

AUGUST 2026

- * 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

Doing hard work, hard faith work, is important. You've heard me say it 100 times, work on your foundation while the sun is shining, because when the storm comes all you have is that foundation built on the Rock. That Rock is made of faith, honed by questions, and strengthened by experience. Experience comes in many forms, and most, but not all, are uncomfortable in some way. They are uncomfortable not because they are bad, but because they are different.

This is one of the reasons that I am a strong advocate for Church Camp. It's an opportunity to be uncomfortable in an environment that is welcoming to questions and supported by a scaffold of faith. You can ask "dumb" questions, questions that you don't ask other places; honest questions. Because you are safe and this is the place to grow.

There always seems to be a question that catches me out every year. Last year it was a question about a sometimes controversial faith topic: Creationism vs. Evolution. The reason why this caught me out was not because of the content, that's a question I get almost every year, but because it was on day 1.

Typically, deeper and harder questions arrive later in the week as the kids, and adults, get settled in and realize they are safe. But this was day one, unpacked, question. It's nice to know that there are still things that I can learn after going to camp for 30 years.

I look forward to sharing with you all what I learned this year after I get back.

God Bless You,

Peace,



SERVING & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



Who We Serve

93% of the adults we serve are single mothers and 66% of who we serve are children.
More than 70% have experienced or witnessed domestic violence.

Parents who come to Vine Maple Place have experienced generational poverty, homelessness, and trauma that's resulted in toxic stress, which has impacted development. Many have struggled in school, have low education levels, and limited work experience.

- 81% of families enter our Stable Families program at or below the federal poverty level or severely low income.
- 80% suffer with anxiety, depression, or other mental health issues.
- 73% of VMP clients are people of color.

Most of the **children** we serve have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) which can include abuse or neglect, domestic violence, frequent moves, poor nutrition, and unsafe living conditions. Over 65% of children require intensive services to reach age-appropriate development

In Search of Green Grass

As you may have noticed, crows decimated the grass in front of the church entry last year - in their tireless search for grubs. Can't blame a hungry crow. But...we have a team working on replacing that grass on the north and south of the entry way, and replacing the weeds in the planter to the south of the church building. The first phase of the work was the removal of the old scraps of sod and weeds and dirt in these three areas, and a small group of volunteers completed most of that on June 22nd. There is a plan to install some new irrigation pipes in the front grass areas, and when the weather is right, placing new sod in the front (**we'll need more volunteer help for that!**). That will most likely be late summer/early fall. The planter strip south of the church building (near Colin's office and the big kitchen) will be some combination of pavers and decorative gravel - details still being worked out. We know this is a bit unsightly at the moment - but we just wanted to let people know mud for the winter is not the plan. This will be discussed more at the July 28th Board Meeting - please join the discussion if you are interested!

-The Executive team



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Congregational Life would like to invite
you to:

Strings in the Garden
(Soos Creek Botanical Garden
29308 132nd Ave SE
Auburn, WA 98092)
Sunday August 23rd; 2-4 p,

With the acclaimed String Quartet from the
Auburn Symphony

Bring your chair or use one of theirs.
Gates open 1 hour prior.



It's that time again!

We are updating the Directory.

If you have made any address, phone or email changes please make sure the office has them. If you're not sure get them too us as well. It will hopefully be finished in September



Please add our TWO new members to your directory

Vicki Herrick
904 E Walnut
Kent, WA 98030
Phone: (202) 740-3237
Email: vherrick4@gmail.com

Kai Ide
11341 SE 212th Lane, #56
Kent, WA 98031
Phone: (509) 859-5724
Email: idea2@spu.edu

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 IN Worship ~ 6:00 pm

(Summer Schedule, please check with the office for location)

EVERY THURSDAY

Bible Study ~ 7:00 pm (Zoom)

SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST

Early Birds @ Maggie's ~ 9:00 am

Hand & Foot ~ 6:00 pm

SUNDAY AUGUST 2ND

Potluck Picnic @ Jacot's

SATURDAY AUGUST 8TH

Elder's Meeting @ 9 am

TUESDAY AUGUST 11TH

Program Cabinet Meeting ~ 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Heartbeat Submission Deadline

SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH

Disciple Women's @ Maggie's ~ 9:00 am

Pinochle ~ 6:00 pm

Wednesday August 26th

KSD First Day of School

No All In!



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

08/02	Lesley Aeschliman
08/09	Dan Aeschliman
08/16	Wil Cabo
08/23	Nancy Turner
08/30	Bob Middleton

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

DIACONATE: Margaret Luke
Betty Shepard

SACRISTY: Bonnie Warrick

SUNDAY WORSHIP ELDERS:

08/02	Theresa Lee
08/09	Margaret Luke
08/16	Elaine Patrick
08/23	Theresa Lee
08/30	Rosalie Sterner

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

Birthdays

Alecia Sharp	08/04
Robin Lantz	08/10
Mary Berry	08/12
Laurie Eriks	08/13
Vicki Herrick	08/15
Greg Mundell	08/16
Jim Osness	08/18
Helen Lord	08/21
Tony Huber	08/26
Dorothy Gifford	08/29

Anniversaries

Colin & Nicole McRaney	08/04
Daniel March & Greg Mundell	08/13
Paul & Margaret Luke	08/14
Dean & Amie Jacot	08/16
Larry & Betty Shepard	08/24

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 April 23, 2026

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 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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Kentdisciples.org (253) 852-1930
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