

**First
Christian
Church**
(Disciples of Christ)
A Green Chalice Ministry



The Echo

Volume 20 Issue 7

November 2020

Do you know what thinking is? It's just a fancy word for changing your mind."

—The Twelfth Doctor

In 1938 economic collapse, unrest, and conflict had altered the shape of global affairs and shaken the foundations of modern theology, and the editors of *The Christian Century* reached out to prominent theologians and church leaders asking the question, "How has your mind changed in the last decade?" The request described a proposed essay series as "a kind of testimony meeting" for "the free exchange of experiences." The 34 contributors were to respond both intellectually and personally, offering deeply reflective essays that were published by the magazine. Karl Barth, Georgia Harkness, and Reinhold Niebuhr were among those who submitted essays, with Niebuhr confessing he had experienced "a fairly complete conversion of thought which involved rejection of almost all the liberal theological ideals and ideas" which had been part of his earlier work.



Reverend Nancy
Gowler

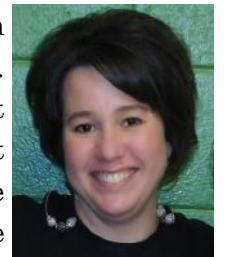
It is a question to which the magazine has returned, each decade asking religious thinkers to reflect on the ways in which their understandings have changed. Some essayists profess a constancy to their thought. Others such as Langdon Gilkey saw the changes in process rather than complete, writing, "I prefer, if I may, to say 'How My Mind Is Changing.' Instead of having the sensation of motion followed by present rest and clarity...I am now overwhelmed by the sense of being theologically still in passage." It is a question worth pondering, how our thinking changes over time.

Changing p2

A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

I always love the celebration of All-Saints because it brings with it such wonderful memories of those I have loved who have passed on from this life, and the opportunity to remember them in the context of a lovely church celebration makes it even more meaningful. This year, it is more bittersweet than usual because of the recent losses so many of us have experienced within the congregation. Each loss leaves a hole in our life that is difficult to fill, even as we know the person we miss is with the Lord and free from all human pain and sorrow...I've always thought the line from the hymn says it wonderfully, "who from their labors rest." I do find the thoughts of my personal saints immensely comforting - up there in heaven, rooting us on (or so I like to imagine), and waiting for us. We have some wonderful plans made for our All Saints Day celebration this year and I hope you will all make plans to join us for as much of those as you can. And, when the grief threatens to overwhelm us, maybe this thought from the 19th century French poet/novelist Victor Hugo will be a small comfort to you as it is to me: "Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake."



President Genny
Jenkins

Sincerely,
Genny Jenkins
President

PS: To-Do list: Bid on the auction, donate to church holiday efforts, reach out to those who might need comfort, take care of yourself, Vote!

Changing p1 Asking the question of ourselves requires honesty, a fair bit of humility, and vulnerability. Today as the divisions in society seem greater than ever before, admitting to a change in thought demands courage. Our politicians are criticized for changing their positions on issues, sometimes rightly so if those changes are for political expediency. Yet, I would argue the ability to state publicly, “I was wrong. I changed my mind,” reveals a strength of character which our culture sorely lacks.

Asking myself the question, opens up many ways in which I’ve shifted my thinking. A newsletter article is too small to describe how much my mind has changed through the years, however, looking back there seem to be two consistent threads when I’ve clearly changed positions. First is the lens of God’s abundant grace which I experience at communion. Moving away from my formative experiences of the Lord’s Supper growing up in a conservative Baptist congregation in which our unworthiness and sinfulness was a primary communion theme, I have been reshaped by an expansive view of God’s radical welcome in the sharing of the Eucharist. Secondly, in those most consequential issues where I have changed, more often than not it has been because I have listened to the stories of others, heard their experiences of pain and injustice. Those stories opened up new ways of understanding.

There is much talk of echo chambers and confirmation bias in our culture. It is tempting to stay in our own safe camps and point fingers at those who disagree with us. And yet our God is always doing a new thing, always creating, always at work for transformation. If we are fearful of our current circumstances, asking the question, “how has my mind changed” might be a good place for us to begin. Acknowledging where we’ve been and how we’ve evolved may open up constructive possibilities for our future.

As my opening quote reveals, I am a lifelong fan of the British television show, Doctor Who. I’ll close with a bit of wisdom from the thirteenth and current Doctor, who in the 2018 season opener introduced herself saying,

“We’re all capable of the most incredible change. We can evolve while still staying true to who we are. We can honour who we’ve been and choose who we want to be next. Now’s your chance! How about it?”

Now’s our chance. How about it?

Your fellow pilgrim on the way,

Pastor Nancy

Acknowledging Our Native Heritage

We include in our Sunday Worship Service these words: “For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Shawnee, Cherokee, and Osage people--past, present, emerging--and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.” Learn more about indigenous lands in North America by visiting www.native-land.ca. To read more about the Disciples of Christ and the Doctrine of Discovery, follow this link:

[DOC-Join the conversation
about a long standing injustice](#)

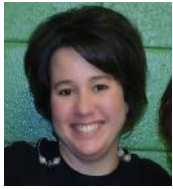
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

Silent Auction

WE'VE GOT ROOM!

NOW ACCEPTING
HIGH QUALITY DONATIONS
FOR FCC'S ANNUAL AUCTION.

Silent Auction
November 1 - 8, 2020



Genny Jenkins
Choir Director

Choir & Bells

Dear Friends,

November is our "Month of Favorite Hymns." We hope you will sing along, out loud or in your heart, during our Sunday service and Vespers. Special music is being planned for Advent and Christmas and more information about that will be shared in the December ECHO.

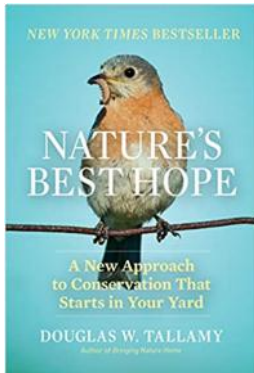
Genny Jenkins



Sarah Chaney
Bell Director

A Message from the Creation Care Team

Pastor Nancy in her Creation series discussed a way to start loving God's creation is to pay attention to our own watershed area. Perhaps no easier way to begin the way we interact with our own watershed is to pay attention to our yards. In the podcast "A Way to Garden," Margaret Roach shares a discussion that she had with Doug Tallamy, author of the book *Nature's Best Hope* about doable ideas for maintaining our yards but with an eye toward loving Creation and in particular, our watershed. We found this idea so appropriate as we are getting ready for fall. Margaret Roach says, "This would be a great time to break the fertilizer habit altogether. You never have to fertilize your lawn. You do if you're going to win lawn-of-the-month awards, but we're not going to do that anymore. Cut your lawn frequently, and it will stay relatively weed-free and it'll be nice. You don't have to put the fertilizer on it. The fertilizer always contains herbicides that's going to kill any broadleaf, any clovers, something that benefit the bees. And most of it just washes into our watershed. So save yourself time and money skipping the fertilizer: Our North American plants don't need it." If you would like to listen to the entire podcast, the link is [Doug Tallamy Fall Clean Up Podcast](#).



We can amplify our reach

WITH VIDEO AND AUDIO FOR A NEW GENERATION

The technology in our sanctuary has served us well for years. Now the realities of worshipping online reveals the limits of what a borrowed cell phone camera and a small amplifier can do in our sanctuary. Grainy video closeups, sound issues, and video streaming troubles limit our efforts to provide a meaningful worship service.

With your designated gift to the Mack Fund for audio/visual upgrades we can replace our aging sound system and modernize our video equipment.

An initial investment of \$9,000 gives us a good start at upgrading our video components and replacing some outdated sound equipment. The installation of the new equipment will be completed by House of

Worship, a Lexington technology firm specializing in church systems. These improvements will quickly provide a markedly higher quality video for our worship services. The grainy video will be replaced with clear crisp images, including close-up shots. The sound quality for live streaming will also be improved. First time viewers of our worship will find it easier to experience the richness of the FCC worship services we cherish.

Our total goal is \$25,000. With the full amount, advances in our video equipment will be matched with upgrades in the current sound system. This major project will give us greater quality and more flexibility for worship when we return to in person services and as we continue our online worship streaming. Our worship ministries will be equipped to reach folks in person and online, an essential part of being church in our current world.

If you have questions about this project, please reach out to members of the ad hoc audio/visual team Pastor Nancy, Genny Jenkins, or Kaitlyn Paschall. Gifts to the Mack Fund can be made online on our website or by mailing a check to the church.

we're holding it together,
together...

Tuesday nights
7PM ET
on
Zoom

WOMEN'S GROUP



Women of the Bible Study via Zoom

We will be discussing Sarah on

November 3, 2020.

Tuesdays 7pm—7:30pm

Our weekly study will be about one of the 188 women mentioned in the Bible.

Email Sarah Chaney at sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com or call 606-207-2421.

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.

Thursdays 7pm

VESPERS

**An evening of
song & prayer**

Giving & Receiving: The Charitable Gift Annuity

If you've been experiencing the bumpy ride of the stock market, or trying to make ends meet while living off the interest of certificates of deposit that pay a fraction of what they did years ago, now may be the time for you to consider making a planned gift that will provide you with a stream of payments for life. That's right: You can make a charitable gift that will pay you for life... or in other words, you can give AND receive!

The charitable gift annuity works like a commercial annuity, except part of your gift (of either cash or stock) qualifies for a charitable tax deduction. In exchange, you get a set amount of the original gift as a payment for life; the percent is determined by your age at the time the gift is made. Furthermore, a portion of your payments are received tax free.

At the annuitant's death, the charitable remainder will be provided to our church.

Because of the legal nature of these gifts, we recommend you contact the Christian Church Foundation, our denomination's general ministry devoted to planned giving, at (800) 668-8016. Foundation staff members are experts in this area and can, confidentially, help you make the kind of gift that is right for you and the church.



Labyrinth Garden with solar lights. Photo by Jackie Bailey.

November Birthdays



- 1- David Perkins
- 5- Neva Griffith
- 6- Marge Thomas
- 9- Carrie Frazier
- 10- Maggie Miles
- 12- Wiley Tanner
- 22- Ellie Williams
- 23- Pat Adkins
- 24- Jim Gross

Mack Fund

(Technology)

In memory of

Steve Etherton

by

Susan Thomas & Grant Alden

~

In memory of

Kermit Vencill II

Loretta Barndollar

Gevedon

(April Ratliff's grandmother)

Thomas Frazier

(Carrie Frazier's father)

Janie McCully

(Jeff Brown's sister)

Judy Ann Fagan Atkins

(Yvonne Baldwin's cousin)

Donald Harrison

(Mike Seelig's uncle)

by

Fran Helphinstine & Rob Sloss

~

A donation by

Lucy & Bob Pryor

Sandy & John Gullett

Rev. Vicki & Herb Ray

Kay & Alan McAllister

Susan & Carl Roberts

Mack Fund

(Technology)

In memory of

Catherine Rogers

by

Lucy & Bob Pryor

Ginny & Mark Etherton

Sarah & Rex Chaney

Marge & Dan Thomas

David Perkins

Joe Barrett

MSU Dept of Ag Science

Susan Thomas & Grant Alden

Debby & James Johnson

Kay & Kent Freeland

Sandy & John Gullett

Yvonne Baldwin

Judith Krug

Connie Kibbey

Fran Helphinstine & Rob Sloss

Joyce Hart

Emma Lou & Jim Gross

Ronetta & Jeff Brown

Anne Buckner

Thank You

To all my friends at FCC
Morehead:

Thank you all for the meal
provided after Catherine's
funeral. Especially to those
who delivered it to the house.
Brent Rogers & Family

Mack Fund

(Techology)

In memory of

Blake Fannin

(Larry Fannin's son)

by

Lucy & Bob Pryor

Ginny & Mark Etherton

Jane Y. Holbrook

Sarah & Rex Chaney

Marge & Dan Thomas

David Perkins

Joe Barrett

Susan Thomas & Grant Alden

Caroline Bowne Hehl

Sandy & John Gullett

Yvonne Baldwin

Carla & David Demarest

Fran Helphinstine & Rob Sloss

Joyce Hart

Emma Lou & Jim Gross

Anne Buckner

~

In memory of

Jack Landreth

(Ginny Landreth-Etherton's father)

by

Lucy & Bob Pryor

Susan Thomas & Grant Alden

Carla & David Demarest

Dr. Kimberly & Dion Williams

Treasurer's Report

Income for October is
\$7,043.51.

Expenses for October are
\$6,977.99.

FCC has received a
quarterly donation of
\$192.09 from **Kroger**
as part of their Community
Rewards Fundraising
Program. We sincerely
appreciate our congregation
members who have designated
First Christian Church—
Morehead as rewards partner.



**Blessed are the merciful, for they
will be shown mercy. Matthew 5:7**

OUR FALL OUTREACH CONTINUES



Ronetta Brown
Outreach Chair

Personal Items for Quarantined MSU Students

Wow! We were amazed with your generosity and quick response to this call for help! We even received some items to donate from the Morehead United Methodist Church. Pastor Nancy delivered several of our donations last week, and we made another delivery this week. If you did not get to bring anything, there are still a couple of items left in the sign-ups for this project. Thank you so much to EVERYONE who answered the call and made this happen!



Water Bottles for RCMS Whitney Watercutter, Youth

Service Center Director at RCMS, sent out a picture thanking the various organizations that are donating items for their students. We are purchasing water bottles as they become available at the local stores. We have donated 50 so far, and will be dropping off another 50 this week. We should be able to get what is needed with the donations that have been earmarked for this project. Thanks so much to everyone who donated!

People's Clinic Lunches

Thanks to Fran Helphinstine and Rob Sloss for volunteering to provide one of the lunches in November. We will be providing a second lunch during the month of November, and still need someone to take that one. You can sign up by texting or emailing Ronetta Brown at 606-776-0576 or ronettabrown67@gmail.com

Firewood Ministry

Thanks so much to Bob Pryor, Jeff Brown, and Ed Scott, who met at Christian Social Services last Sunday to split wood for families in need of firewood this winter! Dan Thomas loaned his log splitter for the project, and they were able to contribute a substantial pile of wood for the upcoming winter. Be on the lookout for future wood-cutting days, as they are scheduled a few times during the cold weather.



Thanksgiving Baskets

Our youth and their parents/grandparents have been busy shopping for the Gateway Thanksgiving Baskets. We appreciate all monetary donations that have come in to support this project! If you wish to contribute, please make a notation on your donation "Thanksgiving Baskets."

Christmas Outreach for Families and Elderly—Sign Up Online

As we noted last month, we have 11 families to shop for this year, with a total of 40 children. Those families will receive food, clothing, shoes, household and hygiene items in their Christmas delivery. We also purchase food and household essentials for 10 elderly couples/individuals. Your monetary donations are critical to the success of this project. We spent nearly \$5,000 last year, with fewer children and families. We anticipate greater expenditures this year. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this year's Christmas Project thus far! If you would like to give specifically to the Christmas Project, please earmark your donation "Christmas Project." Our church family has always come through to make sure needy families and the elderly have a good Christmas, and we know this year will be no exception.

1. You can now sign up to purchase items for families' Christmas deliveries. [FCC Congregation: Christmas Food for Families](#)
2. We also have a sign-up for toys. [FCC Congregation: Christmas Gifts/Toys for Children](#)
3. The elderly in our community sometimes live on their own and with limited income. You can sign up for the elderly Christmas here. [FCC Congregation: Christmas Food & Household for the Elderly](#)


If you have any questions, or have difficulty signing up electronically, please contact Ronetta @ 606-776-0576. She will be glad to help.



First Christian November 2020



Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-1pm</p>						
<p>1 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service All Saints Sunday 2-4:00 Drop In Labyrinth Saints Remembrance fcmorehead & YouTube</p>	<p>2 Silent Auction Nov 1-8</p>	<p>3 Election Day Women of the Bible via Zoom 7m Email sarah.chaney78@gmail.com to join</p>		<p>5 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm. Email fcmky@gmail.com</p>	<p>6 Office closed.</p>	
<p>8 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service fcmorehead & YouTube</p>		<p>10 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm. Email sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com to join.</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day </p>	<p>12 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm. Email fcmky@gmail.com</p>	<p>13 Office closed.</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service Thanksgiving Offering fcmorehead & YouTube</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm Email sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm. Email fcmky@gmail.com</p>	<p>20 Office closed.</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service Thanksgiving Offering Newsletter articles due. fcmorehead & YouTube</p>	<p>23 Board Meetings 6:25 Executive 7:00 Full Board Zoom link emailed.</p>	<p>24 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm. Email sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>26 </p>	<p>27 Office closed.</p>	<p>28 Small Business Saturday</p>
<p>29 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Service First Sunday of Advent 5th Sunday Offering CCC fcmorehead & YouTube</p>		<p>December 1 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Vespers Service via Zoom. Email fcmky@gmail.com</p>	<p>4 Office closed.</p>	

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Rev. Nancy Gowler, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Choir
Jiyeon McGillicuddy,
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



<http://www.facebook.com/fccmorehead>
Join us for livestream
Sunday Worship Service @
10:45am



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



www.instagram.com/fccmorehead/

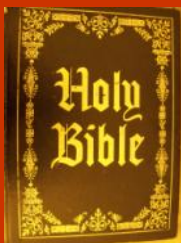


www.youtube.com/user/TheInterper?reload=9



<http://www.twitter.com/fccmorehead>

Bible Lectionary Readings
for the Month



Nov 1—Matt 23:1-12
Nov 8—Matt 25:1-13
Nov 15—Matt 25:14-30
Nov 22—Matt 25:31-46
Nov 29—Mark 13:24-37

Contents

- 1-A Message from the President
-Changing—Pastor Nancy
- 3-Choir & Bells; Creation Care Team
-We Can Amplify Our Reach
- 4-The Charitable Giving Annuity
- 5-Donations
- 6-Fall Outreach
- 7-Calendar
- 8-Silent Auction
-All Saints Observance

Silent Auction!

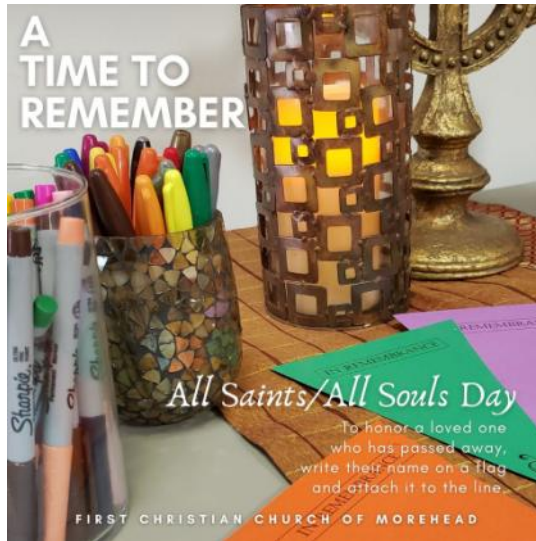
Bid Online Nov. 1-8



Proceeds will go toward the purchase of our new sound system for the church. Sample list: Cantaloupe Peach Conserve-Pickled Cherries- Cherry Cordial-Spiced Blackberry Brandy; Masks; Baby & Full Afghans-Poncho; Quick Brioche Shawls & Cowls; Prints & Ladder Back Chairs; Gift Cards (Wendy's-Pennington Farms-Renos-Coffee Tree Books-Sawstone Brewery-Creative Touch); Vintage Waterford Glasses; Gift Bags; Seasonal Lantern; Books including *Rage*; *Courting Lincoln*; *Wine*; *From Grape to Glass*.

Facebook Auction Site Nov 1 - 8

Bidding Instructions for Silent Auction: Bid in the comments section of each item. Kaitlyn Reynolds Paschall will be placing the items on our Facebook page and ready for you to bid this Sunday. If you do not have access to Facebook, you can call or message her on her cell phone at 606-207-0225. "They can message or someone with their highest bid and I will bid saying (your name) bids this much increments of what they want."



As we approach All Saints/All Souls this Sunday, we will have several ways to remember loved ones who have died. For part of our remembrance we are collecting prayer flags to display during our joint prayer experience with First Baptist Church on Sunday, Nov. 1 from 2-4 pm.

Drop by the church building this week to write the name of a loved one you wish to honor or contact us to have a flag made for you. The flags are available in the hall at the side entrance.



When you set your clocks back on Saturday evening, October 31, remember to check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.