

“What's the
WORD?”



FIRST CHRISTIAN
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Weekly Updates & Musings

Beloved Church,

May the words of this poem fill you this week!

Making the House Ready for the Lord
by Mary Oliver

Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but
still nothing is as shining as it should be
for you. Under the sink, for example, is an
uproar of mice it is the season of their
many children. What shall I do? And under the eaves
and through the walls the squirrels
have gnawed their ragged entrances but it is the season
when they need shelter, so what shall I do? And
the raccoon limps into the kitchen and opens the cupboard
while the dog snores, the cat hugs the pillow;
what shall I do? Beautiful is the new snow falling
in the yard and the fox who is staring boldly
up the path, to the door. And still I believe you will
come, Lord: you will, when I speak to the fox,
the sparrow, the lost dog, the shivering sea-goose, know
that really I am speaking to you whenever I say,
as I do all morning and afternoon: Come in, Come in.
As we make ourselves ready for the Lord in this season of Lent, may we be bold and humble
enough to ask God to “come in”
To renew us, refresh us, and restore us.
For this is the gift and the grace of Lent.

Blessings on your week, friends!

Love & Light,

Michelle

Do you have a pastoral concern, joy or announcement
or just want to check in? Feel free to contact me:

Call or text: 610-390-9624

Email: fcuccpastor@gmail.com

*please note Friday & Saturday are my Sabbath days.
(with the exception of scheduled events.)

I am available for emergencies only those days

Prayer Concerns

Please keep these individuals/families in your prayers...

Benji Terrell had his biopsy and the results were inconclusive. He is having a Pet Scan tomorrow, Wednesday March 10th.

Troy Johnson is Having surgery next week Tuesday, March 16th. Please keep him in your prayers, this is going to be a difficult surgery.

Continue to pray for Christ's Church, First Christian UCC, as we continue to discern God's call and look toward the future.

Those remaining in our Prayers

Linda Cobb, Joyce Collins, Lewis & Vonnie Fowler, Kevin May, Keith Miller, Joe Strickland, Nancy Thomas, Benji Terrell, Troy Johnson, Julie Miller, Betty King, those hospitalized or in specialized care facilities and our homebound.

March Calendar correction Please Note: Beth Painter's Birthday is March 3rd! It was inadvertently missed on the calendar. Please add to your copy thank you!

Prayers of Gratitude & Joy

Thanks be to God... Julie has completed all of her treatments and she rang the bell!

Betty King would like to thank everyone for their calls and cards during her recent health issues. She really appreciated everyone's care and support

Those serving in our Armed Forces

PFC Matthew Knight
1Lt Kirk Workman



March Birthdays

March 3 - Beth Painter
March 5 - Nell Allred
March 6 - Harriet Sowinski
March 8 - Connie Collins
March 12 - Kevin May
March 13 - Helen Little
March 13 - Garry Massey
March 23 - Sherry Massey
March 28 - Sandy King
March 30 - Barbara Price



March Anniversaries

March 23 - Troy & Peggy Johnson

Upcoming Worship Services

Date	March 14th	March 21	March 28th
Theme	Lent 4 - Different Pictures Intellectual Health	Lent 5 - Restoration Environmental Health	Palm Sunday Holy, Wholly Integrated Health
Scripture	Matthew 9:18-26	Matthew 8:18-27	Mark 11:1-11, Matthew 9:1-8
Liturgist	Jamie Fonville	Sandy Stone	Matt Rice
Hymn	There is a Balm in Giliad	O How Glorious, Full of Wonder	All Glory Laud & Honor

Lenten Mid-week Outdoor Devotional

Wednesday March 10th 12 noon

Join us tomorrow afternoon for a luncheon devotional. Now that the weather is nice we will meet at Noon outside the church office for a brief outdoor time of devotion and prayer. Please wear a mask, practice social distancing and bring your own chair!

*This is in place of the Zoom Healthy Check in scheduled for Wednesday evenings. There will be no more zoom lenten check ins.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Join us for our Virtual Lenten Worship Series "Holy Vessels"

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. We have been through a harrowing time since last Lent that has shattered our sense of wholeness—body, mind, and spirit—like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten “season of recovery” for our physical, communal, mental, intellectual, and environmental health, we will explore the healing narratives of Jesus that tell of divine

solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward making something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken. Beach glass offers us a multifaceted symbol of this transformative process.

(If you do not have a piece of beach glass, you can pick one up at the church office or at our drive through Ash N Dash on Ash Wednesday.)



Sunday, March 14th - Different Pictures (Intellectual Health) Matthew 9:18-26

Sunday, March 21st - Restoration (Environmental Health) Matthew 9:1-8

New Members Group forming!

Have you been thinking it is time to officially join the faith community of First Christian United Church of Christ? We are preparing to receive new members in worship on Sunday, April 25th.

If you are not a member and would like to join, please let Pastor Michelle know! Email: fcuccpastor@gmail.com or call her at the church office 336-226-7428. More details soon!



ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for Sunday school at 9:30 am via Zoom.

Here is the link for Zoom Sunday School at 9:30 am. Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/99385710248> or dial in by phone +1 (301) 715-8592 you will be prompted to enter meeting ID #993 8571 0248. Once you have entered, you will be placed in a virtual "waiting room" Please stay on the line and someone will admit you into the meeting shortly.



Holy Week Services

Join us for the walk through Holy Week!

More information about Easter services will be coming in a couple weeks.

PALM SUNDAY - March 28th Virtual worship service 11:30 am Palm Pick Up Parade in our parking lot

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 1st Zoom Worship Service 6:00 pm (Have bread/cracker and wine/juice/water available for communion)

GOOD FRIDAY - April 2nd Virtual Joint Worship Service with First Reformed & Life's Journey UCC

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE - April 4th 7:30 am (outside church office near wooden cross). Please bring your own chair, social distance, and wear your masks

EASTER WORSHIP - April 4th - 10:30 am in the Sanctuary!!!! If you did not receive a copy of the COVID re-opening FAQ's please contact Joan in the church office. We are excited to worship together in person! We will still be posting services on Facebook, Youtube, and our website.





Save the Dates!

Sunday, April 11th - Holy Humor Sunday - We recognize the important, but often overlooked, sacred gifts of laughter and joy! Laughter is a gift that allows us to keep our hearts light, even at the most difficult of times. We will celebrate with joy and laughter knowing that because of Jesus, life indeed has the last laugh over death.

Sunday, April 18th - Pastor Michelle's Installation - Rev Eddie Weathers from ENCA will be participating in the service. More details coming soon!

