

DECEMBER 2025

- * THE HEARTBEAT IS PUBLISHED EACH MONTH
- * THE HEARTBEAT DEADLINE IS THE SAME DAY AS MONTHLY PROGRAM CABINET MEETING
- * SUBMISSIONS FOR THE HEARTBEAT CAN BE SENT TO:
- * fcckent@Kentdisciples.org and officeangel@Kentdisciples.org
- * THE HEARTBEAT IS DISTRIBUTED VIA EMAIL ALONG WITH THE MONTHLY CALENDAR
- * IF YOU'D LIKE THE HEARTBEAT MAILED DIRECTLY VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL, THEN PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE (INVOLVES A POSTAGE FEE)

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP VIA
ZOOM OR IN PERSON

SUNDAYS @ 10am

First Christian Church of Kent
(Disciples of Christ)

OUR HEARTBEAT

From the Pastor

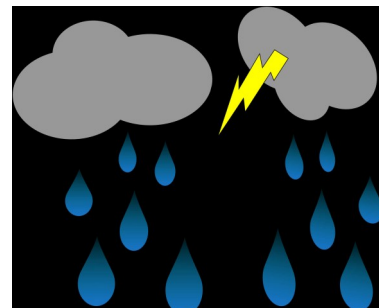
T'was a dark and stormy night...

As I'm writing this, there are only 8.5 hours of daylight, and weak daylight at that. It is stormy and it is rainy. In fact, it is just about as dark as it gets. For millennia people living in the northern hemisphere have lived in this darkness, and in it, they have sought something that seemed so distant. Hope. In Northern Europe there have been celebrations of the promise of a coming hope for thousands of years. One of the best well known pre-Christian celebrations was called Saturnalia. It was a celebration of the promise of the rising of the sun. A reminder that, even though it is dark now, the sun and its warmth will return.

Now, a lot has been made of Christians stealing this holiday, or the fact that Christ's birthday is not December 25th. But that has little to do with our celebration of Christ. What we are celebrating is the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love that we find in Christ. Hope coming first and is often the foundation of our celebration. The Hope that Christ is coming, not just on the 25th but also, in our hearts and the Christ to come. Hope is our shield against the darkness, in the world and in our hearts. Hope is not a wish, but the confidence that God's promise is true. The light of that promise light's our way in this darkness, and the darkness has not, does not, and will not overcome it.

May the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of this season guide and comfort you this season.

Peace,



SERVING & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



Most Urgent Needs:

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Lead financial literacy and budgeting classes.

EMPLOYMENT

Support clients with resume building, cover letters, and mock interviews.

ATTENDANCE TABLE VOLUNTEER

Maple Valley- Tue & Th, 5:30-7:30

Greet clients and help with general data entry

Kent- Friday 10:00-12:00

Tuesday & Thursday 5:30-7:30 pm

FRONT DESK & INTAKE -KENT

Be the friendly face that welcomes visitors, helps check in donations, and supports our team with applications, phone calls, and office tasks.

- Tue: 9-11, 1-5
- Wed: 9-12, 1-5



May 1-3, 2026

Northern Lights Regional Assembly
Kennewick Christian Church, WA

July 13-18, 2026

Summer Youth Camp
Gwinwood Retreat Center

Regional News

Why Do I Need to Fill Out A New Green Sheet?

Because , it is a New Year and most people don't realize how busy First Christian Church of Kent's building is.

As I am writing this; we have 3 church congregations, 2—12 Step Programs, and a Quilting Guild that use our building on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Not to mention that we have a Preschool in our Education wing 4 mornings a week.

Now add into that mix, the folks who call and want to use our building for a funeral or a wedding or a meeting of some sort.

Now add in all of Our activities and try to put them on a calendar to make sure that nothing is double booked or anything is missed.

Is your head spinning yet? If so you understand why I need a green sheet for EVERY Meeting and Activity that goes on even if it is off site.

There in lies the basis of my plea. Please, please, please fill out a green sheet and, either, slide it under my office door, or, put it in the top bin outside my door or you can email it if that is easier for you. I thank you and so does my spinning head!



Important Dates

EVERY SUNDAY

Worship ~ 10:00 am
Coffee Hour & Sunday School ~ 11:00 am

EVERY TUESDAY

Mary/Martha Group ~ 10:30 am

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Bible Study ~ 10:00 am (zoom)
ALL !N Worship ~ 6:00 pm

EVERY THURSDAY

Bible Study ~ 7:00 pm (Zoom)

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD

Early Birds @ Maggie's ~ 9:00 am
Hand & Foot ~ 6:00 pm

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH

Elders Meeting ~ 9:00 am

TUESDAY JANUARY 13

Executive Team Meeting ~ 6:00 pm (Zoom)
Program Cabinet Meeting ~ 7:00 pm (Zoom)
Heartbeat Submission Deadline

SATURDAY JANUARY 17

Disciple Women's Breakfast @ Maggie's ~ 9:00 am
Pinochle ~ 6:00 pm

TUESDAY JANUARY 27TH

Governing Board Meeting ~ 7:00 pm (Zoom)



Continuing to Worship Together

As we worship together, we invite you to participate via zoom or In Person. We continue to care for our church family in the best ways possible.

For anyone that would like to join us via ZOOM, We are happy to help you set this up. Please email Pastor at Colin@kentdisciples.org or Brenda at officeangel@kentdisciples.org for more information. Blessings & safety to all!

Thank You for Serving!

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READERS

01/04	Kyle Briggs
01/11	Chris Medhurst
01/18	Dan Aeschliman
01/25	Leslie Aeschliman

If you would like to read scripture please contact Elaine Patrick or Amie Jacot

DIACONATE: Tom Medhurst
Chris Medhurst

SACRISTY:

SUNDAY WORSHIP ELDERS:

01/04	Margaret Luke
01/11	Nicole McRaney
01/18	Phyllis Simpson
01/25	Betty Shepard

ELDERS Meeting is on the 2nd Saturday of each month, but be sure to reach out to your Elder if you need assistance.

Birthdays

Abram Deng	01/01
Asunta Chol	01/01
Nancy Turner	01/10
Marlyce Osness	01/12
Alec McRaney	01/06
Benny Iskandar	01/26

Anniversaries



Zoom Links for regular services, studies and groups

Bible Study **Wednesday @ 10am & Thursday @ 7pm** **On Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/7067571886>

Meeting ID: 706 757 1886

+1 253 215 8782 US

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/7067571886>

FCC Kent Worship Sunday @ 10am

Worshiping together in person & on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/659719477>

Meeting ID: 659 719 477

+1 253 215 8782 US

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/659719477>

**Links for meetings are sent to the team members each month before they happen.

UPDATED September 30, 2025

OUR MISSION

1. *To invite people into a loving relationship with God through Jesus Christ;*
2. *To care for each other as children of God;*
3. *To build believers into disciples of Jesus Christ;*

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Colin McRaney
Pastor
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9:30 am—3:00 pm

Penney Young
Office Administrator
Office Hours:
Tuesday—Thursday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Kaelee Bolme
Director of Music Ministry

Brenda Barnes
Office Volunteer

Dan Lenhart
Custodian

AND WE KEEP IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS:

Members At Home — All that are staying in their homes to worship remotely. Praying we all stay safe & healthy.

Those Serving Our Country — Jorge & Celestine Burgos-Erazo
And Our First Responders.

And Don't Forget—Our Church Leaders, Our Community, and Our Friends.

Stewardship Giving Information

Thank you for your continued support of our shared ministry here at First Christian Church of Kent. Your gifts go out into the world, but also work here at home. But that's not all that your gifts do, they feed the hungry, house the homeless, and clothe the naked. These are the things that Christ called us to do.

In these times of uncertainty, the needs that this congregation serves, have not disappeared. They are growing. Together we are able to do the work that God has called us to, the work that Christ taught us to do. You can mail offering directly to the church at:

First Christian Church
PO Box 5009
Kent, WA 98064

or contact Larry for online options. Which are either your bank bill payer or the FCC website using Stewardship Technology

If you would like your giving statement mailed out, let Larry know.

[253-656-9856](tel:253-656-9856) or lshepard46@hotmail.com

Our Invitation to You

The invitation of God's love is perfect and unconditional. Our invitation to you is unconditional as well. Regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, political stance, age, or ability, ALL are welcome. Period.

We are not perfect, but our invitation is heartfelt, and it is faithful.

We welcome all of God's creation to worship, serve, and participate with us in any capacity.

Christ's example of God's love guides our worship, our work, and our welcome, and it dwells at the center of our commitment to be an intentionally creative, inclusive, nurturing, and inter-generational church.

First Christian Church of Kent

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