

THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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June, 2025

Rev. Daphne Gascot Arias, Minister

Carol Clifford, Editor

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This summer, we have  
the opportunity to  
grow in Christ as we  
make him our priority  
in every season and  
enjoy his goodness as  
we live and play, right  
where we are.

- ANN SWINDELL

*“Called to be the presence of  
Christ in our community”*

# *Karen's Korner*



Welcome to June and the joy of our summer months! We are starting June heading to Florida to celebrate my mother-in-law Pat's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Nothing like summer in Florida! June is also the time for our next meeting with the Korean Fellowship Church. We are so blessed with their sharing our building for their ministry. We hope to include them in our planned barbecue night in July!

As we look forward to June, I want to thank everyone who made our Ladies Tea another great success! We hope to use the proceeds for our mission, Dixie's Café. We will be setting up a planning meeting soon with hopes of starting up in the Fall! Dixie's Cafe will provide a social hour for people with dementia and their care givers with refreshments, songs, games, crafts, etc.

This summer also brings the General Assembly that will be held in Memphis July 12 – 15. I hope you are considering attending and/or will keep all those attending in your prayers. It should be a wonderful event, especially with the opportunity to worship with so many fellow disciples! Bill and I will be attending and hope some of you will join us! There is also an option to join online, if that is of interest.

Feed the Body and Soul, and Adult Sunday school are on hiatus for the summer. We do have opportunities in the summer with worship continuing and our next Mission Sunday on July 13<sup>th</sup>. The Board moved it from the fifth Sunday (June 29<sup>th</sup>) to that date since it is when Rev Daphne will be at the General Assembly. We also are planning a summer barbecue and sing-along on Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. And of course, MIP (Monday Intercessory Prayer) will continue Mondays at 6:00 pm. And finally, our General Minister and President, Rev Terri Hord Owens is offering an all-Church Bible study, The Faith We Affirm, May 27<sup>th</sup> through 3 Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. by Zoom. Check her Facebook page or contact me for more information. You can attend any number of the sessions.

Faithfully yours,  
Karen



## **Join Us for Monday Intercessory Prayer (MIP)!**

Prayers are being answered! Please join us for MIP Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. from the comforts of your own home! Spending an hour with God feeling his support and love is always a blessing. Please note there will be no MIP Monday June 2nd due to my trip to Florida for my mother-in-law's birthday. Please plan to join us the other Mondays in June. Prayer is so needed to keep us in peace and trust during this difficult time!

We not only ask for God's help with our concerns, but we also spend time offering praise for all God is doing in our world. Recent praises were for:

- In June, Chicago (Lincoln Park) will begin using birth control pills hidden in peanut butter to reduce the rat population. A humane approach for Chicago that Orkin has named the rattiest city in the country each year for the past decade.
- Idaho Falls Tia Vargas, a single mom of 3 found an injured dog while out on a hike. She carried the 60 lb. pup on her shoulders for almost 8 miles to safety. Her son, battling depression met the dog and said, "He is injured, and so am I, but we're going to heal together." And they both did just that.
- Finland's Housing First strategy gives homeless people a small apartment & mental health support without any preconditions. About 80% of participants successfully reintegrate into society, finding stable housing, employment, sobriety, and greater well-being.

God is active and working throughout our world. Hallelujah! Join in our praise!

The **conference-calling** feature makes it easy to join from anywhere you are. Dial in to join us for the entire session or just to ask for your own prayer concerns. We welcome all prayer concerns! We document our prayer concerns each week and if you provide us with your email, we can send a copy to you each week.

Join us for a spiritually enriching hour with God! You are free to join in silently or add prayers as you like!

Our Monday night sessions include:

- A brief gathering of any additional prayers and prayer priorities
- A prayer devotion
- Prayers for our joys and concerns: personal, church, community, country, and world
- A brief closing prayer

To Join by Conference Call:

1. Call (607) 374-1123
2. Enter the access code: 390193

For more information email Karen Johns: [johns.karen@gmail.com](mailto:johns.karen@gmail.com)



## ANNOUNCING A NAME CHANGE

The fifth Sunday community outreach program has a new name \_ Service Sunday. This will enable us to be more flexible in planning activities. The next service Sunday will be July 13th. Perhaps there is an activity in which you would like us to participate, if so, please speak to anyone on the board with your idea or jot a note on the sheet provided on the signup table.

(Some of the past activities have been hygiene bags for refugees, lunches for PADS., helping the local family.) There are many opportunities for us to be the Presence of Christ in our community!



## BELARUS



As you enter the church, look to the right--our new handprint towel for 2024.

These start out as dish towels and the hands are those of the campers.

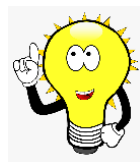
Dick and Martha



*"Keep your face to the sun and  
You will never see the shadows."*

Helen Keller

# *Did you know...?* By: Bobbie Dean




Traditionally, young people in **Ukraine** chose mates at social events. Historically, parental approval and blessing were sought. Marriages against parents' wishes were rare in the past, and matchmakers mediated between the two families. The parents' role in the marriage has been preserved in contemporary Ukrainian culture through their responsibilities to organize and finance the wedding ceremonies and festivities for their children. The festivities show the family's social status.

Most marriage ceremonies today are both civil and religious. In traditional society, public opinion pressured young people to marry early. This still leads to many marriages between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five. It also leads to a high number of divorces, very rare in the traditional past.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church prohibits divorce, and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church discourages it. Civil courts grant divorce, adjudicating property and custodial rights. The traditional Ukrainian domestic unit is a single family. Elderly parents eventually lived with the child who inherited their property. The chronic housing shortage and the economic crisis in contemporary Ukraine forced young couples to live with their parents in close quarters. This reduction of personal space frequently caused familial dysfunction.

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"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near."

Matthew 24:32

# Help a Hero!

Support overseas troops...

Donate toys!



If you have new stuffed animals (battery-free and under 20 inches), send them to Project Smile! The nonprofit organization shares the toys with emergency responders, who use them to comfort children who have been through traumatic events. Mail donations to Project Smile, P.O. Box 336, Hopedale, MA 01747.

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## Church Chuckles

By Bobbie Dean



A minister tells of his first Sunday in a new congregation, when he was presenting the children's message. The sanctuary in the new church featured magnificent stained-glass windows, so his message centered on how each of us is called to help make up the whole picture of life (the life of the community of faithful). He explained that, like the pictures in the windows, it takes many little panels of glass to make the whole picture. "You see, each one of you is a little pane." And then, pointing to each child, "You're a little pane. And you're a little pane. And you're a little pane. And..." It took a few moments before the minister realized why the children looked so hurt.

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS



|         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| June 10 | Dave Kijowski   |
| June 18 | Cherie Sutter   |
| June 19 | Kara Gray       |
| June 19 | Kristi Kijowski |
| June 22 | Willow Ahn      |
| June 25 | Norah Petrson   |
| June 26 | Steve Welker    |
| June 27 | Bill Martina    |
| June 29 | Gage Gilley     |

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## SERVING SCHEDULE



### ELDERS

#### Lectern

#### Table

|         |              |              |
|---------|--------------|--------------|
| June 1  | Bill Cook    | Don Peterson |
| June 8  | Daphne Hayes | Karen Johns  |
| June 15 | Sue Huizinga | Becky Daigle |
| June 22 | Bob Reese    | Bill Cook    |
| June 29 | Daphne Hayes | Barb Bates   |

### DEACONS

#### Prep and Serve

#### Serve

|         |                 |                |
|---------|-----------------|----------------|
| June 1  | Galilee Flores  | Lisa Johnson   |
| June 8  | Kristi Kijowski | Jeff Igel      |
| June 15 | Larry Carley    | Dave Kijowski  |
| June 22 | Gail Reese      | Galilee Flores |
| June 29 | Kristi Kijowski | Lisa Johnson   |

## An Old Soldier's Prayer

"Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

"Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee...and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

"Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high, a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

"And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom and the meekness of true strength.

"Then I, his father, will dare to whisper, 'I have not lived in vain'."

— Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur

*Happy  
Fathers Day*