



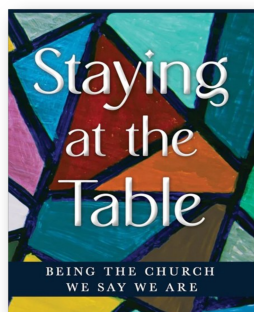
Disciples Care Newsletter FEB 2026

Office Hours are 9am to 2pm, M-Th
3100 N. St. Louis Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801



WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side, “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing, “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.



Staying at the Table: Being the Church We Say We Are – Conclusion

February 1 – “Staying at the Table” John 6:60-71

February 8 – “Changing the Narrative” Matthew 9:14-17

February 15 – “I Want a Church . . .” Isaiah 11:9-10

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18

As “sojourners” on a spiritual journey, a Lenten study focusing on scripture, reflection, and walking sounds right up our alley! In *Meeting Jesus on the Road*, we are invited to journey alongside Christ through the Gospel stories that define his earthly path. Gathering a group of disciples around him, Jesus travelled the region, teaching, healing, and proclaiming that the reign of God is at hand. He met them all with compassion. He brought them hope. From the Jordan River to the hills of Galilee and beyond, Jesus calls us—like the first disciples—to follow, listen, question, and grow.

Lent is a pilgrimage of forty days as we walk – mentally or physically – with Jesus as he reveals the world as God sees it and examine our response as followers. Each week, Colleen will use this resource to guide our adult Sunday School and worship and offer weekly suggested practices to help us dive deeper in reflection and growth. Beginning with Ash Wednesday when we prepare ourselves for the journey and throughout the season, walking will serve as our spiritual metaphor for following Jesus toward the cross and empty tomb. Each week we will also receive “Walking Prompts” that stimulate our thinking and compliment the weekly reflection and encourage full integration of mind, body, and soul. “Using images, metaphors, and lessons from the life and wanderings of Jesus and from the spiritual practices of pilgrimages and labyrinths, the authors will lead us on a Lenten journey that is engaging, exacting, and enlightening.” For those with mobility challenges, alternative modes of meditation and observation will be included.

The brief Ash Wednesday service will be in the Fellowship Hall at 6PM on February 18, allowing for a different kind of atmosphere to commission our journey. Then the following Sunday worship themes and scriptures will be as follows, and will be the same for Adult Faith Formation at 9:30am (Sunday School):

February 22 – Lent #1 “On the Road to Ministry” Matthew 4:12-17

March 1 – Lent #2 “Grounded in Prayer” Matthew 6:5-15

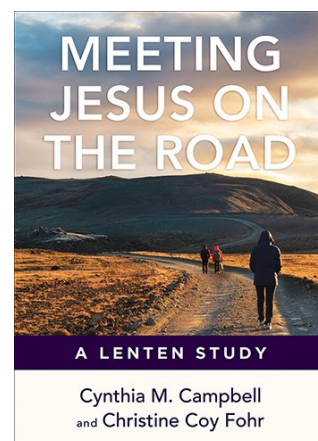
March 8 – Lent #3 “Traveling Unattached” Luke 9:1-6

March 15 – Lent #4 “A New Allegiance” Mark 8:31-37

March 22 – Lent #5 “Decentering the Self” Mark 9:30-37

March 29 – Palm Sunday – “On the Way to the Cross” Mark 11:1-10

April 5 – Easter Sunday – “Back to the Beginning” Matthew 28:1-10



♦♦In preparation for this spiritual pilgrimage, the authors suggest that we read the entire Gospel of Mark and note how often Jesus changes locations. We have just enough time to read one chapter a day before the start of Lent. Let’s do this!



Week of Compassion Special Offering

February 15 and 22

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God’s people transform suffering into hope.

Board Reports are DUE MONDAY Feb 9, Please submit to Shelly by 2pm that day. Thank you!

EVENTS/OTHER

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Christian Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, February 4 at 9:30AM in the fellowship hall with Carolyn Theil and JoHelen Umphenour as hosts. The special offering is for Lafayette House.



FELLOWSHIP MEAL, Potluck SUNDAY February 15

Join us! Suggested items to bring are done by last initial,
Main Dish S-Z, side and salad A-L, dessert M-R



Crosslines: Thank you, Sojourners and PLC for contributing canned meat; Spam or tuna . Our next scheduled workday is February 26, 9:45AM to 2PM.

GREEN TIP-Now is a good time to plan your garden. Adding even a few native plants makes a difference. For information on native plants, go to Grow Native at <https://grownative.org>.



SOLD! The church van has been sold for \$9000 and is in the hands of First Christian Church in Frankfort. Thanks to Jeanie Morrison for handling the sale of the vehicle.



Souper Bowl of Caring culminates on Super Bowl Sunday, February 8. Place your non-perishable food items in the bin designated for the team you're cheering to win the game and everyone wins!

IN PERSON BOARD MEETING February 10th at Sojourners starts at 6:30pm

Jan. 2026 Life Together Task Force Committee

At the Jan. 5 meeting, the Task Force heard from SCC Green Team Chair Cyndi Cogbill and endorsed her suggestion to have the church property identified as a Certified Wildlife Habitat. This is through the National Wildlife Federation's program for churches. Certification is a \$25 one-time fee, and some extra fees for signs. When certification is verified a joint celebration with both churches will be scheduled.

The Task Force will begin to identify ways for both congregations to be more intentional in joint fellowship activities to further encourage a spirit of collaboration and partnership.

The next meeting will be 6 p.m. Monday, March 2.

Hand Labyrinth Class Coming in March

Join Cyndi Cogbill and Rose Turylo to make a personal, hand labyrinth from polymer clay and paint while you learn about labyrinths as well as meditation and prayers for their use.

- Saturday, March 14, 2026 at Sojourners CC
- 1:00 to 4:00 pm
- Not recommended for children; dress for crafting.

Fee \$35. Registration is required, and space is limited. Email cyndi@pawpawpatchproductions.com, or call/text 417-553-1583.



African American History Month.

February is our African American History Month, also known as Black History Month. It is a time to reflect on the contributions made in our history by African Americans. There are so many and a journey through them is not only enlightening, but educational. Take some time this month to honor the African Americans who did so much for our country with education, art, industry, inventions, and much more despite overwhelming discrimination and injustice.

Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center will host a native plant sale on *Saturday, May 23rd* starting at 10am. **SAVE THE DATE!**



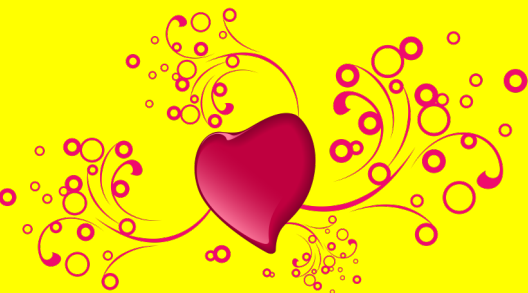
Prayer Requests

Sympathy: Jan Heil Blankenship (Cullumber); Willa Beth (Randall) Hoenshell's mother-in-law

Medical: Cyndi Cogbill; Setsuko Erickson (Reed); Micah Evans; Karen Fitterling; Terry Hays; Kyle Theil; Roger Traver

Ongoing:

Kittie Blankenship; Bill Burns (Randall); Rachel Eckhardt; Joan Fitterling; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Carolyn and Tom Fortson; Nancy Graham; Chris Greninger; Terry Hays; Jones' neighbor's baby; James Knudtson; Sandy Meadows; Sara Metts (Randall); Arlene Nash; Chastity Perry (White); Willa Randall; Jayne Sanders; Lou Starks; Sue Sterrett; Connie Sullivan; Pat Tikkanen (PLC) Roger Traver; Michael Wallace (Randall); Pat Wolfenbarger



Global Ministries Focus:
Feb 1 – Bangladesh
Feb 8 – Mozambique
Feb 15 – Honduras
Feb 22 – China

RESPONSIBILITIES

Elders

Feb 1	Darlene Coit
Feb 8	Jim Cullumber
Feb 15	Leanna Carroll
Feb 22	Sandy Meadows

Diaconate

Feb. 1	Communion Prep-Connie Abraham and Judy Akeman Homebound-Don Smith
Feb. 8	Communion Prep-Terry Plossl and Les Davenport Homebound-Tom Wheeler
Feb. 15	Communion Prep-Megan Bever and Jessica Fletcher-Fierro Homebound-Susan Wolfenbarger
Feb. 22	Communion Prep-Joyce Crumbliss and Sherry Crumbliss Homebound-Tom Hamm

Camera & Sound

Feb 1	Terry Plossl & Ray Reaves
Feb 8	Judy Schneider & Darryl Coit
Feb 15	Jenn Reaves & Ken Moser
Feb 22	Terry Plossl & Don Smith

Kid's Church Preschool thru 6th Grades

Feb 1	Darlene Coit & James Knudtson
Feb 8	Jessica Fletcher-Fierro & Sandy Meadows
Feb 15	Kids in Family Worship
Feb 22	Robb Jones & Margie Fitterling

Children Worship & Wonder

Feb 1	Karen Kemp and Judy Schneider
Feb 8	Karen Fitterling and Taylor Reaves
Feb 15	Children in big worship
Feb 22	Laney Reaves and Taylor Reaves




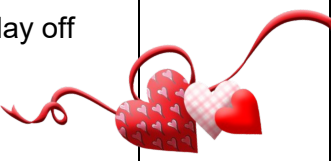




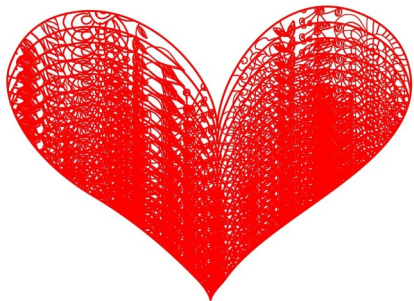
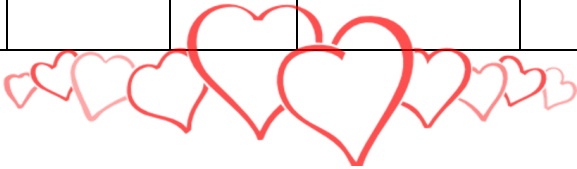
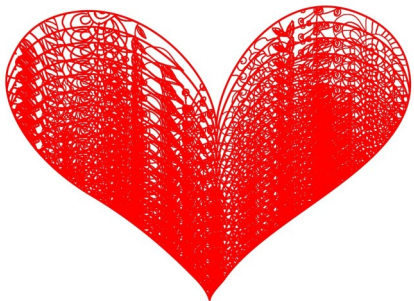
Birthdays

1 Terry Plossl
4 Carolyn Theil
6 Karen Fitterling
9 Julia Foster
18 Emma Eckhardt
19 Sherry Crumbliss
19 Kenton Foster
26 Daryl Coit



LOVE ONE ANOTHER. . .

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid’s church CW&W 2:15 Interfaith Cooking Circle @ISJ	2 	3 (5:30 pm WW)	4 9:30AM CWF 6pm Choir	5	6 Office Closed Pastor’s day off	7
8 8:00am Elders 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid’s Church CW&W Souper Bowl Sunday	9 <u>Board Reports Due</u>	10 (5:30 pm WW) 6:30 PM Board	11 6pm Choir	12 12:30PM Minister’s Brown Bag Lunch	13 Office Closed Pastor’s day off	14  
15 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:15 Kids Bells 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/ Children in Family Worship 12:00 Fellowship Potluck Week of Compassion Offering #1	16	17 (5:30 pm WW)	18 ASH WED, Lent begins 6pm PLC wor- ship in Sanctuary 6pm Sojourners in Fellowship hall 7:00pm Choir	19	20 Office Closed Pastor’s day off 	21
22 First Sunday of Lent 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid’s Church CW&W 6:30pm Elders on Zoom Week of Compassion Offering #2	23 	24 (5:30pm WW)	25 Snack Pack Day 6pm Choir	26 9:45am Crosslines work day	27 Office Closed Pastor’s day off	28 



February is African American History Month

PLEASE NOTE
Office Hours
9am to 2pm
Mon-Thurs

All activities at Sojourner’s
Christian Church, unless otherwise specified

Our website address is: www.sojournerschristianchurch.org
And find us on Facebook!