



THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER



First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

February 29, 2024



Who's on sound?

Have you ever wondered who the bright young people in our sound booth Sunday morning are? Meet Kendric and Chloe.

Kendric is a second year student at Northwest studying theatre tech and design. He specializes in audio engineering and lighting!

Chloe is a second year at Northwest pursuing a B.S. Theatre: Technical Design with a minor in Audio Production. She specializes in audio engineering and has enjoyed working as a master electrician on countless productions!

These two fabulous students give up their Sunday-morning sleep-in time from all their hard studying to make it possible for us to hear what's going on during the service both in-person and online and we are super grateful for their stellar assistance.

To show our appreciation, we'll be giving them a love offering in a couple of weeks. If you'd like to show your appreciation, please drop your contribution off in the office or put it in an envelop marked Sound Booth Techs and place it in the Sunday offering.



The "Best Kept Secret" in Town

When's the last time you invited someone to church???

According to a study, "only 2% of church members invite a single unchurched person to church each year." This means 98% of church-goers never extend an invitation to anyone within a calendar year. 98 out of every 100 people in your congregation are keeping this great experience and community to themselves. Imagine what a difference it makes if we brought that number to 3% or even 4%. People are yearning for community and a place to feel welcome. If you believe this is a place to experience that, then change the 2% and make it a point to invite someone to church!



Sunday Mornings

**Last Supper Leftovers
Sunday School Class
9 a.m. Room 106**

**Children's Sunday School
(K-4th Grade)**

**Youth Sunday School
(5th - 12th)**

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Downstairs

10:30 a.m.

Service in the Sanctuary

Monthly Worship Attendance

Feb. 4.....78 Feb. 18.....60

Feb. 11.....57 Feb. 25.....57

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The next issue is
March 14, 2024

First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
201 West Third, Maryville, MO
660.214.3414

www.fccmaryvillemo.com
fccmaryvillemo@gmail.com



FCCMaryvilleMO

Keeping in touch with our church families

Our Community Prayer List...

John Praiswater
Pastor Terry Robinson
Karla Parman
Emily McLain

Kay Davison
Bob Colville
Waylon DeFreece
Marsha Bell

Active Duty...

Josh Carpenter
Kevin Schluter
Jimmy Costello

Sam Ferguson
Craig O'Brien

Is your info up-to-date?

Has your family grown recently? Have you moved or changed your phone number in the last year? Do you have a new favorite picture of yourself?

If you answered yes to any of these, it's probably time to update your information in our directory. It's easy and only takes a few minutes. You can call or email to update your information or you can update it in the member app or on the member website.

Need some help figuring it out? Go to <https://help.instantchurchdirectory.com/article/1295-how-members-submit-updates-to-their-information> for more information or contact Virginia in the office at 660-214-3414.



Our Staff

Gina Johnson
Senior Pastor

Anita Dew
Organist

Virginia Ripple
Office Administrator

Pat Immel
Technical Director

Deena Poynter
Music Director



March



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Praise Team Sunday 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Praise Team Sunday	26 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	27 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	28 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Unsung Heroes Lenten Dinner 7:00 PM–8:00 PM Music rehearsal	29 6:00 PM–7:30 PM Vision Team 6:45 PM–8:15 PM Nodaway Chorale Women	1 First Day of Women's History Month 10:00 AM–12:30 PM Nodaway County Services	2 9:30 AM–10:30 AM PEO
3 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM–12:30 PM Elders' Meeting 11:30 AM–2:00 PM Young Adults Group	4 9:00 AM–12:00 PM FCC Book Giveaway- Community Wide Event 4:00 PM–7:00 PM FCC Book Giveaway- Community Wide Event 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	5 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Maryville Garden Club	6 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Unsung Heroes Lenten Appreciation Dinner: Big Brothers/Big Sisters	7 5:30 PM–8:00 PM Optimist	8 10:00 AM–12:30 PM Nodaway County Services	9
10 Daylight Saving Time starts 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	11 5:00 PM–6:00 PM Deena music rehearsals 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Team Planning Meeting 7:00 PM–8:00 PM Board meeting 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	12 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	13 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	14 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Troop 2942	15 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 10:00 AM–12:30 PM Nodaway County Services	16 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation
17 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation St. Patrick's Day 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Youth Sunday Worship	18 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	19 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 7:00 AM–8:00 AM Optimist Board meeting 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	20 Pastor Gina Spiritual Retreat/Vacation 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	21 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club	22	23
24 Praise Team Sunday Youth Sunday 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Praise Team Sunday	25 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	26	27 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	28 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Troop 2942	29	30
31 Easter Sunday 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	1 Easter Monday 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	2 Election Day 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Maryville Garden Club	3 4:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	4 5:30 PM–8:00 PM Optimist	5	6



March Schedule



Elders

3 Terry Immel
 10 Guy Ebersole
 17 Phil Poynter
 24 Youth
 31 Virginia Ripple

Diaconate

3 Team 4
 10 Team 1
 17 Youth
 24 Team 2
 31 Team 3

Communion Prep

3 Carol Peters
 10 Marsha Meyers
 17 Jay Ripple
 24 Judy Gabbert
 31 Dallas Raasch

Greeters

3 Marsha Meyers
 10 Carol Peters
 17 Linda Davison
 24 Guy Ebersole
 31 Cameron Schenkel

Easter Flowers

We will have potted plants available for Easter again for anyone who would like to purchase one. You can purchase them in memory or in honor of a loved one or simply because you want to celebrate the beauty of Easter. The following are what will be available:



- Single stemmed Easter Lilies \$18.00
- Double stemmed Easter lilies \$45.00
- Begonias \$16.25
- Kalanchoes \$16.25
- Mums \$14.25
- Asiatic Lilies \$16.25
- Azaleas \$35.00
- Hydrangeas \$29.50
- Tulips \$13.50

You can respond to this email, call the office (660-214-3414), or use this form <https://forms.gle/Dk5GiFCBtDhpyua68> to submit your order. We would appreciate having your order and payment by March 11.

Spring Cleaning

March 3-9

Spring is almost here and it's time to rejuvenate our facilities with a good old fashioned spring cleaning – with a twist.

You choose the day and the time,
we'll provide the room
and the cleaning supplies.

Strap on your headphones, put on your favorite music to jam to and release your inner cleaning diva as you dust, scrub, and organize FCC into a fresh start.

We'll be starting with these items and rooms:

- Hanging sound panels
- Kitchen
- Downstairs East Bathrooms
- Upstairs Men's/Women's Bathrooms by the custodial closet

There's still time to sign up (and bring a friend!). Call the main office or go to https://bit.ly/2024_spring_clean to sign up today!



FCC Free Book Giveaway

Congregation only
March 3
11:30 am-12:30 pm

Community Wide
March 4
9 am - 12 pm
4 - 7 pm

Children's, Youth & Teen
Christian Fiction
Self-help
Devotionals
and
Much
more

Some items will be available for sale, but most are free. Free-will offerings are appreciated, but not expected.

Pastor's Pen

A message from my heart to yours



SACRED SURRENDER JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

Lent is the time when we are called to turn inward and be in a space of reflection and preparation. This time is significant as we approach the celebration of Jesus' triumph over death, aka Easter. Some people don't pay attention and then come Holy Week, they try to speed past the events of the week as our attempt to look past the uncomfortable and hurry to the empty tomb. But this year let's pump the brakes. Let's move with intention through our journey of "Sacred Surrender" in a way that gives the 40 days of Lent new meaning.

In the middle of our daily lives we are consumed by labels and stories so it is essential to recognize there are far greater things than what this world has to offer. This is a time to embrace the abundant life that is only found when we turn inward and follow the example of Jesus. He knew that all he needed to break the illusion of sin, shame, tragedy, and death was within him; just as it is within us. If we are truly to experience an abundant life and receive resurrection, we must release the understanding of death and embrace what it means to be eternal. We don't need to conform to patterns defined by the world or past experience. Each day the current state of our world is forcing us to be bound to something. We must let go of all the places that are not serving us as we are spiritual beings in this human experience. This may be more sacrificial for some than others, but we do not face this difficulty alone. We are joined with people across the world who are also on their own journey, the presence of the Spirit, and our connection to the Oneness.

When you stop and think about what is being asked of you, don't let it cause you to become bitter or defeated, this is part of letting go. As an extension of Christ, this is our work: to put it all on the line for one another just as Jesus did.

This week, I present you with a challenge. Focus on the one who showed the way from the very start. Jesus served others, was rejected by his own people, and was abandoned in his greatest hour of need. Pause each day during this season of Lent and reflect, remember, and release. Easter Sunday is coming quickly but we can journey there slowly together.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8

Gina ❤️



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
201 WEST THIRD STREET
MARYVILLE MO 64468
Return Service Requested



Lent Outreach Appreciation Lunch

Our Appreciation Dinners for our Nodaway County Unsung Heroes are in full swing.

Our next dinner is March 6 from 6-7 pm for Big Brothers/Big

Sisters, which includes Bigs, Littles and staff. An email went out recently requesting help from the congregation to supply casseroles, salads and desserts. If you didn't receive that email and would like to bring something, please call the church office.

We are continuing to work to schedule one more dinner before Easter and will let everyone know who we are celebrating and when at a future time.

Please make an effort to join us at the next dinner either to help serve or to simply have a conversation with these important community heroes. Together we can let them know what they do matters.

Can we count on you?



Volunteer!

We're looking for people who are ready to make connections and lead with the Spirit to join our team.

Use your voice to bring the Call to Worship alive and raise a prayer to bring us into readiness for worship.

Tell your story of how God has worked in your life at the communion table.

Put your interpersonal gifts to work alongside our staff to smooth relations as a part of Personnel.

Learn and love with kids of all ages as we discover Jesus' teachings in Christian Education.

At FCC you can find a place to belong where ministry and mission go hand-in-hand.