



# THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

September 28, 2023



## Abundance

October is generally "Stewardship" month in Christian churches. When many people hear the word stewardship they automatically think of giving money and when they hear that a church is having a stewardship month, they think the church is going to spend the month talking about money. Although financial contributions are part of stewardship, Biblical stewardship goes beyond the giving of money. As faithful Stewards, we are tasked with being caretakers and caregivers of all that has been given to us. We celebrate that our provider has poured out abundance into all aspects of our lives. We know that we have

prosperity regardless of how many or how few material possessions we see before us. As stewards, we are called to recognize our Overflowing and honor all that we have been blessed with in the way we practice stewardship. We invite you this month to consider what it means to be a faithful steward. We invite you to walk with your church family as we study together and consider how we can be better stewards of our time, talent, treasure, and tithe as individuals and as a community. We look forward to an exciting month of sharing in the joy of faithful Stewardship!

### SPOTLIGHT

#### Stewardship & Finance

Hard at work behind the scenes, the Stewardship & Finance team's mission is to develop and promote an understanding of stewardship and to responsibly and creatively use Church resources.

This team has been facilitating the movement and consolidation of funds, as well as making sure events and programs are funded through the use of regular gifts, fundraisers and the judicious use of memorials. As we move into October, the team will be working with Pastor Gina on the stewardship campaign, budgets, and pledges.

If you're interested in being a part of this fabulous team or have questions about what they're currently doing, get in touch with Team Leader Coby Lamb, Team Member Donna Rickman, Trustees Chair Kerry Meyers, Trustee Linda Davison, Trustee Merle Pierce, or Moderator Bob Ferguson.

### Seeing Our Stewardship

September 2023  
General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$	4,426.28
Income*	\$	23,851.48
Expenses	\$	15,235.19
Ending Balance	\$	13,042.57

Missions

Beginning Balance	\$	10,713.33
Income	\$	923.71
Expenses	\$	991.00
Ending Balance	\$	10,646.04

*\*Total Income includes money given from the Future Ministries account.*





## 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

Sept 3..... 50	Sept 17..... 60
Sept 10..... 60	Sept 24..... 69

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

The next issue is  
**Oct. 12, 2023**

**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

### Thank You...

Dear First Christian Church,

I am deeply grateful for the honor of being awarded the FCC scholarship. Your generosity and support mean the world to me. This scholarship will not only help me pay for tuition and books, but allow me to continue to pursue my educational and professional dreams. As a two time recipient of the FCC scholarship, I have nothing but love for the FCC family for believing in me as I strive to achieve my goals. Your commitment to helping students like me achieve their goals is truly commendable, and I am honored to be a recipient of your kindness. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for investing in my future.

Thank you,  
Trent Shell

### Our Community Prayer List...

John Praiswater	Bob Hull
Marsha Bell	Bob Colville
Pastor Terry Robinson	Emily McLain
Curt Jeter	Joyce Lee
Naoma and Lisa Smeltzer	Joyce Davison
Leonard Matthies	Sherry Rybolt
Theresa Schmitz	Barb Roush
Karla Parman	Stephanie Marr

### In Sympathy...

The family of Gweldon Long

### Prayer List Guidelines...

Names are added to the prayer list by request and remain on for two weeks unless we receive an update requesting to be left on. Please let us know what your request is and if we can share it with others. Contact the pastor or the church office at 660-214-3414 or officemanagerfccmaryville@gmail.com with prayer requests.

## Our Staff

**Gina Johnson**  
Senior Pastor

**Anita Dew**  
Organist

**Virginia Ripple**  
Office Administrator

**Pat Immel**  
Technical Director

**Ali Buesing**  
Director of Youth Discipleship

**Merlin Atkins**  
Property Manager

**Deena Poynter**  
Music Director



**W**orld Communion Sunday offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. The first Sunday of October is when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. On that day, we recognize that we are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, or a storefront, Christians celebrate the communion liturgy in as many ways as there are congregations. World Communion Sunday can be both a profound worship experience and a time for learning more about our wider community of faith.



In preparation for World Communion Sunday, take some time to check out [Global Ministries](https://www.globalministries.org) and watch a Virtual World Communion Sunday worship service presented by Global Ministries staff and mission co-workers or World Communion Sunday at Inanda Seminary, Durban, South Africa. If you like to bake, check out the different recipes for communion bread from Africa, the Caribbean, Chile, China, India, and the Middle East available on the Global Ministries web site: <https://www.globalministries.org/worship-resources/world-communion-sunday/>

## *Focus On Ministry Workshop*

We will be having a Focus on Ministry Workshop Monday, Oct. 8, from 12 to 3 p.m. with a lunch provided and we'd LOVE for you to attend. If you are a current leader in our congregation, we strongly encourage you to join us as we "find our why" in ministry and begin envisioning what the future of First Christian will be. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a future leader, please invite them, too. Everyone is welcome who is interested in joining us as we create the future of our ministries.

See you there!



## *Advent/Christmas Worship Planning Meeting*

Halloween and Thanksgiving are just around the corner, which means the Advent/Christmas Season isn't far behind. If you're part of the worship or music ministry teams or have a passion for the season and would like to help plan it, please join us for a special Advent/Christmas Worship Planning Meeting on Oct. 11 at 11 a.m. in room 106.



# Pastor's Pen

*A message from my heart to yours*



As some of you already know, I love going to the gym and I don't throw that word around lightly. I wasn't always this way and something changed. When I go to the gym, I feel as though I am entering into a sacred space that I have created just for me. I go there to tune in and take care of my temple. I have certain days that I work on certain aspects of my body and mind. I am intentional in when I workout and what that workout is going to entail. I am devoted because I know that as I invest time in this sacred practice, I am bettering myself. I am gaining strength. I remember and reclaim a whole and healthy me. I am recognizing areas that need further development and habits that can be shifted as well as replaced. Sometimes, I work with a trainer and it's nice to have that shared connection and receive valuable teaching and feedback. It's nice to have the accountability and encouragement for what I am responsible for and sometimes I can use help. Ultimately, I have set goals for myself and where I want to be. Some areas of muscle and strength development will take more sets and reps than others. Some areas will cause me to question if I am good enough or if I am fooling myself. Even so, I am determined to show up at 100% each time with a strong mindset and a positive attitude regardless of how things went the day before. As time moves forward, I will face challenges and overcome them, celebrate achievements and learn from failures, however, I will not give up nor will I self-criticize. This is all part of the beautiful journey.

Obviously, I am not writing this to talk to you about going to the gym (or am I?). Our spiritual gym is a key component to the growth and discipleship of our lives. We have to take time daily to go to that sacred space and nurture ourselves. We have to use different practices for different purposes and still recognize they all work together to help us remember and reclaim our wholeness. Sometimes we will want an external teacher that reminds us that we have everything within. They can give us accountability and uncover hidden insights. They may show up in a person, a book, a video, or even looking at Creation. There will be days that we feel on fire and days where we wonder if the work is worth it. Even then, we must commit to showing up at our spiritual gym and pumping out our sets and reps to reach our goal. I challenge you to carve out some time each week, each day to visit your spiritual gym. I promise the transformation of the Mind, Soul, and Body will be worth all the sweat and tears.

Working Out with the Spirit,

Gina 🍷 🧘

# October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 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	2 1:30 PM–2:30 PM Circle of Joy 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	3 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO 6:30 PM–7:30 PM Garden Club	4 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	5 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club	6	7 4:00 PM–8:00 PM Sunday Night Supper Club Reunion
8 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM–3:00 PM Focus on Ministry	9 Indigenous Peoples' Day - Office Closed 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	10 11:45 AM–1:15 PM Maryville Public Library Trustees 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	11 11:00 AM–12:30 PM Worship Service Planning meeting 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	12	13	14
15 Youth Sunday 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 1:00 PM–2:00 PM Mosaic Auxiliary set-up	16 9:00 AM–4:00 PM Mosaic Auxiliary 6:00 PM–7:00 PM PEO 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	17 7:00 AM–8:00 AM Optimist Board meeting 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	18 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	19 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club	20	21
22 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	23 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	24 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	25 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal 7:00 PM–8:00 PM Adult Choir	26	27	28
29 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	30 5:00 PM–6:30 PM Downtown Trick or Treat 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	31 5:10 PM–6:10 PM Nodaway Chorale Board Meeting 5:30 PM–6:30 PM Youth Chorus of NW MO	1 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	2 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club	3	4



## Monthly Schedule

**Oct. 1**

Elder: Guy Ebersole  
Diaconate: Team #3  
Communion Prep: Dallas Raasch  
Greeter: Carol Peters

**Oct. 8**

Elder: Lenda Kling  
Diaconate: Team #4  
Communion Prep: Marsha Meyers  
Greeter: Dallas & Lisa Raasch

**Oct. 15**

Elder: Youth  
Diaconate: Team #1/Youth  
Communion Prep:  
Greeter: Sue Powell

**Oct. 22**

Elder: Phil Poynter  
Diaconate: Team #2  
Communion Prep: Cameron Schenkel  
Greeter: Linda Davison



## 2023 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 noted**

**Please contact hostesses to RSVP**

Oct 2	Lenda Kling,Linda Davison
Nov 6	Carol Peters, Juanita Carmichael
Dec 4	Carol Peters



# Homecoming Parade



Calling all Bearcat Fans! For the parade Oct. 21 FCC will have hot beverage stations located at the fourth street parking lot for parade-goers to enjoy a delicious drink to warm up with while they watch the parade. We need volunteers to man the stations, so show your Bearcat Pride and sign-up to be a part of this terrific mission project!



# Trunk or Treat

Oct. 30

5-6:30 p.m.



For this year's Downtown Trick or Treat we're asking everyone to donate a couple bags of individually wrapped candy and to let us borrow a few car trunks as we turn our church parking lot into an invitingly spooky place for kiddos to snag some tasty loot. Drop off your candy in the church office and call or email if you would like to volunteer or have a car trunk we can borrow for the event.



**American  
Red Cross**

**GIVE SOMETHING THAT**  
*Means Something®*  
**GIVE BLOOD**

## **Blood Drive** **First Christian Church**

In the Fellowship Hall  
201 W 3rd  
Maryville, MO 64468

**Friday, November 24, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: FCCMaryville to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®



**Come give blood Nov. 10-30 for an exclusive pair of Elf & Red Cross socks, while supplies last! Join us to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the film Elf and make giving blood a holiday tradition! © & TM New Line Productions, Inc. (s23)**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
201 WEST THIRD STREET  
MARYVILLE MO 64468

Return Service Requested

FCC  
MARYVILLE, MO

# M is for Mission

October's letter for Evangelism is the letter M and it is for a very important, though often misunderstood, idea: mission. Many hear the word mission and immediately think of people who go to distant places to spread the love of Christ and believe that the mission field isn't for them. But here's the thing, you don't have to go to another country to do mission work.

Did you know the most effective mission work that is done is done in our own backyard? That's right. During October we'll learn what it means to spread of the love of Christ in the mission-field of our own neighborhood.

Look inside this edition of The Christian Messenger to find a host of wonderful mission-related opportunities and keep watch on our social media to discover more.



Find us on Instagram  
And Facebook

@Fccmaryvillemo

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Have your newsletter sent  
directly to your inbox! Call or  
email us today!



660.214.3414  
fccmaryvillemo@gmail.com