

First Christian **Caller**

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

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SINCERE IMITATION



When I go shopping for groceries, or clothing, or just about anything, one of the watch words I pay attention to is "imitation". Given a choice between "imitation vanilla" and the real thing, I'm going for the real thing. If I'm looking for shoes and see that a certain pair is made with imitation leather, I'm probably going to pass. As the old song goes, "Ain't nothing like the real thing, baby."

When it comes to life and faith, though, there is another saying: "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." If the real thing isn't attainable, then start with imitation. When I was learning to play guitar, waaay back when, I learned that if I liked a certain guitar player's style, it was OK to imitate him or her. That's where we all started in the process of development.

After washing his disciples' feet, Jesus tells them, "See, I have set the example for you." Throughout his letters, the Apostle Paul often encourages his readers to become imitators – imitators of Paul himself, or imitators of Christ. 1 Peter 2:21 says that the suffering of Christ is an example for us to follow.

While we may imagine ourselves as completely self-made individuals, choosing our own ways without any influence, if we take a few moments to do some self-examination I think we will all see the influence and imitation of others in almost everything we do. In my interaction with my family, I often see the influence of my parents coming out. My daughter has taken up whistling around the house as a way to fill up the silence. I remember my dad constantly whistling when he was working in the garage. I can only imagine that my habit of mindless whistling around the house has been passed down to my daughter.

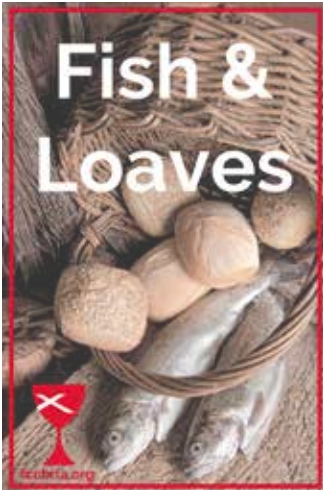
It causes me to wonder, who am I imitating, and what example am I passing on? The Apostle Paul's admonition to become an imitator of him and his way of life is a call to carefully consider our own manner of life. Often I find myself living upon emotional reaction. Lately, computer technology has given me fits and I find myself losing my cool quickly when digital devices don't do what I need them to do. I'm becoming more aware losing her cool may be a trait that my daughter might imitate.

Take a few moments to think about those who influenced you, whether for good and even the not-so-good characteristics we exhibit. Take a few more moments to consider how others are influenced by you. What example do you follow? What is the effect of the wake you leave behind?

Christ's peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Chisham".

Rev. Dr. David Chisham
Senior Minister



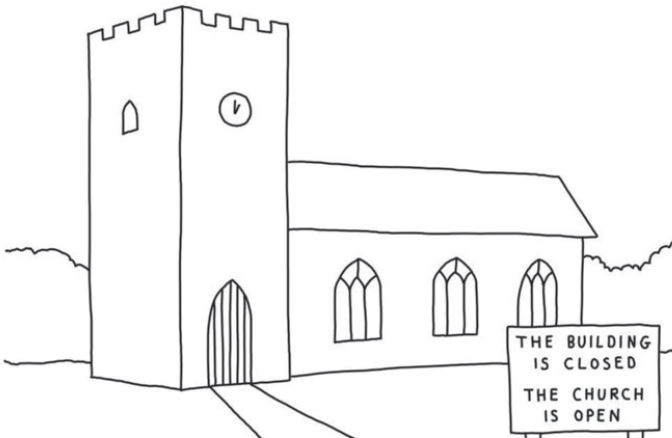
Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. —John 6:11

FCCBR Food Drive - Donations left at church are delivered weekly to Southeast Ministries:

Suggested donations: *Jelly, instant potatoes, Jiffy cornbread mix, mac & cheese, crackers, bags of apples, oranges, onions, or potatoes, rubbing alcohol or other anti-viral cleaning agents.*

EMPTY EGG CARTONS ARE CURRENTLY NEEDED, TOO!

Southeast Ministries - Checks can be made out directly to Southeast Ministries and brought to the church during food drop-off times, or mailed to 476 Sharp Road, Baton Rouge LA 70815. *Be sure to mark the memo line with "First Christian Church."*



“If you are sitting here thinking that since you can’t meet with your churches you HAVE to set up a livestream, remember that the Apostle Paul couldn’t meet with his churches so he just sent them 20-page rambling letters filled with his every emo thought.”

@GrumpyTheologian
on Twitter

Let's Come Together

Even as we continue with adjustments based on the latest health reports, let's not give up on the habit of meeting together!

Wednesday Noon Bible Study on Zoom

Rev. David will begin a Wednesday lunchtime Zoom-hosted Bible study next month, on **Wednesday, August 5, from 12:15 p.m. until 12:45 p.m.**, hoping this time frame will allow some who might not otherwise be able to join in person, to perhaps gather their lunch at home or office (or home office!) and gather with us. [Please give us feedback or suggestion on this timeframe](#) — do you think that works for you, or is there something else we should consider?

Each week's study will be a preview of the Sunday lectionary texts. You can check the readings for each week online at the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, here: lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/

We'll set up a recurring Zoom meeting, and send out a reminder link on Wednesday mornings. [Please let us know](#) if you're interested in attending, and need any assistance with setting up Zoom, or receiving the meeting link.



Social Time via Zoom

While technology is no substitute for in-person support and sharing, we can be grateful and use what it can provide us during these times.

We're looking for a volunteer to lead an online gathering, as a time to just gather — no lessons, no agenda, no preparation — but rather just some Zoom time for members of our church family to check in and visit, even electronically, with other members.

We'll get the meeting set up on the church Zoom account for you, and help share the date and time of the gathering. Let us know if this is something you're interested in doing from the comfort of your own home!

Virtual Day Camp

Each day we open our eyes to see as God sees. To see the intricate beauty and grand majesty of creation. To see all people made in the image of God. To see and embrace who God created us to be. Bring on the revelation!

lutherhill.org/virtual-day-camp

Day 1
To See Creation as God Sees

Day 2
To See Ourselves as God Sees

Day 3

A week's worth of activities, songs & Bible lessons to enjoy at home on your schedule!

Videos, lesson plans, and instructions at

lutherhill.org/virtual-day-camp/

Contact us if interested in printed plan packets!

Lutherhill Ministries, a ministry of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, has joined us the last few years to support and help staff our Vacation Bible School program, in conjunction with St. Paul Lutheran Church, just down the street.

Although all their own summer camps (therefore campers, therefore staff for area VBS programs) have been cancelled, the staff at Lutherhill have created a Virtual Day Camp/Vacation Bible School for your use this summer! While written for a five-day over one week schedule, feel free to use this on the schedule best for your family — maybe one evening a week would work, or Saturday mornings, or two days this week, and three next. You might even repeat a favorite lesson or activity. Let your imagination soar!

All the theme papers, lesson plans, sing-along videos, snack and craft instructions, and more are available at lutherhill.org/virtual-day-camp, where you can find five days of activities to keep you and your youngsters wholesomely and actively engaged!

If you and your family would like to use these materials, but need help with the PDFs of plans or instructions, please contact us, and we'll put a packet together for you. Particular, but not hard-to-find, craft materials are used. But, if you don't have eight popsicle sticks, give us a call, or send us an email, and we'll look through the Sunday school craft closets to help you out!

SERVING SCHEDULE

July 19, 2020

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

<i>Church Opening</i>	Pam Jones
<i>Sacraments</i>	Melanie Cobb
<i>Accompanist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti
<i>Ushers</i>	Dak McInnis Sherry McInnis
<i>Liturgist</i>	Chris Culp
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Tip Tipton
<i>Elder</i>	Charlene Landry
<i>Video Tech</i>	Callie Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Greg Taliaferro
<i>Livestream</i>	Ted Baldwin
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Melanie Cobb
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Mary Thompson
<i>Program Builder</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	Chris Culp

SERVING SCHEDULE

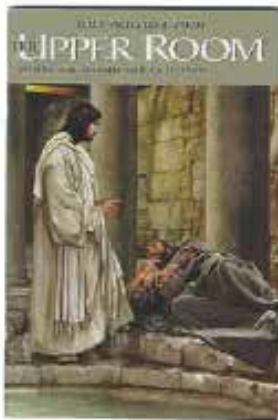
July 26, 2020

<i>Church Opening</i>	David Fennell
<i>Sacraments</i>	Melanie Cobb
<i>Accompanist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti
<i>Ushers</i>	Trey Earle
<i>Liturgist</i>	Tip Tipton
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	David Chisham
<i>Elder</i>	Mary Thompson
<i>Video Tech</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Livestream</i>	Ted Baldwin
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Church Closing</i>	Chris Culp

*Children's Worship & Wonder begins
summer break on Sunday, July 26*

CHECK OUT OUR MASTER ASSIGNMENTS SHEET, [HERE](#) or at fccbrla.org

The Upper Room Meditations Booklets & more



The July-August issue is available in the narthex for pick-up, where copies have been spaced out on a large table. If you're not yet coming to services in church, the **call-in meditation is currently available at no charge.**

There are two numbers available: (1) If you do not pay for long distance (most cell phone plans include long distance) you can call **1-615-212-2013**; or, (2) if you do pay for long distance calls, please call 1-877-600-7218. Additional free resources during this time are available online at upperroom.org.

Prayer List

The following people represent some of the current concerns at First Christian Church. If you would like to have a name added, update a current prayer request, or remove someone from the prayer list, please fill out one of the prayer cards in the attendance books and put it in the offering plate, or contact us at churchoffice@fccbrla.org, or 225-926-4175. Names will rotate off after two months without an update.

Members in our prayers:

Ann Baskin. Rita Brian. Dora & Ron Blackburn. Linda Burns-Sanders. Norma Carr. Jody Chrisope. Pam Culp. Lorrinda Dickinson. the Grigg family. Rich Griswold. George Gullett. Lee Gullett. Dawn & Craig Harvey, Ruth Horn. Barbara Knight. Marie Ladner. Allen Lax. Dak McInnis, Helen Mitchener. Jerry Moses. Bob & Jennifer Netterville. Helen Rankin. Ruth Riddle. Gladys & Kelly Runnels. Bill Trotter. Mary Jon Turner

Friends & Family of Members in our prayers

Rev. Dwight Bailey. Donna & Don Bohlcke. Angela Maria Avansi Casarotti. Roger Clites, Patricia Cornelius, Jimmie E. Dugas. Frances Durham. Johnny Durham. Paul Foster. Judy Heacock. Lindsey Himmel, Patty Hubeny. Ray Hutchinson. Mike Keene. Grandma Frances Krupala. Lee Lambert. Stephen Major, the family of Pat McAdam, Chelsey Miguez. Judy Olson. Bobby Phillips. David & Kimber Pittman, Cherry Quin. Debbie Riddle. Dayna Coupel Simoneaux. Claudia Wagner

Members in Active Military Service:

PVT Gage Goodspeed

CONTACT INFORMATION AND ONLINE LINKS:

Church Office Phone: 225-926-4175 Email: churchoffice@fccbrla.org

Rev. David Chisham: 703-220-6011 Email: david@fccbrla.org

Website: fccbrla.org

YouTube Video Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/FCCBRLA/featured>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/fccbrla>

Facebook Worship at Home: <https://facebook.com/fccbrlaworshipathome>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/fccbrla>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fccbrla>

Attention Techies, or Techie-wannabes!

We're looking for volunteers to help run our new livestream production. You don't need to have specialized skills; just be able to follow the service and click a mouse. With training, you'll learn how to create a livestream program from beginning to end. We'll be using an industry standard app, OBS, for production, so the skills you learn here will transfer to productions you might do in work, school or just for fun! Talk to David if you're interested.



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

8484 Old Hammond Hwy.

Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1317

225-926-4175 | fccbrla.org

SERVICE AT 10:00 AM EACH SUNDAY - IN PERSON OR LIVESTREAM

JOIN US ONLINE FOR WORSHIP, PRAYER AND DEVOTIONALS: fccbrla.org