



THE PANDEMIC AND RELATIONSHIPS

In 2000, Robert Putnam wrote the groundbreaking book *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. Putnam described in-depth, citing multiple sources of research, the sense of isolation and sense of disconnection individuals feel from family, friends, neighbors, and our democratic structures. Putnam also talked about the importance of reconnecting with others.

Connections, a sense of belonging or affiliation, and Christian community are of vital importance in the ministry of the church. As our culture has embraced with ever-increasing frequency virtual forms of communication using social media, texting, and a staggering number of smartphone applications, perhaps we are seeing the isolation Robert Putnam described as diminishing to some extent. There is no doubt that virtual communication in all its forms has shaped the form if the not the substance of our social discourse.

In the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic Peter Marty, writing in the *Christian Century*, noted *“it’s often a crisis—whether at the family, community, or national level—that strengthens our relational wealth by drawing us closer together. In the aftermath of 9/11, people didn’t want to be alone or apart from loved ones. They wanted to be together. In those anxious days, all kinds of bonds tightened within families and among friends as people stayed close to one another.*

What makes the coronavirus pandemic such a different situation sociologically is that we’re actually being asked to push away from one another. Social distancing requirements physically separate people, just as quarantine measures isolate them. Both deliver stress to the very social connections we depend on. The resulting loneliness, fear, and uncertainty cause many people to poke around for signs of hope.”

It is my prayer that as you “poke around” for signs of hope you will find them in the online worship services and bible studies we are producing. I am grateful to Tim Evans, Steve Clark, Laura McClendon, and Sharon Hughes for their tireless efforts to ensure that the ministries of the church are vital and strong. And I would be remiss if I did not thank all of you for your prayers and encouragement during this challenging period in our history. Your support has made serving as your pastor a privilege and an honor. Thank you for the inspiration.

Grace and Peace,
Milton



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays	9:15 A. M. 10:00 A. M.	Adult’s Sunday School Worship
Wednesdays	6:00 P. M.	Bible Study

***All Services are on Facebook Live.
No In House Service Until Further Notice.**

FLOWERS ON THE CROSS



In following with our tradition, members came by and placed flowers on the cross for Easter while practicing safe social distancing.



**LECTIONARY READINGS
FOR APRIL 2020**

April 5th, 2020

Liturgy of the Palms • Violet (or Blue)

- [Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29](#)
- [Matthew 21:1-11](#)

April 5th, 2020

Liturgy of the Passion • Violet (or Blue)

- [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)
- [Psalm 31:9-16](#)
- [Philippians 2:5-11](#)
- [Matthew 26:14-27:66](#) or [Matthew 27:11-54](#)

April 6th, 2020

Monday of Holy Week • Violet (or Blue)

- [Isaiah 42:1-9](#)
- [Psalm 36:5-11](#)
- [Hebrews 9:11-15](#)
- [John 12:1-11](#)

April 7th, 2020

Tuesday of Holy Week • Violet (or Blue)

- [Isaiah 49:1-7](#)
- [Psalm 71:1-14](#)
- [1 Corinthians 1:18-31](#)
- [John 12:20-36](#)

April 8th, 2020

Wednesday of Holy Week • Violet (or Blue)

- [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)
- [Psalm 70](#)
- [Hebrews 12:1-3](#)
- [John 13:21-32](#)

April 9th, 2020

Maundy Thursday • Violet (or Blue)

- [Exodus 12:1-4, \(5-10\), 11-14](#)
- [Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19](#)
- [1 Corinthians 11:23-26](#)
- [John 13:1-17, 31b-35](#)

April 10th, 2020

Good Friday • Violet (or Blue)

- [Isaiah 52:13-53:12](#)
- [Psalm 22](#)
- [Hebrews 10:16-25](#) or [Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9](#)
- [John 18:1-19:42](#)

April 11th, 2020

Holy Saturday • White

- [Job 14:1-14](#) or [Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24](#)

- [Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16](#)
- [1 Peter 4:1-8](#)
- [Matthew 27:57-66](#) or [John 19:38-42](#)

April 12th, 2020

Easter Vigil • White

- [Genesis 1:1-2:4a](#) and [Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26](#)
- [Romans 6:3-11](#) and [Psalm 114](#)
- [Matthew 28:1-10](#)
- [Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13](#) and [Psalm 46](#)
- [Genesis 22:1-18](#) and [Psalm 16](#)
- [Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21](#) and [Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18](#)
- [Isaiah 55:1-11](#) and [Isaiah 12:2-6](#)
- [Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32-4:4](#) or [Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6](#) and [Psalm 19](#)

April 12th, 2020

Resurrection of the Lord • White

- [Acts 10:34-43](#) or [Jeremiah 31:1-6](#)
- [Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24](#)
- [Colossians 3:1-4](#) or [Acts 10:34-43](#)
- [John 20:1-18](#) or [Matthew 28:1-10](#)

April 12th, 2020

Easter Evening • White

- [Isaiah 25:6-9](#)
- [Psalm 114](#)
- [1 Corinthians 5:6b-8](#)
- [Luke 24:13-49](#)

April 19th, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter • White

- [Acts 2:14a, 22-32](#)
- [Psalm 16](#)
- [1 Peter 1:3-9](#)
- [John 20:19-31](#)

April 26th, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter • White

- [Acts 2:14a, 36-41](#)
- [Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19](#)
- [1 Peter 1:17-23](#)
- [Luke 24:13-35](#)

May 3rd, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter • White

- [Acts 2:42-47](#)
- [Psalm 23](#)
- [1 Peter 2:19-25](#)
- [John 10:1-10](#)





**MOMENT FOR MISSION:
DISCIPLES HOME MISSIONS**



"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." — John 15:5 NRSV

Disciples Home Missions, in relationships with its partners, equips Disciples for Christ and connects people to the life-changing love of God while facilitating faithful and effective ministry.

The multiple ministries of Disciples Home Missions are life giving and fruitful branches. These include:

- Congregational Transformation, which engages leaders in their context to understand and fulfill God's call for their collective service and particular roles in mission
- Disciples Chaplains offer the touch of Christ beyond the Church walls;
- Refugee and Immigration Ministries offers refugee resettlement and advocacy for immigrants
- Disciples Volunteering connects with local mission destinations
- Family & Children's Ministries (Ministries Across Generations) curates relevant, authentic, and effective tools and resources for children, families, and church leaders within all covenanted ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Green Chalice connects Christian faith, spiritual practice and creation consciousness in order to demonstrate the fullness of God's shalom

Disciples Home Missions sows into the lives of those answering God's call.

- Its scholarship programs provide direct financial gifts to seminarians preparing for ministry, and clergy already in ministry, seeking continuing education experiences that strengthen their ongoing vocational gifts.
- The Office of Black Ministries hosts the Black Ministers Retreat which offers resources, care and nurture for African American clergy.
- The Young Adult Commission represents Disciples young adults across the life of the church. They strive to build effective communication networks, offer awareness for advocacy opportunities, and encourage congregations to prepare young adults to lead our church.

Disciples Home Missions is grateful for the life changing love of God through Jesus Christ. We are grateful to be connected to the divine vine that branches out into ministries that impact our world.

Your gifts to the Easter offering support Disciples Home Missions and make their ministry possible.





Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) Mayfield**

P. O. Box 799

111 South 9th Street

Mayfield, Ky. 42066

Phone: 270-247-2204

A family of God, serving God.

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**Submission Deadline for May 1st
newsletter will be 04/21/20.**

APRIL 2020

Newsletter

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS FINISHED!!

Check us out at fccmayfield.com. We will be **updating and making new additions to our website** including opportunities to **connect with our community, add events to your calendar, and RSVP to serve or participate** in meaningful ways.

Contributions are welcome and appreciated so that we can continue our ministry. Thank you for your generous support. You can contribute to First Christian Church by:

Personal Check

Please make your check payable to:

First Christian Church

P.O. Box 799

Mayfield, KY 42066

You may also give online using the following safe and secure application www.givelify.com.

God is at work in First Christian Church. Greater things are yet to come!



BIRTHDAYS FOR APRIL

- April 01 Addison Walker
- April 04 Teddy West
- April 04 Melissa Johnson
- April 04 Gail Stroup
- April 05 Mendey Sanderson
- April 12 Sandra Price
- April 14 Michael Cartwright
- April 15 Barbara Stanley
- April 16 Carla McDonald
- April 16 Jim Puckett
- April 19 Cathy Jordan
- April 19 Kirk Byrn III
- April 23 James McCloskey Jr.
- April 23 Katie Beth Scarbrough
- April 24 Richard Berry
- April 24 Beth Scarbrough
- April 27 Natalie Byrn
- April 27 Clara Harrison
- April 28 Stacie Berry
- April 30 Megan Scarbrough

