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## Remarks from Pastor Steve

### “Different Times Different Methods to Grow the Church”

This Sunday Ed Thomas with World Mission Builders will be preaching at both services. We are so blessed to have one of the greatest missionaries in the world this Sunday at FCC. All of the Sunday School Classes with the exception of the nursery and toddlers will join together in Campbell Hall to hear Ed speak. He will present a slide show and you can ask questions and enjoy coffee, water and donuts for all. First come, first serve.

**This event is a “golden opportunity” for you to invite loved ones, friends, and neighbors.**

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> is our Fall Adult Education Kick Off!** We are offering three new classes in addition to our UIC (mixed age adults), HIS (seniors) and the Women’s Class. **The fact is...when we are in community with others, we will grow in Christ. So, please join a class, make friends and grow together.**

1. The Discovery Class will be offering a follow-up class to the War Room. A five week session with lessons books provided, while they last.
2. Marriage 101. Looking to put some zip in your marriage? This is a marital enhancement class which is informative and entertaining. The class is limited to six couples and three slots are open. The only way to get in this class is to call Pastor Steve on his cell 294-1700.
3. Discipleship 201. The 201 Class begins at 5:00 pm on Sunday evening September 20<sup>th</sup> and Bible 101 is a prerequisite. This class is limited to 18 so, sign-up on the bulletin board in Campbell Hall on Sunday.

How can I help our church grow? Develop relationships with people who are non-churched and share your love and passion for the Lord with them. Tell them about our missions and ministry. No church in our area comes close to what we are doing for the community. Our Mid-Week Outlet is second to none so bring some Elementary kids to Outlet.

**Mark your calendars, the Community Bible Study returns on Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> at noon.** This is no homework 45 minute Bible Study led by me and Matt Chandler teaching *To Live Is Christ, To Die Is Gain*. Put some perk in your week. Bibles and syllabus are provided as well as homemade cookies, fruit, yogurt, coffee and water. **This is another golden opportunity to invest and invite a neighbor or co-worker to visit our church.**

Seems like a pattern doesn't it?

May God Enlarge His Territory,  
*Pastor Steve*

## Seniors' Outing

The next Seniors' Outing will be lunch on Friday, September 18th at the Beef House. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend and the vans will leave at 9:45 am.



*Richard Eident,*  
Minister to Seniors'



First Christian Church is organizing a new ministry called “Singles at First.” This group will be for singles “never married, divorced, widowed” who have an interest in meeting once a month to socialize and have fun on perhaps a Friday or Saturday evening? Activities will be decided by the group and could be a movie, dinner, cards or board games.

We are looking for people who are interested in helping organize the group and/or to participate. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in Campbell Hall for organization and to participate in the group.

## Coats 4 Kids

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



October 24th from noon-5 pm. Please start collecting new coats, hats, gloves and blankets for kids. Please store the items at home and we will let you know when we can start collecting them.

## News from Paul

The men's breakfast was very well attended with roughly twenty-two guys coming out for great food and a lesson from Pastor Steve. I would like to thank Tom Dickerson, Jim Long and Mike Craig for helping in the kitchen. I sure am looking forward to *The War Room* movie today, I hope you have your tickets! The Discovery Class will have a 5 week video series study on this movie. The first lesson will be at 9:30 am on September 20th and all are welcome to attend.

Another chapter of 2015 is about to close and another is about to open. Where has the time gone?! The last few times I have sat outside for some prayer, solitude and devotional time, I have noticed there are changes starting to take place. The leaves are starting to fall off a little bit each day. It will not be long before they are all down on the ground (and in the gutters!). Instead of thinking of the work which lies ahead with the leaf cleanup, I chose to take a different (spiritual) view. It is times like this I can visually see God at work through nature. When I noticed a leaf fall I think to myself, this is God's way of introducing change with the seasons. I bring this up because of a passage I read this past week along with some study material I have went over with Lincoln Christian University. I found out through a small survey-type exercise I seem to lean more toward a naturalist when it comes to feeling close to God and His glory.

As I sit outside, walk through the woods, riding the motorcycle on a starry night, hear the coyotes howl while I sit on our deck and so forth, I can really see and hear all that God displays for us to enjoy. His power is at work right before me! Psalm 29 says, "Ascribe to the LORD...ascribe to the Lord glory and strength...ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name..." (v.1-2). "The voice of the Lord is over the waters, the God of glory thunders..." (v. 3). "May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!" (v. 11) (ESV). This passage helps me to realize God is in the *here and now* through *everyday nature*, and even when the breeze blows I can *hear* Him speak. Before you go outside to relax next time, take the time to read the entire passage. Then go outside and take a look around at the changes taking place. What do you see and hear?

In His service,  
Paul Weber



The Building Fund has a balance of: \$217,125.30

## Baptism



Steve Morgan baptized Cheyenne Jones on Sunday, August 30th. Welcome Cheyenne to FCC!

## Mid-Week Outlet

Mid-Week Outlet Program is for all Kindergarteners through 5th graders and JHH students. The program meets each Wednesday from 6-7:30 pm with dinner being provided.



## FROG and ROCK



The FROG (6-8 graders) and ROCK (9-12 graders) are back to meeting each week for meetings and/or activities.

Sunday, September 13 — Going to the SkyZone at 1:30 and returning at 8:30 pm. Each youth needs to bring \$12 plus money for one fast food meal.

Sunday, September 20 — FROG 5-7, ROCK 6-8 pm

Sunday, September 27 — FROG 5-7, ROCK 6-8 pm



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 2nd from 7-10:30 pm and October 3rd from 9-5:30 pm. Speakers will include: Patsy Clairmont, Mary Graham, Korie Robertson, Sandi Patty, Luci Swindoll and more.

Tickets for the Women of Faith Simulcast are available in the church office. Each ticket is \$20 which includes lunch on Saturday.

## Attention Van Drivers

Each time the church van is driven please write down the mileage in the Usage Log Binder that is located in each van. If you are going out of town please follow the inspection sheet (it is in the binder) before leaving town.

Gwen Watt's new address is:



Tuscola Health Care Center  
1203 Egyptian Trail  
Tuscola, IL 61953

## Church Life

### **Saturday, September 12**

5 pm Cook out at Dolo's for Philippine Mission Teams

### **Sunday, September 13**

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Ed Thomas (missionary to Philippines)  
to speak in Campbell Hall

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

1:30 pm FROG and ROCK to the Sky Zone

### **Monday, September 14**

10 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees Meeting

7 pm Board Meeting

### **Tuesday, September 15**

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

Noon Community Bible Study

6:30 pm Worship Team Practice

### **Wednesday, September 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, September 17**

6:30 pm Ladies Softball at the Roundhouse Complex

### **Friday, September 18**

9:45 am Seniors to the Beef House

### **Sunday, September 20**

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5 pm Discipleship 201

5-7 pm FROG and 6-8 pm ROCK Meetings

### **Monday, September 21**

10 am Staff Meeting

7 pm Christian Education Meeting

### **Tuesday, September 22**

7 am Prayer Time in the UIC room

Noon Community Bible Study

6:30 pm Praise Team Practice

### **Wednesday, September 23**

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6-7:30 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

### **Thursday, September 24**

6:30 pm Ladies Softball at the Roundhouse Complex



## Heartland Christian

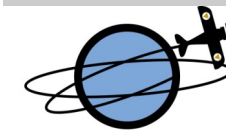
Heartland Christian Village is having their Shopping Cart drive from September 15 to October 15. Please think about donating needed items of: small bags of snacks, snack cakes, cracker sandwich packs, mini microwave popcorn, ink pens, small packs of tissues, ink pens, solar flowers and sugar free candy. A tote will be in the narthex till October 15th for the requested items.



## Class at the YMCA

The YMCA is offering a new class...Y-Change and it is an 8-week program lead by a certified personal trainer that will help provide the tools to lead a healthy lifestyle. The format is in a small-group setting which meets three times a week and will include a different health and exercise topic each week as well as two workouts a week. Participants will set individual goals, keep a food and activity journal and learn how to use the equipment in the Wellness Center. If you are new to the Y, this is a great way to learn about what the Y has to offer as well as make new friends! This program is available to YMCA members at a cost of \$75 (for a total of 24 sessions) and begins Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. There are two different sessions to choose from, either noon or 6 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Space is limited to 10 participants per class. Stop by the Y to register or register online at [www.mattoonymca.org](http://www.mattoonymca.org). For more information contact Emily Hayden 234-9494.

## Missions Update Info.



We have an easy way for you to donate to church Mission Trips that actually costs you nothing. We have enrolled in the Smile Program through Amazon. When you order items from Amazon just log on to the website listed below and .5% of your eligible Amazon Smile Purchases will be directed to First Christian Church Missions. Just type in [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and select your charity which ours is: *First Christian Church Marilyn Purcell* and order the items you were already going to purchase anyways. If you have any questions please call the church office. Once you have signed up with the Smile Program your computer will automatically save the information.

## 90 Birthday Celebration

Veronika Burks celebrated her 90th Birthday on September 11th. If you would like to send her a card her address is:

Brookstone North  
1920 Brookstone Lane Apt. 1  
Mattoon IL 61938

## 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.




## Harvest Festival

Everyone is invited to Heartland Christian Village for their Harvest Festival on September 18th from 5-7 pm. There will be free food, live entertainment, car show, bounce house, family activities, pumpkin decorating and miniature ponies.



## Discipleship 201 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.

**DISCIPLESHIP CLASS**

## Thank You Notes

Thank you First Christian Church for the greatest participation, contributions, and sincere caring for the Relay For Life. We had the best year ever!

*Teresa Stuttle*

Thank big thank you goes to the following people for delivering Peace Meals: Teresa Stuttle, Max and Arlene Betty, Tony Aghaei, Richard and Joy Eident, Lisa Ballinger, Mel Phoele, Bud and Betty Miller, Carol Armstrong, Jan Booker, Rose Ervin, Sherri Crow and John and Linda Janes.

*Deb McNeely*

The youth would like to thank everyone for their support of encouragement and financial assistance with the FROG and ROCK Ministry at the church.

## Serving Communion

### Sunday, September 13

**8:30 am** — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Jack Browning, Tim Buford, Randy Pierce

**10:30 am** — Donica Brand (captain), Randy Albin, Amy Maninfior, Nick Maninfior, Bob Morgan, Neil Wofford

### Sunday, September 20

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

**10:30 am** — Dave Whitley (captain), Chanon Fine, Dennis Goings, John Holmes, Jeff Maninfior, Nick Maninfior

### Church Attendance

August 31st: Combined = 165

September 6th: Traditional: 117, Contemporary: 80 = 197

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Permit No. 23



1600 WABASH AVE  
MATTOON IL 61938

**Return Service Requested**

Senior Pastor: Pastor Steven Hayes

Administrative Assistant: Robin Myers

Elementary Pastor: Stephanie Freeman

Phone: 234-2928

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

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