

First Christian Caller

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

Vol. 82

August 13, 2020

No. 16



IN THIS ISSUE

- ◇ David's Note
- ◇ Wednesday Lunch Bible Study
- ◇ Reach Out This Week to ...
- ◇ Ministry Assignments

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



Recently I was exploring a "This Day in History" website looking for a little inspiration. It was August 10, and I discovered that on that day, in 1846, the US Congress chartered the Smithsonian Institution.

The story behind the Smithsonian Institution is an odd and interesting one. It is named after James Smithson, an English chemist who lived in Britain and Europe all his life, and who never visited the United States. He had some mis-adventures during the French Revolution, being imprisoned and later released, and he had some success as a chemist helping develop an important chemical process for making brass. Smithson never married and had no children, so when he passed away in 1829 he willed his estate to a nephew with the stipulation that if the nephew died without any heirs, the remaining estate should be forwarded "to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an Establishment for the increase & diffusion of knowledge among men." Unfortunately the nephew passed away about six years later, unmarried and without any heirs, and the remaining \$500,000 estate was sent to the US.

I don't think James Smithson had any idea of what would happen with the seed he planted in a land he never visited, establishing an institution for which no one was asking. I don't think he, or the US Congress of 1846, envisioned the Institution growing such that today it encompasses 19 museums, 21 libraries, nine research centers, and zoo with additional affiliate facilities located in 45 states, Puerto Rico and Panama. I don't think anyone envisioned that Kori, my wife, would be employed at a massive Smithsonian museum celebrating the successes of human flight from Kitty Hawk to the Moon and beyond. That small seed Smithson planted grew into a massive and admirable tree!

It makes me think of a line from one of Wendell Berry's poems:

*Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.*

We often get caught up in what we can do to reap a harvest here and now, but we may never know the much-more-dramatic-effect that the seeds we plant today will have for tomorrow.

In my sermon this past Sunday, I mentioned the prophet Elijah's total frustration when he realized all of his extraordinary prophetic endeavors hadn't changed a single heart. What I failed to mention is that a little over three thousand years later we still remember and celebrate Elijah, and look to him as an example of faith. Though Elijah's work foundered in his own time, future generations would find incredible value and insight in him.

The long-term potential of the seeds we plant is true of the positive investment we make in others, and it is true of the negative seeds of anger and violence and mistrust that we may plant as well. We may never see the long range effects of our actions today, for better or for worse — let us be alert and sow seeds of faith and love trusting that God will bring a blessed increase.

Christ's peace,



Rev. Dr. David Chisham
Senior Minister



Blood Donors Urgently Needed

Our Lady of the Lake Blood Donor Center

The OLOL Blood Donor Center is located on the first floor of the hospital near Elevator A. Free parking is available for all donors on the day of donation in Garage 2. No appointment is needed, and walk-in donors are welcome. The OLOL contact number is 225-765-8843; and, the hours are: Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; and, Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lifeshare Blood Center

The center is at 5475 Essen Lane, right right behind Ichiban and Sushi Masa, and open Monday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Tuesday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Contact: 225-478-1155, or find a mobile site near you [online, here](#). A mobile drive at FCC is tentatively scheduled on **Sunday, September 13**.

Mention "First Christian Church account" when you donate at either center!

Beginning this Week!

Wednesday Noon Bible Study on Zoom

Rev. David begins a Wednesday lunchtime Zoom-hosted Bible study this **Wednesday, August 12, 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.

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.

For those able and available, we'll also meet in person in the sanctuary library, starting at noon allowing some time to greet each other. [R.s.v.p. to the church office](#) if joining in person, so we can make proper spacing and equipment arrangements.



Reach Out This Week to ...

Several members of our community remain largely or entirely isolating, so we'll share a few names with each newsletter, and ask that you **take just a moment to share a note, a card, or phone call with one or more of those listed:**

- ◇ *Lee & George Gullett, 587 Tinley Dr., Baton Rouge LA 70815; 225-275-5424; 225-235-9889*
- ◇ *Margaret & Tom Moore, 1090 Colonial Dr., Baton Rouge LA 70806; 225-923-0225*
- ◇ *Jennifer & Bob Netterville, 6022 Hope Estate Dr., Baton Rouge LA 70820; 225-766-7989*

Flexibility is Key



While East Baton Rouge Parish schools continue virtual learning, Rev. David Chisham will be swapping home facilitator duties through Labor Day (Monday, September 7).

Rev. David will be in the church office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursday mornings, and working from his home on Tuesdays, and on Thursday afternoons. He will be available during the work-at-home times via email or cell phone,

The church office remains open at our regular hours: 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We are following distancing and masking protocols, and suggest the same to you, if you come by to visit.

Remember: Offering plates are **not passed during Sunday services, but are near each entrance/exit.** In addition, you can make your offering by:

1. **Mail your check** to *First Christian Church, 8484 Old Hammond Hwy., Baton Rouge LA 70809.*
2. **Drop off your check** through the mail slot on the church office door. At least one of the staff is going by daily to check the mail and the property.
3. **Sign up for *Bill Pay***, a free service offered by just about all banks and credit unions, and they'll issue payments based on your account instructions and schedule.



The Blessing of a New Life

Baby Dedication

Sunday, August 16, 2020

Alexandria Kathryn Lee

SERVING SCHEDULE

August 16, 2020

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

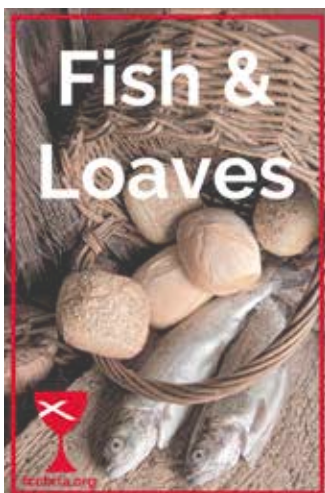
<i>Church Opening</i>	Marion Denova
<i>Sacraments</i>	Donna & Glen Tetrick
<i>Ushers</i>	Ashley Bourgeois Joshua Dotts Trey Earle
<i>Liturgist</i>	Lisa Fennell
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Callie Cody
<i>Elder</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Livestream</i>	Ted Baldwin
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jeff Cody

SERVING SCHEDULE

August 23, 2020

<i>Church Opening</i>	Pam Jones
<i>Sacraments</i>	Donna & Glen Tetrick
<i>Ushers</i>	Joann Taliaferro James Morgan
<i>Liturgist</i>	Jerry Moses
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Ashley Bourgeois
<i>Elder</i>	David Brian
<i>Video Tech</i>	Nicolas Morgan
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Tony Fatta
<i>Livestream</i>	Ted Baldwin
<i>Program Builder</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	Nancy Fatta

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



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."*

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:

JD Albin, Ann Baskin, Rita Brian, Dora & Ron Blackburn, Linda Burns-Sanders, Lois Burt, 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, Yvonne Taylor, Bill Trotter, Mary Jon Turner, Toni Wilson

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, Reynaud Henton, Ray Hutchinson, Mike Keene, Grandma Frances Krupala, Lee Lambert, Melody, Scott, Jr Larsen, Stephen Major, the family of Bill May, Terri McIlwain, Robert McKinnis family, Chelsey Miguez, Judy Olson, the family of Louise Perkins, Bobby Phillips, David & Kimber Pittman, Tallu Schuyler Quinn, Cherry Quin, Debbie Riddle, Dayna Coupel Simoneaux, Leta Turnipseed, Claudia Wagner, Jim Williams

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>



The flowers in the sanctuary
on Sunday, August 23, 2020
are given in loving memory of

Jeff Weeks

September 4, 1957 - August 23, 2019

by Ann Weeks and family.



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