

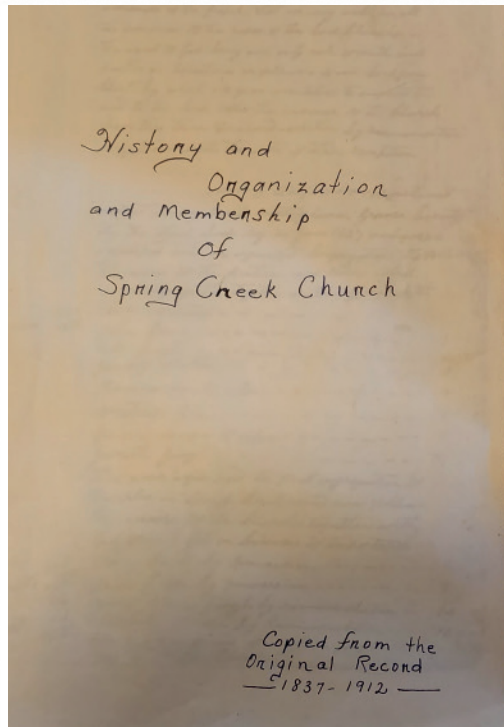
First Christian Church *Disciples of Christ*

OUR HISTORY



Old Building

History of First First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Spring Creek Role

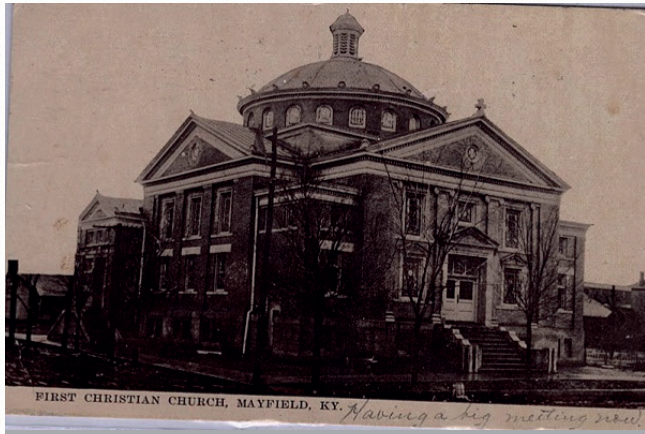
We have a long and rich history in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We have always been a congregation that emphasizes the importance of outreach, service, music, and prayer. First Christian Church, Mayfield, Kentucky, is the offspring of a congregation of Disciples in Western Kentucky that organized the first church on June 18, 1837, at the Spring Creek Meeting House near the Dogwood community here in Graves County. As the years passed, a few members of the Spring Creek congregation moved to Mayfield, and on June 18, 1853, organized the Mayfield congregation. They met at the Mayfield courthouse and private homes for several years.

The Mayfield congregation was organized in 1857, when members met for services at the small, framed schoolhouse, which stood near the site of the Merit Clothing Company building on East South Street. During the next ten years, members of the congregation would hold services at the Baptist Church on Broadway.



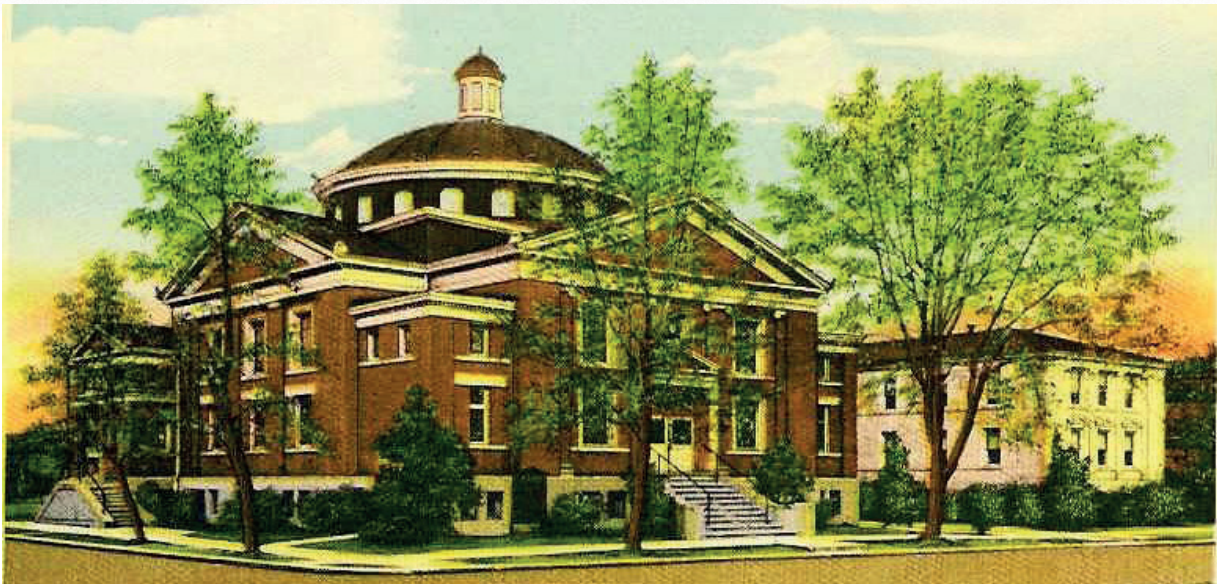
First Brick Christian Church

In 1868, the members of the First Christian Church had completed a new brick church, situated just north of the Mayfield Post Office. In this new building, the Disciples worshiped for forty years until the need for a larger church building was realized in 1906.



*First Christian Church of
Mayfield, 1928*

On March 29, 1908, the church building at 111 South Ninth Street was dedicated, and weekly worship services commenced.



Education Building Addition, 1928

During the 20th century, the congregation continued to meet the needs of the membership with the addition of the Education Building in 1928.



Pipe Organ, 1979

A building improvement program in 1950 focused on remodeling the sanctuary and adding the communion table. In 1979, a new remodeling of the chancellery area was completed along with the installation of a new pipe organ.

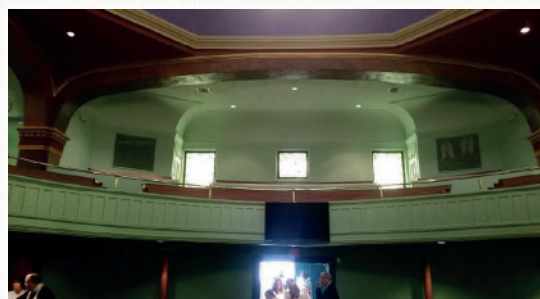
Also in 1979, with the passing of the long-time senior minister, E Thomas Wright, a prayer garden was erected beside the south parking lot in his memory.

Matthew 26: 36-46

Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and asked them to keep watch while he prayed. Throwing himself face downward on the ground, he prayed "My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me!"



In 1996, a major renovation was undertaken in the sanctuary, office area, and every passage. The architectural structure of the building featured elements of the Roman and Renaissance periods. The most distinctive feature was the dome ceiling mounted on top of a square. The three authentic chairs behind the communion table, as well as the pulpit from the 1906 building, were incorporated into the chancel area. Also from the 1906 church, original pews were restored and placed on each side of chancel.



Upstairs Balcony



Chancel Area



Lighting



Chapel



Parlor

The chapel area was remodeled in memory of Elder Emeritus, Thomas E. Powell, a long time member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Mayfield.

Matthew 25:21 KJV

His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

As we approached the Christmas season in December of 2021, our community could not fathom the destruction that was about to strike. The last time worship was held in our 116-year-old building was on December 5, 2021, for an Advent Walk Service, which included representatives from First United Methodist and First Presbyterian churches.



Courtyard



Education Building



Main Entrance



South Street



God's Grace



*Rendering by
Janice Jarvis*

On the night of Friday, December 11, 2021, a massive EF4 tornado ripped through our community, obliterating three of the four downtown churches and much of our downtown area. But God defied Mother Nature and saved our sacred communion table and the gold cross that rested upon it.



Our New Building

As a congregation, a historical member of the Mayfield downtown landscape, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), along with our friends and neighbors, is dedicated to being a beacon of hope for our recovering community. We also have members from other faith traditions. Our gifts and talents include, but are not limited to, music, teaching, hospitality, outreach, service, and prayer. We are financially sound following the tornado, and the new 18,000-square-foot structure is expected to cost approximately \$7 million. The Building is fully funded by insurance proceeds, Federal Emergency Management Agency funding, and donations from over 800 organizations and individuals from around the country. We have also established a contingency fund to cover operating expenses for the next five years. Construction is expected to be completed by late autumn 2025.