

2021 Guide Book & Directory



Worship Schedule

Saturday

5:30 p.m. in the Chapel

Sunday

Sanctuary Services

8:35 a.m. - Traditional Worship

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School and other Learning
Opportunities (All Ages)

10:55 a.m. - Contemporary Worship

14506 E. 39th St. S.
Independence, MO 64055
Phone: 816-461-1101
Fax: 816-833-4913
church.office@icumc.org
www.icumc.org

Christ United Methodist Church

14506 East 39th Street S., Independence, Missouri 64055

816-461-1101

www.icumc.org

Mission Statement

Accepting the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, our Mission is to:

BRING people to Christ

by embracing our community with God's love and grace.

CONNECT people to Christ

by encouraging Christians to grow in faith through prayer, fellowship, study and worship.

SERVE people in the name of Christ

by empowering ministries of compassion and outreach.

Core Values

Prayer is the foundation of all we do.

Our Wesleyan heritage guides our faith.

The Bible is our primary authority.

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ supported by tradition, reason, & experience.

We seek holiness of heart and life.

We affirm that in essentials, we seek unity; in matters of opinion, liberty; and in all things, love.

We will provide quality ministries for our children and youth from cradle to college.

We promote an atmosphere of extravagant hospitality.

We enthusiastically invite and welcome all people to become actively involved in all phases of congregational life.

We strive to be a "seeker friendly" church that anticipates the needs of all who enter our doors.

The World is our Parish.

We understand our ministry to be local, regional and global.

We will work within our community and with other churches to bring about ministries of compassion and outreach.

We support the connectional life and ministry of the United Methodist Church.

General Information

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the United Methodist Church is open to all who believe and follow Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. A person may transfer their membership from another denomination, from another United Methodist Church, or by professing their faith in Jesus.

BAPTISM

The United Methodist Church believes in one baptism and recognizes any Christian baptism. We baptize infants, children, and adults. Adults may be baptized in any of the three modes of baptism.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is celebrated the first weekend of each month and at special times such as Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve, and other times as desired. "Open" Communion is observed, where any person desiring may take Communion in remembrance of Jesus.

WEDDINGS

Our church pastors are available to conduct a wedding for members and non-members. To arrange for a wedding, please contact the church office at 816-461-1101 or church.office@icumc.org.

Christ UMC History

The Board of Missions and Church Extension of Greater Kansas City made a study of the 39th St. and Phelps area, and as a result of this study, 6.5 acres were purchased for a new Methodist Church. The first service was held on September 15, 1963 and the church was organized on September 22, 1963. Fifty-four members were received as Charter Members by March 16, 1964.

On June 1, 1966, the new Christ Methodist Church and Wason Memorial Methodist Church were merged by a vote of both congregations. The Watson Memorial Church history goes back to 1831 as a point for a circuit rider. The name Watson was taken in 1902, in tribute to Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Watson, who contributed \$16,400 toward a building. The total cost was \$20,000.

The merged congregation was called Christ Methodist Church. Plans for a new building were made. According to church records, in April 1967, there was a membership of 683. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held October 9, 1966, and the Consecration was held October 22, 1967. The Dedication Service was held September 19, 1982.

In 1968 the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church merged nationwide. We then became known as Christ United Methodist Church.

The original plans for the church building included the addition of an education wing on the east side of the building. A two-story addition was completed and on April 1, 1984, Sunday School classes were held in ten additional classrooms. The building was debt-free on August 25, 1991. Because of the growth of the church and its ministries, the facilities were again expanded with a Family Life Center, classrooms, office complex, and enlarged narthex. All of this was completed in December 1995. The new area was consecrated February 18, 1996. The facilities offer opportunities to expand our ministries in new and exciting ways.

Ministries with Children

Christ United Methodist Church is committed to offering opportunities for Christian fellowship and Bible-based learning to children of all ages in a safe environment. For more information about Children's Ministries, contact Jennifer Rambo at 816-461-1101 x108 or children@icumc.org, unless otherwise noted.

Nursery through Pre-School Ages: Nursery care is provided in our daycare area (rooms 106-111) during worship from 8:30am - 12:00pm and for meetings and other gatherings when requested.

Sunday School: Children in Pre-School through 5th grade meet in our Kids Zone (lower level) from 9:45 - 10:45am, in grade level groups to experience Bible stories and learn ways to apply Christian principles to daily living. The lessons are fun, interactive and Bible-focused.

Kids Church: Meets from 10:45am - 12:00pm. Children ages 5 through 5th grade meet in our Kids Zone (lower level) for a children's worship during the 10:55 service. Children spend time in the Kids Zone for Bible stories and worship with some recreation time added. They are also taken up to the church service for Children's Time for the minister's children's message.

On Wednesdays during the school year, from 6:00-7:30pm, 2nd through 5th grade are invited to come to Serve, Worship and Glorify (S.W.A.G.). We have a light snack supper then a bible lesson and games. Some weeks we support the community by volunteering in service projects. This is a joint event with the youth group.

Special Activities and Events: Throughout the year, various opportunities are provided for children to join groups preparing for performances. Students in grades 3rd through 5th can join a dowel rod performing group called TWIGS. Opportunities to sing and act are also available during the annual Youth Dinner Theater each spring.

Each year we host the following events for family fun:

Trunk-or-Treat in October, 4th & 5th Grade Fun Night and an Easter Eggstravaganza on Palm Sunday.

Creative Arts Camp: Creative Arts Camp is held each summer for students entering grades 3rd through 7th. There are several choices of classes that kids can choose from and they choose three to attend that week. For more information, contact Kathy Vest at 816-220-0218 or createartcamp@gmail.com.

Church Camps: During the summer, the Missouri Conference offers United Methodist camping experiences for both youth and children. Christ Church offers partial financial assistance for the regular camp fees for children and youth who attend our church. The Missouri conference also supports the Eaglelakes Base Camp during the summer. This event is a traveling day camp lasting a week as an alternative to overnight stays.

Ministries with Youth

Youth Ministries are offered for all youth in grades six through twelve.

Youth Sunday School: Youth meet in “The Place” from 9:45 - 10:45am. Join us as we discuss faith and life.

Youth Group: We have many activities for youth to participate in during the school year, such as a summer mission trip, a Dinner Theater fundraiser, our monthly “Bring Your Face To the Place” event, and local mission work, just to name a few. Youth Group meets on a regular basis from: 6:00 - 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings in The Place for worship and devotions, fellowship and games. For more information, contact youth director, Donna Bergsten at 816-461-1101 x109 or youth@icumc.org.

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Serving Others through Christ UMC

Christ Church offers many opportunities to serve people, where God's grace is working to transform their lives both within the church and in the community. Here are a few examples of our Caring Ministries:

- Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregivers Support Group meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month.
- Community Services League has a weekly food pantry hosted here at Christ UMC every Wednesday in "The Place" from 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Festival of Sharing emergency health, hygiene, or school kits are donated by Christ UMC annually.
- Harvesters Food Drop is held at Christ UMC on the 3rd Thursday of each month.
- A Hat, Mitten & Glove Tree during the Advent Season is one way to donate items to help children stay warm in the winter. These are donated to local schools.
- The Mourning Center is open from 10:00am - 2:00pm on Mondays to meet with Rev. David Howlett and/or his wife, Elaine Howlett.
- Our Grief Support Group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2:00pm and the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm.
- Our Infant Loss Support Group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm.
- Short-Term Groups are offered on a variety of topics.
- Visitation programs for shut-ins and the ill.

Christ United Methodist Church can always use caring people to help in these ministries. Call 816-461-1101 for more information on who to contact about these opportunities.

Spiritual Growth – Adult Discipleship

Christ UMC is a place where we explore deep into the foundations of Christian faith so that we can understand the meaning of our lives, what we believe, and how we live differently as a result. Come ask questions, explore a variety of issues, and develop friendships along the way. Through study, worship, fellowship, and service, we become deeply rooted followers of Christ. If you have questions regarding any of our Adult Discipleship Ministries, contact Bob Hickman at 461-1101 x107 or bob.hickman@icumc.org.

Here are some opportunities to study and grow in your faith:

Life Groups

Meet at Various Times

CHRIST CHURCH'S SWEET SIXTEEN - For more information, contact Joe Ann & Harold Jett at 816-795-8074.

FIRST TUESDAYS - For more information, contact Del & Jane Campbell at 816-392-9626.

FRIENDS IN CHRIST - For more information, contact Kathy Vest at 816-220-0218.

SOS (Saints & Sinners) - For more information, contact Jerry & Sharon Adkisson at 816-260-1699.

Sunday Morning Adult Classes

9:45 - 10:45am

THE ASBURY/WESLEY CLASS meets on the main level in the Archives Room, next to the Chapel. They study Adult Bible Study curriculum. For more information, contact Jim Monhollon at 816-373-5406 or j.monhollon@sbcglobal.net or Jeri Poteet jeripoteet@gmail.com.

THE BIBLE STUDY CLASS meets on the main level in room 121. This class studies the words of the Bible, enlightening our knowledge of God. We read, investigate and discuss how God affects our lives today. For more information, contact Buttons Jimerson at 816-228-7380 or cljimerson@gmail.com.

THE JOURNEYMEN CLASS meets on the lower level in room G-26. Curriculum is creative and offers a variety of topics. For more information, contact Sandy Porter at 816-373-1917 or sfgdporter@sbcglobal.net.

THE NEXT CHAPTER CLASS meets on the main level in room 124. Creative lessons address a variety of topics in engaging and thought-provoking discussions. For more information, contact Terry Morris at tvmorris@aol.com.

THE SAMARITAN CLASS meets on the main level in room 120. This class is focused on parents and singles growing in faith. For more information, contact Bill Reinwald at bcgreinwald@gmail.com.

THE SEEKERS CLASS meets on the lower level in room G-25. Lessons focus on Biblical study with relevance to family and society. For more information, contact Lori Grubb at lagrubb@sbcglobal.net.

Discipleship Groups for Adults

SHORT-TERM STUDY GROUPS are offered on a variety of topics throughout the year. For more information, contact Bob Hickman at 816-461-1101 or bob.hickman@icumc.org.

THE TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets every Tuesday morning at 8:00am in room 126, with breakfast following. They study a variety of wonderful Christian books and resources. For more information, contact Larry Wendelman at wendelman@sbcglobal.net or Jerry Adkisson at jerrya81@sbcglobal.net.

THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets several times a year. Women participate in Bible Study on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. This class often focuses on different women of the Bible. For more information, contact Lisa Wilt at lisa.wilt@sbcglobal.net.

Music Opportunities

Bell Choir rehearsal is at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings in room 123. The Bell Choir performs music at the Traditional Worship Service. Contact Presten Fry at 816-461-1101 or presten.fry@icumc.org for more information.

Chancel Choir rehearsal is at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings in room 126. The Chancel Choir provides music at the Traditional Worship Service. Contact Presten Fry 816-461-1101 at presten.fry@icumc.org for more information.

Our Praise Band provides music at the Contemporary Worship Service. Other Special Music is presented at all Worship services. For more information, contact John Johnson at jdjkc15960@yahoo.com.

Cherubs (ages 2 through 1st grade) and WOW! Kids (2nd through 5th grades) information is available under the Children's Ministries. Contact Carla Kincaid at 816-461-1101 or children@icumc.org for more information.

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Worship Services

Saturday at 5:30pm in Watson Chapel

Sunday at 8:35am (Traditional) and 10:55am (Contemporary)
in the Sanctuary

Join us for Sunday School and other Small Groups at
9:45am in various locations

Childcare is available at all Sunday Services from 8:30am - 12:00pm

United Methodist Men

Men of all ages meet on the first Saturday of each month at 8:00am in “The Place,” for a delicious breakfast and an informative program featuring a guest speaker. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Charlie Bradshaw at 816-478-6285.

The United Methodist Men also host an Annual Valentine Banquet and assist the church with a variety of projects. Contact Charlie Bradshaw at 816-478-6285 for more information.

United Methodist Women’s Groups

An integral part of the United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, is a national network of over one million members. Their primary purpose is mission-based. They support local and global mission projects that focus on women, children and youth.

The organization strives to meet the spiritual, intellectual, social and creative growth of women. Activities include a reading program, spiritual retreats, discussion of social issues, mission studies, worship services, informative programs and numerous service projects.

Women can choose one of four Circles. All women are invited to United Methodist Women Unit Meetings on the third Monday of February, April, October, November, December and various other times.

Hannah Circle: Contact Sharon Adkisson at 816-260-1752. This Circle meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:00am in the Conference Room, Room 126, and then goes out for lunch at a local restaurant.

Ruth Circle: Contact Jeri Poteet at 816-373-7410. This Circle meets the second Monday of the month at 12:00pm in the Parlor, Room 103.

Scouting Ministries

BOY SCOUT TROOP 228 and CUB SCOUT PACK 228

Scouting is an important ministry at Christ Church. Its purpose is to provide programs designed to build desirable qualities of character, citizenship training and physical fitness. Christ Church has a long tradition of scouting. Boy Scout Troop 228 was chartered by Watson Memorial Methodist Church in 1924, which makes it one of the oldest and largest Boy Scout Troops in Independence. When Christ United Methodist Church was built in 1967, we accepted the sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 228. Boy Scouts is for young men who have completed 5th grade and are at least 10-years old, but not yet 18-years old. The Boy Scouts meet each Monday evening at 7:00pm in Lehigh Hall on the east side of our church facilities. For more information, contact Thomas Czerkowski at tczerkowski4@gmail.com or 816-517-2363.

Cub Scout Troop 228 has weekly Den meetings and a monthly Pack Meeting (all of the Dens) on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. For more information, contact Thomas Czerkowski at tczerkowski4@gmail.com or 816-517-2363

C.H.O.W.

“Come Hungry On Wednesday”

“Come Hungry on Wednesday” is held twice each month September-November and February-April. A fellowship meal is available for Adults at \$5.00 per adult and children at \$3.00 per child (10 years & under) from 5:45 - 6:15pm in The Place. A variety of programs, Bible studies, rehearsals and fellowship opportunities follow the meal, offering a chance to gather with the Christ United Methodist Church family for fun and learning in the middle of the week.

Christ Early Learning Center

Christ Early Learning Center offers a year-round childcare program for families in the church and the community. The children in the program are 6-weeks to 5-years old. The center is open from 6:30am to 6:00pm.

Christ Early Learning Center provides a safe, warm and loving Christian environment for each child. The teachers make learning, playing and growing during the first five years of your child's life a positive experience. Our activities center around emotional, spiritual, social, physical and intellectual needs of children. For more information, call the Center at 816-461-3393 or christearlylearningcenter@icumc.org.

Christ Church Staff

The Staff is always willing to help you or answer questions. You may call 816-461-1101 or e-mail any staff member.

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Bob Hickman Associate Pastor..... bob.hickman@icumc.org
David Howlett.....Associate Pastordavid.howlett@icumc.org
Christy Burton.....Church Administrator church.office@icumc.org
Donna Bergsten..... Youth Director youth@icumc.org
Jennifer Rambo
..... Director of Children's Ministries..... children@icumc.org
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