

Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Seeking, Serving, Sharing
March 20, 2022



We have a basketful of thank you notes from our most recent offering to Lincoln Elementary, our PIE Partner.

We gave each classroom teacher and specialty teacher group \$200 to enhance their lessons and to motivate their students. We also gave 30 large Valentine goodie bags to the teachers and staff. Each week, we will be sharing their words of appreciation with you a few at a time.

Here's the note from Principal Hargraves and Assistant Principal Sullivan:

Thank you so much for your generosity! Our teachers appreciate it! – Liz & Shelly

And from the Art Teacher:

Thank you so much for the bag of teats and the gift of money! Your continued support and prayers are appreciated. First Christian Church has been a continued source of leadership and true example of discipleship throughout our community for years. Lincoln Elementary is blessed to have such a caring and resolute congregation to lift us up as we educate and mold the minds of the children entrusted to our care. Thank you again for your continued support and prayers!

Warmest regards and Blessings,
Annette L. Hunt

-Andrea Morriss (E-Team)

As we approach the celebration of Easter, we must first pass through the days of reflection during the season of Lent. This series of images bring the story of the final days of Jesus to the forefront of our meditations as we ponder the intersection of the ministry of Christ and our own experiences.



Luke 12:27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. In the overall arc of Luke's gospel message, this verse is far from the resurrection story, yet the lily is a symbol of life. Life which is beautiful and delicate, yet resilient. The flowers of the Palestinian hills bloom each spring, bringing vibrant colors to the landscape. Barren patches are transformed into blankets of vitality. It is an annual resurrection of beautiful life.

Jesus uses the imagery of creation to assure the disciples that God's abundance has a way of sustaining life through the ongoing cycles of nature. The ebb and flow of life does include death, as illustrated by the grass of the field that in time becomes fuel for the oven. But when alive, in its verdant state, it is beautiful.

This teaching is also a warning not to be overly concerned with adorning yourself with the finest of clothing or obsessing over culinary delicacies. Creative souls have added their artistic touch to augment the experience of life through their gifts to the world. But pursuing the finer things of life to excess may distract us from the beauty of life lived more simply in relationship with our families, communities, and with God's creation. The natural world around us displays wonders beyond anything produced by the hands of humanity.

God's love is poured out over all of creation. Lilies of the field, birds of the air, and God's human children are all precious. Trust in God's goodness and be grateful in this time of rebirth that we are able to experience the beauty of the earth.

-Pastor Stephen

SUNDAY, MARCH 20
SERVICE INFORMATION

*"Unless you repent,
you will all perish as they did."*

Luke 13:1-9

Sanctuary Service @ 8:30 a.m.

GREAT DAY
OF SERVICE!

10 AM – 2 PM

PIZZA PARTY
@2 PM