



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE BRIDGE NEWSLETTER | MARCH 8, 2020

SUNDAYS: Christian Education for all ages: 9:30 am | Coffee & Conversation: 10:30 am | Worship: 11 am

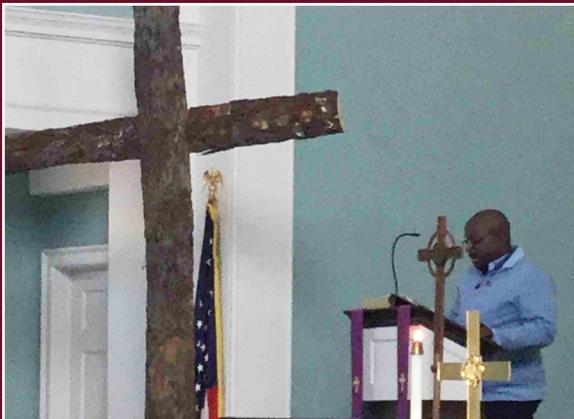
**SEEKING GOD’S WHOLENESS. EXPANDING THE TABLE. NURTURING JUSTICE.**

### SERVANTS IN WORSHIP

Red Book Pickup ..... Debby Demos / Bryce Wynn  
Ushers & Servers ..... Susan Spurgeon, Zach Atchley,  
Janet Johnson, Sandy Reynolds

#### Elders at the Table

Pulpit Side (Prayer of Consecration) .... Connie Smithson  
Pulpit Side (Pastoral Listener) ..... Ashlee H-Heitz  
Lectern Side (Prayer of Thanksgiving)..... Alan Cates  
Lectern Side (Pastoral Listener) ..... Barbara Voss  
Scripture..... Genesis 12:1-4a; Matthews 17:1-9  
Proclamation ..... Rev. Brandon  
God's Story. Our Stories: Ancestors



*Bryce Wynn presents his sacred story on March 1.*

### What is a “Future Story”?

A Future Story is a game plan for any organization, based on its history, its values, and its hopes for what its mission can be.

First Christian is writing its future story, and we need your help to make it happen.

Sandy Klingen Smith, a corporate and non-profit consultant and lifelong member of the Disciples of Christ, will join with the board, elders, and staff of First Christian on March 27-28 for the first of two conversations about what the church envisions for its future.

But before that, we’re going to need your input! We want to hear from as many members of the congregation as possible.

Help us shape our future story by answering the five questions you’ll find here or click the link below.

It should only take 3-5 minutes to complete.

Thank you for your prayerful, thoughtful consideration as we look ahead toward the future of First Christian Church.

**Take the survey at this link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HC8LXPM>

## FROM THE TABLE

Friends,

I wanted to give you all a heads up that I will be out of the office—and out of the country—from March 9–March 20. My sister Amanda was married last year in Boston, and her husband, Samrat's family live in Delhi. They have made plans for some celebrations there, so Lisa and I will be accompanying my parents to this gathering of new family!

In that time, please be in touch with Jonathan about pastoral issues, and Victoria about any administrative issues.

Also, don't forget that during coffee hour on Sundays in March, there will be a vision board with the following open-ended questions posted, so you can share as much or as little as you would like to share with the visioning team as we prepare for our consultation with Sandy Smith:

- What are the most valuable gifts that God has blessed our congregation with?
- What are the challenges we face as a congregation in the next decade?
- What scripture, biblical images or bible stories should inform our future story?
- What are the key beliefs and values that will shape our future story?
- What 'chapter titles' would you want to see in our future story?

You'll be able to share your thoughts during Coffee Hour, and you can also respond to an online survey by following this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HC8LXPM>

Thanks for all that you do and all you contribute to the life of First Christian.

*I am, as always, so grateful to be in ministry with you. Rev. Brandon*



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Sunday, March 8

- 9:30 am Door Greeters; Covenant Group 3 (T. Chadwick / T. Dyer)
- 9:30 am Choir Practice; Sanctuary
- 9:30 am Christian Education for all ages
- 10:15 am Children's Choir Practice; Bridal Room
- 10:30 am Coffee & Conversation; Crane Lounge
- 11:00 am Worship; Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm Covenant Group 2 Luncheon; Fellow. Hall

### Monday, March 9

- 10:00 am CWF/Ladies Prayer Group; Fellow. Hall
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting; Conference Room
- 6:00 pm CSHOF Meeting; Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 pm Paideia Book Club
- 8:00 pm NA Meeting; Fellowship Hall

### Tuesday, March 10

- 7:00 pm NA Meeting; Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 pm House Worship; Sanctuary

### Wednesday, March 11

No Activities Scheduled

### Thursday, March 12

- 7:00 am Men's Group; Bluegrass Grill
- 6:30 pm Toastmasters Meeting; Koinonia Room

### Friday, March 13

- 10:30 am Community Kitchen Volunteering
- 3:00 pm Community Kitchen Volunteering
- 8:00 pm NA Meeting; Fellowship Hall

### Saturday, March 14

- 1:30 pm Surrender Under the Stars Planning; Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 pm Covenant 2 Group Dinner at the Voss'

### Sunday, March 15

- 9:30 am Door Greeters; Covenant Group 3
- 9:30 am Choir Practice; Sanctuary
- 9:30 am Christian Education for all ages
- 10:30 am Coffee & Conversation; Crane Lounge
- 11:00 am Worship; Sanctuary
- 1:00 pm Chattanooga Music Club, Annual Scholarship Auditions; Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm HUSH Meditative Service; Faith Collective Room



## A Note from Hannah Mask

*Volunteer & Community Manager*

I hope you all are well! I wanted to give a quick update on what this spring is looking like for Bridge and open up opportunities for First Christian members to be involved. It looks like March will be a very busy month for Bridge with three families already scheduled to arrive within the first two weeks. We also have the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon coming up in April (which of course everyone is invited to) and World Refugee Day will be here before we know it! I'm currently putting out a call for furniture/ household donations for the new arrivals. Feel free to pass along my email address: [volunteermanager@bridgerefugees.org](mailto:volunteermanager@bridgerefugees.org) and my phone number: (423) 463-5773 for anyone who has anything they're interested in donating.

### Furniture and household items:

- Small couches/loveseats
- Small armchairs (no recliners)
- Queen bedframes, mattresses/boxsprings (in excellent condition only)
- Twin comforters
- End tables, nightstands, & coffee tables
- Small dressers (w/o attached mirrors)
- Household goods: lamps, new/gently used towels, men's shaving cream, mops & buckets, brooms & dustpans, kitchen garbage cans, hangers, shampoo, 4-pack light bulbs

Thank you both for the wonderful job you did putting together such a great team - I know it means the world to Samaki and Esther and it seems that some awesome friendships were formed. We're so thankful for everyone at First Christian!

# RETHINK POVERTY.

**Community Action Poverty Simulation®**

SPEND A SIMULATED MONTH in the poverty experienced by our community's individuals and families. This interactive event promotes poverty awareness, increases understanding and inspires local change. The simulation is based on Community Action clients and their daily realities. **This is not a game.**

*Event Details*

**Where** Terra Vista Baptist  
4412 Oakwood Drive Chattanooga, TN 37416

**When** March 19, 2020 5:30pm-8:30pm  
Volunteers: 4:30pm-8pm

**Register** Contact Jennifer Gray  
[jennifer\\_gray@hospiceofchattanooga.org](mailto:jennifer_gray@hospiceofchattanooga.org)

*Hosted By*

Hospice of Chattanooga  
ALLIED HEALTH SYSTEM

SOUTHERN BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
School of Social Work

#povertysimulation  
[www.povertysimulation.org](http://www.povertysimulation.org)  
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## Fellow Disciples

For the past two years, a group of men have been meeting at the church once a week to journal. We are using the Intensive Journal Process developed by Ira Progoff. Recently Wyatt Massey from the Chattanooga Times Free Press wrote an article about our group.

We find that journaling is a solitary process that is best done in a group.

We would like to invite any who are interested in this journaling activity to attend a workshop to be held at the Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle, TN beginning March 20. To sign up, or get more information: <https://www.intensivejournal.org/southatlantic.html#nashville>

**Please get in touch with Alan Voss or Jim Henry if you would like to discuss it further.**





**BIRTHDAYS  
THIS MONTH**

**MARCH**

- 4 Tricia Dyer
- 5 Allan Lehr, Ruby Lewis
- 7 David Floyd
- 10 Phil Summerlin
- 11 Janice Floyd
- 14 Mark Calvert-Rosenberger, Will Wylie
- 15 Harriet Sutton
- 16 Louise Russell
- 17 Kai Wiisanen
- 19 Kent Smithson

***Birthday Not Listed?***  
Email Betty Proctor at [baproctor@epbfj.com](mailto:baproctor@epbfj.com)

**CONNECT WITH FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Senior Minister ..... Rev. Brandon Gilvin  
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Music Director ..... Gary Wilkes  
[gwilkes428@gmail.com](mailto:gwilkes428@gmail.com)

Organist..... Sarah Harr  
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General Church email..... [church@firstchristian-chat.com](mailto:church@firstchristian-chat.com)

Website ..... [www.firstchristian-chat.com](http://www.firstchristian-chat.com)

Facebook ..... [www.facebook.com/FCC.Chattanooga](http://www.facebook.com/FCC.Chattanooga)

Instagram ..... [www.instagram.com/firstchristianchatt/](http://www.instagram.com/firstchristianchatt/)

Twitter ..... [www.twitter.com/fcc\\_chattanooga](http://www.twitter.com/fcc_chattanooga)

Address..... 650 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37403

Phone Number ..... 423-267-4506

Office Hours..... Monday-Thursday 10 am-2 pm

Bridge Newsletter Deadline ..... Monday, 3 pm

