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Mattoon First Christian Church

Web: mattoonfcc.com

Remarks from Pastor Steve

Difficult Times

The Apostle Paul had just written concerning the coming of the Lord in 1st Thessalonians Chapter 4:13-18. He then very clearly taught us to be encouraged and to pray.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Our community is going through a very difficult patch right now. The layoffs at Eastern, GE, dependent businesses, a State with the some of the highest taxes in the nation and a frozen government have been very discouraging for many.

This economy and a general lethargy concerning the church have many churches in our community struggling. Longtime ministers are leaving, there seems to be a spirit of fear in the air.

I want to reassure that FCC is moving forward in missions, outreach and worship. It's our time church. I'm here to stay and God willing will be able lead us to greatness. I can't do this alone. Would you pray with me? We offer an opportunity for prayer every Tuesday at 7:00 am. Paul goes on to say "***Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies (Word) with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to good.***"

Would you spend ten minutes in the Word and ten minutes in prayer for your church, your staff, your community every day? In your prayer time would you pray for the Spirit's fire to anoint God's people?

May God Enlarge His Territory, *Pastor Steve*

News from Paul

I hope you and yours are doing well. The Good Friday service was really great. Easter Sunday was also wonderful with two baptisms after 2nd service! An update on our home remodel-it is getting close to be doing done! Since everything is out of the kitchen (including the stove), we have our microwave set up in another room and have been cooking ramen noodles, soups, and the like to eat. We had some leftover chicken from Sunday that was good. Too bad it is gone now. I think I could eat chicken every day. If you know me well enough, you know I am not a picky eater. Anyway, what we are going through here at home is temporary and will soon be back to "normal," whatever that is. With warmer weather coming, people will be out more and more. There is something about the sunshine, spring flowers, and the smell of fresh-cut grass which puts people in good spirits. Why not take these times to tell people about FCC and all we have to offer. Each of us can witness to people in a way that nobody else can because God made each of us the way He wants us. Use what gifts He gave you to help each other and to also grow the kingdom (Rom. 12:6-8). Leading by example is also a great way to show others how to live and this is what Paul did (Phil. 3:17). What an impact he made for the kingdom through his ministry! Challenge yourself this week and see how you can make a small impact in the lives of those people you have contact with. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday and if anyone has any leftover chicken send it my way. See ya!

In His service, *Paul*

Saturday Night Service Promo

Back by popular demand are Saturday night services! The first Saturday will kick off June 4th with childcare provided and activities for K-5th graders. In order to let people know, volunteers are needed to help walk around your neighborhood hanging door hangers (no door knocking involved) explaining what is offered at the service. This will be a full-blown event but we need YOU to help us promote this. Please call Paul Weber at 273-6565 for promotion details.

Quarter Auction

The Philippine Mission Team will host a Quarter Auction on Thursday, April 21st at the American Legion. The doors will open at 5:30 pm with the auction beginning at 6:30 pm. Food and refreshments will be available to purchase. Many items to bid on: crafts, books, food, purses, wallets, yard décor, jewelry, makeup, gift certificates, kitchenware and much more!



Herb Ault and his son, Logun were baptized on Easter Sunday. Welcome to the family of God!

Singles @ First

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

Movie Night Friday, April 1st 6-8 pm

"Out to Sea" Movie in Campbell Hall, bring drinks and popcorn provided. Child care provided for K-5th graders.

Fast Food Sunday, April 17th 11:45 pm

Meet at El Vaquero for lunch and fellowship. Lunch cost is on your own.

Game Night Friday, May 6th 6-8 pm

Games in Campbell Hall and child care provided for K-5th graders.

Congratulations to Steve and Shawnc on their marriage on March 21st. Many years of happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Steve Morgan!



Congratulations to Scott and Meri on their marriage on March 26th. Many years of happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Scott Stewart.

Deaconess Meeting

There will be a Deaconess Meeting on Tuesday, April 12th at 6 pm. All Deaconesses are encouraged to attend.

Thank You Note

A huge thank you to everyone for the food, flowers, cards, visits and prayers while I have been ill. Thank you to Pastor Steve and Richard for their visits. I appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness.

Joyce Camfield

April Birthdays

- 1 Fred Grissom, Jack Herren
Christine Weaver, Vicki Rauwolf
- 2 Mary Aleshire, Ed Dowling
- 3 Pat Stuttle
- 5 Jan Little
- 7 Linda Janes
- 8 Jason Morgan
- 11 Kathy Newlin
- 12 Destyne Arthur, Denny Booker
- 15 Katrina Fine, Jakeb Ault
- 17 Tad Moore
- 22 Olivia Morgan
- 23 Lisa Ingram
- 26 Susie Wilson, Mary Roberts
- 28 Doris Ferguson, Scott Hampton
- 29 Bud Miller



April Anniversaries

- 3 John and Linda Janes
- 5 David and DJ Arthur
- 20 Mark and Shelly Scott
- 24 Ed and Shirley Davis (60th Anniversary!)
- 26 Ron and Judy Hatfield
- 30 Denny and Jan Booker



Church Life

Friday, April 1

6 pm Singles @ First Movie Night

Saturday, April 2

7 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am Elders' Meeting

Sunday, April 3

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Cook-Out

Monday, April 4

10 am Staff Meeting

5 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 5

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, April 6

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

6 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

Thursday, April 7

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, April 10

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, April 11

10 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees' Meeting

7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 12

7 am Prayer Time

6 pm Deaconess' Meeting

Wednesday, April 13

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

Thursday, April 14

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal



Building Fund balance:
\$225,430.30

Serving Communion

Sunday, April 3

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

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

Sunday, April 10

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Jack Little, Bud Miller, Gene Swearingen

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

Church Attendance

March 20th: Traditional: 91, Contemporary: 92 = 183

March 25th: Good Friday: 83

March 27th: Sunrise: 43, Traditional: 146,
Contemporary: 102 = 291

Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast is Saturday, April 2nd at 7 am in Campbell Hall. Come see what Tom and the guys will have cooked up for you and enjoy a time of devotion with a video series by

Matt Chandler led by Pastor Steve.

Website: www.mattoonfcc.com

Email address: fcchurch@consolidated.net

Phone: 234-2928

Elementary Pastor: Stephanie Freeman

Administrative Assistant: Robin Myers

Senior Pastor: Pastor Steven Hayes

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