

VOL. 22 ISSUE 5 MAY 2022

THE ECHO

a newsletter of the First Christian Church of Morehead, Kentucky

Reading the Acts of the Apostles

FCC READS TOGETHER DURING EASTER SEASON

READING ACTS

Week 1 Acts 1-4
(4/17-23)

Week 2 Acts 5-8
(4/24-30)

Week 3 Acts 9-12
(5/1-7)

Week 4 Acts 13-16
(5/8-14)

Week 5 Acts 17-20
(5/15-21)

Week 6 Acts 21-24
(5/22-28)

Week 7 Acts 25-28
(5/29-6/4)

Our journey through the book of Acts continues in May as we make our way through Eastertide. If you haven't started, there's still time to catch up. We are reading as a spiritual discipline, seeking the Spirit's guidance in our lives.

Steps for reading Scripture

- Begin your reading with a simple prayer for God to speak to you through the text.
- Listen for words or phrases that catch your attention.
- If there are words or concepts you don't understand, use the notes in your Bible to help clarify.
- Use your imagination. Try placing yourself in the story. Are you a main character (such as Peter or Paul) or a bystander watching the action? What emotions might you be feeling? How would you react to the situation?
- Does the story speak to your current situation? How about to our church context?
- How does this passage move you to pray? Offer those prayers to God as you close your time of reading and reflection.

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President's column

ANNE BUCKNER



Greetings Church Family,
The beauty of Spring is all around us. What a glorious feeling it is when the flowers and trees start blooming and we hear the birds singing. It was a special blessing to bring our families families together for worship this Easter. It was a joyful event to

have our church family line up and decorate the cross with flowers. The music was superb and the bells and special horn trio were awesome. Hopefully, this is the beginning of in-person worship each Sunday.

We are now on a journey through Pentecost. It is the Church's celebration of the Holy Spirit. It comes from the realization that God's very life, breath, and energy lives in and among us. We have been given a free gift. The "Gift of the Holy Spirit." It is our duty to introduce Christ to those who are still in doubt. May our hearts be full of courage to witness to that good news.

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

Outreach Updates

RONETTA & JEFF BROWN

The Outreach Committee Meeting May 4.

We will be meeting in the church Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, May 4th at 6:00 pm. We invite anyone who is interested in being more involved with Outreach to join us at that meeting.



People's Clinic May 3, 17, 31. Lunches will be needed again for three Tuesdays in May for the medical and staff volunteers. If you and a friend would like to provide one or more of these lunches, please let the church or us know. We serve approximately 12 volunteers, and would need to be delivered around 11:30 a.m. Please contact Ronetta (606) 776-0576 or Jeff (60) 776-3233.

Gateway Housewarming Baskets May 10. For those of you who have signed up to donate household items for the Gateway Homesless Shelter, please bring them to the church by May 10. They may be left in Fellowship Hall.

Annual Congregational Meeting

EMAIL VOTE TO CHURCH OFFICE @ FCCMKY@GMAIL.COM

President Anne Buckner appointed Fran Helphinstine as Chairman of the nominating committee. The committee consists of Joyce Hart, Emma Lou Gross, Elizabeth Ash, Fran Helphinstine, Jack Whidden and Dianna Pettit. At their April 25, 2022 meeting the Board of Directors voted to recommend a slate of officers for congregational approval.

Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the congregational meeting will be by e-mail. You are asked to vote for officers and new deacons for fiscal year July 1, 2022—June 30, 2022. Installation will follow in June. An email on May 11 will include instructions to vote May 11-19.

Nominated Officers for 2022-2023

President: Mary Claire Williams

Vice President: Brent Rogers

Secretary: Fran Helphinstine

Treasurer: Joe Barrett

Diaconate Class of 2022-2023

Brent Rogers, Phillip Swim

Giving News

TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL

General gifts and Income: \$8,875.54

Expenses: \$9,924.74

LIVING MEMORIAL DONATIONS

*in memory of Barbara Calvert Davis
by Jane Young Holbrook*

*in memory of Alice P. Reynolds
by Jane Young Holbrook*

Kroger: \$166.76

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Office closed.	7
8 Mother's Day 10:45am Worship	9	10	11 Congregational Voting Meeting through May 19. 5:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Choir	12	13 Office closed.	14
15	16	17	18	19 Annual Congregational Mtg. vote due. Vespers canceled.	21 Office closed.	16
22	23	24	25	26	27 Office closed.	28
10:45am Worship Newsletter articles due.	6:30/7:00PM Executive/Full Board Meetings	7:00pm Women of the Bible via Zoom	5:00pm Bell Choir	7:00pm Vespers via Zoom		
29	30	31				
10:45am Worship Pentecost Offering 5th Sunday offering for Christian Care		7:00pm Women of the Bible via Zoom				



Creation Care

BY MARK ETHERTON

A group of FCC members and friends gathered at the entrance of Boat Gunnel near Cave Run Lake to walk a heritage trail that we plan to maintain. The sight of a few wildflowers bursting forth, the sound of a woodpecker knocking for food and the feel of a lazy trickle of water lapping on our feet reminded us once again of how interconnected we are with Creation.



Wendell Berry wrote, "Outdoors we are confronted everywhere with wonders. We see that the miraculous is not extraordinary, but the common mode of existence. It is our daily bread."

Our community is blessed to be able to easily access God's Creation. The greening of the hills, the exploding color of the wildflowers and the reawakening of the wildlife all

contribute to a feeling of renewal. This time of year, especially, is a great opportunity to experience the miraculous revival of Creation in our home, the hills of Kentucky. By hiking a trail or by taking a car ride that often mirrors these trails, we will be, as Berry wrote, "receiving our daily bread." Literally hundreds of opportunities for walking a trail or driving a car beside a trail exist in our area, but a few suggestions of great places to view wildflowers at this time of year are the following: Rodburn Hollow Park (hiking trail), Carter Caves (you can drive through Carter Caves and see many wildflowers or you can hike various trails), Indian Paint Creek Road in the Red River Gorge (a hiking trail), Laurel Gorge in Elliot County (easy hike on a well maintained trail). The drive to Lockegee Rock (Rowan County) is also good for viewing wildflowers from a car.



We enjoyed our Laurel Gorge hike and found red and white trillium wildflowers. Photos by Mark & Ginny Etherton.

Honoring Graduates

SPRING 2022



Isaiah Zion Florence

Morehead State University, Bachelor of Music Education-Piano Studies, May 2022

Father: Jaun Florence

Future plan: To become an elementary school music teacher/jazz musician

Interests: piano, cats, jazz, gym, teaching, Seinfeld

Comments: I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to play piano for First Christian.



Anna-Wray Grayson

Morehead State University, Bachelor of Music Education, May 2022

Daughter of Georgiana Howard and Wendell Grayson

Future plan: Moving to Arkansas this fall to be a music teacher/choir director

Interests: Singing, painting, traveling, trivia

Comments: Working at First Christian church is her sweetest memory from her time at MSU.



Brian Glenn Carter

Morehead State University, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences, May 2022

Grandson of Eva Johnston and the late Glenn Johnston; son of Alicia and Dewayne Carter

Future plan: University of Kentucky Medical School

Interests: Photography, traveling, music, sports, gaming

Comments: I would like to personally thank the congregation for their support, love and mentorship.

Scripture: John 16:33



Eric Carter

Morehead State University, Bachelor of Arts in History, May 2022

Grandson of Eva Johnston and the late Glenn Johnston; son of Alicia and Dewayne Carter

Future plan: Masters in Public Administration

Interests: European History, Political Science, sports, traveling



Everett Quiggins

Morehead State University, Bachelor of Music Education, May 2022

Future plan: University of Kentucky Masters of Music Education

Interests: Cooking, collecting vintage records, traveling, local music

Scripture: "My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music." — Psalm 57:7



Notes from Pastor Nancy

REV. NANCY GOWLER



“As long as we live, there is never enough singing.” —Martin Luther

Dear Disciples,

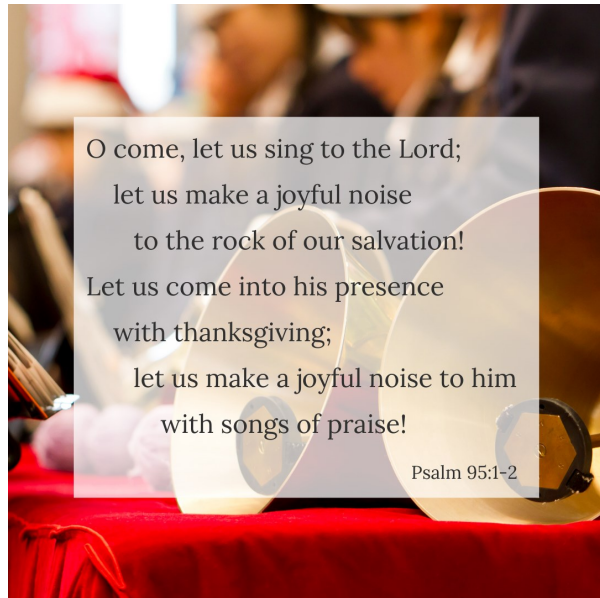
One of the gifts of returning to in-person worship has been the return of the choir in our sanctuary. I grew up in a singing congregation, with children, youth, men’s, and chancel choirs. We were a singing bunch. The congregation in Centralia, Illinois, had two morning worship services. The chancel choir sang in the second service, and there was no special music in the first service held at 8:15am. Imagine then how important music was to our high school youth group, that for two years on our own we organized and offered special music for that early service—teenagers practicing during the week and then getting up early on Sunday mornings to sing!

Research on choral music groups suggests that singing together has positive impacts on an individual, finding improvements in mood, reduced stress and anxiety, and greater subjective well-being. While the exact connections between choral singing and individual well-being are not known, I do know that the experience of creating music together with others is an exhilarating one. Something amazing happens when disparate voices come together, listening to one another, balancing and blending together, making wonderful harmonies. Drop by the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings and you will find our choir practicing with intention and with a healthy dose of good humor. Yes, laughter is an integral part of our rehearsals!

As our choirs heads into their final weeks before summer break, I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to all of the wonderful musicians who have brought their gifts to our worship. Our music director, Genny Jenkins, is a vibrant and passionate leader, who brings out the best in singers and musicians. Our musical interns from MSU have been such a joy to work with. A huge shout-out and thank you to Caleb Fouts, Anna Grayson, Maura McCoy, Everett Quiggins,

and Katie Webb. We’ve been blessed by their musical talents and by their active participation in our congregational life. And I want to offer a word of thanks to our keyboardist Isaiah Florence. He has such a beautiful style of playing the piano, and if you’re in the sanctuary before worship you may have heard his jazz improvisations, too. While church music is a new area for him, we are grateful for his talents. I’m also so very grateful for our congregational members who make up our chancel choir and our bell choir. It’s an act of love

and dedication to attend weekly rehearsals and to offer musical leadership in worship on Sundays—I hope you’ll join me in offering your word of thanks to members of our choirs.



O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise
to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence
with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him
with songs of praise!

Psalm 95:1-2



Pastor Nancy

History Corner

ANNE BUCKNER

What Was A Normal School?

A Continuing Look Back at MSU Beginnings

(excerpt from [A Light to the Mountains](#) by Donald F. Flatt, p12-14)

Just what was a normal school? Today, Morehead State University has Normal Hall, a three-story home for married students. But the term is so strange to students that it is often the subject of joking remarks.

During the final three decades of the nineteenth century, the term normal school was already in vogue as the name for teacher-training institutions. It was commonly held that a teacher needed very little subject matter above the level being taught. In keeping with this common belief, the average school teacher in Kentucky had only a seventh-grade education until late in the nineteenth century. The Commonwealth of Kentucky lagged behind much of the rest of the nation in establishing public normal schools. When the General Assembly created Kentucky's public school system in 1838, it failed to make any provision for training teachers. After written examinations were substituted in 1870, a teaching certificate became increasingly difficult to obtain without having the equivalent of a grammar school education.

Kentucky paid little serious attention to the founding of public normal schools until 1880. Therefore, private normal schools quickly sprang into being to assist in meeting certification requirements. Sixteen private normal schools were already active in 1880 when the General and Mechanical College, later known as the University of Kentucky was started. In 1886, a State Normal School for Colored Persons was founded and later evolved into Kentucky State University, located in Frankfort.

Normal schools usually consisted of a combination of elementary and high school levels. While the quality of their work seldom exceeded that of the high school level and was often far below the presence of normal schools indicated that qualifications other than good moral character and poverty were necessary to successful school teaching and helped make it possible to start looking upon teaching as a profession.



Morehead Normal School had a very modest beginning on October 3, 1887. The Buttons opened their school in two small, poorly ventilated rooms on the first floor of a two-story rickety dwelling; their living quarters were on the upper floor. This original school building faced Second Street on the back part of the lot where the Adron Doran University Center now stands.



May Birthdays

3	Sarah Chaney
4	Keyairah Bailey
8	Deb Eastwood
11	Dianna Pettit
12	Kathy New Frazier
16	Di Walke
26	Ned Breschel

Choir & Bells

GENNY JENKINS



Genny Jenkins
Music Director



Sarah Chaney
Bells Director

Special thanks to all musicians who assisted with Lent, Holy Week, and Easter services.

As the Easter season progresses, we want to wish a fond farewell to our graduates: Isaiah Florence, Anna Grayson, and Everett Quiggins.

Please pray for them as they continue out into their professional endeavors.



CHRISTIAN CARE COMMUNITIES

5TH SUNDAY OFFERING

MAY 29

Kentucky's largest faith-inspired, non-profit provider of affordable senior living and long-term care for older adults.

2022 PENTECOST OFFERING TURNING STRUGGLE INTO STEADFASTNESS



SUNDAYS MAY 29 + JUNE 5



THE 2022 PENTECOST OFFERING IS A SPECIAL DAY OFFERING IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH MOVEMENT IN YOUR REGION AND ACROSS THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST).

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
227 East Main Street
Morehead, KY 40351

