

THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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February 2020

Rev. Rick Hamilton, Minister

Carol Clifford, Editor



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



Bonus Day! It's February, it's Leap Year, that means we get a bonus day. For three years we have had ho hum 28 day February months. This year, we get 29 days. What will you do with that extra day? I know it's not really extra to most of us. Most of our lives pretty much run Sunday to Saturday without much thought to where the calendar falls. After all, the 29th of every other month of the year is not a big deal (well, except when loved ones have birthdays). But when February 29th rolls around, it feels like we should do something special with it.

February 29th also happens to be the first Saturday in Lent. Since Lent is a time of repentance and preparation, I wonder if we could do something special with the day. So, here is my idea: Let's all make an intentional effort on Saturday February 29 to execute some act of kindness or service which shows the love of God to another in a practical way. If the weather cooperates, you could shovel a driveway for someone who would normally do it themselves (I know lots of you clear driveways for those who cannot). You could start a "pay it forward" at the drive through by giving the person at the window an extra \$20 and encouraging them to see how long we can pay it forward. You could give blood. You could hand out Gatorade at the door to the hockey rink. There are a million crazy wonderful ideas out there. People engage these random acts of kindness all the time.

The difference here, is the desire to show the love of God in a practical way. Whatever it is, I am confident you can knock it out of the park. On Sunday, March 1st, we will make some time in the worship service to tell our stories. I suspect it will be a very special day. Happy bonus day month!

I will look forward to seeing you around the Lord's Table.

Rick

REFLECTIONS AND IDEAS



Many stores take inventory of their stock in January and make plans for the new year. We can also do this in our own life. We can make changes in our responsibilities and routines if we have some flexible time.

I have a little book titled Relax, God is in Charge. One of my favorite pages follows:

Fifty years from now, it will not matter what kind of car you drove, what kind of house you lived in, how much you had in your bank account nor what your clothes looked like. But the world will be a little better because you were important in the life of a child.

Thinking about that, I would encourage you to think about the children you come in contact with. If you would like more opportunities to make a difference in the life of a child, you might consider working with the Sunday School program or with the Back-to-School Fair. Karen Johns is helping to organize the Sunday morning classes and would be happy to have additional volunteers to teach or to develop lessons for our children. If you are interested in doing more with our Back-to-School Fair, Dan Johns is looking for volunteers to help with the supplies for the backpacks and/or with any other aspects of the fair. If you choose the backpack supplies, Sue Huizinga and Martha Anderson can answer any questions you may have.

Please consider doing something different this year by working with or for our young people.

See you in church!
Joy Claffey, Chairman





Christian Education

Christian Education is going well and the OWLs (Kindergarten – 5th grade) are studying elements of the Worship Service and their significance. We have looked at the seasons of the church and are now

looking more specifically at the worship components and how we can each worship God. The Middle School (6th – 8th grade) group is continuing to alternate weeks, studying Rick's sermons one week and then discussing them the following week.

Adult Sunday school wrapped up a study of the lesser gospels in January. We are now enjoying a seven-week study entitled The Pursuit of Paul. This complements well our Feed the Body and Soul study. Please join us – 9:00 am Sundays!

Feed the Body and Soul is continuing Wednesday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We are enjoying a light supper, fellowship and a lively study led by Rev. Rick Hamilton. We are continued to our study of the New Testament by a new look at Mark. Join us! A new signup sheet for dinners is in Fellowship hall. Please sign up if you can provide a dinner.

We need volunteers for the Nursery! While the sanctuary has entertainment for the children, sometimes the nursery is a good option. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall, if you can help! Or if you see young ones on Sunday, please volunteer to help, if you are able!

Karen, Sue, Deb, Joy, Alice, Tammy and Angela



THE LOVE GOD WANTS

God accepts no love that includes him and excludes our fellow man. This is the identifying mark of a Christian.

Anonymous



Join Us for Monday Intercessory Prayer (MIP)!

Our intercessory prayer group is going strong! There is a lot to be thankful for and a lot to pray for. We would love to have you with us!

Please join us Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary or dial in to join us from the comforts of your own home!

The **conference-calling** feature makes it easier 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 at any time during our prayer hour!

Please note there will be no MIP on February 17th due to travel plans and February 10th and February 24th – We will be phone only.

We document our prayer concerns each week and if you provide us with your email we can send a copy to you each week.

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
 - World
- A brief closing prayer

To Join by Conference Call:

1. Call (712) 770-3743
2. Enter the access code: 390193

For more information email Karen Johns:

johns.karen@gmail.com



Current Fund Balances --by date - As of 1/31/2020

Account	1/31/2020 Balance
Bank Accounts	
General Fund - (Operating Budget)	-110.33
Hope For The Future - Savings Fund	43,899.88
In-As-Much Fund	887.40
Ladies Annual Tea	0.00
Memorials	1,560.00
Pass Thru Funds	0.00
Property Reserve	1,363.14
SPECIAL Disciples Mission Outreach Funds	5.00
SPECIAL Music & Worship Fund	7.45
The Back To School Fair Fund	4,415.16
Youth Fund	1,330.77
TOTAL Bank Accounts	53,361.47
OVERALL TOTAL	53,361.47



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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|---------|------------------|
| Feb. 1 | Sandy Allen |
| Feb. 1 | Brian Gray |
| Feb. 2 | Alison Chandler |
| Feb. 3 | Samantha Misek |
| Feb. 3 | Marilyn Holloway |
| Feb. 4 | Haines Lockhart |
| Feb. 4 | Janet Lockhart |
| Feb. 5 | Liz Flis |
| Feb. 9 | Bobbie Dean |
| Feb. 12 | Evelyn Phillips |
| Feb. 15 | Carol Clifford |
| Feb. 16 | Galilee Flores |
| Feb. 18 | Suellen Cook |
| Feb. 22 | Ollie Puccillo |
| Feb. 23 | Deb McClelland |
| Feb. 24 | Daphne Hayes |



Budget - Current Month
1/1/2020 through 1/31 2020 Using Budget 2020 Annual

Category	Actual	January 2020 Budget	Difference
INCOME	9,498.22	11,200.00	-1,701.78
100_income	9,498.22	11,200.00	-1,701.78
120-Identifiable Giving	9,474.60	11,026.00	-1,551.40
130-Loose offering	13.60	29.00	-15.40
140-Special Use Donations	0.00	12.00	-12.00
150_Fundraising	0.00	8.00	-8.00
190-Other Income	10.02	125.00	-114.98
EXPENSES	9,608.55	10,656.00	1,047.45
200-Ministry	434.93	249.00	-185.93
210-Worship	0.00	50.00	50.00
220-Evangelism	0.00	8.00	8.00
230-Disciples Mission Fund	175.00	175.00	0.00
250-Studentship	258.93	8.00	-251.93
290-Christian Development	0.00	8.00	8.00
300 Property	860.46	2,250.00	1,389.54
310-Maintenance & Repair	150.00	350.00	200.00
320-Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
330-Grounds	0.00	750.00	750.00
340-Utilities	710.46	650.00	-60.46
390-Improvements	0.00	500.00	500.00
400-Office Administration	613.38	366.00	-247.38
410-Insurance & Bonding	0.00	0.00	0.00
420- Office Expense	463.98	300.00	-163.98
430-Payroll Service	148.40	66.00	-83.40
500- Personnel	7,699.78	7,791.00	91.22
520-Sr. Min. Housing Allowance	3,333.00	3,333.00	0.00
530-Sr. Min.Pension	500.00	500.00	0.00
540-Sr. Min. Prof. Expenses	0.00	83.00	83.00
550-Office Manager Salary	1,830.00	1,830.00	0.00
590-Pianist Salary	1,101.00	1,101.00	0.00
570-Choir Director	0.00	0.00	0.00
530-Custodian Salary	661.00	661.00	0.00
590-Staff FICA	274.78	283.00	8.22
Net Difference:	-110.33	544.00	-654.33



FEBRUARY LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch bunch will meet following worship on Sun., Feb. 16th at:

Harvest Pancake House and Grill
339 West 63rd Street, Westmont



Please join us to celebrate time together. Look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. See you there!

Martha and Alice

SERVING SCHEDULE



ELDERS Bread /Cup

Feb. 2	Bob Reese	Karen Johns
Feb. 9	Becky Daigle	Bill Cook
Feb. 16	Martha Anderson	Joy Claffey
Feb. 23	Barb Bates	Daphne Hayes

DEACONS Prep and Serve Serve

Feb. 2	Ron Smith	Gail Reese
Feb. 9	Galilee Flores	Don Peterson, Sandy Allen, Mac Flores
Feb. 16	Suellen Cook	Jeff Igel, Galilee Flores, Jim Claffey
Feb. 23	Marve Huizinga	Mac Flores, Ron Smith, Gail Reese

POWER POINT

Feb. 2	Larry Carley
Feb. 9	Barb Bates
Feb. 16	Don Peterson
Feb. 23	Larry Carley

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Feb. 2 - 23	Please consider volunteering for one of these dates
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SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Feb. 5	Tammy Reese, Angela Reese, Joy Claffey
Feb. 9	Tammy Reese, Angela Reese, Deb McClelland
Feb. 16	Tammy Reese, Angela Reese, Sue Huizinga
Feb. 23	Tammy Reese, Angela Reese, Beth Smith

COUNTERS

Feb. 2	Marve Huizinga and Karen Connery
Feb. 9	Barb Bates and Martha Anderson
Feb. 16	Bob Reese and Larry Carley
Feb. 23	Marve Huizinga and Sandy Allen

LENT BEGINS ON FEB. 26, ASH WEDNESDAY