

Follow us at:



www.twitter.com/MattoonFCC



Mattoon First Christian Church

Web: mattoonfcc.com

Remarks from Pastor Steve

Shhhhhh-Seeking the Quiet Life

I hope you have been enjoying the practical teaching we have been offering on Sundays. With God's blessing we will continue to do so.

Leading up to Easter, my Spirit tells me it's time to turn down the volume and to seek God with our worship.

I just finished watching the CBS morning news and I'm angry, sad and embarrassed that we have allowed Hollywood and Politics (Actors and Educated Fools) to determine the course of our culture. We need to slow it down and rediscover God. The Prince of the Air is very active and in the internet and the airwaves. Let's rediscover "quiet."

No one can argue that today life moves faster -- and louder -- than ever before. It's easy to get caught up in the hectic pace and it's tempting to lose oneself in the noise. There is too much "noise."

But there's a solution. The Bible shows a simpler way to approach life, counter-intuitive in design, but revolutionary in results. Two thousand years ago Paul challenged followers of Christ to aim for a quiet life: working with your hands, showing kindness to one another, approaching God in simple humility.

Beginning this Sunday I will be beginning a new series of teachings which explores the idea of what living a quiet life really means.

This series will appeal to everyone, please make contact with those who are not in a church. I cannot imagine what it must feel like to be absent from the Lord, His Body, the Church.

May God Enlarge His Territory,

Pastor Steve

Singles @ First

Singles @ First Ministry is open to all singles...never married, widowed or divorced. Below is a list of the activities they have planned:

Movie Night Friday, March 4th 6-8 pm

"Woodlawn" Movie in Campbell Hall, bring drinks and popcorn provided

Child care provided for grade school aged children

Line Dancing Wednesday, March 16th 6-7 pm

Cinda Moran will teach Line Dancing at the Eagles' at 1917 Oak Street

Fast Food Sunday, March 20th 11:45 pm

Meet at Subway on Lake Land Blvd for lunch and fellowship



Baby Back Ribs



The Haiti Mission Team is selling Baby Back Rib tickets for pick-up on Wednesday, March 30th from 10 am—6 pm. The youth and the sponsors will be selling tickets for \$18 each in the narthex before and after church on Sunday. You can also purchase tickets from the following youth: Kierstyn Albin, Sarah Goings, Cheyenne Jones, Dakota Arthur, Matt

Etchinson or from a youth sponsor: Dawn Albin, Donica Brand, Angela Freeman, Dolo Wishard.

Hot Ribs will also be available to purchase on Monday the 28th and Tuesday the 29th from 10 am—6 pm.

Remember to move your clocks ahead one hour when going to bed on Saturday, March 12th.



Thank You Notes

☞ Thank you for all the cards and prayers and thanks to those who came to the visitation and funeral upon the passing of Donnie's mother.

Donnie & Barb Wisner

☞ The Philippine mission team which consists of Casey Brandt, Tom Dickerson, Dennis Goings, Terri Goings, Steve Morgan, Mabelle Morgan, Paul Weber and Dolo Wishard would like to thank everyone who came out in support of us for the Ham-n-Bean supper and silent auction. We had a great evening serving you and really appreciate your support.

Food Center News

The Mattoon Community Food Center is planning to honor all volunteers at an appreciation banquet at 5:30 pm on Saturday, March 12th at the First Baptist Church on 1804 South 9th Street. Please sign-up at the Food Center or call 234-9466. There will be a dinner, door prizes, dignitaries and music.

Men's Breakfast

Hey guys, Come down to Campbell Hall this Saturday at 7 am to enjoy a great breakfast and a new series Pastor Steve has for us. The study is from Matt Chandler and is titled, *The Explicit Gospel* which is, "inspired by the needs of both the overchurched and the unchurched, and bolstered by the common neglect of the explicit gospel within Christianity." Hope to see you there!

Serving Communion

Sunday, March 6

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Tim Buford, Tim Cyr, Dan Cunningham

10:30 am — Jeff and Amy Maninfor, Nick Maninfor, Bob Morgan

Sunday, March 13

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Bill Daily, Tom Dickerson, Don Inman, Steve Lane

10:30 am — Donica Brand, Max Betty, Chanon Fine, Dennis Goings

Church Life

Friday, March 4

6 pm Singles @ First "Woodlawn" Movie Night

Saturday, March 5

7 am Men's Breakfast and Fellowship

Sunday, March 6

8 am Prayer with Elders in the Sanctuary

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-6:30 FROG and 5:30-7 pm ROCK

Monday, March 7

10 am Staff Meeting

5 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 8

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

Wednesday, March 9

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

6 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

Thursday, March 10

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, March 13 (Daylight Savings Time begins)

8 am Prayer with the Elders in the sanctuary

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-6:30 pm FROG and 5:30-7 pm ROCK Meetings

Monday, March 14

10 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees' Meeting

7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 15

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

Wednesday, March 16

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

Thursday, March 17

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, March 18

FROG and ROCK to Winter Jam Concert



News from Paul

I hope this finds you doing well. Miss Evelyn and I are holding our own and looking forward to the warm weather. Life sure is strange sometimes. Just a few nights ago while I was at work I was going through Klehm Hall on EIU's campus looking at the Chain of Command pictures in the hall outside of the R.O.T.C. department. I saw the picture of General Mark Milley, Chief of Staff. You might say, "So what?" Please let me explain why this is a big deal. It was in the late 80's I remember him as a Captain in the U.S. Army and he was my Company Commander! A great leader who I respect very much. I knew he had received another star but did not know he was Chief of Staff. You might be wondering where I am going with this, right? Well it was today (Sunday) I was scrolling through Facebook and one of my Army buddies posted the obituary of my First Sergeant I served under during this same time frame! These two soldiers served together and made a great team. If you have served, you know how important it is for the CO and 1st SGT to work together as a team. Anyway, it was great to see General Mark Milley's picture knowing I once served under his command, but very sad to see 1 SGT John Swiney pass away. I guess things like this happen but it sure is strange. It is times like this I have to look at where I am going with life and also reminded how quickly time goes by. However, more importantly is how well I have utilized my time since. Many cases I have excelled and many I have not. I suppose this is normal because we all make mistakes. You have no doubt seen the Uncle Sam poster which says, "I Want YOU." I have wrote this in my Bible with an arrow pointing to John 15:16 which reads, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and your fruit should abide..." (ESV). I believe this idea to write the "I want YOU" slogan came from a message Pastor Steve had a while back, but I am not certain. Reading this I know there is a purpose for me and my life as His witness. I may not have always been the person I was supposed to be, but I am striving to be the soldier I was recruited for. I sure am looking forward to Pastor Steve's messages coming up and have enjoyed what he has had for us the last few weeks. A lot of practical teachings for this day in age. Have a great rest of the week and enjoy each day the best you can.

In His Service, *Paul Weber*

We extend our sympathy to Bill Daily on the passing of his wife, Jo (89) on February 23rd.



Relay for Life

Everyone mark your calendars for Relay for Life on August 20th from noon to midnight, please note the time change.

Church Attendance

Feb. 21st: Traditional: 111, Contemporary: 75 = 186

Feb. 28th: Traditional: 115, Contemporary: 61 = 176