



Love **GOD**  
Be a **NEIGHBOR**  
Welcome All to the **TABLE**



After spending a long weekend in New Orleans, Amanda and I are officially back in town! It was a wonderful time away spent listening to music, eating delicious food, and seeing all the sights the Big Easy has to offer.

We will be starting a new sermon series this Sunday: Opening to God. And it feels appropriate that our first scripture will be just one verse long: Luke 5:16- But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. Of course, we'll be talking about prayer, particularly the practice of centering prayer. But even though we didn't spend THAT much time in prayer this weekend, it is still always good to get away. And now that we're back, we feel more refreshed and ready to go! I hope you'll join us for this new sermon series as we explore the question what is mysticism and what is its role in Christian prayer.

Blessings,

Rev. Andrew Guthrie

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**Church Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm**

I am back in the office normal hours this week. If you need to reach me, you can email me at [Andrew.guthrie@fcllaf.org](mailto:Andrew.guthrie@fcllaf.org), or call the church office to get a hold of me at 765-742-4058. My days off are Mondays and Saturdays.

**New office hours** will begin on January 1. The office will be closed Monday and open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Emergency needs can still call the office (765-742-4058) on Mondays. Voice messages will be checked.

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Want to listen to a recent message? You can find all of our sermons following the link below.

## Listening to God

You are invited to stay for a short, informal time of prayer each Sunday following the worship service (except for First Sunday Celebration weeks).

The focus will be on praying for our church. The gatherings will take place in the Chapel.



## Fresh Market Service

We serve our neighbors through the Fresh Market on the third Saturday of every month. Sign up to join us below or reply to this email so we know how many we'll have volunteering.

Serve with Us

## Pub Theology

7pm April 25th  
at Lafayette Brewing Company

Come for a night of fun and faithful conversation in this casual environment. This is a great chance to get connected with others in the church while discussing matters of faithful living.



**The Seekers are currently reading a book** titled "Living Buddha, Living Christ" by Thich Hat Hanh

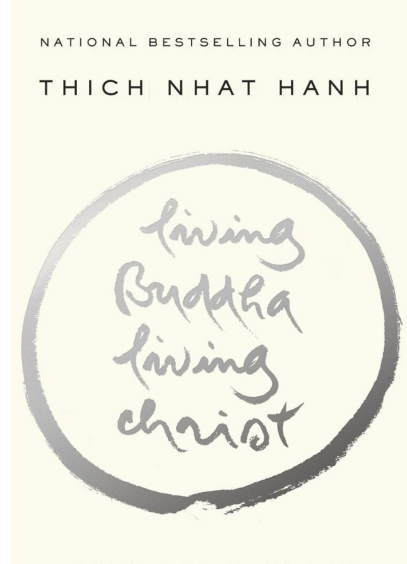
"Nominated by Martin Luther King, Jr. for a Nobel Peace Prize, Thich Nhat Hanh is one of today's leading sources of wisdom, peace, compassion and comfort.

The 20th anniversary edition of the classic text, updated, revised, and featuring a Mindful Living Journal.

"Buddha and Christ, perhaps the two

most pivotal figures in the history of humankind, each left behind a legacy of teachings and practices that have shaped the lives of billions of people over two millennia. If they were to meet on the road today, what would each think of the other's spiritual views and practices?

"Thich Nhat Hanh has been part of a decades-long dialogue between two great contemplative traditions, and brings to Christianity an appreciation of its beauty that could be conveyed only by an outsider. In lucid, meditative prose, he explores the crossroads of compassion and holiness at which the two traditions meet, and he reawakens our understanding of both. 'On the altar in my hermitage,' he says, 'are images of Buddha and Jesus, and I touch both of them as my spiritual ancestors.'"



For those joining by Zoom (note: this link is new as of January 2024)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86470217629?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86470217629?pwd=VF1xd1NBZmdjQmZmMWYxTTd4TnRmZz09)

[pwd=VF1xd1NBZmdjQmZmMWYxTTd4TnRmZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86470217629?pwd=VF1xd1NBZmdjQmZmMWYxTTd4TnRmZz09)

**Meeting ID: 864 7021 7629**

**Passcode: 278973**

The Seekers class meets every Sunday at 9am in the Upstairs Seekers classroom.

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## Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to the chain, replay to this email and let me know. Once you're added to the group, you can send prayer requests to [prayer@fcclaf.org](mailto:prayer@fcclaf.org). Once approved, these messages will be sent to everyone else on the prayer chain. This way, we'll be able to pray for one another throughout the week.

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Don't forget to follow/like/subscribe to us on social media. The more people who engage with our page, the farther the message of First Christian Church gets!

Facebook


Youtube

Twitter

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## Online Giving

You can give online to support the ministries of First Christian Church by clicking this button. We are grateful for your continued support, and hope you will prayerfully consider your gift.





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