



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE BRIDGE NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2, 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.

Remembering Chuck Martin



Charles "Chuck" Martin, age 77, passed into the arms of the Lord on July 23, 2020. Although Chuck enjoyed varied careers and wore many hats over the years, he will most fondly be remembered as a valued member of FCC, choir member, former church administrator, Elder Emeritus, husband, father, and friend.

As a community of faith, we understand the importance of gathering at a time of grief to say goodbye to a beloved friend or family member.

However, due to the continued increase in COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, and deaths in Chattanooga, we must ascribe to practices that reduce the risk of infection. The Thursday funeral for our beloved Chuck Martin will be limited to ten (10) attendees, all family members. Social distancing and masks for attendees will be required.

An Online Service in memory of Chuck will be produced for all others who wish to prayerfully pay their respects.

Thank you for your understanding and for protecting one another's health.

Sincerely, Rev. Brandon

Ismael Sandoval Named New FCC Music Director

Mr. Sandoval comes to Chattanooga from Boston, where he has been the Assistant Conductor of the Boston Philharmonic and Youth Philharmonic Orchestras. Along with extensive



orchestral conducting experience, he has conducted choirs, directed operas, and provided instrumental instruction for brass and woodwind students.

Mr. Sandoval also served as the artistic director for The Women's Chorus, which is a group that was created to give exceptional singing and musical experiences to women in Boston who are dealing with homelessness and poverty. In addition to his position as FCC Music Director, he will be the new conductor for the Chattanooga Symphony Youth Orchestra, replacing Gary Wilkes in both roles after Mr. Wilkes's retirement earlier this year. Mr. Sandoval will begin his work at First Christian in October.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, August 2

9:30-10:30 am: Join us for a special Sunday School Class with FCC Member and Renowned Biblical Scholar David Pleins*:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/99474003426>

LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL:
THE BIBLE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Week 3: "Speaking"

Week 4: "Acting"

10:00 am: Music with Kids - Dr. Sarah Harr

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bit.ly/39Fy79R>

Meeting ID: 881 9352 4142

PW: 180999

+1 929 205 6099

10:30 am: Virtual Coffee Hour

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bit.ly/37UEHbK>

Meeting ID: 839 5831 5129

+1 301 715 8592

11:00 am: Worship

<https://www.facebook.com/FCC.Chattanooga/>

Monday, August 3

10:30 am - VIRTUAL Staff Meeting

**David Pleins taught religious studies and pastoral ministries for many years at Santa Clara University in California. He now mentors new faculty at UTC. David has written books on biblical social ethics, the Hebrew language, and the debates about Charles Darwin. He enjoys playing guitar, sipping Gewurtztraminer wine, gardening, and riding out the current isolation in style with his wife Karen.*



Open and Affirming Discernment Process Schedule

- Covenant Group #5: 8/2 @ 11 am
- Covenant Group #6: 8/9 @ 11 am

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://bit.ly/2ZGuFaE>

Meeting ID: 849 3201 6824

Password: 699768

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,84932016824#,,,0#,699768# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,84932016824#,,,0#,699768# US (New York)

All In-Person Activities at First Christian Church are Postponed until Further Notice due to Covid-19 Risk Reduction

FROM THE TABLE

A couple of years ago, I wrote the following blessing. It was meant to do two things: end a hard week, and begin a new one with the hope that we find in the God who creates us:

What shall you do

Dear ones

*When the good
you long to do
becomes infuriatingly
abstract?*

*Will your hope
crystalize, like a still-life
following a winter storm,
and only thaw
once it transforms to
nostalgia?*

*Will your righteous anger
turn to self-righteous rage,
working itself counterclockwise
and counterproductively
into your gut?*

*For you
I wish the good rainstorms
to come soon*

*I wish
the good fights
to come your way*

*I wish
the good world changing words
to come from you.*

I have felt, from time to time since the emergence of COVID-19, powerless (Not that I've ever felt like I have a whole lot of power!) and filled with all sorts of doubt—are we making good decisions? What will happen? Will we ever get back to normal? And I have found that my most faithful moments have come when I've shared my doubts, prayerfully listened, and listened for God's still, small voice.

Over the next three weeks, we're going to explore issues of Faith and Doubt through the words of the Apostle Paul, The Gospel of Matthew, and the Prophet Isaiah. What do we learn about the value of both Faith and Doubt? How do they inform one another, and how do they make us better Disciples?

Let's figure that out together.

*Grateful to be in ministry with
you, Rev. B*



Coming October 9-10

For more information or to register, visit:
<http://tndisciples.org/regional-assembly-2020>

THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME



JULY

- 29 Sanford Sharp
- 30 Jack Grisham
- 31 Jim Northcut

AUGUST

- 1 Leah Summerlin
- 2 Wanda Jones
- 3 Brandon Hubbard-Heitz
- 4 Abi Adkins, Delores Kenyon
- 5 Bill Rich
- 10 lola Fulgham
- 15 Jim Davis, Jan Webster

Birthday Not Listed?

Email Betty Proctor at baproctor@epbf.com

CONNECT WITH FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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