



First Christian Informer

March 18, 2020 Volume 68 Issue 12

Worship this Sunday

10:00 a.m. Online Worship

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin
Senior Minister
Mark 4:35-41

In response to recommendations from our denominational leaders, the CDC, and the President of the United States; we are closing the church to any gatherings including meetings/Youth group/Logos Kids/Choir/Band/Worship, and any and all other functions effective Wednesday, March 18th until April 1st. We will reevaluate as quickly as possible and look forward to being able to gather again soon. We will live stream one worship service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. More information on how to watch and participate is on the last page of this newsletter.

Each year in our community of faith, we have people who are considering baptism and we gather them together as a group. It is one of my great pleasures to walk alongside of these individuals during this season of their lives. As we walk along, we learn about each other. We also learn a lot about our faith, our traditions, our community, our Lord and our hope. I always ask the group what their favorite thing about church is. Typically, they respond with answers like, “praying, Sunday school, worshipping, or having meals together.” One of my favorite moments in the history of pastor’s class happened a few years ago when one of the kids responded, “my favorite thing about church is the DONUTS.” Now I realize that our donuts are good, but they are just donuts. I laughed and laughed and thought to myself how even donuts are better at church! Unfortunately, we do not always appreciate the things we have until we can no longer have them. While it was challenging for some to not have donuts, it was even harder to bypass communion. It was also difficult not to shake hands and even hug one another. With that said, those things pale in comparison to the idea of not being in community with each of you.

Nevertheless, I have shared with you in my sermons that church is meant to be a verb. I’ve said, “we don’t go to church, we are the church!” Church is not the place where we gather but a way of living. Church is us when we share Christ’s love and light with others. Right now is the time to lean on your faith and encourage others with that faith. We are the CHURCH and we have a great opportunity to reach more and more people for Christ—even if we must do it from a distance. We will be together again soon, and Lord willing more and more people will have turned to the Lord in faith. I will do my best to serve you during this difficult time. I will try and reach out in ways that will keep us connected and experiencing the blessing of community. I am praying for each of you and I love you. It is going to take some creative thinking, but I urge you to continue to be Christ’s church.

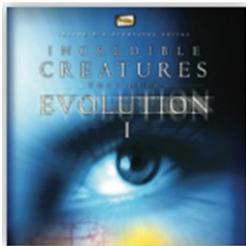
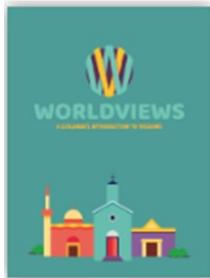
We will have worship online on Sunday at 10am and I hope to communicate via Text in Church and on social media. We are exploring some online forums where we can study, pray and be together in the Word. I want to encourage you to lean on your faith, to trust God and to know that God is present with us in this difficult time.

Pastor Chad

Children's and JYF

It's finally here! The long-awaited spring break when our children live in their pajamas, are permanently hungry and are constantly sending you texts to complain about their siblings. At least, that's how it is at my house. No matter what spring break looks like for you, this year may include a little more time at home. Let's take advantage of this time to catch up on some Right Now Media. Some great studies for kids include **Worldviews**. In these short videos children will explore other faiths from a biblical perspective. Or try **Incredible Creatures That Defy Evolution**. In this series kids can explore the complexity of how different animals function and how they point to a divine creator. There are many great options for all ages on Right Now Media, so don't forget to utilize this free resource!

rightnow MEDIA



RIGHTNOW MEDIA

Check out this Christian video library for all ages. Thousands of bible studies, training, kid's videos and devotionals. It's free! Please call Amy Lake, 660-287-4738, and she will help you sign up.

If you need help!!

If you feel like it is too dangerous for you to be out in the community because of health issues to do your grocery shopping etc., please let Winnie in the church office know, 660-826-5300. We have four volunteers who have offered to help with this.

Stewardship Note

First Christian Church of Sedalia still relies on your offerings to keep the ministries and operations of the church running smoothly. You are still able to:

1. Mail a payment to the church office at 200 South Limit, Sedalia, MO 65301.
2. Initiate payments to First Christian Church through your personal bank. This is a similar process to paying bills for utilities, phone, etc. There is typically no fee for making a payment in this manner.
3. Initiate an online payment through the "Give" section of our website www.first4god.com. There is a fee to the church if you choose to use this method.
4. Text GIVE to 660-570-4020

Thank you and God bless,
Stewardship Team

Retrieving Freedom

As many of you know, Retrieving Freedom was planning on hosting an Open House this Saturday. This was going to include tours of their new facility and opportunities to meet the trainers, staff, and service animals. Unfortunately, they have decided to postpone this event due to the seriousness of the Coronavirus. We hope you will join us in prayer and in our excitement for this new ministry. We will keep you updated on the date for the rescheduling.

Sincerely in Christ,
The Outreach Team

ATTENTION 55+ERS

I have been busy doing some planning for the next two months, but unfortunately with the coronavirus, those plans have been derailed. I think it would be better to forgo our plans for at least the next month. I am working on the possibility of an overnight trip to Branson to see Noah at the Sight and Sound Theatre on May 29th-30th. Please mark your calendars if this is something that interests you and watch for further information closer to that date.

Youth News

Hello Youth and Parents. Due to the Coronavirus, and social distancing mandates, we are going to change things up a bit by meeting online for our youth gatherings. If you don't already have this downloaded, please download the Zoom app on your phone and computer. The church is also creating spaces for groups to meet with this app. This app will allow us to meet in groups as large as 100. We can break into small groups as well. Most importantly, it will allow us to interact live with each other, almost as if we were meeting together at our church! We can even play games and have Bible studies together in this time of separation. I am finding this to be a blessing. I have been looking for ways to engage the youth, especially those that aren't able to attend our scheduled meetings, (Sunday School and Wednesdays). And now, the ideas are coming in from all directions with how to do this! For now, we will meet on Wednesday, but we will discuss a daily meeting to check in and have some fun. I hope to see all of our youth, and maybe even their friends.

Youth Online

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/5633054206>
Meeting ID: 563 305 4206

It looks like our Young Christians' Weekend trip is going to be canceled for this year. We will continue to monitor what is happening around us to determine when we will plan our next event. If you paid for your youth to attend our Branson trip, please contact me and give me some guidance as to what you would like me to do with their payment.

Be creative with your students while they are home for Spring Break, and whatever extension may come. Spend time together playing games, reading devotions, or even Bible stories. Most importantly, share with them your faith. There are plenty of stories in the Bible where the people expressed their fears, these stores were surrounded by God, their faith, and even the presence of Jesus. During this time of Lent, find ways to focus on Gods promises and not the worldly issues going on around us. I know that things seem to be changing every time we turn on the media, but rest assured my faith is my anchor and my focus. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to meeting with you in all the places that we can. Let's start with online gatherings!

Chris Smith
Director of Youth Ministry

Among the Flock

Our friends in the **Armed Services:**

Nicholas Holman, Garrett Weikal, Nathan Hooton, Tyler Holman, Kenneth French, Corey Irwin, Zachary Lees, Sam Braverman, Joshua Lauer, Dylan Wolfe, Preston Butts, Tanner Proctor, Dylan Martin

Illness: Marilyn Anderson, June Rissler, Gerald & Amber Scott, Judy Steele, JoAnn Neher, Barbara Sabin, Marianne Hunter, Maxine Ebersold, Karen Steele, Donna Wiedeman, George Whitman, Jill Kindle, Nik Geotz, Michael Lucito, Emerson Poe, Bette Patterson, Robert & Rowena Pettet

Nursing Home and Shut-Ins

Four Seasons:

Fairview:

Sylvia Thompson: Bette Patterson, Lois Thomas, Donna Wiedeman, Maxine Ebersold, Judy Steele

Rest Haven:

Essex: Dava Brummitt, Alma Weikal

E.W. Thompson: Betty Hopkins, Allan Fowler

Cedarhurst (Independent):

Cedarhurst (Assisted Living): Shirley White

Cedarhurst (Enhanced Assisted Living): June Rissler, Delores Butler

Veteran's Home: Rick Homan, Earl Finley

St Louis Altenheim: Jackie Durnell

ATTENDANCE REPORT Sunday, March 15, 2020

Attendance:

9:00 a.m. Worship	126
10:10 a.m. Sunday School	64
11:00 a.m. CrossWalk	55
Online	15

Stewardship Report

General Offering	\$4,318.50
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Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin, Senior Minister



Connect With Us  **Grow With Us**

Stay Connected

The church text number is
660-570-4020



To be sure you receive text message updates from FCC text **LOOP** to the text number

To join the live stream or watch archived services, text **STREAM**

To give electronically to FCC text **GIVE**
If you have fear, concerns, questions or comments text those to the text number.