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## Remarks from Pastor Steve

“Different Times Different Methods to Grow the Church”

I am so very happy to share with you that we recently had three adult decisions and baptisms. At each, the Holy Spirit powerfully testified with His presence. Two of the decisions, Diana German and Carl Pacetti, came during the Bible 101 class. This class is offered at a convenient time for most, Sundays at 5:00 pm with the next class starting June 28<sup>th</sup>. Please consider signing up for this eight week class in Campbell Hall.

We give an invitation here at First Christian every week and our third convert Hui xia-Li (a Chinese immigrant who works at Jumbo Buffet) came to the Lord this way.

We continue to grow our local outreach and prayer ministries. A new prayer initiative will begin on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Every Tuesday at 7 am we will offer a small group worship experience in our church! If someone does not want to pray aloud, they can pray silently or just add their support by being with us. Heaven doesn't move until we ask. (AW Tozier)

We are planning an aggressive youth and elementary summer and are trying new ways to give you opportunities to go get the “wanderers.” These are the once or un-churched people who need a church home. In evaluating youth offerings in the community, we have great programs.

Why not make an effort to invite “someone” the Lord has put on your heart to our unified “5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Service” this Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am. Feed them and they will come! Our goal is 275 in attendance in one service!

That's right, mark your calendars and we are gathering as one church for worship followed by a potluck! Gary Kepley will be grilling pork chops and we know you all will bring loads of covered dishes and desserts to share! We will provide the pork chops and the drinks! Please bring your own plates and silverware since we are having pork chops.

What will this service look like? When you arrive everyone will receive a name tag and we would like for you to wear it though-out the morning. The service will be a blessing including the adult bell choir, a kids sing, MJ Brand and Kenny Jones leading choruses and hymns, a traditional style communion service and a choir special. I will share a lesson, we will visit and have a wonderful meal together.

### May 31<sup>st</sup> Schedule

9:30 am Worship (Nursery open)

Kids will be dismissed to Outlet during the offering time

No Sunday School classes

10:30 am Close the service “Get to know some new people”

11:00 am Potluck lunch begins

## Recipes Needed



The Deaconesses want to put together a church cookbook and they need your recipes. Please email your recipes to Kelly Armer at: [Purcell80@hotmail.com](mailto:Purcell80@hotmail.com) or if you don't have a computer please drop the recipes off in the office. The deadline to turn in recipes will be August 1st. Everyone please turn in as many recipes as you want...we need at least 150 recipes.

## Graduation Party

Everyone is invited to the High School Graduation Open House for MJ Brand on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 3-5 pm in Campbell Hall.



## Senior Outings

Mark your calendar for the next Sr.

Luncheon on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at noon in Campbell Hall.

*Spring Outing for Seniors*



You can still purchase a ticket for the trip on July 15<sup>th</sup> to see “Half-Stitched” in Arcola, sign up in the narthex, by June 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have not paid for your ticket please do so by either stopping by the office or see Richard Eident.

## Vacation Bible School



Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School “Outback Rock” on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm and 27<sup>th</sup>

from 10 am-12:30 pm. VBS will be for kids entering K-6<sup>th</sup> and the JHH class.

Registration forms are available on the church website: [www.mattoonfcc.com](http://www.mattoonfcc.com)

## New Bible 101 Class

A new Bible 101 Class will begin on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. The class will meet for 7 weeks on Sunday nights from 5-6 pm. If you are interested in this class please sign up on the bulletin board in Campbell Hall or call the church office.



**Peace Meals**

The next time our church needs to deliver Peace Meals

is June 29<sup>th</sup> thru July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact Deb McNeely at 259-1842 if you are available to help any of the days.

- 9 Mike Bays
- 10 Annetta Kerans
- 11 Jim Whetsell
- 12 Vera Hildebrand
- 14 Gordon Smith
- 16 Mona Bays
- 17 Kelly Himes
- 18 Kayla Grissom
- 20 Trisha Rentschler
- 21 Shayla Arthur, Barbara Ramsey
- 23 Bryce Wofford
- 24 Norma Himes, Rob Newlin
- 26 Gwen Watts
- 28 Shirley Tomlinson, Peyton Purcell



- 2 Jared and Kelly Armer
- 5 Richard and Joyce Eident
- 8 Bill and Jo Daily
- 12 Ed and Helen Dowling
- 15 Randy and Dawn Albin  
Rod and Linda Fleming,  
John and Carol Armstrong
- 17 Don and Barb Wisner
- 19 Jack and Barbara Browning
- 26 Robert and Janet Clark
- 27 Steve and Cheryl Ballinger



## Barbershop Show

On Saturday, June 13th at 4 pm in the Dvorak Concert Hall on the campus of EIU, the Coles County Barbershop Chorus and their quartets will perform their 46th annual summer show. The theme this year is "Dear Addy"...a spoof on the famous newspaper advice giver who answers letters of inquiry. As you might expect, the program is sure to generate some fun and some excellent music.

The feature quartet, "Double Date" comes from St. Louis and two years ago, they won the International Mixed Quartet Championship in Germany. As always, the show is family friendly and advance tickets can be obtained from Ron Hawkins at 276-3312 or from any chorus member. The web site [www.colescountychorus.com](http://www.colescountychorus.com) provides additional information. There is adequate parking and the facilities are handicap accessible.



The Building Fund has a balance of: \$216,807.94

## Church Life

### Saturday, May 30

9-10 am Smart Choice Distribution

### Sunday, May 31

9:30 am 5th Sunday Combined Worship Service

11 am Lunch in Campbell Hall

No Youth Group Meetings (over for the summer)

5 pm Bible 101 Class

### Monday, June 1

10 am Staff Meeting

5 pm Worship Committee Meeting

6 pm Personnel Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, June 2

Noon Community Bible Study (last one till fall)

6 pm Elders' Prayer Time

6:30 pm Worship Team Practice

7 pm Elders' Meeting

### Wednesday, June 3

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

6 pm Mid Week Volunteer Party at Pagliacci's

### Saturday, June 6

6:36 pm Young Adult Bible Study

### Sunday, June 7

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service/Open Heart Music Group

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5 pm Bible 101 Class (last one for this session)

### Monday, June 8

No Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees Meeting

7 pm Church Board Meeting

### Tuesday, June 9

6:30 pm Worship Team Practice

### Wednesday, June 10

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group



## Serving Communion

### Sunday, May 31 ~ One Service

**9:30 am** — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Jack Browning, Tim Buford, Mike Craig

### Sunday, June 7

**8:30 am** — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Tim Cyr, Dan Cunningham, Bill Daily, Tom Dickerson

**10:30 am** — Donica Brand (captain), Dennis Goings, John Holmes, Amy Maninfor, Nick Maninfor, Bob Morgan

## Church Attendance

May 17th: Traditional: 140, Contemporary: 88 = 228  
May 24th: Traditional: 126, Contemporary: 91 = 217