



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

February 15th, 2026

Pastor Rev. Jesse Kearns

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • (530) 343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.com
fccchico.com • Wi-Fi Network: FCCDOC • Password: 5303433727

AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE

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Welcome Visitors! We are excited that you have chosen to worship with us today; all are welcome and beloved—all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, *everyone*.

I. Prelude (Joshua Hegg)

II. Ringing of the Bell

III. Welcome and Announcements – (Kathy Moran)

- Today –Week Compassion begins today; Fellowship will be in Fireside following our worship service; We are hosting Safe Space Winter Shelter in Koinoina starting this evening and continuing until the morning of Sunday, Monday, March 1st.
- Monday, the church office is closed for Presidents' Day
- Tuesday – 10:45 a.m. Music Practice in Room 4; 2 p.m. Disciple Women's Ministry in Bethany; 7 p.m. Elders' hybrid meeting in Chapel and on Zoom
- Wednesday—Our Ash Wednesday Service will be at noon, in our Sanctuary with Chico First Baptist Church
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at Chico First Baptist Church and on their Zoom
- Next Sunday, after fellowship, Capital Campaign meeting in Room 6

- Printed Lenten Devotionals are on the tables near the bulletins
- Please see the back of your bulletins for the calendar
- Offerings may be put on the offering plate near the bulletins near the sanctuary's entrance

IV. Greeting One Another

V. Call to Worship – (Kathy Moran)

Today God sets before us a choice: life and death,
blessing and curse.

We come seeking the life God promises.

God calls us to love the Lord our God and to walk in
God's ways.

Teach us your ways, O God.

Heaven and earth bear witness today.

We choose life, that we may live.

VI. Opening Hymn – CH #288 “O God of Vision” (Joshua Hegg)

O God of vision
far greater than all human scheming,
gather us now in your presence,
refreshing, redeeming.

Show us anew,
life in your breathtaking view,
lovely beyond all our dreaming.

Pour out your Spirit on all
Now assembled before you.
May our diversity here
Be a means to adore you.
Women and men, young, old, and youthful again
Make us as one, we implore you.

Grant to us insight, O God,
for this time of decision.
May we dream challenging dreams
of both depth and precision.
Speak through the dark.
Dispel by lightning's bright spark
whatever clouds dim our vision.

Break the sun's rays into color,
A rainbow around us.
Storm clouds, though real and near,
Are not enough to confound us.
Arched in the sky,
Beauty and promise are high,
Giving us hope to astound us.

Grateful, we come now by
Christ's invitation clear spoken.
We seek the nourishment
Found in fruit crushed and bread broken.
Christ for us all!
Come, let us answer the call,
Offering our lives as the token.

**VII. Children in Fourth Grade and Under are
Dismissed for Sunday School**

VIII. Psalm 119:1-8 (NRSVUE) (Kathy Moran)

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.
Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart,
who also do no wrong
but walk in his ways.
You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.
O that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!
Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.
I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.
I will observe your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

**IX. Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20
(NRSVUE) (Kathy Moran)**

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity,
death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of
the Lord your God that I am commanding you today,
by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and
observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances,
then you shall live and become numerous, and the
Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are
entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and
you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to
other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that
you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the
land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and
possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you
today that I have set before you life and death,
blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your
descendants may live, loving the Lord your God,
obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means
life to you and length of days, so that you may live in
the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors,
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

X. Sermon -- “A Promise of Blessing” (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XI. Hymn of Reflection – CP #14 “Step by Step” (Joshua Hegg)

O God, you are my God,
And I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
And I will learn to walk in your way;
And step by step you’ll lead me,
And I will follow you all of my days.

O God, you are my God,
And I will ever praise you,
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
And I will learn to walk in your way;
And step by step you’ll lead me,
And I will follow you all of my days.

XII. Moments for Mission: Week of Compassion video

XIII. Prayers of the People

XIV. Response CH # 306 “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord” (Joshua Hegg)

Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us,
And grant us thy peace.
Amen.

XV. Communion Song – CH #403 “In Remembrance of Me” (Joshua Hegg)

In remembrance of Me eat this bread
In remembrance of Me drink this wine
In remembrance of Me pray for the time
When God’s own will is done

In remembrance of me heal the sick
In remembrance of me feed the poor
In remembrance of me open the door
And let your neighbor in, let them in

Take eat and be comforted
Drink and remember too
That this is my body and precious blood
Shed for you, shed for you

In remembrance of me search for truth
In remembrance of me always love
In remembrance of me don't look above
But in your heart look for God
Do this in remembrance of Me

XVI. Institution of Communion (Bill Peterson, elder)

XVII. Partaking Communion Together

XVIII. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse Kearns)

XIX. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)



On October 29, 2021, Somerset and Dorchester counties experienced Maryland's worst tidal flooding in 50 years — in many places, water levels were at or higher than Hurricane Sandy (2012). This kind of massive flooding creates immediate and long-term health threats to flood survivors and to their homes. The influx of bay water carried contaminants and wreaked havoc on plumbing and electrical systems, and left homes susceptible to the growth of mold and mildew.

The 2021 storm was unnamed and undeclared by federal agencies, and received minimal media coverage. Few people knew the storm even happened, let alone where to find the resources and networks needed to help survivors move toward recovery. But the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee was there. Having formed after Hurricane

Sandy, the ESLTRC was able to stand back up quickly when needed in 2021.

Following Phase One (rebuilding 10 destroyed homes) the ESLTRC imagined new ways to respond to survivor families seeking help. In spring 2024, Week of Compassion entered into a new partnership with the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee. This partnership agreement provides salary support for the ESLTRC Disaster Recovery Coordinator as they move into Phase Two operations: a tidal flood recovery and mitigation project, aiming to use volunteer labor to elevate 100 homes that flooded in 2021 and are at risk of repeat flooding in Somerset

Story originally shared March 2025. Additional details and photos follow a recent Week of Compassion partner visit. See the 2026 Special Offering theme video "A NEW WAY" for more! WeekOfCompassion.org/2026

and Dorchester Counties. The intention is to make homes healthy and safe, to "reduce the risk of repetitive damage, provide better stewardship of funding entrusted to us, and improve the quality of life for surviving families."

Two of the poorest counties in the state of Maryland, Dorchester and Somerset residents live primarily in HUD-owned public housing; almost half the population of Crisfield MD (Somerset Co) lives in supported housing units. In response to this need, the ESLTRC stepped into Phase Three of their work – partnering with the city of Crisfield to build new affordable homes on previously abandoned lots and making homes affordable and available to new homeowners. Crisfield Mayor, Darlene Taylor, celebrates the way relationships nurtured over the last decade have made possible the development of this multi-phased approach. She emphasizes "those are things that only come from long-term partnerships."

With the increased intensity and frequency of storms, the strategy – to not repair homes without also elevating them – has gained not only notoriety, but also support from the community to make lasting changes. The people of the Eastern Shore value the long-term recovery effort and the significant mitigation component.

This intersection of socioeconomic status and climate vulnerability is



where the resources and creativity of Week of Compassion, our partners, and community-driven response meet. Coming alongside climate-vulnerable communities like the Eastern Shore is a significant shared priority among ecumenical partners and local leaders.

Mayor Taylor notes, "When the ESLTRC came in, from the beginning, they built relationships of trust in our community... The vulnerable in our community are often overlooked, but one of the things the ESLTRC was so good at was making sure those who were most in need... were the ones who actually received services. What we have now is a whole new paradigm, a new trust model."

This is where Week of Compassion is eager to engage – relying on ecumenical connection and innovative local leadership to find **A NEW WAY** makes the program successful, and most importantly, provides tangible hope and new possibility for survivors right in their own communities.



SPECIAL OFFERING 2026 FEBRUARY 15 - 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.

- **What is Communion?** Communion is a part of each Sunday morning where we remember the last meal that Jesus ate with the disciples by eating bread and drinking grape juice.
- **May I receive Communion?** Yes! Everyone is invited to receive -- we have no barrier to participating in communion.
- **What else should I know?** We'd love to share more of our loving and inclusive community with you. At FCC, you'll find all generations worshipping together and participating in church activities. We have activities for kids and youth, and we love to share in community together.
- **Visit our website to subscribe to our mailing lists, see a map of our facility, donate online, and learn more about us!** www.fccchico.com or scan the QR codes:



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- **Deadlines:** Sunday Bulletin-Wednesdays, 10 am; Callerito weekly email-Thursday 10 am; Caller, monthly newsletter-15th at noon.

Attendance: February 8th, 2026

Online: 18

Sanctuary: 45

Total: 63

- Bulletin Graphic by Klara Kulikova on Unsplash
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February 15th-22nd, 2026

This Sunday—Week of Compassion Begins; Caller Deadline

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 & on Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Worship Streamed Live on Zoom & Facebook
- Fellowship in **Fireside**
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center

We are hosting Safe Space Winter Shelter in Koinonia Hall from February 15th to March 1st

Monday—Presidents' Day; Church Office Closed

Tuesday

- 10:45 a.m. Music Practice, Room 4
- 2:00 p.m. Disciple Women's Ministry (DWM), Bethany
- 7:00 p.m. Elders' hybrid meeting, Chapel and on Zoom

Wednesday—Ash Wednesday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)
- **Noon Ash Wednesday Service, with Chico First Baptist Church, First Christian Church Sanctuary**
- No BSA this week

Thursday

- 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner;
- No BSA this week
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Chico First Baptist (last day)

Saturday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)

Next Sunday—Week of Compassion Ends

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 & on Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Worship Streamed Live on Zoom & Facebook
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center (SCC)

Lenten Devotional: Printed copies are in the Sanctuary. Our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special e-reader version of this year's Lenten devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices: online.flippingbook.com/view/546389771/ In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.