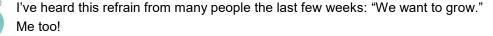
# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



As hard as the last few years have been for this church, a generous, vibrant heart still beats within our congregation. I've seen it firsthand in the way you've welcomed visitors (including Melissa and me!), your willingness to serve, and your excitement for new ideas.

As we reflect on our desire to grow, I want to draw out the richness of growth as described in the Bible. Growth is more than just having full pews. Rather, numerical growth is just one thread of a much larger tapestry.

#### First, the Bible reminds us that growth comes in many forms.

Numerical growth matters. It's a major part of the church's story in the book of Acts: "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). But growth also comes in less measurable forms. We grow in faith and love. We grow in our understanding of our spiritual gifts. We grow in our relationships with one another. And these different types of growth are all part of the same whole:

"We must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love" (Ephesians 4:15-16).

The church seasons of Easter and Pentecost are perfect reminders of the holistic nature of church growth. During Easter we celebrate the joy of the resurrection. During Pentecost we remember the Spirit who brings the gift of the resurrection into our hearts, and recommit ourselves to the mission of proclaiming the hope of the resurrection to the world

It's all interrelated.

#### Second, the Bible reminds us that growth is a work of God.

It's quite reasonable to feel anxious about the future of our church. But left unchecked, anxiety can lead us to search for quick fixes and silver bullets. Worse, it can tempt us to dismiss good opportunities because they may not "pay off."

How do we combat anxiety? By reminding ourselves that, though we plant and water the seeds of ministry, God gives the growth. If we focus on doing the right things, we can trust God to take care of us!

As the apostle Paul writes, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:6).

In His Service Pastor Corey



**Pastor Corey Harrison Interim Minister** (479)857-5558

Office: (501) 623-3389 Office Hours: 9:00am -1:00pm **Monday-Friday** 

#### **Church Staff**

Tracy Brodrick—Secretary

#### **Sharon Rodgers**

Financial Secretary







### Flowering of the Cross

The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus' death to joyful celebration of his resurrection. The ceremony transforms a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus' death, into an Easter symbol. Covered with fresh, living flowers, the cross serves not only as an emblem of Jesus' resurrection but also of the continuing presence of Christ among today's Christians. Please bring flowers or greenery from your yard or purchased to tuck in the cross.

#### **Thirty Pieces of Silver**

As you take your flowers to the cross, leave a bag of 30 silver coins in repentance at the foot of the cross. The coins will go to outreach ministries of our church.



## The Easter Offering,

received by most congregations on

March 24 & 31, supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

Thank You, Outreach

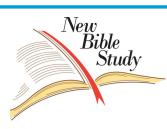
Wednesdays during Lent, Pastor Corey has been hosting a brief prayer gathering online via Zoom. All are invited to spend 15-20 minutes in prayer for one another and our church. 6:30pm on March 6,13, & 20

Meeting ID: 814 6651 1119

Passcode: 436356

If you need help on Zoom please call Pastor Corey.





# Come Join Us

February 29th! For a new bible study!
The title of the Study

with DVD's is:

**BELOVED DISCIPLE** 

The Life and Ministry Of John

Written by Beth Moore. We have a few study books left at no cost!

It would be a joy to have you join us every Thursday at 11:00am in Dick's Sunday School classroom!

**Cindy Woolery** 



is Someone Jesus
thought Enough of to
die for, Remember
that in how

You treat others

# "Holy Week Zooms"

Pastor Corey has planned special Holy Week meetings at 6:30 pm on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. These will include Bible Discussion and Questions, Prayers. Total time lasting between 30 min. and one hour. They will be on Zoom using the same link as the Wed. night series.

See Rachel or Corey for help setting up your cell phone.

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81466511119?pwd=vPuNizXXWOoUaRty4ihkiQgy7Aszma.1



Day light savings begins Sunday,
March 10th! Remember to turn
clocks ahead I hour before going
to bed on Saturday the **9t**h!

# First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



E-mail: fcchs@hotsprings.net

Website: fcchs.org

# **Sunday Morning Opening Church**

March 3 Rachel Shankles

March 10 Sara Davis

March 17 Naomi Hundley

March 24 Rachel Shankles

March 31 Sara Davis



# We need donations for Chat and Coffee goodies

We are accepting items to donate towards our Chat and Coffee needs before Sunday church service.

Chat & Coffee



**Worship Assistants** Elders:

3rd—Linda Priddy 3rd—Rachel Shankles

10th - Linda Priddy 10th—Linda Priddy

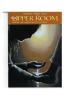
17th—Dee Skelton 17th—Buddy Brodrick

24th—Rachel Shankles 24th—Dick Hundley

31st—Rachel Shankles 31st—Naomi Hundley

Grab your **Upper Room Daily Devotional!** 

Stop by anytime during business hours Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-I:00 p.m. or Sunday



"The mission of First
Christian Church, Hot
Springs, Arkansas, is to
worship God in a
Christ-centered,
spirit-led community; to
win people to Christ by
sharing the good news of
God's love; and to
provide opportunities for
growth in Christian faith,
living, and service."

# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	All	EUÍA. Ohrist is risen!			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Exercise 1 pm	Zoom with Pastor Corey 6:30 pm	Bible Study 11 am		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Leaders and Board Meetings	Exercise 1 pm	Zoom with Pastor Corey 6:30 pm	Bible Study 11 am		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ST. PATRICK'S		CWF 11 am Exercise 1 pm	Zoom with Pastor Corey 6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Salm Sunday	Alan Miller	Exercise 1 pm	Mary Smallwood Dick Hundley	Bible Study 11 am	Caroline Miller	
31		He is no	there.			

Oliveir



# MEET OUR Questor







Pastor Corey And Melissa Harrison



