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## Remarks from Pastor Steve

It's hard to believe, but Marianna and I will be celebrating our 4 year anniversary in June here at FCC. Looking back over the years, we feel as if we've made a difference here. Thank you so much!

First Christian Church has something that is generally missing in our society today, I believe that is Integrity. We preach the complete, unadulterated Word of God every week. We give back to God 10% to missions, local and foreign. We have no debt and our building is in good repair. The reputation of our church is outstanding.

Your staff is a team, the congregation runs the church through committees, we treat women as equals and welcome them as leaders, we are a great church! The Lord has prepared us for growth. As we grow in integrity, we will grow in Spirit and we will grow in numbers.

I will be teaching a three part series on integrity, which begins this week. Come and grow with us. Integrity is what we want most in others, and what we often most overlook in ourselves. Integrity is the quality or state of being whole, of sound principal uprightness, faithful and honest.

We tend to equate it with being dependable, consistent, trustworthy and good. People of integrity not only do what they say they will do, they do what's right to do, and they take delight in it. This series on integrity is designed to help us move more consistently in the direction of integrity in all areas of life. These messages will challenge you to get serious about your relationship with God, your relationship to Scripture, how you choose to define yourself and how you determine your priorities.

Why not invite a missing church person or a under churchd neighbor or friend to come and grow with us.

May God Enlarge His Territory,

*Pastor Steve*

## Saturday Night Service Promo

Back by popular demand are Saturday night services! The first Saturday will kick off June 4<sup>th</sup> 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). 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!

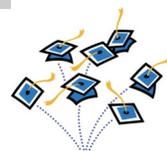


## Haiti Mission Team Fundraiser Event

The Haiti Mission Team will hold a Nelson Catering Drive-Thru Meal Fundraiser. Each meal will cost \$10 and consist of: 1/2 baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, roll, dessert and table service. All meals will be hot and ready to eat. The Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, May 15th from 11:30 am—1:30 pm by a Drive-Thru in front of the church. After 1:30 pm all unclaimed meals will be donated unless prearrangements are made. Tickets can be purchased in the narthex, church office or from any Haiti Mission Team Member.

## Graduates

Please let the church office know of any student from FCC graduating from college or high school. We would like to recognize the college graduates in the newsletter and high school graduates on Youth Sunday, May 22nd.



## News from Paul

I hope this finds you doing well. I am faring well "batching" it here at home. I finally got the first mowing in of the season and what a mess!

If you follow Facebook and have her as a friend, you know Miss Evelyn is in Denver visiting my sister. By the time you read this, you may already know by her posts she tripped and fell at the bottom of a set of stairs at my sister's house and broke her foot! The trip will be cut short and she will be home this week. I know she really enjoys being out there so this is a real bummer for her.

A lot of folks are asking me how the remodel is going on the house. All is going well and just waiting on the counter top to come in so the rest can be finished. Had Evelyn not broken her foot and stayed out west as originally planned, the kitchen would more than likely be completed by the time she came home. However, God has other plans. Isn't that the way it always goes though whether we want to admit or not?

I discussed in Sunday school how we will face trials the moment we walk out of church building. The text was from Philippians 1 and I encourage you to read through it. If you would like a text of what I preached in Sunday school let me know. For this newsletter though, I will use the passage in Jeremiah chapter 29 which says, "For I know the plans I have for you...to give you a future and a hope...then you will call on me...and I will hear you...you will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart" (vv. 11-13, ESV). Sometimes we have to take a step back and try to see what the bigger picture is. It reminds me of looking through binoculars with your face pressed too hard against the lens you cannot see correctly. It does not take much, but you have to back off just a little and then all comes into focus. I think you get the *picture*...

Hey, guess what!? You have not lived until you play Dominos at the Eidents. Evelyn and I went over there recently and boy what a treat! I will say what I usually say at times like this... what happens at the Eidents, stays at the Eidents!

Something else too, do you ever sometimes wonder *why* about certain things? For instance, after church I stopped by a local chicken establishment to get lunch for my mother-in-law Christine and myself, and took it to IOOF to spend a little time visiting with her. Like most restaurants (here is my question of why), they gave us a paper napkin. A paper napkin does not fare well while trying to eat fried chicken. You end up peeling paper from your fingers and hands and it is not a pretty site (we were able to get some more paper napkins from the kitchen at IOOF). A wet wipe would be better, but I would imagine they cost more. I suppose it is just one of those things which I will have to deal with.

Take care and I look forward to seeing you Sunday!

In His service,  
*Paul*

## Thank You Note

A big thank you to Paul Weber, Roger Freeman and Tom Dickerson for moving my furniture. I really appreciated the help!



*Debra Shaw*

Thank you to everyone for the food, flowers, cards and visits with my second stay in the hospital. I appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness.

*Joyce Camfield*

I want to thank everyone for thinking of me and your blessings especially for bringing me communion every Sunday. It means so much to me. I feel like the Lord is with me. Maybe someday I will be able to go to church again. God bless all of you.

*Veronika Burks*

## SALT (Seniors Group)

We have a new name for the Seniors Group! I want all of our seniors to follow the command of Jesus that we would be the SALT of the earth. I know that salt has become a bad word to many because of blood pressure problems. I personally have not added salt to anything now for over 25 years. I still want us to follow Jesus' command to be salt. SALT: Senior Adults Living Triumphantly.

*Richard*



## SALT Luncheon

On Thursday, April 28th at noon we will have a carry-in meal together. We will have Pastor Steve grill up some BaconChops and Pork Burgers for the meat dish. We will also provide the drink of iced tea, coffee, lemonade and water. We would ask that if you are a senior couple that would bring a side and a dessert. If you are single please choose either a side or dessert to furnish. We will also have the donation cans out to cover the cost of the meat. I will bring the devotional thought. If you are a Senior Adult Living Triumphantly we invited you to sign up for this activity.

## Church Life

### Sunday, April 17

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service  
11:45 am Singles @ First lunch at El Vaquero  
4 pm Haiti Mission Team Meeting  
5-6:30 pm FROG and 5:30-7 pm ROCK Meetings

### Monday, April 18

10 am Staff Meeting  
7 pm Christian Ed. Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, April 19

7 am Prayer Time

### Wednesday, April 20

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group  
5:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
6 pm Line Dancing at Eagles' (open to everyone)  
6 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

### Thursday, April 21

5:30 pm Quarter Auction at the American Legion  
6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

### Sunday, April 24

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service  
2 pm Pre-Pack at the Food Center  
4 pm Haiti Mission Team Meeting  
5-6:30 pm FROG and 5:30-7 pm ROCK Meetings

### Monday, April 25

10 am Staff Meeting  
6 pm Evangelism Meeting

### Tuesday, April 26

7 am Prayer Time

### Wednesday, April 27

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group  
5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice  
6 pm Chancel Choir Practice  
6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program (last one for the school yr.)

### Thursday, April 28

Noon SALT Cook-Out Luncheon  
6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal



## Men's Softball Team

Beau Scott is heading up the Men's Church League Softball Team. There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, April 24th after the 10:30 am service. All young men 15 years old and older are invited to play. If you can't make the meeting or have questions please email Beau at: [beau@wirelessmikes.com](mailto:beau@wirelessmikes.com)



## Board Splinters

The monthly church Board Meeting was held on April 11th. **Deaconess:** they will meet on April 12th at 6 pm, they have 9 open spots to add deaconesses and no funeral dinners were served in March.

**Senior Minister:** finished up the "Quiet Life" sermon series, will be cooking 1000 ribs in October and the Singles Group is going well with 20 members.

**Elementary Minister:** Outlet kids played bells on Easter Sunday, 3 weeks left of Mid-Week and baptized Logun Ault.

**Worship:** will start the Saturday evening service on June 4th and the K-5 graders will have their VBS during this time each week.

**Outreach:** we raised \$2,105 from the Easter Offering for Camp New Hope.

**Christian Ed:** Youth Sunday will be May 22nd and the Mission Trip is going good.

**Stewardship:** went over the financial statements.

**Personnel:** planning a meeting.

**Trustees:** we are on track with our money at Wells Fargo, will pay Dolo for remodeling kitchen and baptismal, getting rid of old modesty rails and the tri-fold doors in the transept.

**Seniors:** went to the Corner Café in March, will have a cook-out on April 28th and have a new name: SALT (Seniors Adults Living Triumphantly).

## Staff Meetings

Just a reminder that each Monday morning the staff meets together to organize our calendars and for prayer. Please try to not call or stop by the office on Monday mornings unless it's an emergency. We thank you in advance for your help.



## FROG/ROCK News

Below is the FROG/ROCK Calendar for the rest of this school year:

Sunday, May 1st — Regular Meetings  
Sunday, May 8th — No Meetings, Mother's Day  
Sunday, May 15 — Last Regular Meetings  
Sunday, May 22 — Youth Sunday and End of the Year Cook-Out at Fox Ridge State Park. Meet at the church at 11:30 am and return at 5 pm.

## Singles @ First



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

### 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.



Building Fund balance:  
\$225,450.30

## Important Dates

Below are some important dates:

Sunday, May 8th ~ Mother's Day

Sunday, May 22nd ~ Youth Sunday

Sunday, May 29th ~ One Service at 10 am

With a pork chop lunch to follow  
(bring table service and a dish or two to share)

Saturday, June 4th ~ Saturday Night Church begins, 5 pm

Saturday, June 11th ~ Youth Leave for Haiti

Sunday, June 19th ~ Father's Day

Tuesday, October 18th ~ Deaconess Meeting 6 pm

Tuesday, November 15th ~ All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, December 3rd ~ Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 18th ~ Wassail Reception

## Little Galilee Camp



Check out the Little Galilee Camp Brochure on the bulletin board across from the church office. The church will pay 1/2 of the price for one camp for any child who attends FCC.

The deadline to turn in your form and money to the office is May 26th or register on-line at:

[www.littlegalilee.com](http://www.littlegalilee.com)

## Serving Communion

### Sunday, April 17

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

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

### Sunday, April 24

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

## Haiti Mission Team

All Haiti Mission Team Members need to attend the following meetings on Sundays April 17th; April 24th and May 1st all from 4-5 pm. There will also be a Nelson Catering Fundraiser Event on Sunday, May 15th from 11:30—1:30 pm.

## Church Attendance

April 3rd: Traditional: 113, Contemporary: 63 = 176

April 10th: Traditional: 109, Contemporary: 72 = 181

Website: [www.mattoonfcc.com](http://www.mattoonfcc.com)

Email address: [fcchurch@consolidated.net](mailto:fcchurch@consolidated.net)

Phone: 234-2928

Elementary Pastor: Stephanie Freeman

Administrative Assistant: Robin Myers

Senior Pastor: Pastor Steven Hayes

Return Service Requested

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