



Church Newsletter

June 2025

The Body and Sacred Places

In the pioneer days, folks had special sacred places. The church and the cemetery are such places. The church building provided a special place to hold marriage services and funeral services. Baptismal services were often held at a nearby body of water (pond, stream, etc.). Later baptismal services were moved into the church building.

Christians adopted a practice of burying their dead facing east because the scripture teaches that a Messiah's Second Coming into Jerusalem, He will approach from the East (Matthew 24:27; Zechariah 14:4).

Many rural churches had exclusive church cemeteries for their members. The burial of the body was a sacred duty to honor a friend or loved one.

Over the years as the role of the family and the community diminished, some individuals have lost the sacredness of the funeral and the burial of the physical body in a cemetery.

The message of life and death in relationship with God gave individuals a reassurance of the promise of the Christian Gospel. Being laid to rest in a sacred place opened the door for the spirit to remain with God.

There are those who are content with worshipping in a warehouse or a multi-purpose room. When a wedding or a funeral is held in an optional place, the sacredness can be lost. Over the years I have witnessed individuals who felt that they could worship in many different places, but when it came to a family wedding or a family funeral the place was far more important than the routine place of worship.

A cemetery reminds us of those who have gone before us. Think about how we read about the physical body being buried. Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Leah, and Jacob were all buried in the cave that was in the field at Machpelah of Canaan (Genesis 36; 49).

There are those who visit a cemetery on Memorial Day to remember those who have died. The act of honoring members of the family and to recall special ancestral moments continue for some. There are those who avoid visiting a cemetery. They do not want to reflect on death.

Pastor David

Church Calendar

June

Each Sunday

10:00am Worship Service

1--- Pentecost Special Offering
Board meeting following Worship

4---12:00pm Community Men's Prayer Lunch

8--- Pentecost Special Offering

11---12:00pm Community Men's Prayer Lunch

15---  **HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY** 

16---Good Sam Worship

18---12:00pm Community Men's Prayer Lunch

25---12:00pm Community Men's Prayer Lunch

The Joy of Generosity

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.



Board Meeting
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
May 4, 2025

Chairman Adam Ketterl declared the meeting open and Angela Ketterl gave the opening prayer.

Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Announcements: None.

Minutes from the April 6th board meeting were read. They stand approved as read.

Financial report: The financial report was reviewed. It was approved as presented.

Unfinished Business: Discussion about the church and education wing's roof. No action taken.

New Business: None.

Pastor's Report: Pastor David gave his report.

Committee Reports: Memorial Committee: It was moved by Arlene Bliss and seconded by Su Todd To pay school meal balances for students at the end of the year and work with the building secretaries to provide an amount. Motion passed.

It was moved by Su Todd and seconded by Gleneva Higley to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed. Chairman Adam Ketterl declared the meeting closed and Arlene Bliss gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Ketterl, Board Secretary

Those board members present: Tom & Arlene Bliss, Adam & Angela Ketterl, Scott Ross, Gleneva Higley, Jim & Judy Begley, Ken & Lois Smith and Pastor David & Su Todd

Handling grief

When a Southern Christian woman became a widow, several people asked what she was going to do. She always answered by saying, "I'm going to do Proverbs 3:5-6 and Philippians 4:4-7."

Both passages provide wonderful doses of strength and encouragement. (If you aren't familiar with the verses, look them up to see for yourself.) When we completely trust in God for guidance and peace, he not only sees us through difficult times but allows us to rejoice rather than worry.



June 2nd, Gleneva Higley

June 6th, Ethan King

June 8th, Jeffrey Samson

June 13th, Su Todd

June 21st, Colton Sperry

Worship Schedule

Worship Leader

June 1, Arlene Bliss

June 8, Kathy Ross

June 15, Angela Ketterl

June 22, Jim Begley

June 29, David Boston

Elder

Lois Smith

Deacon

*Angela Ketterl

Thoughts for Father's Day



A careful man I ought to be; a little fellow follows me;
I do not dare to go astray, for fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes; whate'er he sees me do, he tries--
Like me, he says, he's going to be, the little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine, believes in every word of mine:
The base in me he must not see, the little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go, through summer's sun and winter's snow,
I'm building for the years to be, for a little fellow follows me.