

# THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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## June 2021

*Rev. Rick Hamilton, Minister*

*Carol Clifford, Editor*



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



With June comes the promise of relaxed schedules and for many of our folks, a return to travel. I have already heard from many of you who have ramped up plans to get out and do more things with the promise of vaccines and looser restrictions. June is still going to be a very busy month around here. We are hosting the outdoor concert on the grounds on Sunday the 13th. I think Joy is writing more about that. We also anticipate a very special event on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> that just happens to coincide with Fathers' Day. Perhaps more importantly, though, if things stay on track through the "bridge phase" of the "Restore Illinois" Plan, the State could declare a phase five - no restrictions status as early as June 11.

What will this mean for us at First Christian?

Honestly, not a lot. We might reconfigure the sanctuary and seating spaces to encourage more sitting together. We may remove masks, but still need to be very respectful of the needs of immunocompromised folks and those who are under 12 years of age. There's a chance we will move our singing leaders inside the Sanctuary and take down the curtains. I expect we might pass the plates and trays again. We are not ready to return to communion by intinction or potlucks just yet. Let's see how this newfound flexibility plays out across the state first.

Also in June, I will be starting a sermon series I am loosely calling "Pastor's Class for Grownups" and looking at a reteaching and renewed examination of the basics of the faith. I am hopeful this summer will be a joyous time of spiritual growth and renewed freedom of expression.

I look forward to seeing you around Our Lord's Table,

Rick



# REFLECTIONS AND IDEAS



June is here, and we have a wonderful event planned for you to come and invite your friends!

Mark the date on your calendar: Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 3:00 in the afternoon for a concert by Rick Sladek and friends. It will be an outdoor classical/jazz crossover concert featuring two popular suites by the renowned French composer Claude Bolling. This concert is co-sponsored with FCCDG by the Chicago Federation of Musicians program, M-HART. “M-HART” (Music- Helping All Recover Together) is an initiative of the Chicago musicians union created to present live music as an integral part of the emotional and economic recovery of greater Chicago and its own members. Their goal is to reinstate live music as an essential, healing aspect of civic life.

The concert presents five accomplished CFM members:

Marie Bennett- Flute  
Dorothy Deen- Cello  
Allison Gaines- Bass  
Ken Kazin- Drums  
Richard Sladek- Piano

Bring a lawn chair as seating will be on the west lawn. You are welcome to bring a picnic basket or some snacks or drinks. The concert is approximately 90 minutes long. In case of inclement weather, the performance will be held inside the church.

We have been making progress on our modified summer project of doing something for the school children in our area. Information on how you can be a part of this outreach program will be presented when final details are available.

We hope many of you will be joining us in church on Sunday mornings at our 10:30 worship service. It is great to finally be able to meet together even if we are still limited in what we can do. We still practice social distancing and wear our masks until we deem it safer. Hope to see you soon.

Joy Claffey, Chairman

## 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!

We are continuing to meet social distancing or not. Spending an hour with God feeling his support and love is a blessing at all times!

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
  - 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](mailto:johns.karen@gmail.com)

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The Christian Education Team is excited and looking forward to a summer season with the joy of in-person worship!

In June and through the summer, we will continue to share Children's Bulletins in coordination with the worship scripture for the children. These will be available with the writing desks available in Fellowship Hall. We will also continue sending emails with electronic versions of the bulletins and a brief message for use at home.

Adult Sunday school will be on hiatus for the summer! We hope everyone will join us in September when we resume!

Enrich the Soul will also be on break for the summer. Stay tuned for plans when we open in the fall.

We are hopeful that things will continue to improve COVID-wise and hope that you will continue to join us! We welcome all comments and suggestions.

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



## *Did you know...?*

By: Bobbie Dean



**Chad** is one of the poorest countries on the African continent. It has a thoroughly agrarian economy with about 40% of the workforce engaged in livestock herding, 40% in agricultural production (including cotton farming), and the rest in manufacturing, services, and the military. Most of the economy is geared to subsistence cultivation (including sorghum, millet, groundnuts, vegetables, and fruits) and livestock raising.

# PROPERTY REPORT



## PROPERTY REPORT

### APRIL ELECTRIC BILL – CHURCH

|      |              |          |
|------|--------------|----------|
| 2021 | 3/24 to 4/22 | \$114.58 |
| 2020 | 3/24 to 4/22 | \$137.58 |

On Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> we had an all-church workday. Unfortunately, we were rained out. **A new date has been set - JUNE 5<sup>th</sup>, same time - 10 a.m. Mark your calendars.** We would like to prepare the church grounds for Rick’s concert on the 13<sup>th</sup>. We have been busy during the last month looking into repairing our main sign (as you may have noticed, it is in bad shape and doesn’t allow us to put information on it) and we are looking into getting the roof repaired as well as continuing to get bids to repair the stoop at the front door of the Annex.

Look forward to seeing you on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Barb and Don

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## *Church Chuckles*

*By Bobbie Dean*



Bobbie knew exactly what Jesus would drive:  
“A van that seats 12 and can pull a boat.”



## HELP WANTED:

Custodian (part-time; 10-12 hours per week) to maintain church property and grounds to ensure that they are safe, clean, and sanitary in coordination with the Property Manager and Senior Minister. Tasks include furniture and floor care, trash removal, washroom cleaning, minor repairs, and monitoring the building and grounds for needed work. Must be able to work independently and perform all responsibilities in a Christian spirit that respects staff, guests, and church members. A background check and I-9 employment verification are required.

For further details, see the job description and application form on the church website (<https://fccdg.org>), under the tab "About Us", or contact the church office (630 968 7818).



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS



|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| June 7  | Ron Smith      |
| June 18 | Cherie Sutter  |
| June 19 | Kara Gray      |
| June 25 | Norah Peterson |
| June 27 | Bill Martina   |
| June 29 | Gage Gilley    |



*"Weather you call on him or don't call on him, God will be present with you."*

Frederick Buechner



# SERVING SCHEDULE

## ELDERS

Lectern

Table

|         |                 |              |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| June 6  | Becky Daigle    | Joy Claffey  |
| June 13 | Karen Johns     | Daphne Hayes |
| June 20 | Barb Bates      | Bob Reese    |
| June 27 | Martha Anderson | Karen Johns  |

## DEACONS

Prep and Serve

Serve

|         |                |                              |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------|
| June 6  | Galilee Flores | Sandy Allen                  |
| June 13 | Jeff Igel      | Don Peterson Mac Flores      |
| June 20 | Gail Reese     | Don Peterson, Marve Huizinga |
| June 27 | Mac Flores     | Dandy Allen, Don Peterson    |

## POWER POINT

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| June | No power point at this time |
|------|-----------------------------|

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| June 6  | Joy Claffey    |
| June 13 | Joy Claffey    |
| June 20 | Deb McClelland |
| June 27 | Deb McClelland |

## COUNTERS

|      |                |
|------|----------------|
| June | Marve Huizinga |
|------|----------------|

