

VISITOR

March 20, 2018



Casey First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

200 SE 8th St. · P.O. Box 303 · Casey, IL 62420

(217)932-2773 · cfcc@caseyfcc.org · www.caseyfcc.org

Rev. Brian McCreanor · pastorbrian@caseyfcc.org

Sunday Services: 9 am Sunday School · 10 am Worship

To Know Him-Love Him-Share Him

APRIL 2018 SERVING SCHEDULE

	APRIL 1ST	APRIL 8TH	APRIL 15TH	APRIL 22ND	APRIL 29TH
ELDERS	Ruthie Wimbley Kathy Hayes	Peggy Hickox Larry Patchett	Nina Meeker Debi Sinclair	Sherri Butcher Cindy Stephen	Moe Wimbley Sherri Butcher
ELDERS SHUT-INS	Sherri & Kathy				
DEACONS	Kenny Shobe Steph Shobe Devan Smith	Cheryl Stifal Jeanne Unzicker Marcia Vidoni	Jeri Bland Paula Blair Bill Brewer	Linda Coleman Cassie Ramsey Sharon Richardson	Connie Roberts Kenny Shobe Steph Shobe
PREP. COMM.	Kenny & Steph	Cheryl & Jeanne	Jeri & Bill	Linda & Sharon	Kenny & Steph
DEACONS SHUT-INS	Bill & Shellie				
WORSHIP LEADER		Patty Clapp	Sharon Richardson	Larry Patchett	
GREETER	Larry Patchett	Patty Clapp	Peggy Hickox	Sherri Butcher	Graham's
SOUND	Ken Whitton	Michael Stephen	Brad Hickox	Ken Whitton	Michael Stephen
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE		Michael Stephen	Kathy Hayes		
CHALLENGER REFRESHMENTS	Grahams	Peggy Hickox	Eleanor Markwell	Bonnie McCash	Larry Patchett
SERMON	Rev. Jacqueline Morgan	Rev. Jacqueline Morgan	Rev. Jacqueline Morgan	Rev. Jacqueline Morgan	Rev. Jacqueline Morgan

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

Good-bye! a kind good-bye,
I bid you now, my friend,
And though 'tis sad to speak the word,
To destiny I bend

And though it be decreed by Fate
That we ne'er meet again,
Your image, graven on my heart,
Forever shall remain.

Aye, in my heart thoult have a place,
Among the friends held dear,-
Nor shall the hand of Time efface
The memories written there.
Goodbye,
S.L.C.

To Jennie —Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens—S.L.C.)

Twain was said to have written this poem about his niece, to whom he was very close, who recently died. Now I understand in my departure no one is dying, but make no mistake about it, this is goodbye forever in the sense that my time as your pastor is over and will never be again. There may come a time when we see each other in this small world, and even smaller town—I still live here!—but my time as your humble servant and shepherd has come to an end and will never be again. In that sense it is final . . . as final as it gets.

I want to begin by saying Thank You. Thank you for opening up your homes to me and my family and for the hospitality you shared. Thank you for opening up your hearts and your minds to me and sometimes, to new ways of doing things. We ate together, laughed together, cried together, and prayed together, and I am grateful. I leave you with my heart full and grateful. I also leave, however, with a torn heart.

My heart is torn with worry that with all we accomplished we did not accomplish enough. My heart is torn about the fact that there is more work to be done and more growth and change to take place. My heart is torn about the fact there is more we can learn from and teach each other. But, alas, this is true of every relationship as it comes to a close—there is always something more that can be gleaned and added to life's wisdom coffers.

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In addition to my gratitude, I want to wish you well. I wish you and Jacqueline well on your new journey together. Remember, she is a spiritual leader, not a decision maker or a dictator. She will love you even if you don't love her, so love her. I wish you well on listening to her wisdom and taking into consideration her observations and suggestions for how to continue your return to health. Healthy congregations are the only kinds of congregations that grow. I wish you well in realizing your future story and faithfully living into your ministry plan in covenant with each other and with God.

There is a final issue with my departure that I must address: grief. When someone leaves grief is natural. There are those of you who will **not** grieve my departure, and that is okay. Leave room, space, and time, however, for those who will grieve. Their grief and their fond memories of me are not a commentary on Jacqueline or the work that was done to hire her. Their grief is not a comment on a desire for me to stay—that was never an option. Grief and praise and comments like, "I'm going to miss Brian," are not meant to mean that they wish I could or would stay and are not meant to as a criticism of the work that was done between the search team and God to find and call Jacqueline to be your new pastor. Grief is not at all a lament that Jacqueline's arrival is impending. Let people grieve, even if you aren't going to miss me and are really excited about Jacqueline's arrival. To those who are grieving: give yourselves time to grieve my leaving, but do not let your grief linger. Embrace Jacqueline—physically and emotionally—soon and often. Welcome her presence among you and with you. Take heed of her wisdom and guidance. Pray with her and for her often. Remember, she will be the person, the Pastor, who will laugh with you, cry with you, celebrate with you, and pray with you and for you ceaselessly.

My family and I enjoyed our time here in the land of giant stuff. My family and I enjoyed our time here with YOU! We are grateful for the hospitality, for the lessons, for the consideration, and for the love. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers always.

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11.1

Have faith.

With much Love, Blessings, and one final Aloha,

Brian

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Prayer Requests

Bob Bluhm
Linda Brown
Patty Clapp
Bill Coleman
Sheryl Comer
Bill Cross
Bob Daugherty
Pauline Davidson
Gene Denney
Dale Finney
Bryce & Jennifer Fitch

Bentlei Freeman
Terri Fulton
John Galey
Paul Gordon
Rich Grafton
Sue Hills
Kay Hunsaker
Bill Johnson
Erin Larsen
Sue Liffick
Karen Mitchell

Troy Richardson
Randy Rue
Ron Rue
Dave Sauer
Jerry Self
Scott Stephen
Shawn Stifal
Mary Sue Watson
Wayne & Joan Wemple
Bob William
Steve Wimbley
Daniel Winn

Casey Health Care

Patty Hickox
Ruth Fitch
Robbie Morey

Heartland

Vera Ingle
Simple Blessings
Laura Snider
Janet Cooper

Active Military

Brandon Blair
Daniel Daugherty
Mitchell Markwell

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

4 Kyle Carver	15 Tennyson McCreanor
6 PK Johnson	17 Tony & Sherri Butcher
7 Devan Smith	18 Gene Decker
11 John & Lynda Graham	20 Gage Newlin
12 Marsha Rue	21 Jennings McCreanor
13 Danny & Shellie Simpson	23 Jerry Nichols
15 Sharon Rue	23 Bill & Tricia Garver
15 Nick Sherwood	30 Nate Gilbert

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April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Sunday	2 9:00 MML 4:30 B/S 5:30 WW	3	4 7:00 Board Meeting	5 5:30 Choir	6	7
8	9 9:00 MML 4:30 B/S 5:30 WW	10	11	12 5:00 Red Hawk 5:30 Choir	13	14 2:00-9:00 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved for 4-H Dinner
15	16 9:00 MML 4:30 B/S 5:30 WW	17	18	19 5:30 Choir	20	21
22	23 9:00 MML 4:30 B/S 5:30 WW	24	25 7:00 Elders Meeting	26 5:30 Choir	27	28
29 5 th Sunday Sing @ Casey First Baptist Church	30 9:00 MML 4:30 B/S 5:30 WW	MML-Monday Morning Ladies B/S- Boy Scouts WW-Weight Watchers				

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Announcements & Upcoming Events

Farewell Dinner for the McCreanors

Sun., March 25th
After Worship Service
Meat provided
Bring a side dish

CFCC Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 4th
7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

Rev. Jacqueline Morgan will be joining us beginning on Sunday, April 1. Please be in prayer for her as she prepares to move to Casey and lead our church. Please pray for our church as we transition to a new minister.

April Community

Free Meals

4:30-6:00 pm

2nd-First Baptist
9th-Casey White Oak
16th-Methodist
23rd-Nazarene
30th-Moriah

Easter Offering March 25th & April 1st

Ministries that receive funding from the Easter Offering include: the Center for Faith and Giving, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, Communication Ministries, Council on Christian Unity, Disciples Church Extension Fund / Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries, Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, and Treasury Services.

One didn't

Three men were tried for crimes against humanity. Two committed crimes. One didn't.
Three men were given government trials. Two were given fair trials. One wasn't.
Three men were whipped and beaten. Two had it coming. One didn't.
Three men were given crosses to carry. Two earned their crosses. One didn't.
Three men were mocked and spit at along the way. Two cursed and spit back. One didn't.
Three men were nailed to crosses. Two deserved it. One didn't.
Three men agonized over their abandonment. Two had reason to be abandoned. One didn't.
Three men knew death was coming. Two resisted. One didn't.
One, two, three men died on three crosses. Three days later, two remained in their graves.
One didn't.
--Author unknown