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Remarks from Pastor Steve

“Different Times Different Methods to Grow the Church”

I am very excited about the pulled pork fundraiser and the message it will send our community. First Christian Church doesn't just talk about helping others we truly are making an impact in our children's lives. Every dollar raised will result in school supplies strategically given to the teachers in Mattoon and coats, blankets and shoes for those who are most in need. In addition, this year we are purchasing new computers for Bridges School. With the state of the economy, this much needed alternative school program is taking a hit. If you have not yet sold your tickets please turn them in or turn in the money this Sunday. We will know how many pounds to hold back for ticket holders. It is my prayer that the pork will sell as fast as we can make it. You may begin picking up your pork on Saturday at 10 am.

Please mark your calendars for September 11th at 6:30 pm! We have rented a 288 seat theater at Showplace 10 at 2509 Hurst Drive, to watch the “War Room.” The “War Room” is from the makers of Fireproof and Courageous. It is a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships and every other area of life. The movie is rated PG and is appropriate for the entire family. The ticket price is \$5 each and you can purchase a ticket in the narthex starting August 9th. (We will disburse the actual tickets at the movie theater on September 11th). Only 262 tickets will be sold and 26 tickets will be given away by the local Cromwell Radio group for first callers.

The Discovery Class will be following up the movie with five lessons on September 19th with free study guides for all. This event is a “golden opportunity” for you to invite loved ones, friends and neighbors.

Every committee in the church is fired up for growth. I am working on casting vision for the future of this church, please pray for me. Without vision “the people” will perish.

We are a great church, why not make an effort to invite “someone” the Lord has put on your heart to visit our church this week.

May God Enlarge His Territory,
Pastor Steve

Coats 4 Kids

We will hold our annual Coats 4 Kids give-a-way on Saturday,



October 24th. Please start collecting new coats and blankets for kids. Please store the items at home and we will let you know when we can start collecting them.



Relay for Life is August 22nd at Peterson Park. We will still have luminaries for sale on August 2nd and 9th. If you would like to join our team or purchase a luminary see Tammy in the narthex on Sunday.

Job Well Done!

Thank You to everyone who donated to the Choices (Crisis Pregnancy Center) thru the Baby Bottle Blessings Fundraiser. The church raised \$1,222.27!! Way to Go!

5th Sunday Service



We will have a combined 5th Sunday Service on August 30th at 9:30 am. Following the one service a meal will be held in Campbell Hall at 11 am. The baked ham and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own table service and a salad or dessert to share.

News from Paul

It is hard to believe July is about over and we will soon be gearing up for the usual fall activities like school and raking leaves! I would like to remind everyone if you have any needs like raking, needing something moved, changing light bulbs and anything you simply cannot do — please let me know or call the church office. Someone will get in touch with me and we will do our best to get the help to you as soon as possible.

The neighborhood calling has been going great and I have met some real nice people along the way. Several of these people already worship at a local church and there are several who are looking for a place to worship. If you see anyone new in church please introduce yourself to them and ask how they heard of FCC. If their visit is a result of the calling, please let me know.

The Discovery Class keeps growing and we have been active with meeting outside the church too! We have met a few times for a cookout, miniature golf and ice cream. If you are not part of a Sunday school class, you are more than welcome to check us out. We are currently in a seven week study series titled, *The Grave Robber* by Mark Batterson. We still have six study sessions left, so it is not too late to join us.

When we complete the current series, another study series will follow from the movie *War Room* which will be shown at our local theater. This movie is from the creators of *Fireproof* and *Courageous* and it looks like it will be powerful. FCC has scheduled to see the movie on September 11th at 6:30 pm. The study series will be offered the following week on the 19th at 9:30 am in Campbell Hall. Coffee and donuts will be provided. We will have tickets available for \$5 per person with sales starting August 9th. More information about the movie can be found at WarRoomTheMovie.com.

Finally, the Men's breakfast will back in full swing starting on September 5th. Guys, if you have not come out for this you have missed some great food, fellowship and a devotion to help you get your Saturday started. Watch for details and a sign-up sheet at the end of August.

In His service,

Paul

Staff Meetings



We have a Staff Meeting each Monday from 10-11:30 am. Please try not to call or stop by the office during this time. We meet for prayer, planning and organizing.



The Christian Women from Mattoon Area Churches is hosting a Women of Faith LOVED Simulcast. The event will be held at the First Baptist Church on south 9th street on October 2 from 7-10:30 pm and October 3rd from 9-5:30 pm. Speakers will include: Patsy Clairmont, Mary Graham, Korie Robertson, Sandy Patty, Luci Swindoll and more.

Tickets for the Women of Faith Simulcast are now available in the church office. Each ticket is \$20 which includes lunch on Saturday. There are a limited supply of tickets, so get yours soon.



The Outreach Committee has decided to no longer offer the Smart Choice Food Program.

Prayer Ministry



A Prayer Ministry meets each Tuesday at 7 am in the UIC Classroom. There is a brief 5 minute devotional followed by a time of prayer. If someone does not want to pray aloud, they can pray silently or just add their support by being there. Everyone is welcome!

Church Life

Saturday, August 1

9-10 am Smart Choice Distribution

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

Sunday, August 2

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

11 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

Monday, August 3

No Staff Meeting

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

5 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 4

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

6 pm Elders' Prayer Time

6:30 pm Worship Team Practice

7 pm Elders' Meeting

Wednesday, August 5

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

5 pm Music Lessons

Thursday, August 6

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru

Friday, August 7

10 am—6 pm Pork for Sale via Drive-thru (if not sold out!)

Sunday, August 14

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, August 15

10 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees' Meeting

7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 11

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

6:30 pm Worship Team Practice

Wednesday, August 12

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5 pm Music Lessons

Sunday, August 16

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service



Senior Game Day

The Seniors' Group will have a Game Day on Thursday, August 20th starting at 1:30 pm. Please bring your favorite game and a snack to share.



Discipleship 201 Class



DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

If you have taken the Bible 101 Class then Discipleship 201 is for you! This class will start Sunday, September 20th and meet from 5-6 pm. The class is limited to 18 people so sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board in Campbell Hall.

Branson Trip

If you are going on the Branson Trip the balance is due in the church office by September 10th. If anyone else is interested in going we will put your name on a waiting list.



Peace Meals



The next date to deliver Peace Meals for our church in August 24-28. If you are available to help all or any of the days please contact Deb McNeely at 259-1842.

Marriage 101 Class

Pastor Steve will offer a Marriage 101 class starting Sunday, September 20th at 9:30 am. This class is a great way to enhance your marriage or prepare for marriage. If you are interested in this class please contact Pastor Steve.



Board Splinters

The July 13th Board Meeting was opened with prayer from Richard Eident with Vice-Chairman, Mike Craig presiding over the meeting.

Elders: next meeting is Tuesday, August 4th.

Deaconesses: need cookie and bread recipes for the cookbook, Women of Faith tickets are available in the church office.

Senior Minister: "Glory Days" sermon series is going well, will start Discipleship 201 and Marriage 101 classes September 20th and working on Pulled Pork Fundraiser and need volunteers and people to sell tickets for the pork.

Elementary Minister: VBS went well and thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible.

Worship: will have a 5th Sunday Service at 9:30 am on Sunday, August 30th with a dinner to follow.

Outreach: raised \$1,222.27 for the Choices Pregnancy Center and will have a meeting on July 16th.

Evangelism: will provide the meat for the dinner on August 30th.

Christian Ed: took the high school kids to Cedar Point Amusement Park and 13 youth went on the Mission Trip to St. Louis.

Stewardship: we are a little behind on income verses expenses for the year and the investments are up a little.

Trustees: the termites have been treated, going to have the trailer tires checked and Consolidated Communications will temporarily use our parking lot during the work week until the new "park" uptown is completed.

World Outreach: will meet on July 27th at 6:30 pm for a meeting.

New Business: Richard Eident reported that 44 people are going to the "Half-Stitched" play and 19 are signed up to go on the Branson Seniors' trip. Dolo Wishard thanked everyone for their prayer and support when she went on the Belize Mission Trip.

The UIC Classroom is missing their orange bell. If you borrowed it, please return it to their room.


Serving Communion

Sunday, August 2

9:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Steve Lane, Bud Miller, Randy Pierce
10:30 am — Donica Brand (captain), Randy Albin, Nick Maninfior, Bob Morgan, Neil Wofford

Sunday, August 9

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Jack Browning, Tim Buford, Mike Craig, Tim Cyr
10:30 am — Dave Whitley (captain), Vern Belt, Chanon Fine, Jeff Maninfior

 The Building Fund has a balance of: \$217,427.94

Church Attendance	
July 12th:	Traditional: 111, Contemporary: n/a =
July 19th:	Traditional: 113, Contemporary: 45 = 158
July 26th:	Traditional: 131, Contemporary: 75 = 206

Non-Profit Organization
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Return Service Requested
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