



# THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

April 24, 2025



From  
Darkness  
to Light

Holy Week, April 14-18, saw FCC and the wider community partaking in a personal journey of remembrance through 7 stations with a variety of meditative activities, followed by a meditation and storytelling experience of sight and sound during the Good Friday service.

Visitors and members alike appreciated coming to church Easter morning to enjoy a delicious breakfast of casseroles, cinnamon rolls, coffee cake, fruit and juice before celebrating the Risen Christ who demonstrated resurrection for all at the following worship service.

# Welcome Home



## 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

Mar. 30 .....53      Apr. 13 .....53  
Apr. 6 .....34      Apr. 20 .....48

The Christian Messenger is published bi-weekly. Information is due in by noon the Tuesday before publication.

The next issue is  
**May 8, 2025**

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...

JoAnn Nanninga  
Maddie Kauffman  
Emily McLain  
Karla Parman  
Linda Davison

Jody T.  
Steve & Heather F.  
Joyce Davison  
Lenda Kling

### Thank You...

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you for your ongoing, generous support of North Star. Your donations on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup> of \$300 each will be a huge help to us as we spent more on client expenses in 2024 than ever. Costs continue to rise and grant funds are inconsistent.

We truly appreciate your monthly commitment!

Sincerely,  
Linda M. Mattson  
Executive Director



## 2025 Dates and Hostesses

Circle of Joy, our Women's Fellowship group,  
Meets on the first Monday of the month  
At 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
unless otherwise noted

### Please contact hostesses to RSVP

May 5	Donna Rickman	Jul. 7	Lenda Kling
Jun. 2	Betty Praiswater	Aug. 4	Karen Brown
		Sep. 1	Carol Peters

## Our Staff

**Gina Johnson**  
Senior Pastor

**Anita Dew**  
Organist

**Virginia Ripple**  
Office Administrator

**Pat Immel**  
Technical Director

**Deena Poynter**  
Music Director

**Peggy Dowis**  
Custodian

# Pastor's Pen

*A message from my heart to yours*



What a beautiful celebration we had on Easter morning! Easter is not the wrap up of Lent. We didn't reach a destination called the "finish line" in which we can now drop spiritual learning and growth. Easter served as the most beautiful invitation to begin living with the deeper remembering of who we are. The resurrection is not just an event in history or a traditional message we retell every year. The journey we just walked through pausing, receiving, questioning, releasing, and remembering brought the resurrection right before our eyes. We must embrace that Easter is not just his resurrection story, but ours. We have received a wake up call that says...Stay awake!! There is temptation to go back to old patterns, habits, understanding, etc. but in truth we don't go back. We heard our name in the garden and it didn't come with dismissal but it came with an invitation and question, will you walk forward with me into the life that's been waiting for you? This is the moment where we show our commitment to what we've been preparing for, this is the time when our joy is motivation for our action, and our gratitude is shown in our love. It's time to respond to the resurrection as those who were called by name.

Awake and Ready,

*Gina* ♥



# May



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 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	28 Office Closed	29 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO	30	1 5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720	2	3
4 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	5 Cinco de Mayo 1:30 PM–2:30 PM Circle of Joy	6 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO 5:00 PM–6:30 PM Nodaway Chorale Board of Trustees 5:30 PM–6:45 PM Troop 2220 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Maryville Garden Club	7	8 6:30 PM–7:30 PM Troop 2942	9	10
11 Mother's Day 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	12 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Team Planning & Board Meeting	13 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO	14	15 5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720 6:30 PM–8:30 PM Optimist Club & Board	16	17
18 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 Deena Poynter Retirement Event	19	20 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO 6:00 PM–8:00 PM Girl Scout Leader meeting	21	22	23	24
25 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Youth Choir of NWMO recital	26 Office Closed Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

# Happy Retirement

After decades of service, our beloved Music Director Deena Poynter has decided to retire. Though she plans to keep volunteering, retirement will allow her to spend more time with family, especially the grandkids.

We will be celebrating her commitment to FCC on May 18 during worship and with a lunch to follow. Watch your email for more information as we get closer to the event!



## 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.



Have an event idea? Share it at [www.fccmaryvillemo.com/upcoming-events](http://www.fccmaryvillemo.com/upcoming-events)

## Praise Team Feedback Request

Our Praise Team will be taking a break for the next several months. This pause is due to scheduling challenges and a need for additional musicians to support the team.

We're grateful for the time and energy our team has given, and this break is simply a chance to rest and reassess. In the meantime, we'd love your feedback—how has the Praise Team impacted you, and what would you like to see moving forward?



Missing a mitten?  
Can't find your coat?  
Hat on hiatus?  
Check the lost and found.



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



## Hey College Students!

Are you moving out of your current residence and don't need your furniture or household items any more? Consider donating them to The Giving Tree!



Check out our web page or contact our Office Admin for more details.

[fccthegivingtree.org/](http://fccthegivingtree.org/)  
[\(660\) 214-3414](tel:(660)214-3414)

### Looking Ahead...

**Apr. 26:** Prayer Walk, 9:25 am,  
Donaldson Westside Park

**Apr. 28:** Office closed

**May 12:** Board meeting, 6 pm

**May 18:** Retirement Celebration for  
Deena Poynter



# Office Closed

## Monday, Apr. 28