

First Christian Church
GEORGETOWN
KEYNOTER



Volume 217 Number 278

February 2022

OUR STAFF

Senior Minister
Rev. Chris Cash

Director of Music Ministry
Dr. Cully Bell

Child, Youth, & Family Director
Alison Fisher

Accompanist
Pam Bridges

Administrator/Accountant
Teresa Buta

Maintenance/Housekeeping
Scott Jarvis & Derek Jarvis

Nursery Attendant
Marcia Wallace

Webmaster
Jessi Jump

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday
11:00 am – 3:30 pm
fccgeorgetown.org
502-863-2049

Please check the weekly mailchimp, the bulletins, and with the office for minister's schedules as they are subject to change weekly depending on the needs of the church. If you'd like to make an appointment please contact the church at 502-863-2049 or fccgeorgetown@bellsouth.net

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Adult Sunday School Class –
1:00 pm – Zoom



February is Month of Compassion.

This month we're focusing attention on the work of Week of Compassion, the relief and mission fund of our Disciples of Christ Church that works to alleviate suffering throughout the world.

Each Sunday of February, we will highlight some of the important work done by Week of Compassion in our weekly worship service. We will also reflect upon our care of others through quotations and short videos on the church Facebook page.

On **Sunday, February 27**, we will have a short program at **9:30 am on Zoom** before our Sunday Service.

There are several ways to donate to Week of Compassion and their ongoing efforts.

- You can contribute by check or cash through the church. Cash should be in an envelope marked for Week of Compassion, and checks should have a Week of Compassion notation in the memo section.
- Donations can be mailed in, dropped by the church, or put in the offering box during worship.
- You can also donate by texting WoC to 41444 (which will bring up a donation form).
- You may donate on line by going to <https://www.weekofcompassion.org/2022.html>

Blanket Sunday

On **January 30**, our Disciples Women Fellowship will sponsor our annual Blanket Sunday offering. Donations received will be sent to Church World Service to comfort people around the world as well as the United States by providing blankets for those in need. If you want to donate to this cause, please designate your contribution to Blanket Sunday on your check or envelope.



We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

Inclement Weather & Worship

In the event of inclement weather, you can find information about the closing status of FCC worship at www.fccgeorgetown.org, our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/fccgeorgetown) and on WKYT Channel 27's listings (www.wkyt.com).

We will also send out a church-wide e-mail. We will evaluate the weather early Sunday morning to determine whether to cancel. If we are open, you are still encouraged to use your own judgment and comfort level.

In the event that in-person worship is canceled, we will hold a time of sharing, prayer, and communion together on the church at 11:00 a.m. that Sunday morning (which will last around 20 minutes).

Helping Hands Ministry

Payday lending companies charge extremely high interest rates and add fees that often leave borrowers needing emergency funds in an endless cycle of payments and debt. The Helping Hands Loan Program is a ministry of area churches that helps those trapped in such debt to turn their payday loan into a traditional low-interest loan that can be paid off in a year.

The ministry currently has two main needs: 1) getting word about the program to people in the community carrying payday loan debt and 2) volunteers to serve alongside another person to interview applicants and help them initiate the process. If you're interested in more information about volunteering, there will be a brief meeting following worship on Sunday, February 20, where Chris Cash will share about the ministry and his own experience as a volunteer. You can also contact Chris directly at any time with your interest or questions.

Kids and Youth Ministries

Due to the surge related to Omicron, kids and youth groups have paused and will be re-evaluated soon.

Property Projects Update

Capital Campaign Projects:

- First Floor Accessible Restrooms- Both are now operational and motion sensing lights were recently added
- HVAC System Replacement- All units have been replaced at this point except for the chapel units, which will be completed soon. There is some additional support and set-up work to be finished, including installation of new controls. The new control system will allow for zoned and timed temperature controls, which should result in further energy savings.

Property Contingency Fund Projects:

- Basement Work- All 4 restrooms in the basement & fellowship hall have been updated/remodeled and will soon be operational. Most of the lighting for the basement/fellowship hall level has been switched over to LED fixtures, which will offer energy savings.
- Additional Projects- In the sanctuary, light bulbs have been changed out as needed and water damage to plaster in a stairwell and the balcony have been addressed. Some smaller areas of plaster damage & water damage have been addressed in various areas of the building. Wiring issues for the TV/monitor in the Gathering Area were addressed, which also required painting of the paneling to cover necessary repairs to it following the re-wiring.
- Clean-up and Prep Work- Contractors will clean-up once their work is completed and we will then have some clean-up and prep work in the basement and other areas of our own. Work groups will be formed to assist with this in coming weeks- watch for more information.
- Several projects have been identified for attention in 2022: assessing and repairing water intrusion issues in the kitchen and education wing side, address damage and erosion to College Street steps & handrails, new tables & chairs for the basement (to help prevent damage to the new floor), installing a safety railing in the sanctuary balcony, update to our audio/visual system and capabilities, and some other smaller projects. Work is being done to obtain estimates on several of these projects and they will be completed as property contingency funds allow. The additional capital campaign funds we are receiving beyond our initial goal may also be used to fund some of the larger projects.
- The Property Contingency Fund is funded by special contributions designated for property needs. Additionally, for the past several years we have also designated any surplus in general budget giving (beyond one month's operating expenses) at the end of each year to be placed in this fund.

Capital Campaign Update

We're almost 9 months into our 3-year "Deep Roots Nourishing the Future" capital campaign and we're amazed and grateful for your generosity! Our original campaign goal was \$400,000. As of early January, we had received total pledges of \$499,358.29! While supporters have through May 2024 to fulfill their 3-year pledge, we have already received \$336,320.29 of those pledges. As mentioned in the campaign kick-off, the campaign's \$400,000 goal is to address 4 main projects: first floor accessible restrooms (completed), wrapping the steeple in weather-proof material to avoid repeated painting work (completed), replacement of our HVAC system (nearing completion), and covers for the sanctuary stained glass windows (still to be completed). Additional funds received beyond the \$400,000 goal will be used to address other essential property needs. Additional pledges or gifts are still welcome at any time throughout the campaign as well. Thank you so much for your support and generosity as we tend to needs of our 70-year old building that is a place for worship, faith formation, and mission!

THANK YOU

First Christian Church provided the meal at the Gathering Place Mission on December 30th. Thank you very much to all who donated monetarily, and with desserts and drinks.
-Service and Outreach

Offerings & Outreach

Tithes & Offerings

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---|
| Needed Monthly | Received in December | As of the end of December 2021 |
| \$21,904.61 | \$27,959.44 | General Budget YTD Income: \$282,054.44 |
| | | General Budget YTD Expenses: \$232,267.95 |

Outreach Giving

Contributions collected as of December 31, 2021 for outreach giving are as follows:
 Amen House: \$968.00 Week of Compassion: \$4,368.83
 DOC Reconciliation: \$40.00 Afghan Refugee Project: \$3,970.00
 DOC Thanksgiving Offering: \$240.00 Disaster Relief: \$2,470.00

PRAYER LIST

FAMILY

Dee Wilson (niece of Bob Culbertson)
 Danyelle Duncan (daughter of Regina House)

FRIENDS

Darrick Lee (of Alison Fisher)
 Mark Ellis (of Adam Trosper)
 The Medley Family (of Adam Trosper)
 Emily Glass (of Molly Marsh)
 Carrie Grimmer (of Erin Cash)
 Wamsley family (of Adam, Keda, & Peter Trosper)
 Guy Waldrop

All those affected by COVID-19

HOMEBOUND

Louise Price (Windsor Gardens)
 Charles & Mary Lou Haggard (Ashton Grove)

Kroger Rewards Code

You can support FCC through your Kroger Rewards. New enrollees will just enter code ED328 on your rewards. account.

Visioning Work Begins

For months, you have heard the Elders talk about starting a visioning project, and we are ready for you to join us in the work! We want to hear from you about what you hope our church will become moving past the pandemic. We will kick off our visioning emphasis with a worship service on February 13th. In that service you will hear more about the pilot groups we ran in the fall and how much participants enjoyed them. You will also have opportunities to sign up for your chance to share with us. If you participate in person that day, forms will be available. You can also sign up using this form <https://forms.gle/58bykhcKjKhjrJpL8> or by calling Erin Cash at 859-533-7543 to secure your spot. Groups are intentionally small, so sign up soon!

Choose one of these options:

Two Wednesdays on Zoom 12:00 - 12:45 pm (February 16 & 23)

Two Sundays in Person 9:30 - 10:30 am (March 6 & 13)

One Thursday night on Zoom 7:00 - 8:30 pm (February 24)

If these times do not work for you, the form offers other ways you can engage with this important congregational work.

Afghan Refugee Family Update

Suliman and Zuhail Noori are doing well. They have food, shelter, and clothing, but as of yet are unable to pursue employment. The national government in Washington is releasing Social Security Cards and Work Permits in a very slow and random process. Unfortunately, until they receive those credentials, the Noori's are unable to make much progress towards self-sufficiency. Both talk with their families on a frequent basis. Suliman has parents and a sister in Kabul. Zuhail has a sister in Holland that was evacuated when they were, and three other sisters living with her parents in Kabul. Suliman and Zuhail are familiar with the cold and snow, which is similar to the winter weather in Kabul. Martha, Will, Cathy, and Bob can attest to Zuhail's cooking abilities. They have all enjoyed several meals in the Noori home, which is like eating at an authentic Mediterranean restaurant. Please keep Suliman and Zuhail in your thoughts and prayers.

Pastor's Class

We're excited to begin forming our 2022 Pastor's Class! This class is for all older elementary children & youth who are ready to consider baptism. The students learn about the basics of the Christian faith as they prepare for the decision to be baptized. The class will begin meeting in March with baptisms in May. If your child/youth is interested or you have additional questions, please contact Chris or the church office.

AMEN House

FCC is still receiving food and cash donations for the AMEN House. You may bring your donations on Sunday mornings or bring them to the church office.

February Wednesday Night Study

Our Wednesday Night Study will resume on **February 2 at 7:30 p.m.** For now, we will continue to meet on the church Zoom. Each night we'll spend 45-50 minutes reading and discussing a selected portion of scripture. No prep or advance reading is necessary and new folks are always welcome!

Sanctuary Choir Update

The choir is temporarily pausing rehearsals and singing due to the surge in Omicron cases and its highly contagious nature. They will re-evaluate in a few weeks. If you have any questions or are interested in joining the choir when they resume, you can contact Dr. Cully Bell, Music Director, at Jolan.bell@eku.edu

Adult Sunday School Class Moves to Zoom

Due to the very high COVID rates in Scott County, the Sacred Inklings Sunday School class has temporarily moved back to meeting on Zoom instead of in-person. The class will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Sundays and re-evaluate in a few weeks. You can use the usual Zoom log-in information for church meetings (meeting ID: 747 159 1922 passcode: 40324) and new folks are always welcome!

Children Worship & Wonder Resumption Postponed

Due to the rise in the highly contagious Omicron variant and the closely interactive nature of the Children Worship & Wonder program, we are postponing the scheduled resumption. We are still in need of volunteers to serve as greeters when we resume. If you've not served in this way but are interested, training can be provided. If you're interested in serving as a greeter, please contact Carly Dickinson at carly.dickinson@uky.edu or 315-420-2627 (cell/text).