

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF TROY

# FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWSLETTER

MARCH 22, 2017

## ATTN: PARENTS OF GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

We want to celebrate these special members of our church family with a celebration on April 23 at 1:00PM. To help prepare, please give Mary Saale 10-12 photos of your child (from babyhood to current photos--your choice) for us to create the programming. Mary will need the photos no later than March 31. You can send them electronically or send originals. Thank you!

## COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE TIME!

Edna Ricks Circle is now collecting items for care packages to be sent. Items can be dropped off in the orange tub in the Narthex. Please make sure the church office has your child's address to send the package to! Packages will be mailed on Monday 3/27!

## "BLIND FAITH" CELEBRATES ONE YEAR AS PRAISE TEAM!

This coming Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> will mark the one-year anniversary of our Praise Team – "Blind Faith" and our new second service worship format! Congratulations to this fine group of musicians: James Bertels, Chris Stark, Andrea Lallis, Dennis Gibson and Becca Kersh! Because of their outstanding music we have seen our second service worship attendance grow in a phenomenal way – their music is powerful and spiritually significant week in and week out. This past summer they competed in a Praise Band competition in Washington, MO and won first place! We already knew they were #1! Next month they will be performing at New Hope Baptist Church in Elsberry – to which all are invited to attend!

This Sunday, the Praise Team has special music planned for their anniversary, and then following the service a reception will be held to honor them with cake and punch. All are encouraged to come and share in this celebration. Those who attend the first service are invited to come and experience what Blind Faith brings to worship each week. Come, lend your own word of thanks to them – and also remember all of our musicians, including Pam Hall and Cathy Whitworth, who make our worship so special each week.



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**Upcoming Events**  
@ FCC:

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### *Outreach: Buddy Bags*

**Wednesday, March 22nd**  
7:00 PM Adult Choir

**Sunday, March 26th**  
8:30 AM Worship  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship  
6:30 PM Mission Team Meeting  
(Parents-please attend!)

**Monday, March 27th**  
6:30 PM Bible Study

**Tuesday, March 28th**  
9:00 AM God Talk  
12:00 PM Lenten Soup & Devotion  
6:30 PM Lenten Soup & Devotion

**Wednesday, March 29th**  
3:45 PM Youth to Food Pantry  
7:00 PM Adult Choir

## JEFF'S JOTTINGS...

As most of you know Naomi and I are huge lovers of our pets. Both she and I have had animals in our lives practically since day one, and so it would be extremely unusual to not have a four-legged critter greeting you at the parsonage door, should you stop for a visit. When we arrived in Troy nearly two years ago we had three dogs in our family – and since we have been here gained one more with the addition of Barb Burlison's tiny dachshund. However, within a 12 month period, we have lost to death two of our precious family members – one on my birthday last April, and the second – this past week.

Sugar, our scatter-brained English pointer mix, was probably 17 years or so old. We are not sure exactly, because she showed up at our church in Maryland, one morning, with a rope around her neck. We weren't sure if she had escaped someone's home, or been dropped off in the parking lot – as the frontage of the church faced a four lane highway, which would have been hard for her to cross. She arrived on the same day that our daughter Kara was having a birthday – slumber party, and that evening after drinking a gallon of water, and a ton of food, she snuggled in with a pile of laughing/giggling girls to be spoiled rotten. Sugar was always a quirky dog, generally scared of strange noises – like thunder, or the click of a camera, but was certainly one of the most agile dogs I have ever seen. She could easily lay her head on her back and sleep and could contort herself into all kinds of “uncomfortable-looking” positions...we frequently said she had no bones.

She rode in the car well, never growled at anyone, and barked so infrequently that we wondered if she knew how. She never tried to run away – always stayed close to the house, even without a fence. She didn't like getting a bath, and walking her on a leash for any length of time was near torture! She enjoyed being by herself, but when she wanted attention she would let you know of her presence. We also said that she never grew into her long legs, sometimes not knowing what to do with them when she was playing or sleeping.

Letting family and friends know that Sugar had passed on social media, the outpouring of love and prayers has been simply overwhelming. Friends from years ago touched base to offer their sympathy. I share all of this, even as I am aware that many of our church family have recently lost their loved pets, and are struggling as we are with a new life situation. While we still have two dogs at home to love on, we are missing Sugar, as we continue to miss Trooper that were so much a part of our daily routine. I know that for some of our folk, they lost their “only” dog or cat, and are not ready or not able emotionally to replace them.

I believe that God has placed these beloved pets in our lives as a way for us to learn what loving and losing is all about. They are innocent and as helpless as a child when they come into our care. They are dependent upon us for food and water and shelter. They are dependent upon us for touch, for care, for compassion, for helping them when they hurt, and making the most difficult decision of life when they are at the end of theirs. I cannot imagine how much money we have spent on the animals we have had in our married life, but I don't regret one dollar, because of the happiness and joy they have brought our life.

They seem to know when we are sad or depressed or hurting, remembering when I was healing after a serious car accident and was immobile for some time, how our dogs sat patiently beside me, bringing comfort and their version of care. Later when I suffered a heart attack and was resting at home they always seemed to be beside me in bed – watching me carefully and snuggling close.

All of this I have shared in this column, is only to say how important the lives of our pets are to those who care for them and love them. They have a special place in God's kingdom, this I believe, precious reminders of His immense love for us. Whether you own a dog, a cat, a fish or a hamster – they mean different things to all of us, and I cannot imagine living life without them. Bottom line – hug your pet (unless they are a fish!)...and love them dearly, as Christ our Lord loves you!

I will be in my place this Sunday and I hope to see you in yours! ~Pastor Jeff

## BLIND FAITH CONCERT

Blind Faith is going on the road! The band will perform a free concert on Saturday, April 22nd at New Hope Baptist Church in New Hope, MO. FCC is invited to attend! If you would like to go, please let the office know by Wednesday, March 29th. The concert starts at 6:00 pm. New Hope Baptist Church is also offering a Mexican Fiesta dinner at 5:30 pm! If you plan on attending, please let the office know if you also plan on attending the dinner.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 19

**Offering: \$ 6220.00**  
**Building Fund: \$ 60.00**  
**Coffee Ministry: \$ 34.00**  
**Buddy Bags: \$270.00**  
**Attendance: 192**

### FCC SOFTBALL

The FCC Disciples Softball team is looking for subs! If you would be interested in subbing on the team this summer, please contact James Bertels at [jberty31@gmail.com](mailto:jberty31@gmail.com).

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Brad and Kara Lindemann and their infant Carly, who was dedicated in a private service this past Sunday afternoon, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the church. Pastor Jeff and Pastor Andrea officiated the service.



### THANK YOU!

A big thank you to the FCC painting team of Pete Collier, Bob Whitworth, and John Lacey for finishing the preschool office door, classroom hooks, barn door gate and upstairs bathroom. It all looks terrific!



**Need a ride to church?**

**We'll come pick you up!**

Call the church office @ 636-528-7322!

### PLEASE HELP!



Please consider helping with AV during our worship services. It's really quite easy! If I can run AV, anyone can! We'll teach you how to run this very

simple, yet important task.

You can call or text Naomi @ 301-653-1476



## WAY TO GO, CRYSTAL!

Crystal participated in the Special Olympics State Games last weekend in Jefferson City. She was able to bowl with her new St. Louis Cardinals bowling ball. We missed her here in the church office on Friday! For those of you that don't know, Crystal works in the church office on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings every week! We are proud of you, Crystal!

# FCC

# Member Spotlight



DELMA MALLET

**Where were you born?**

At home in rural Scotland County, Memphis, MO

**Immediate Family:** Three daughters, Janet (Dave) Richardson, Joyce (Jerry) Martin, Caroline (Paul) Huff  
**Grandchildren:** Kristen and husband Ismael, Andrea, Megan, Cole, Deringer and Courtney

**Occupation:** Bookkeeper, bank teller, and farm wife

**Hobbies & Interests:** Working in

the garden and lawn work. Also crocheting, quilting and visiting.

**If you could ask God one question:** Why did you create poison ivy?

**A fun fact others might not know about you:** I went eight years to a small one room country school and I was the only one in my grade for the first 4 years. No road to the school, and no electricity or running water.

**Where were you born?**

Clarksville, MO

**Immediate Family:** Cindy, Haylee, Macy & Momma

**Occupation:** Work at Normandy Machine Company

**Hobbies & Interests:**

Living off the fat of the land.

**If you could ask God one question:** How did you like my Dad?

**A fun fact others might not know about you:**

I am the jump-roping king!



MIKE MOHORC

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**Prayers & Concerns:** Beverley Barnes (friend of Jeff & Naomi), Gary Hall (brother of Sheila Royer), Pheeze Kemper, Melvin Williamson (nephew of Mary McCann), The family of Wayne Graeler, The family of Stephanie Cole (Dave Hollingworth's daughter), Bruce Chubbuck, Paula Farr (Fran Vidas' niece), Janna Hechler Fick (Friend of Zuroweste's), Darren McLarty (friend of Naomi & Jeff's), Cindy Stumpe (Mary McCann's sister-in-law), Sharon Covey (Mike Walton's mother), Ann Taylor, Angela Keller (Diane Bockhorst's Niece), Kelley McCollum (Karen Starr's sister), Dennis Steensland (Lisa Larson's uncle), Georganna Lister (Delma Mallett's sister-in-law), Helen Bowen (Annette Walton's sister), Jolynn Gregor (Joan Smith's sister), Kaye Bulluyt & family (Renee Martin's aunt), Sandra Sweatt (Nancy Smith's sister), Billie Jean Kerpash (friend of Mossotti's), Gene Darnell, Mary Beth Lenzini (friend of Clarence South), Ron Frazier, Dale Beatman (Son in law of Myrtle Remmler), Diana Gavril (Jessica Smith's grandmother), Judy Studdard (friend of Cathy Whitworth), Karen Robbins (Gene & Anita Darnell's niece), Mary Keeran-Todd (Abby Boles Grandmother & Robin Dickson's sister), Jim Schulze (Alice Gibson's brother), Nancy Chilton (Donna Loughridge's sister), Tiffany Ledbetter (Nancy Smith's niece), Ed Huckelman, Marlene Nonn (friend of the Monse's), Brett Mossotti, Edward Stumpe, Bernard O'Donnell & Angie Galnick (friend & family of Mary McCann). **Nursing Home, Assisted Living, & Home Bound:** @ The Arbors: Lillian McCracken @Troy Manor: Margaret Clare; @ Troy Nursing & Rehab: Barb Burlison; Ramona (Majorine Shower's Daughter) @Elsberry Care Center: Rose Nix; @Home: Donna Lewis. **Please Pray for Our Troops:** Jake Jones (friend of the Lacey's), Caleb Eisenbath, Patrick Taylor. *Please let staff know if you want a name or event added or removed from the prayer list.*

## NOTES FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Last week our friends in Miss Katie, Ashley, and Courtney's classes went on a fun field trip to Play Time party center in Wentzville! They had a great time! The bus/van ride down was filled with lots of conversations and laughter. And after climbing, jumping, and sliding for over an hour they were pooped. The ride home was so quiet you could of heard a cricket, ha ha! Enjoy some of the pictures, it was hard to pick just a few. Also a couple pictures from this Monday of our Horizon kids enjoying the 82 degree day on their Spring Break! They played many rounds of Kickball in Pastor Jeff and Naomi's front yard, then walked over to the park with their lunch.

Have a Great week!

Ann





If you would like to remember or honor a loved one this year, please fill out the form below and return with \$7.00 / flower to the church office or place in the offering plate on Sunday. Tulips will be ordered to decorate the Sanctuary and can be taken home Easter morning, or you may choose to remember or honor your loved one by donating \$7.00 to Week of Compassion, Buddy Bags or the Food Pantry.

***Orders are due on Sunday, March 26th!***

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check:  Tulip  Buddy Bags  
 Week of Compassion  Food Pantry

*A list will be printed and will be in your bulletin on Easter Sunday.*

March Outreach Focus:

## **BUDDY BAGS**

Let No Child Go



*Here is a list of foods that we typically pack each week:*

- Pop-tarts
- Diced fruit cups or cans
- Pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, beefaroni)
- Baked or pork & beans
- Granola bars
- Saltine crackers
- Soup
- Tuna
- Applesauce cups
- Pudding cups
- Peanut butter crackers or cheese crackers
- Fruit snacks

This past Sunday we collected \$270.00 for the Buddy Bag Program! Lets see if we can beat that this week!



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Kelly O'Bryan, Church Custodian  
Crystal Bobeen, Office Assistant  
Kelly O'Bryan, Nursery Attendant

**FIRST STEP PRESCHOOL**  
Sheila Busekrus, Director (636) 528- LOVE  
Email: [firststeppreschool@fcctroy.com](mailto:firststeppreschool@fcctroy.com)

## Worship Schedule

**8:30 AM Worship**  
**9:30 AM Sunday School**  
**10:45 AM Worship**

### Serving March 26, 2017

**ELDER:** Mike Willard

**DEACONS:** Leslie Lindsay & Amy Young

**GREETERS:** Nancy & Jim Smith

**MUSICIANS:** Pam Hall, Cathy Whitworth

**AV:** Naomi Uy-Moore

**ELDER:** Carol Willard

**DEACONS:** Sherri Stark & Naomi Uy-Moore

**GREETERS:** Donna & Ron Raeman

**MUSICIANS:** James Bertels, Denny Gibson, Becca Kersh,  
Andrea Lallis & Chris Stark

**AV:** Joe Walton

### Serving April 2, 2017

**ELDER:** Diane Bockhorst

**DEACONS:** Kasey Hall & Annette Walton

**GREETERS:** Cathy & Gilbert Pieper

**MUSICIANS:** Pam Hall, Cathy Whitworth

**AV:** Tyler Young

**ELDER:** Mary Saale

**DEACONS:** Stephanie Kersting & Tracey Bruce

**GREETERS:** The Nick Lindsay Family

**MUSICIANS:** James Bertels, Denny Gibson, Becca  
Kersh, Andrea Lallis & Chris Stark

**AV:** Jake Ingmire

March Preparing Deacon: Bob Whitworth April: Christine Wright

Communion to Shut-in: C. Willard, L. Lindsay, N. Uy-Moore

*\* If you are unable to serve, please find a replacement and notify the church office.*