

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 9

September 2021



September 2021

Season of Creation

a celebration & call to action



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

Notes From Pastor Nancy

Semper Gumby (Always Flexible)

Dear Disciples,

Semper Gumby, indeed (although my Latin teacher might argue for *semper flexibile*). Just a few weeks ago in July we were planning for a very different fall. Singing masks were purchased for our church choir, we were beginning to discuss ways to open our building up again for community events, and we thought the worst of the pandemic was behind us. And today, as I write this, there is an emergency field hospital unit set up in the parking lot at St. Claire Regional Medical Center to process patients as the medical facility is straining to care for patients.



Reverend Nancy Gowler

The Returning to Worship committee made the difficult decision to resume virtual worship services beginning on August 15. At the time it seemed we were alone in this assessment. Although we know many congregations in our area are continuing to meet in person, the ecumenical guidelines on safely gathering indoors for worship services recommend a more cautious approach. Now other Disciples congregations in our region are also reverting to virtual worship services. We will continue to monitor the conditions in our county as we consider when we are meeting the benchmarks to offer in-person worship safely.

Whether we asked for it or not, the pandemic is offering opportunities for rethinking church, faith, and spiritual formation. We've always said the church was not limited to an hour on Sunday morning, now we are living out what that might look like in practice.

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Message from the President

Greetings Church Family,

Here we are again. Although we are not able to visit and talk to each other in person, we won't let that stop us from worshipping together. We are so blessed to have the equipment that gives us the ability to still come together virtually. The worship services have been so educational and inspiring. Thank you Pastor Nancy. We are also blessed to have such special music. Words cannot express the warmth and love sent out by our Bell Choir; special guests, Sally Kelton-harpist and Andrew Preston-guitarist, and Isaiah Florence, new pianist. We also want to welcome our two new MSU interns, Everett Quiggins and Maura McCoy as well as a big welcome back to our returning interns, Caleb Fouts & Anna Grayson.



Anne R. Buckner
President

Message p2

Message From The President p1

We are looking forward to the new school year with all of your special talents blessing us greatly. All of our committees are geared up and going strong. Some special upcoming events to look forward to in the coming months are as follows:

•**September** - Creation Care Art Display and Seasons of Creation lifted up in our worship service each Sunday.

•**October** - We, along with other local churches, will participate in a parking lot "Trunk or Treat" for the children of the Morehead Community

•**November** - The Silent Auction ends on the 7th and we will be having our Birthday Dinner Luncheon that same day.

I hope you are enjoying the history articles I have been sharing with you. This month I am highlighting Mrs. Ida Withers Harrison, the daughter of Gen. William T. Withers, who was the subject of my article last month titled, "Our Beginnings."

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 Buckner

Notes From Pastor Nancy p1

This September we will again be celebrating the Season of Creation. Our worship services will provide inspiration for us to do more reflection on our own relationships with creation. I hope you will find ways to engage with the Season of Creation art exhibition, either on-line or in person. Together we can celebrate Creation not only in words, but also in deeds, putting into practice the spiritual wisdom of our faith tradition to care for the earth.

We tend to focus on the limitations of the moment—what's not open, what's not safe, what we have given up in this pandemic. In the spirit of flexibility, can we ask different questions? What is opening up for you now? What can you embrace in this time? What doors are open now?

As you reflect on the possibilities of this time, stop to give thanks for the unexpected blessings you've discovered and for the previously overlooked gifts of the past 18 months. And remember—God is good. All the time. Be well. Be kind. And always be the church where you are.

Pastor Nancy

Bible Quiz

Who does James say is the source of every good and perfect gift?

- A. Father of Lights B. Father of Mercies
C. Father of Spirits D. Father of Glory

Answer: Father of Lights →



Disciples Websites

[Cane Ridge Meeting](#) [Disciples News Service](#)
[Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)
[Disciples Home Missions](#)
[Lexington Theological Seminary](#)
[Mission Behind Bars and Beyond](#)

Creation Care Sponsors Art Exhibition



Pathway outside
Pitlochry, Scotland.
(photo by N. Gowler)

Creation Care is sponsoring an art exhibit during the month of September that celebrates Creation. Seventeen congregants, former congregants and relatives of congregants have submitted artwork for display in the FCC sanctuary. Represented in a wide variety of media, the artwork is centered on the theme of "Appreciating Creation." Each artist has written a personal reflection about his or her art that will accompany the selection.

Creation Care hopes the artwork will inspire us all to become more aware of Creation and its needs. The exhibit will be highlighted during worship on the church's Facebook or YouTube streams and the artwork will be featured on FCC's [website](#). Also, look for messages in our weekly eblast messages about opportunities to view the exhibit.

Our Beginnings—A History and Comment

First Christian Church by Anne Reynolds Buckner

Ida Withers Harrison, First Christian Church Member and Women's Rights Advocate.

Adapted from [H-Kentucky Ida Withers Harrison, 1851-1927, Lexington Suffragist by Kelli Lemaster 3.22.18](#)

Ida Withers Harrison is remembered for her services to Christian mission endeavors in addition to her work as a philanthropist and advocate for women's education, rights and suffrage. She is the daughter of William T. Withers and was an active member of the Disciples of Christ. She served as vice president of the National Christian Women's Board of Missions, wrote a history of the board's work, edited a page in the *Christian Century* at a time when all other contributors were men, and she was appointed chairman of Kentucky Equal Rights Committee on church work in 1910. She was a gifted orator who was regularly invited to speak at various functions. In 1910 she was recruited to serve on the Kentucky Equal Rights Association lecture bureau,



Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington, KY.
State Chairman of Social Hygiene
Photo courtesy of Anne Buckner



The Withers & Harrison family dedication panel in the FCC sanctuary.
Photo by Anne Buckner.

and in 1920 Harrison was listed as a member of the "oratorical heavy artillery" for the Speaker's Bureau of the Kentucky Democratic Campaign. Harrison was the recipient of a number of important awards. She was named honorary president for life of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs. She became the first woman ever to receive an honorary Doctorate of Law from Transylvania University.

Choir & Bells



Genny Jenkins
Music Director

This month we welcome our new interns, Maura and Everett, and returning interns Anna and Caleb, as well as our new accompanist Isaiah.

Bell Choir members are Sarah Chaney, Jeff Brown, Alicia Carter, Alana Scott, and Genny Jenkins. Sarah is recruiting new Bell Choir members. Contact Sarah: [follow the link to her email](#).



Sarah Chaney
Bells Director



Maura McCoy



Anna Grayson



Everett Quiggins



Caleb Fouts



Isaiah Florence



2021 Special Day Offering. The Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering will be received in congregations this year on September 26th and October 3rd. Our theme is "Revealing God's Justice: The Time is Always Ripe to Do What is Right." Now, in the aftermath of the death of George Floyd, violence against Asian and Pacific Islanders, and the deadly inequities of the Coronavirus Pandemic, is the time for our Church to strengthen its commitment to actively seek God's justice. More info [HERE](#).



Iowa Flood Outreach in 1993. Outreach has been a part of FCC for many years. The photos of members working in Iowa after a devastating flood are a testimony to our mission. Members taking part were Anne & Glen Buckner, Wayne Caldwell, Marge & Dan Thomas, Di & Ron Walke, Darlene & David Perkins, Kermit Vencill, Adam & Charles Tingle, Virginia & Hunter Black.



While we do not yet know the full impact of Hurricane Ida, we do know that damage is widespread; and that more than a million people across southern Louisiana are without power. Week of Compassion is in touch with partners and church leaders in the area, and we are prepared to respond as needs emerge. Our prayers are with first responders who are working around the clock to help those in need right now.

We are also working with Disciples churches in western Louisiana and southeast Texas that have been affected by past hurricanes and are already organizing and preparing to serve their neighbors in the days ahead.

We will share more information as it becomes available, and we will continue to monitor the storm as it moves inland. For now, the best way to help is to stay, pray, and give. We invite you to join us in prayer for those in affected communities and to give to Week of Compassion, designating gifts for "hurricane."

Under stories on WoC's website is a photo from flood cleanup in Houston. [Week of Compassion - Houston](#)

Labor Day—Monday, September 6, 2021 *(Office will be closed.)*

Observed the first Monday in September, Labor Day is an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers. The holiday is rooted in the late nineteenth century, when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being.





Thank You ~

Thank you so much for sending me to church camp! I had such an amazing time and am counting down the days until I can go back! I made a lot of new friends and got closer with some old ones. I had so much fun and while doing so got closer to God! I can't thank you enough for helping me make memories and friends that will last a life time! Thank you so much!

Yours truly, Ellie Williams

Dear FCC, First of all I just wanted to tell you thank you so much for sending me to church camp. It was awesome! I made all kinds of new friends, learned new songs, dances, and had such a great time. We played water games one day and another day we had a talent show. Thank you again for letting me go to church camp this year and hopefully more years to come.

Sincerely, Alana Sholar



9- Connie Kibbey
11- Jack Whidden
23- Anne Buckner
27- Brian Carter

July Treasurer's Report

Income is \$7,259.54.
Expenses are \$8,651.29.

Mack Fund

in memory of

Beata Alden

(Grant Alden's stepmother)

by

Anne Buckner

Evangelism- Congregational Life

The Evangelism Committee has a new name! During the August board meeting, the board approved the suggestion of the committee to change the name from Evangelism Committee to Congregational Life Committee. Additionally, the committee is working on updating the directory with a goal of completing the update by the beginning of November. If you would like a new picture for the directory, please email one to the office at fccmky@gmail.com. If you need assistance taking a new picture, please email Mary Claire at mc.williams@moreheadstate.edu to arrange a time to meet for a picture.



Opportunities for Connection

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

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. [Contact office for Zoom Invitation.](#)

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**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

And so we know and rely on the
love God has for us. God is love.
Whoever lives in love lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

FCC Outreach News



Thanks to everyone who purchased undies in August for the Rowan County Family Resource Youth Service Centers! These are much-needed items throughout the school year, and the directors are very appreciative of our donations.



We also donated approximately 50 water bottles to the 8th grade students for back-to-school at RCMS. The FRYSC director, Whitney Walton thanks us for the help.



The Outreach Committee met via email recently and unanimously voted to continue the Snack Backpack Program. Thanks to Marge and Susan Thomas for working with FRYSC director Tammy Cooper to get these stocked each week! And thanks to everyone who has linked their Kroger Card to earn rewards for FCC. The Kroger Rewards Program helps fund the snack backpacks, and monetary donations help offset the cost for this important program.



We are making preparations for our upcoming holiday outreach projects, and will have a full update for you in the October Echo.



Just a reminder, we will be doing the Gateway Baskets at the beginning of September, October, and November. If you feel you cannot bring your November item and also help with the holiday projects, feel free to skip November. We already have most of the items, but will certainly understand if you wish to concentrate your efforts on the upcoming holiday outreach. Gateway has shared that they have homeless families transitioning all the time, so whatever household items we can provide in November will be put to good use and much appreciated!



Wishing you all good health, happy hearts, and much love this month!

Ronetta and Jeff Brown, Co-chairs, FCC Outreach



Minister Roy Roberson @ 1982. left to right: Kristin Schuck, Kathryn Huie, Mary Whidden, Joyce Hart, Brad Hart, and Stephen Thomas.

Trunk or Treat. This October we are joining with other local congregations, including the First Baptist Church and the Church of God to host a community wide Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 23, 5-7 pm. We're looking for volunteers to decorate their cars for the event, as well as donations of candy to distribute. So dust off your best holiday decorating skills, vacuum your car, and join us to welcome the neighborhood in October! Contact Pastor Nancy or Mary Claire Williams to learn more.



First Christian September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>Season of Creation</h1>						
			1 Bell Choir 5pm Pray for Mark Etherton.	2 Vespers via Zoom 7pm. Pray for Raven Lynn Evans.	3 Office closed. Pray for Larry Fannin.	4 Pray for Loretta Fannin.
5 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Pray for Kathy Frazier.	6 Labor Day The office is closed Pray for Carrie Frazier.	7 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Riley Pack.	8 Bell Choir 5pm Pray for Josh Pack.	9 Vespers via Zoom 7pm Pray for Alex New.	10 Office closed. Pray for Roger Fischer.	11 Pray for Reverend Nancy Gowler.
12 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45 Worship Pray for Ben Gowler Johnson.	13 Pray for Tommy Griffith.	14 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Neva Griffith.	15 Bell Choir 5pm Pray for Emma Lou Gross.	16 Vespers via Zoom 7pm Pray for Jim Gross.	17 Office closed. Pray for John Gullett.	18 Pray for Sandy Gullett.
19 Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Pray for Betty Hall.	20 Pray for Cathy Hammond.	21 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Abby Hammond.	22 Bell Choir 5pm Pray for Meghan Hammond.	23 Vespers via Zoom 7pm Pray for Joyce Hart.	24 Office closed. Pray for Fran Helphinstine.	25 Pray for Rob Sloss.
26 Reconciliation Offering Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Pray for Jane Holbrook.	27 Exec/Full Board Mtgs 6:15/7pm Pray for Jami Hornbuckle.	28 Women's Bible Study via Zoom 7pm Pray for Holly Pollock.	29 Bell Choir 5pm Pray for Genny Jenkins.	30 Vespers via Zoom 7pm Pray for Chas Jenkins.		

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Nancy Gowler, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Music Director
Genny Jenkins, 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

www.facebook.com/fccmorehead

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



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



www.instagram.com/fccmorehead/



www.youtube.com/user/TheInterper

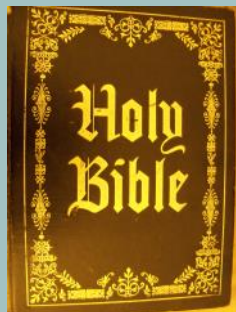


www.twitter.com/fccmorehead



Bible Lectionary Readings

Disciples of Christ



September 5—Mark 7:24-37
September 12—Mark 8:27-38
September 19—Mark 9:30-37
September 26—9:38-50

Congregation Prayer Practice

CULTIVATING A 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 September, there will be an individual or intention on each day of *The Echo* calendar to include in your personal prayers.

29	30	31	SEPT 1	2	3	4
Pray for Becky Davison	Pray for Mike Dobranski	Pray for Ginny Etherton	Pray for Mark Etherton	Pray for Raven Lynn Evans	Pray for Larry Fannin	Pray for Loretta Fannin
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Pray for Kathy Frazier	Pray for Carrie Frazier	Pray for Riley Pack	Pray for Josh Pack	Pray for Alex New	Pray for Roger Fischer	Pray for Reverend Nancy Gowler
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pray for Ben Gowler	Pray for Tommy Griffith	Pray for Neva Griffith	Pray for Emma Lou Gross	Pray for Jim Gross	Pray for John Gullett	Pray for Sandy Gullett
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Pray for Betty Hall	Pray for Cathy Hammond	Pray for Abby Hammond	Pray for Meghan Hammond	Pray for Joyce Hart	Pray for Fran Helphinstine	Pray for Rob Sloss
26	27	28	29	30	OCT 1	2
Pray for Jane Holbrook	Pray for Jami Hornbuckle	Pray for Holly Pollock	Pray for Genny Jenkins	Pray for Chas Jenkins	Pray for Jon Jenkins	Pray for Kennealy Roberts

The labyrinth garden contains bricks with congregation names. They are an integral part of the spiritual presence when walking the labyrinth, resting on a bench, or enjoying the fragrance and beauty of the flowers, shrubs, and trees. Come rest awhile. The dedicated members and friends who donated the memorial bricks are remembered and loved.

