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**SERVING THE LORD:**

Cliff Caton  
**Senior Pastor**

Nancy Cook  
Stella Ruiz  
**Pastors**

Bill Rosser  
**Chapel Service Pastor**

Cliff Caton III  
Karen Palmer  
**DOC Commissioned Ministers**

April Jones  
**Ministry Support Administrator**

Doug Robe  
**Congregational Care & BeFriender Coordinator**

Jim & Glenda Hitchcock  
**Traditional Service Music Worship Ministry**

Bryce Lathrop  
**Celebration Service Music Worship Ministry**

Karen Palmer  
**Board Chairman**

Ellen Klausen  
**Board Vice-Chairman**

Joe Andrick  
Ellen Klausen  
Cindy Miller  
Janet Padley  
Karen Palmer  
Ramona Vann  
**Staff Relations**

**OPERATION CHILL-OUT STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP...**

Freezin for a Reason is over, but the need continues. It's not too late to make a donation or gather donations from friends, family or co-workers. Actually, we accept donations all year long, but the need is especially strong during these winter months.

What are we collecting? Anything that would keep someone warm! We need mainly blankets and coats, but will accept other items like hats, scarves, gloves, etc. We need them in all sizes and for all ages. Items don't have to be new, but should be in good condition.

You can also make a financial donation with a check made payable to FCC, and mark it for the "FCC Blanket Fund." We have also setup a GoFundMe account for online donations at: <https://www.gofundme.com/blanketkansascity>.

All of the supplies that we received during Freezin for a Reason have already been distributed to local agencies and most of that is probably already out on the streets or being put to good use. We were able to help out six agencies this year: Cherith Brook, Community Services League Blue Springs location, Foster Adopt Connect, Lazarus Ministries, Micah Ministries and ReStart.

If you would like more information about Operation Chill-Out or can help out in any way, please contact Bryan Couch at \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_



A HUGE personal thank you to everyone that helped with this year's Freezin for a Reason. We had one of our largest numbers of people sleeping out Friday night with over 20 people staying the night. A special thank you to Bob Todd, Matt Calhoun, Rick Brasfield, Jeff Siron, Calvin & Teri Valvo, Jim Wallace, Pastor Cliff and April for all they did leading up to and following our Freezin for a Reason weekend. Without their dedication to this ministry it would not be as successful as it is. What started as a dare to help collect blankets has turned in to a ministry that helps hundreds of people in need in the Kansas City.

*Bryan Couch*

# Cliff Notes ...

For the last decade or so, we at FCC have been on a journey to collect blankets, coats, gloves and whatever else we are told the homeless and under-homed are in need of. And, every year there is something unique about the event. This year it was the weather, or rather, the lack thereof.

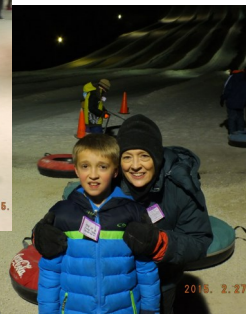
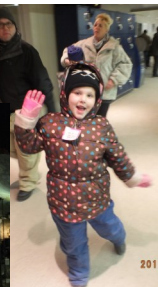
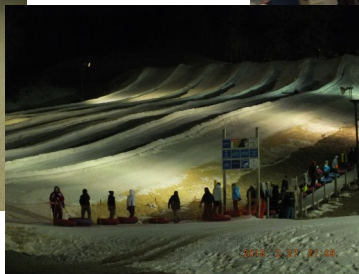
As the weekend approached, the weather prognosticators were filling the airwaves with dire warnings of biblical proportions. They were so convinced we were going to have a dangerous ice storm, that our entire state was placed in a state of emergency BEFORE THE STORM. We gathered to put up our shelters. Good citizens called to plead with us to cancel. We waited. Expecting the storm Friday about noon we were relieved when it didn't happen but were warned it was only hours away. We waited. Friday evening – a light pattering of rain drops presaged what we could only assume was the highly anticipated doom. We waited and we waited and...we waited. Now in fairness, it did rain a little very late Saturday night and into Sunday morning.

Now I am not saying I want anyone to do things that aren't safe, everyone needs to use good common sense, but you know what we learned? Don't let the doomsayers rule your life. If you wait till everything is perfect before you do what God has called you to do, you aren't ever going to start. That's twice this week I learned that lesson.

I am currently reading a book by John Dominic Crossan titled, "Who Killed Jesus." As I consider what the author is saying, it occurs to me that I did – and I do. I have killed Jesus. I didn't mean to. I didn't even realize that I was. I did and I do though every time I turn my back on what Jesus lived and died for. Every time I decide, maybe tomorrow. Every time I let anger, pride, jealousy or fear dictate my behavior, I kill Jesus. Every time I let the weather, the political climate, the economy dictate my actions, I kill Jesus. It's too hot, it's too cold, there isn't enough money, this just isn't a good time...

There is an old axiom, "When all is said and done, more will be said than done." We can always find a reason to wait but what of the people who are waiting on our help, what happens to them? Look at Psalm 23 and take heart and don't let anything stop you from God's call. If you are reading this as you walk in from getting your mail, hurry up – the sky is falling.

*Cliff Caton*



## DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT INFORMATION?

If your address, phone number or email has changed, don't forget to notify the church office.



A list of continuously updated member contact information is available at church on the bulletin triangle in the front foyer for your convenience.

## Need someone to listen to you and be non-judgmental...

You can drop a note in the BeFriender locked mail box in the foyer just to the right of the main sanctuary doors. There are envelopes available for mailing your request as well.



If you have questions, contact Doug Robe at or the church office at 229-8400.

**BEFRIENDER  
MINISTRY**  
*A Listening Presence*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### Tubing at Snow Creek Friday, February 24th Leave church at 6:15 pm



### EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US!

Children/Youth paid by church • Adults \$22.00

### Must RSVP & Pay Donna Caton by Sunday, February 12th

The entire congregation is invited. An adult must accompany children. No age limit—one person per tube—tubes can be hooked together.

We will be tubing from approx. 7:30 to 9:30 pm. You can meet us there, or if you wish to carpool from church, we will be leaving at 6:15 pm. If you plan on attending but not tubing, there is no cost.

Reserve your spot with Donna Caton. We need to know how many (including youth) will be attending. Payment needs to be made at the time you reserve your spot. Please give payment to Donna Caton. Checks should be made to FCC.

Contact Donna at \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ with any questions.

 **Don't miss out on one of the funnest events of the year!**

## Concerns

To respect the privacy of our members, we omit concerns, celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries and any other sensitive information when the newsletter is published on our website. Thank you for understanding.

## Long Term Concerns

## Celebrations

### Our Newest Members

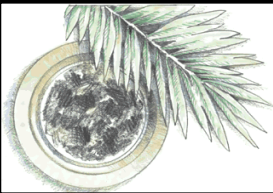


### PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS

If you have a family member, friend or loved one who is serving active duty in the military, please contact the office to have them included on our prayer board located across from the office on the Caring Team bulletin board. We will need a picture and any pertinent information you wish to share, such as: name, relationship to you, family, where they are serving, what capacity they are serving in...

**Please keep the following troops in our prayers:**





**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**March 1st**  
**Service at 6:30pm**

**SCOUT SUNDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 5TH**



Boy Scout Sunday

We will be honoring the Scout troops of FCC during our 11:00 worship service.

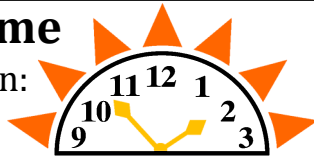


**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

The congregation is invited to a pancake breakfast between services. A Free will offering will be taken to benefit the Scout troops.

**Daylight Savings Time**

We will "spring forward" on:  
**Sunday, March 12th**



**LIFE SAFETY COMMITTEE TIP**

Winter is still under way so be prepared for winter driving especially while traveling by car or truck.

Here is a list of things you might have in your car: a small shovel, windshield scraper, broom, battery powered radio, bottled water, snacks (including energy bars, raisins, mini candy bars), matches and small candles, extra socks, and mittens, first aid kit with pocket knife, necessary medications, blankets or sleeping bag, tow chain or rope, road salt, sand or kitty litter for traction, booster cables, emergency flares and reflectors, fluorescent distress flag, whistle to attract attention, and a cell phone adapter to plug into cigarette lighter.



Please don't take any unnecessary chances driving in the ice or snow. Be Safe!

Please see Martin Kreissler, Life Safety Committee Chair, with any questions.

Please see Martin Kreissler, Life Safety Committee Chair, with any questions.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**Greater KC Women's Spring Retreat**  
**March 10th & 11th at Tall Oaks**

THEME: "Sharing Our Gifts"

Rev. Dr. Patricia Donahoo, Keynote Speaker  
Executive Director of Women's Ministries

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFO!**  
**REGISTRATION COMING SOON!**



**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**Sunday, February 19th @ 6:00 pm**

Monthly minutes are posted on the bulletin triangle in the foyer. See Karen Palmer, Board Chairman, w/questions.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS**

On the first Monday of each month, our men gather for breakfast, fellowship & prayer

Join them this month:

**Monday, February 6th, 7:30am**  
**at the Hardee's on 7 Hwy**

See Jim Wallace for more information.



**COME JOIN THE RED HAT LADIES**

Join us for fun, food and fellowship

**Tuesday, February 14th at 1:00pm**  
**at Bob Evan's in Blue Springs**

**ALL LADIES OF THE CHURCH ARE WELCOME!**

Please call Bonnie Wallace at

with questions.

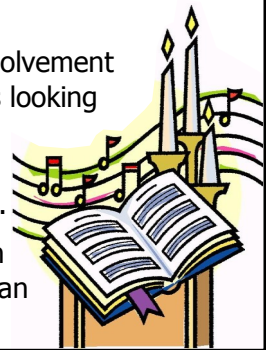


**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES IN WORSHIP**

Do you have the gift for hospitality? Are you a techie and able to adjust things quickly? Can you pronounce "Mahershalalhashbaz" ?

Then consider taking a more active involvement in our worship services. We are always looking for individuals who are interested in being a worship leader, greeter, candlelighter, and sound or visual tech.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin triangle in the foyer at church or you can see Karen Palmer with questions.



*real* PEOPLE.

**REAL WEIGHT LOSS.®**

Join us for a **FREE**  
**informational meeting!**

- Affordable
- Proven effective
- Men, women, families

**NOW MEETING**

**TUESDAYS AT 10:00 AM**  
**IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**



TAKE OFF POUNDS  
SENSIBLY

[www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org)

For more information:  
call Nancy McGowan

# FAITH FOLLOWERS!

Join us for our children & youth program



## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

PK (age 3) to 12th grade, 6:00 to 7:00 pm

It's never too late to join or invite some friends! We hope you're as excited as us to share another awesome year together of fun, fellowship and faith.

We are excited to continue using the curriculum from Cokesbury for PK through 5th Grade, called "Deep Blue." This is the new awe-inspiring resource for children which includes adventure, exciting stories, science experiments, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games—all combined into a living-faith experience that will help children discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ today. Find out more at [www.deepbluekids.com](http://www.deepbluekids.com).

We already have lots of exciting activities planned for this year, including several where the whole family is invited to participate. So, we hope you will join us and invite your friends. We are also continuing the meals beforehand, which begin at 5:15 pm each week.

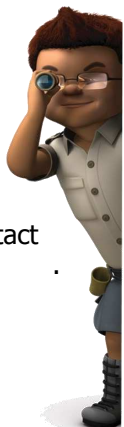
**As winter winds down, don't forget our inclement weather policy.** If Blue Springs schools are closed or dismissed early due to inclement weather, Faith Followers (all Wednesday activities) will be cancelled that Wednesday night.

### Check out the schedule for this year...

Stay tuned for more info as these events get closer.

- March 1** Ash Wednesday
- March 15** No Classes—Spring Break
- April 19** End of the Year Party

If you have any questions about Faith Followers, contact Bonnie Wallace, our Faith Followers Director, at



## WANNA AVOID THE DRIVE-THRU?



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

\$3.00 per adult, \$2.00 per child serving from 5:15 to 6:00 pm

## COOKS NEEDED!

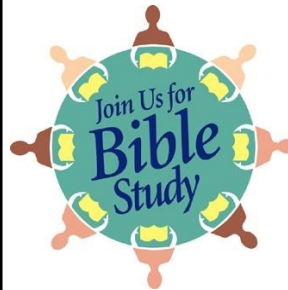
- Feb 1** Sloppy Joes, Tater Tots & Green Beans
- Feb 8** Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole
- Feb 15** Pizza & Salad
- Feb 22** Taco Pie

We need your help!!! We are currently working to fill our meal schedule. Parents love this program as time is tight after work. The only way to keep this program going is through wonderful volunteers who are willing to cook and prepare a meal.

If interested in helping out, contact Marlene Beatey.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

ALL WELCOME!



Wednesdays  
6:00—7:00pm

Contact Ward or Dianna Waldram with questions.

## YOUNG DISCIPLES BAPTISM

Classes begin Sunday, February 26th

If you are interested in being baptized this Spring and would like to participate in the Young Disciples Baptism classes, please contact Karen Palmer by February 12th.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

A great way to get to know the children at FCC is to lead a Sunday School class.

We're currently in need of two teachers.

- **1st-2nd grade class**  
(could be every other month)
- **3rd-5th grade class**  
(every other month)

Please contact Janet Padley or Tricia Peters, our newly appointed Christian Education Co-Chairs if you can help.



# SOLES 4 SOULS

WEARING OUT POVERTY®



## SHOE COLLECTION March 1st thru April 5th

Since 2005, "Soles for Souls" has collected and distributed 26 million pairs of shoes to those in need in 127 countries around the world and all 50 states in the United States.

All Saints Lutheran Church in Blue Springs will be doing a Shoe Collection during the five weeks of Lent and has invited our congregation along with the other churches participating in the Ecumenical Lenten Series to join them in collecting shoes. Lent is a time for reflection and sharing outside of ourselves. This is a time for Christian Discipline. When we recycle, it is one good way to follow a discipline by clearing the earth of an unused item.

During our Lenten Discipline we will be collecting all used footwear, any size, and in any condition. All used shoes, boots, slippers, tennis shoes, heels, beach thongs, etc. ANY condition is accepted. Invite your friends and family members to also collect footwear for you and help clear the earth by recycling an item that so often ends up in landfills.

The collection will run from Ash Wednesday, March 1st through the 5 weeks of Lent running through April 5th. Shoes will then be delivered by Maundy Thursday, April 13th.

All footwear collected is used. Please tie shoes together or use rubber bands. Please bring your footwear to church where a collection bin will be available beginning March 1st. Footwear that is possible to repair will be and then passed on to some area of the US or across the seas for use by those who have none. Any footwear that is not repairable will be ground into material for use in road repair.

For more information about the Soles for Souls organization, please visit: <https://soles4souls.org>.



## Stewardship of Finances

General Fund Budget for 2016: \$225,289.58  
Needed monthly for General Fund in 2016: \$18,774.13  
Received for General Fund in Dec 2016: \$28,187.90  
Received for General Fund Total in 2016: \$212,143.46

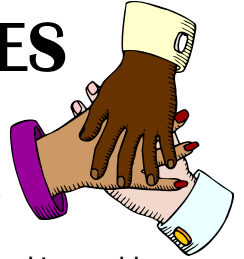
General Fund Budget for 2017: \$224,897.53  
Needed monthly for General Fund in 2017: \$18,741.46  
*It's never too late to make a pledge commitment!*

## MICAH MINISTRIES

We are serving this month on:

**Monday, February 6th**

**LOTS OF COOKIES NEEDED!**



If you can't serve, you can help by making cookies and have them to church by 10:00 am on the morning we serve. If you'd like to save money by not using disposable containers, please know that all containers are washed and returned each month. Label your containers and they will be returned to FCC.

Micah continually need supplies for the WOW hygiene packs (shampoo, soap, lotion, tooth brush & paste, wash clothes). Supplies may be placed in the marked baskets in the foyer.

### Check out the 2017 serving schedule...

- |              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| February 6th | July 3rd                  |
| March 6th    | August 7th                |
| April 3rd    | September 4th—not serving |
| May 1st      | October 2nd               |
| June 5th     | November 6th              |
|              | December 4th              |



## COMMUNITY SERVICES LEAGUE

The food and hygiene pantry accepts a lot of non-perishable **pork & beans, jiffy corn mix, jello, cereal, jelly, canned fruit and spaghetti sauce**

## PULL TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Ronald McDonald House provides a home away from home for families who must travel to Kansas City for their child's medical care. Far from friends and loved ones, parents and siblings need a safe, affordable place where they find comfort & hope.



One of the ways local Ronald McDonald House Chapters (RMHC) raise money is through pull tab collections. They collect pull tabs from any kind of can (pop, fruits, vegetables, tuna) instead of the entire aluminum can because the tabs are pure high-quality aluminum, unlike the rest of the can, which consists of aluminum and other alloys.

We have labeled zip lock bags available at the church to collect your pull tabs. Once you fill your bag, just bring it back to FCC and deposit your pull tabs in the collection container in the front foyer.

**Birthdays****Anniversaries**

To respect the privacy of our members, we omit concerns, celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries and any other sensitive information when the newsletter is published on our website. Thank you for understanding.

### **A recent letter and updates from the child FCC sponsors through the organization Unbound.**

November 29, 2016

Dear Sponsor (First Christian Church),

I send you a cordial greeting from your sponsored child Carlos Romeo Estacuy Perez. I'm Juan Fernando Lopez and I'm Carlos's friend and he hopes that you receive this letter.

He wants to tell you what he does and what is happening and what he will do next. Carlos is very happy with you because you are helping him. He was very happy to study and in this year he passed his second grade and he is very happy with his classmates. He is very happy with the support you send to him and to his family. I tell you that now he is in vacation and in the weekend he goes to play with his friends. I tell you that every Sunday he goes together with the family to church and he likes to sing and together with the family they pray for you.

I tell you that he has a friend and together they are learning English and when he grows up he wants to teach other people. He wants to know, how are you? He hopes that you receive this letter and may God bless and protect you forever.

Your sponsored child,  
Carlos Romeo Estacuy Perez

(written by his friend Juan Fernando, and translated by Josue Sarceño)



**Carlos Romeo Estacuy Perez and his mother**  
(The father of the family is working in another community.)



## Weekly Schedule

### Sundays

8:30 Traditional Service  
9:50 Sunday School  
11:00 Celebration Service

### Wednesdays

(September through April)  
Children & Youth Activities  
5:15 Faith Followers meal  
6:00 Faith Followers PK-12th

### Thursdays

4:00 Chapel Service

## Church Office Hours

8:30 am till 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday

The office will be closed on  
**Monday, February 20th**  
in honor of President's Day.

The deadline is **Friday, Feb 17th**  
for the next FCC newsletter.  
Please submit all articles to the  
church office by that date.

## February Lectionary Schedule

To aide in your preparation for worship, the lectionary texts for this month are...

### February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)  
Psalm 112:1-9(10)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)  
Matthew 5:13-20

### February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-8  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

### February 19

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18  
Psalm 119:33-40  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23  
Matthew 5:38-48

### February 26

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

"We encourage everyone to attend worship **weekly** to offer praise to God, to meet the Risen Lord in Word and Table, to fellowship with the church family and to grow through the diversity of God's revelations."

As we grow in faith and understanding of God, we continuously serve our worldwide family through Christ's love, help and hope.

February 2017

Dated Material



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Disciples of Christ  
701 NW 15th Street  
Blue Springs, MO 64015  
Phone: 816-229-8400  
Email: [info@fccbsmo.org](mailto:info@fccbsmo.org)  
Web: [www.fccbsmo.org](http://www.fccbsmo.org)