Morehead," and as many sessions of the noted school have been held. Beginning with Prof. F. C. Button and his mother, Mrs. Phoebe Button, as teachers, the school had one pupil the first day. Nothing daunted the brave woman and her son persevered. Judge Thomas F. Hargis, of Louisville, gave the first school building and the grounds for all the buildings. The fund with which to build the boarding hall was given by Robert Hodson and wife, of Oquawka, Ill.



Dr. Button was minister of First Christian Church from 1887-1892, 1895-1901, and 1909-1911.

Chiang, Yang Neng, "Frank C. Button" (1994).
Morehead State University Art Collection. 197.
[Frank C. Button](#)



Mrs. Phoebe E. Button,
1880.
[Mrs. Phoebe Button](#)

Disciples Websites

[Cane Ridge Meeting](#)

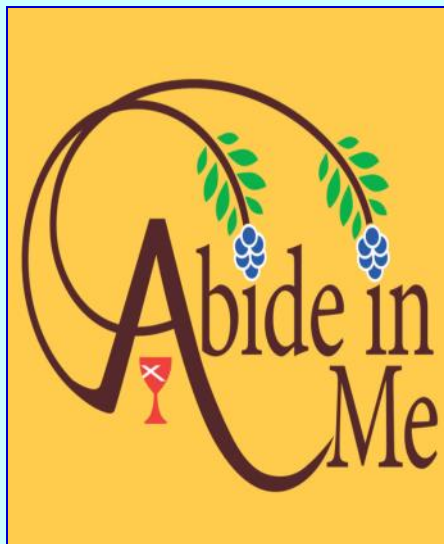
[Christian Church
\(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

[Disciples Home Missions](#)

[Disciples News Service](#)

[Lexington Theological Seminary](#)

[Mission Behind Bars and Beyond](#)



Library Shelving Needs

Tall Shelves Would be Ideal

It would be wonderful if someone would volunteer to build shelving for the whole library wall where the current bookcases are, or donate tall shelves to hold lots of books.

We are completely out of room!

[Contact Information](#)

Ronetta (606) 776-0576

Connie (606) 776-3163

New Officers and Deacons Elected

Our Annual Congregational Meeting was held by email due to the COVID19 pandemic. Voting was received May 16-21, 2021 for officers and new deacons for the fiscal year July 1-June 30, 2022. The slate of officers nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board of Directors were unanimously accepted by the congregation during the voting. Installation Service will be on June 27, 2021.

First Christian Church of Morehead Officers for 2021-2022

President Anne Buckner Vice President Mary Claire Williams
Secretary Fran Helphinstine Treasurer Joe Barrett

Diaconate Class of 2021-2022

Stacy Baker, Loretta Fannin, Connie Kibbey, Susan Whidden



Anne



Mary Claire



Fran



Joe



Stacy



Loretta



Connie



Susan

The First Christian Church Labyrinth

Our labyrinth is a unique design based on the patterns used in medieval Europe. The primary difference between our labyrinth and most classic examples is the inclusion of landscaping within the labyrinth circumference. It is a seven-circuit labyrinth and is forty feet in diameter (just two feet less than the famous labyrinth at the Chartres cathedral near Paris). The path meanders within the circular boundary for a total length of about 475 feet. A person walking at a slow pace and stopping occasionally to meditate should allow eight to ten minutes to walk the labyrinth.



Labyrinths are not mazes. Mazes contain cul-de-sacs and dead ends. They are designed to make us lose our way; they're a game. Labyrinths have the exact opposite purpose: they are designed to help us find our way. They have only one path--from the outer edge into the center and back out again. In a labyrinth you can trust the path--giving up conscious control of how things should go and being receptive to your inner state.

Because there is only one path, the word "circuit" is used to describe the number of times the path circles around the center. The classical seven-circuit labyrinth goes around seven times. This is the oldest known form of labyrinth, dating back four to five thousand years. Anyone is welcome to walk the labyrinth.

How To Walk The Labyrinth

There is no single "right" way to walk the labyrinth. However, for those who have never walked one before, the following three steps are one way to do so.

- **ENTER:** Release. Let go of all of the tension and anxiety that you carry daily. Relax. Listen to your body and your spirit, and perhaps for a still, small voice.
- **CENTER:** Receive. The center is often the place to see clearly and gain insights. Stay there as long as you like.

RETURN: Re-enter the world. Make the peace and insight gained from the labyrinth experience a part of your everyday life.

**Opportunities for
Connection\Contact the office
for Zoom Invitations**

Women of the Bible Study
via Zoom

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

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**VESPERS** via Zoom

A time of song & prayer

Thursdays 7:00pm

Message the office for a Zoom  
invitation. Vespers includes music,  
prayer, and meditation on artwork  
revealing God's word. Communion  
is a part of the service, so have  
some bread or cookie, water or  
liquid, if you would like to partake.

~~~~~  
**We welcome those who want to
join committees.**

The Evangelism Committee
Chairperson is Mary Claire
Williams @ (606) 776-8430 or
mc.williams@moreheadstate.edu.

Creation Care Committee
Chairperson is Mark Etherton at
606-776-1745 or ginn1@windstream.net ..

The Education Committee
Chairperson is Sarah Chaney at
606-207-2421 or sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com.

***Spending time in the great
outdoors this summer?***

Turn your thoughts to God as
you take in the sights with
America's Holy Ground or
America's Holy Sites, both by
Brad Lyons and Bruce
Barkhauer.

Available at
chalicepress.com.

Pentecost Donations

by

Yvonne Baldwin
Sarah & Rex Chaney
Fran Helphinstine
David Perkins
Alana Scott

May Treasurer's Report

Income is \$10,333.50
Expenses are \$9,551.97

Public Parking at FCC

Please contact the office to
reserve a space.

Jan-July \$125
Aug-Dec \$125



For more information, please
contact the office (606) 784-4836
or fccmky@gmail.com.

Note this will not affect anyone
who holds a parking permit.

Office (606) 784-4836

*June
Birthdays*



5- Brenda Combs
7- Genny Jenkins
23- Meghan Hammond
25- Ethan Jenkins
26- Wayne Caldwell
27- Leeann Akers
29- Susan Whidden

Memorial Day May 31, 2021



Memorial Day is an American
holiday, observed on the last
Monday of May, honoring the
men and women who died while
serving in the U.S. military.

Originally known as Decoration
Day, it originated in the years
following the Civil War and
became an official federal
holiday in 1971. Many
Americans observe Memorial
Day by visiting cemeteries or
memorials, holding family
gatherings and participating in
parades.

Unofficially, it marks the
beginning of the summer
season.



PACTO • ENGAGEMENT • KONTRA • 계약
COVENANT

Gateway Basket Items Due June 10

Items may be placed in the
Adult Sunday School room
downstairs by the elevator.

SAFER WORSHIP TOGETHER

First Christian Church of Morehead



MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Individuals and households will observe physical distancing while entering, worshipping, and exiting.



FACEMASKS & HYGIENE

Mask up while inside. Facemask & hand sanitizer stations are available at the entrances.



HOUSEHOLDS SIT TOGETHER

Families may sit together in an open pew. Maintain physical distancing from those outside your own household.



GIVING

Offering boxes will be available at the entrances to the sanctuary. Online giving is always an option.



WORSHIP

Until public health advice changes, there will be no congregational singing and limited special music. Prepackaged communion elements will be used.

NOT READY TO RETURN TO WORSHIP IN-PERSON?
WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP LIVE WITH US
ON FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE.

Outreach Calendar

*Firewood Ministry will meet Friday, June 4th at 8:30 am to begin cutting next winter's firewood for needy families. If you would like to help, please contact Bob Pryor (606)783-0326 or Jeff Brown (606) 776-3233.

*Reminder that Gateway Housewarming Items are due June 10th.

*Thanks to Ginny Etherton for her donation of healthcare items for the elderly. They will be much used and appreciated!

*Thanks to Yvonne Baldwin for providing May lunches for People's Clinic volunteers.

Ronetta Brown, Co-chair

Everywhere You Look: Discovering the Church Where You Are

Asking the Big Questions

BOOK DISCUSSION CONTINUES ON JUNE 21ST

As part of our reorientation to the idea of the church embedded in our neighborhoods, Soerens asks us to practice faithful presence in the places we inhabit. Here's a suggested practice. As you move about your day in the neighborhood practice gratitude. Offer a prayer of thanks when you pass by a school building, a community garden, the police station, a church building, a sewer drain, a light pole. Say a prayer of thanks for your neighbor when they pull into their driveway. Offer a quiet prayer of blessing when the barista gives you your coffee or the checker at the grocery store hands you your receipt. As you continue this practice, reflect upon how you are changing. What are you noticing? What do you see that gives you hope? What do you see that causes you to grieve? Pay attention to these things. Our next book discussion will be on Zoom, at 7 pm on June, 21st. We'll be discussing chapters 7-8.

First Christian June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 30 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service 5th Sunday Offering Chris Care Com Pray for Betty Hall.	31 Memorial Day Pray for all those who died in the service of our country. Office closed.	June 1 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Cathy Hammond.	2 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Abby Hammond.	3 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Meghan Hammond.	4 8:30am Firewood Meeting Office closed. Pray for Joyce Hart.	5 Pray for Fran Helphinstine.
6 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service 12:00 Elder & Deacon Meetings Pray for Rob Sloss.	7	8 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Jami Hornbuckle.	9 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Holly Pollock.	10 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Genny Jenkins.	11 Office closed. Pray for Chas Jenkins.	12 Pray for Jon Jenkins.
13 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Pray for Ethan Jenkins.	14 Flag Day	15 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Jaz Johnson.	16 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Connie Kibbey.	17 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Barbara Marsh	18 Office closed. Pray for Jiyeon McGillcuddy.	19 Juneteenth Pray for Natalie Mineer.
20 Father's Day Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Pray for Kaitlyn Paschall.	21 Book Discussion 7pm via Zoom. Pray for Anthony Paschall.	22 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Miles Paschall.	23 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Dianna Pettit.	24 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Makayla Reynolds	25 Office closed. Pray for David Perkins.	22 Pray for Reverend Bob Pryor.
27 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service/Installation of Officers/Deacons. Newsletter articles due. Pray for Lucy Pryor.	28 Exec/Full Bd Mtgs via Zoom 6:30/7pm Pray for Dana Quisenberry.	29 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Maggie Quisenberry.	30 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Roy Reynolds.	July 1 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Jean Lamer.	2 Office closed. Pray for Brent Rogers.	3 Pray for Alana Scott.
4 Independence Day Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service	5 July 4 Holiday observed. Office closed. Pray for Paul Semisch.	6 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Dennis McKay.	7 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Leon Smothers.	8 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Molly Smothers.	9 Office closed. Pray for Adrian Swain.	10 Pray for Carmen Swim.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Nancy Gowler, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Choir
Genny Jenkins, Keyboardist
Sarah Chaney, Bells
Makayla Reynolds, 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

www.facebook.com/fccmorehead

Join us for in-person
& livestream
Sunday Worship
Service @ 10:45am



www.flickr.com/photos/139711677@N02/



www.instagram.com/fccmorehead/



www.youtube.com/user/TheInterper

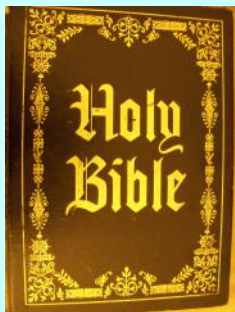


www.twitter.com/fccmorehead



Bible Lectionary Readings

Disciples of Christ



June 6-Mark 3:20-35
June 13-Mark 4:26-34
June 20-Mark 4:35-41
June 27-Mark 5:21-43

Congregation Prayer Practice

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE SPIRIT OF LOVE



As part of its mission to "to maintain the closest possible contact with the entire church membership to the end that each church member may function effectively in the work of the church and in a spirit of love and comradeship," the Evangelism Committee would like to encourage the church to intentionally think of each other in prayer. To this end, continuing in June, there will be an individual or intention on each day of *The Echo* calendar to include in your personal prayers.

23 Pray for Ben Gowler Johnson	24 Pray for Tommy Griffith	25 Pray for Neva Griffith	26 Pray for Emma Lou Gross	27 Pray for Jim Gross	28 Pray for John Gullett	29 Pray for Sandy Gullett
30 Pray for Betty Hall	31 Memorial Day. Pray for all those who died in the service of our country	JUNE 1 Pray for Cathy Hammond	2 Pray for Abby Hammond	3 Pray for Meghan Hammond	4 Pray for Joyce Hart	5 Pray for Fran Helphinstine
6 Pray for Rob Sloss	7 Pray for Jane Holbrook	8 Pray for Jami Hornbuckle	9 Pray for Holly Pollock	10 Pray for Genny Jenkins	11 Pray for Chas Jenkins	12 Pray for Jon Jenkins
13 Pray for Ethan Jenkins	14 Pray for Eva Johnston	15 Pray for Jaz Johnson	16 Pray for Connie Kibbey	17 Pray for Barbara Marsh	18 Pray for Jiyeon McGillicuddy	19 Pray for Natalie Mineer
20 Pray for Kaitlyn Paschall	21 Pray for Anthony Paschall	22 Pray for Miles Paschall	23 Pray for Dianna Pettit	24 Pray for Makayla Reynolds	25 Pray for David Perkins	26 Pray for Bob Pryor
27 Pray for Lucy Pryor	28 Pray for Dana Quisenberry	29 Pray for Maggie Miles	30 Pray for Roy Reynolds	July 1 Pray for Jean Lamer	2 Pray for Brent Rogers	3 Pray for Alana Scott



Please stop by for a garden and labyrinth visit during the summer and stay awhile. An integral part of the garden are the dedication bricks.

