

THE ECHO

a newsletter of the First Christian Church of Morehead, Kentucky

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP

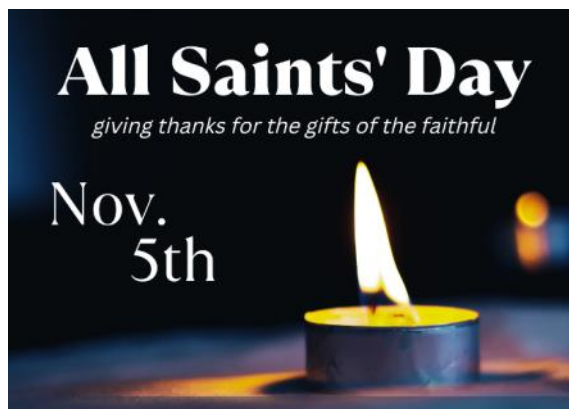
NOVEMBER 5TH

Join us in worship as we observe All Saints Day on Sunday, November 5th, at 10:45am. Together we will remember and celebrate the lives of all the faithful ones who have gone before us.

You are invited to bring a small photograph or memento of a loved one to be placed on our remembrance table near the Stone Prayer Chalice in the front of the sanctuary.

This is a special time to come together as a community and remember those people who have touched our lives. We will sing hymns, hear stories of ordinary saints, and give thanks for those we love who have passed away.

All Saints observance is part of a rich Christian tradition. We hope you will join us for this meaningful worship service.



Who read us the words of the sacred texts — and showed us what it looked like to live them out.

Who sang us the songs of worship and praise — and cherished the joyful noise as we learned the tunes.


Who taught us about meals, invitations, setting a table — and put names and faces on a 'taste and see' welcome.

Who spent time and made way and held space — who spoke the tenderest comfort over the deepest aches — who knew that God could, and prayed that God would — who gave of themselves, simply because they saw a need.

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

For all they shared — and for all we received.
For all we now offer in their name,
and in all we do for Christ's sake —
which is the only way they would have us do anything —
we give thanks, again and again. Amen.

- All Saints Day - 11.01.23 -



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ELDER UPDATE

YVONNE BALDWIN, CHAIR



The Elders met for Potluck dinner, fellowship, and discussion at the home of Yvonne Baldwin on Sunday evening October 15. We were joined by Pastor Nancy, who led a focused discussion centered around several organizing questions. We considered our call as Elders and its meaning to each of us and then responded to prompts that helped us focus our thoughts on our role in the spiritual life of the church. As we further consider the needs of FCC and our community, the Elders will meet regularly to plan and carry out ways we can use our individual strengths and connections to play active roles in meeting those needs.

Turtle Walk

FLORA ARRIVES



First Christian Church along with 19 other sponsors have begun receiving turtle statues. The one-of-a-kind statues are being painted by local and regional artists chosen by a private jury and paired with each sponsor. Our turtle will be installed on church grounds. Flora is currently residing in the ground level foyer where she welcomes all visitors. Flora is the creation of Lexington artist, Jennifer Conrad.

The Turtle Walk project was developed by Morehead-Rowan County Tourism with help from LexArts in Lexington. The turtles commemorate the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail. Sheltowee, means Big Turtle, the name the Shawnee people gave to Daniel Boone. The turtles will be placed along the Sheltowee Trail along Main Street in the Morehead Historical District.

Deacon Corner

SUSAN WHIDDEN, CHAIR



It has been awhile since our last deacon update. each Sunday. There is always a need for greeters to welcome congregants at the stone chalice entrance and offer communion and contact cards to visitors during Sunday worship. This is an important part of the covenant of this denomination. Please sign up for deacon greeter duties by contacting me via email (please look for an email in your inbox soon), or by contacting the church office, or by signing up on the bulletin board.

As Advent approaches, let us think about other ways to serve the church during the season of giving. Think about ways you can contribute to holiday outreach such as buying toys, food, or clothing; decorating the church; participating in special services; or finding another way to serve the church. You can contribute to Holiday Outreach by using the links in the Outreach Update in this newsletter. Let us make this a joyous Advent season for all.

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 All Saints Day 10:45am Worship Daylight Saving Time ends. (Fall back)	6	7 Election Day 7pm Women of the Bible (Zoom)	8 6:30 pm Outreach Committee 7pm Choir	9 7pm Vespers (Zoom)	10 Office closed.	11 Veterans Day
12 10:45am Worship Thanksgiving Offering 2pm 2nd Sunday Hike Deadline for Malibu Jacks registration.	13	14 7pm Women of the Bible (Zoom)	15 7pm Choir	16 7pm Vespers (Zoom)	17 11:30pm Youth Lock-in at Malibu Jacks, Lexington Office closed.	18
19 10:45am Worship Thanksgiving Offering Youth shopping for Outreach Baskets	20	21 7pm Women of the Bible (Zoom)	22 MSU & Rowan County Schools Fall Break through 11.24.23.	23 Thanksgiving Day Office closed.	24 Office closed.	25
26 10:45 Worship 7pm Advent Film Series (Zoom) Newsletter articles due for December .	27	28 7pm Women of the Bible (Zoom)	29 7pm Choir	30		

Upcoming Holiday Outreach Projects

OUTREACH COMMITTEE—RONETTA & JEFF BROWN, CO-CHAIRS

The holidays are a time for giving, and once again, our church is looking to support our community in a big way. We have several holiday outreach projects planned, and we need your help to make them a success. We will be preparing Thanksgiving baskets for the Gateway Homeless Shelter and providing Christmas gifts for 49 children and 10 older adults/ folks who are homebound in our community.



First up: Thanksgiving Baskets

The Youth Group and Mary Claire Williams will be shopping for and preparing Thanksgiving baskets for the Gateway Homeless Shelter. We will be providing 10 baskets. Each basket will cost approximately \$60. Please consider making a monetary donation to help us fulfil this important ministry.



Thanksgiving youth shopping trip - 2015

Project Holiday Outreach

(for families, older adults, and individuals/couples who are homebound)

We are also collecting items for our annual holiday outreach program. We are serving 12 families with a total of 49 children this year, as well as 10 older adults/individuals or couples who are homebound.

Children and Families

Each child may receive the following new items: coat, gloves, toboggan; shoes, pants, shirt; package of socks and underwear, and pajamas. These items are purchased with financial gifts from the congregation. Toys and gifts will be provided by the congregation.

Sign up: [Childrens Gifts Signup Genius link.](#)

Each child's family receives personal care items including shampoo, toothpaste, body wash, toilet paper, etc. Household and food items will be given by the congregation.

Sign up: [Families Food Signup Genius link.](#)



Gifts for Children & Families - 2021 & 2022

Older Adults/Folks who are homebound

Households of older adults or individuals/couples who are homebound will receive shampoo, toothpaste, denture tabs, deodorant, lotion, body wash, toilet paper, shaving cream, razors, etc. Food and other useful items provided by the congregation.

Signup: [Older Adult/Homebound Signup Genius Link.](#)



Gifts for Elderly - 2021 & 2022

How to Get Involved

There are many ways to get involved in our holiday outreach projects:

Donate money: Monetary donations are always appreciated. Please note "holiday outreach" on check to FCC. Last year the cost to provide clothing and shoes for the children was approximately \$150 per child.

Donate food items: Sign up for items on Signup Genius. Food items for Christmas gifts for families, older adults, and others who are homebound may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall by December 3rd.

Sign up: [Families Food Signup Genius link.](#)

Signup: [Older Adult/Homebound Signup Genius Link.](#)

Donate gifts: Sign up for gifts on Signup Genius. Gifts may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, December 3rd. Committee members are willing to shop for folks who are unable to shop themselves. Items may also be shipped directly to the church.

Sign up: [Childrens Gifts Signup Genius link.](#)

Volunteer: We need volunteers drivers to help deliver gifts on Sunday, December 10th.

All food items and gifts must be in Fellowship Hall by Sunday, December 3rd.

Delivery to families is Sunday, December 10th. Drivers are needed.

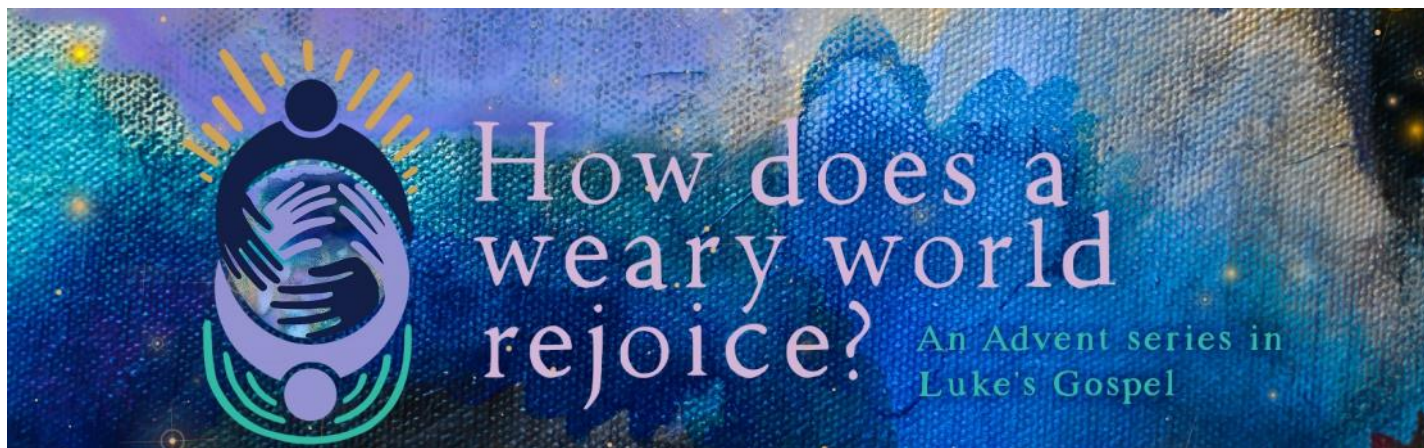
Please join us in making this holiday season a special one for our community members in need. Your generosity and support will make a difference!



A few of our wonderful volunteer delivery drivers - 2022

The Season of Advent Begins November 26

HOW DOES A WEARY WORLD REJOICE?



Christ was born into a weary world. King Herod ruled the land with a legacy of ruthlessness. The Romans treated the people of Israel with contempt, imposing harsh taxes and land seizures that forced many into subsistence farming. Poverty and destitution were pervasive. And yet, Christ was born, bringing good news of great joy for all people.

As Advent comes again to a weary world, we will ask together, “How does a weary world rejoice?”

This year, we will follow the stories in the opening chapters of Luke’s Gospel. As we hold space for our weariness and our joy, we will seek a “thrill of hope” breaking into our hurting, fragmented world. This Advent, may we find many ways to rejoice.

See the Advent Photo-a-Day prompts below. Snap a photo inspired by the word of the day and then share it on social media with the hashtag #Advent2023. Together we’ll create an online Advent Calendar!

Our Advent Faith & Film Festival returns this year on Sunday, November 26th at 7pm on Zoom. For our first gathering, we’ll discuss the 2022 film, *Living*, featuring an Oscar-nominated performance by Bill Nighy. Catch the film on Netflix or rent on Amazon, Google Play, Vudu, DirectTV, and other streaming services. Contact the church office or Pastor Nancy for an invitation to the Zoom discussions.




How does a weary world rejoice?

ADVENT PHOTO-A-DAY

Advent 1	Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4
11/26 - Hope	12/3 - Love	12/10 - Joy	12/17 - Peace
11/27 - Weary	12/4 - Gift	12/11 - Surprise	12/18 - Prepare
11/28 - Quiet	12/5 - Celebration	12/12 - Blessing	12/19 - Word
11/29 - Pause	12/6 - Alone	12/13 - Shine	12/20 - Warmth
11/30 - Unravel	12/7 - Open	12/14 - Amazing	12/21 - Presence
12/1 - Awake	12/8 - Comfort	12/15 - Thankful	12/22 - Longing
12/2 - Angel	12/9 - Glory	12/16 - Dream	12/23 - Welcome
			12/24 - Awe


#Advent2023 #adventphotoaday #FCCMorehead

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD, KY



How does a weary world rejoice?

ADVENT FILM FESTIVAL



Week 1 - November 26

Living
(2022, Rated PG-13)

Bill Nighy stars as a buttoned-up bureaucrat whose life has been defined by the mundane in this 2022 remake of Akira Kurosawa’s classic film, *Ikiru*.

Streaming on *Netflix*.
Available to rent on Amazon, Google Play, Vudu, DirectTV, and more.

Watch the film on your own and then join the Zoom conversation on Sunday nights at 7PM.
Message us for a Zoom link.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD, KY

CONTINUING TO BUILD HOPE

HABITAT BUILD IN MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY

Remember when Disciples framed a whole house at the Louisville General Assembly?

We are all invited to join with First Christian Church, Paducah on the third Wednesday of every month as they travel to Mayfield and put the house in its new place! This home has been prayed over, blessed, and now we work to put it in its permanent location.

If you would like more information to meet up with the FCC Paducah folks and join in on one of these work days, please contact their Missions and Outreach Director, Leah Eubanks, at leubanks@fccpaducah.org



November Hikes

SPONSORED BY CAVE LAKE CHAPTER, SHELTOWEE TRACE ASSOCIATION

2nd Sunday Hike

November 12

Meet at Eagle Lake Dam - 2pm

Brian Buelterman leads this hike on November 12 hike Eagle Lake. This is a moderate hike only because of two spots that are a little tricky. We will meet at the Eagle Lake Dam at 2pm. This hike is 1.75 miles and should take 50 to 70 minutes.

For more information contact Connie Ackerman at email: moreheadrowanhikers23@gmail.com



Cave Run Loop Overnight Hike

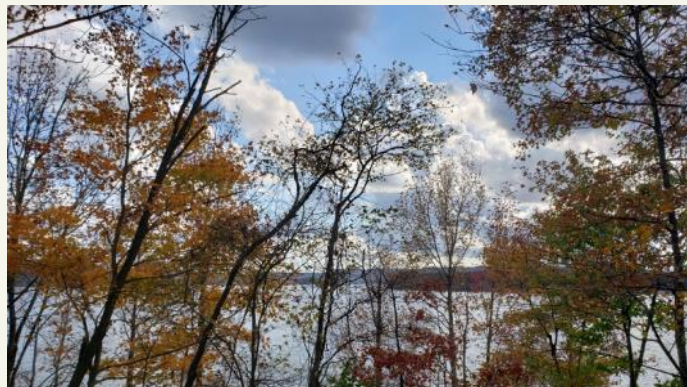
November 4-5

starting at 11am on 11/4

Join us for a moderate 15-mile hike, 7-8 miles each day, led by Elizabeth Matera that takes us up the Buck Creek connector, across the ridge to the lake on the Sheltopee and Buckskin trails, back through a beautiful creek valley on the Cave Run Trail, passing the Tater Knob fire tower, and back to the trailhead on the Buck Creek Trail.

Estimated time: 4-5 hours each day, finishing around lunch time on Sunday.

Email for more information: crlc@sheltoweetrace.org



Youth Corner: Pumpkin Decorating Party & More

YOUTH LOOK FORWARD TO UPCOMING EVENTS



A spooky good time was had by all as high school and middle school youth gathered together with a few lucky adults to produce some amazing pumpkin creations. Thank you to Sarah Chaney for organizing the fun, pizza, and sugar cookie creations! Part of the gathering included dreaming of future activities for the group. Look for more events and gatherings to come.



November 17-18

REGIONAL YOUTH LOCK-IN

At Malibu Jacks, Lexington KY

\$40 per person

Churches, send your registration numbers to Mike McColl at mjmfcc@gmail.com

Malibu Jacks Regional Youth Lock-In

November 17-18

11:30pm - 6:00am EST

6th to 12th grade youth

Malibu Jacks

2520 Nicholasville Rd, Lexington

Register by emailing Mike McColl @ mjmfcc@gmail.com.

Deadline to register is November 12.

Cost is \$40 - checks can be made out to First Christian Church, Lawrenceburg.

If you're planning on attending, let Mary Claire Williams or Pastor Nancy know. We will be coordinating adult volunteers and travel arrangements.

Youth Outreach Project— Shopping for Thanksgiving baskets

NOVEMBER 19 - AFTER WORSHIP

One of our favorite ministry projects is shopping and preparing Thanksgiving baskets for folks at the Gateway Homeless Shelter in Morehead. After worship on Sunday, November 19, all youth are invited to lunch and a shopping expedition to fill 10 Thanksgiving baskets. To join or learn more, contact Mary Claire Williams or Pastor Nancy.

TREASURER'S REPORT—OCTOBER

General gifts and income	\$ 9,270.84
(First four Sundays)	
Expenses	\$ 8,421.84

Save the Date!
The Kentucky Disciples
Women's Choral Retreat
Sing into Spring!
Friday, February 23 ~ Sunday, February 25, 2024
First Christian Church
112 East College Street Georgetown, KY 40324
www.ccinky.net The Kentucky Disciples Women's Choral Retreat
(859) 322-5653 - Shari shari.caldarelli@gmail.com

THANK YOU

We want to thank our First Christian Church family for your love, support, and prayers during Maggie's multiple hospitalizations for pneumonia and wound care. You've sustained us in both body and spirit.

Your cards & texts always arrived when encouragement was most needed. Lovingly preparing Ned a weekly meal gave him a most-needed respite. Your prayers were felt—and made a difference.

We are happy to report that Maggie is at home, recovering and focused on rehab. Using her unique blend of physical therapy and Feldenkrais, she is ahead of schedule.

Your love, support, and prayers continue to sustain us—for which we are most grateful.

Please know that, as we are in your prayers, our First Christian Church family remains in our prayers.

In gratitude,
Maggie Miles & Ned Breschel

November
BIRTHDAYS

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



COMMUNITY REWARDS

Kroger Community Rewards

To designate FCC as your Kroger Rewards charity, follow this [link](#). Sign up is easy; follow these simple steps.

1. Sign in to your digital Kroger account.
2. Search for **First Christian Church - Morehead** [here](#).
3. Select **First Christian Church - Morehead** from the list and click "Save."

And just like that, you can support our school snack backpack ministry!

Notes from Pastor Nancy

REV. NANCY GOWLER



The kitchen is a sacred place where secrets are kept, and magic happens.

—Chef Edward Lee

We are entering the season of food. Yes, I know summer is the season of bounty, when amazing fresh tomatoes grace our tables, watermelon tastes so sweet, and we can't give away all the zucchini. But now, as we find ourselves in November, most of our gardens have shuttered down since the first freeze of the year. And thoughts turn to holiday meals—Thanksgiving and Christmas, even New Years Day spreads.

Food for the holidays is not just food; it's intricately connected to memories and traditions. In the first Thanksgiving episode on the TV sitcom *Friends*, Monica is fixing Thanksgiving dinner for the group. She's making mashed potatoes with lumps, because that's how Ross likes them. When Joey asks where are the tater tots, because that's what his mom always made, Monica agrees to add tater tots to the menu. Later Phoebe is helping in the kitchen, and she whips the potatoes instead of mashing them. Why? Because her mom would always whip them and add peas and onions. To which Monica responds, "OK, three kinds of potatoes coming up."

A few weeks ago I was at a conference on pastoral leadership and climate change. One of the speakers was Derrick Weston, who along with Anna Woofenden co-authored a new book, *The Just Kitchen: Invitations to Sustainability, Cooking, Connection, and Celebration*. The book is part celebration of the kitchen and a call to thinking about our connections to the earth, our food, and our faith. During his talk, Weston asked us to bring to mind a kitchen from our lives which was important to us: What did it look like? Who was in it? What were they doing? What was the feel of the room? What was being prepared? What smells are there? How do you feel in that kitchen?

And just like that, the group came alive. Memories were shared of grandmothers' kitchens, childhood kitchens, the kitchen in one's first apartment. We heard the deep connections so many of us have with food and place, with the people in our lives with whom we have prepared meals and shared food together. We are shaped by those memories, even if the food we prepare is different from the dishes we remember.

Our kitchens may be quite different from the kitchens in our memories. Perhaps things shifted as we discovered new cuisines or if we gained more financial means. Maybe you've prioritized healthy eating, or locally sourced foods, or organic ingredients. I know the variety of spices on my shelf far exceeds the jars my mother kept near the stove. Our food stories evolve over time, particularly as we share tables with others.

What's your kitchen story? Take time during this holiday season to share stories of those kitchens which were a place of sustenance for you? What similarities do you find? What differences emerge? Trace your food back to the sources, giving thanks for all the hands which brought that meal into being.

In that episode of *Friends*, with the three types of potatoes for Thanksgiving, the gang ends up locked out of the apartment and Monica's elaborate holiday dinner is ruined. They end up eating grilled cheese sandwiches and Funyuns. And of course, discover that the food was only part of the story.

What's for dinner?

Pastor Nancy

History Corner

HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD—ANNE BUCKNER



In the late 1950s, when Reverend Ray Allen was our minister, our church had a large Sunday school attendance for all ages. People dressed up for church, with ladies wearing hats and gloves, and men wearing hats.

Some of the Sunday school teachers during this period were Don Blair, Jane Holbrook, Hildreth Maggard, Mabel Reynolds, George Cline, Helen Patrick, Mayme Wiley, Joyce Allen, and Katherine Hogge. A photo of Don Blair's class is shown to the left.

1st row from left: Tom Bowne, Proc Caudill, Eddie Holbrook.

2nd row: Mike Carr, Rick Bradley.

3rd row: Mary Cassidy, Mary Ann Cline Stagnaro, Debbie Williams.

4th row: Terry Holbrook, Becky Hogge.

5th row: Don Blair, Cindy Holbrook.

Sunday school was an important part of church life in the late 1950s. It was a time for children and adults to learn about the Bible and to grow in their faith. Sunday school teachers were dedicated volunteers who loved teaching and sharing their faith with others. We are grateful for the legacy of Sunday school at our church.

Thanksgiving Offering

NOVEMBER 12 AND 19

The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make

a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses.

Support for Disciples Mission Fund and gifts to the Thanksgiving Offering are a critical part of the ongoing collaborative work of church and higher education that is such a foundational part of the heritage of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Please give generously to this offering. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of our students and it makes a difference in the world.

Thanksgiving Faith Conversation Starters

PROMPTS FOR SHARING FAITH STORIES

As you gather for the holidays, consider the following conversation starters for sharing stories of faith and family. You might print questions out as place cards, or simply use the following ideas for sharing stories while you're together in the kitchen, on the road to a relative's house, setting the table, or finishing up a piece of pumpkin pie.

1. If you could only have one food for Thanksgiving dinner this year, what would it be and why?
2. What is the most valuable lesson you've learned this year?
Share what led you to this new understanding.
3. If you could invent a holiday, what would it be called and what would it celebrate?
4. What family member or friend do you wish was with us at the table today?
Share a memory of them.
5. What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?
6. Name something you admire about the person on your left.
7. When did you feel most alive in the past year?
8. Share about a time when God calmed your fears.
9. What is something you want to be remembered for?
10. How do you stay focused on gratitude throughout the year?



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
227 East Main Street
Morehead, KY 40351



Place
Stamp
Here

