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Mattoon First Christian Church

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Riches from Richard

Six Ways for First Christian to be Effective

1. Effective churches are Praising places. An attitude of gratitude and celebration prevails. The music is good music.. enthusiasm abounds. I have heard good music in all of our services.
2. It is a prayer place. The churches that are really effective have specific times set aside for prayer. First Christian has prayer time every Tuesday morning. The church phone tree is regularly asking us to pray for specific needs.
3. Growing churches know where they're going and they have a concern for the world. They have a clear sense of purpose and articulate it well. Moreover, the congregation understands that purpose and participates in it.
4. One of its more dominating characteristics is that it is involved in equipping. Every member understands himself as a minister. New members in growing congregations are expected to assume a ministry responsibility in the congregation.
5. These congregations are led by a small core of committed leaders. They don't spend all their time in committee meetings. People tend to go away from committee meetings upset and divided. But they go away from being involved in some sort of service to others rejoicing. I always leave the food pantry feeling thankful and blessed that I am able to serve those who might be hungry. How about helping out with our Youth Programs. Be a Greeter. Volunteer to serve at Heartland Nursing Home once a month. I have a blast with the folks there when I am able to serve them.
6. Also churches that are effective are places of encouragement. They are characterized by friendships and personal relationships. Plug into a Sunday School Class, the chancel choir, SALT—Senior Adults Living Triumphantly, join the craft ladies on Wednesday mornings.

Richard Eident

One Worship Service

We will be having one worship service on Sunday, October 30th at 9:30 am. Following the service everyone is invited to Campbell Hall for a Ministry Fair. There will be tables set-up to advertise different programs at the church and from the community. We hope you will stop by and check it out. A raffle will be drawn at the end of the "fair" for a night at Shawnee Hill Bed and Breakfast in Southern Illinois!



Deaconess Meeting

All Deaconesses are encouraged to attend the next meeting which will be on Tuesday, October 18th at 6 pm. At this meeting 2017 Officers will be elected. Doris Webb and Dolo Wishard are on the nominating committee, so if you know of someone to nominate as an officers please contact one of them.



Christmas Musical



"Go, Tell It!" A Mini-Musical specifically for a 2-Unison Choir with Narration and opportunity for unity and visual story telling. All ages and abilities are welcome. Rehearsals will begin soon.

The musical will be performed in the Mattoon community at special events throughout the holiday season and at both services Sunday, December 4th. If you are interested, please contact Chancel Choir Director, Julia Degler-Whitmore at 273-4793 or email her at fccchoirdirector@gmail.com

Committee Chairmen

Attention all Committee Chairman...October is budget month. Please add to your agendas the 2017 budget process at your October committee meetings. All budgets must be turned into the church office by October 25th.



We extend our sympathy to Betty Icenogle and family on the passing of her mother, Kay Starwalt (80) on September 28th.

We also extend our sympathy to

Mike Brand and family on the passing of his mother Sara Brand (91) on October 2nd.

Coats 4 Kids

The Coats 4 Kids Committee needs coats for infant to high school age youth all sizes and especially sizes 8-20. We are requesting that all the coats be new, no used or gently worn coats please. They will give the coats away on Saturday, October 29th from 11 am—3 pm. If you would like to help with this ministry please mark your calendars and set-up will begin at 7:30 am that morning.



Heartland Village



October is First Christian Church's Shopping Cart month at Heartland Christian Village. They are in need of: kleenex (square boxes with no lotion), toothbrushes, gift cards from Dollar General (for volunteer director to buy specific needs), cash and plastic denture boxes. There will be a box available for these items in the narthex.

Upcoming Events

October 29	Coats 4 Kids Drive, 11 am—3 pm
October 30	One Service, 9:30 am Ministry Fair in Campbell Hall, 10:30 am
November 15	All Church Thanksgiving Dinner, 6 pm
December 3	Cookie Walk
December 4	Christmas Musical "Go Tell It", both services
December 18	Wassail Reception, 9:30 am
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 pm
December 25	Christmas Day One Service, 9:30 am

Nominating Committee

If you know of someone who would like to serve as a Trustee, Deacon or Deaconess for a 3 year term please contact one of the following nominating committee members: Donica Brand, Linda Fleming, Candy Tate, Cindy VanDeventer, Dawn Albin, Ed Dowling or Greta Grafton.



Shoe Drive

My friend, Steve Kull, who I work with at Sarah Bush Lincoln showed me a project that his family is working on. They are so excited to begin the adoption journey again and I am inviting First Christian Church to come alongside of them. How can you do this? Simply by donating your gently worn or used shoes...cleats, skates, combat boots, literally any type of shoes.

By donating your shoes, you are helping be a part of bringing Simon home, as well as keeping shoes from landfills and creating micro businesses in developing countries like Haiti, Ghana and many more.

Bring the shoes to the church and place them in a box and I will see that they get to the Kull family. My family came up with 18 pairs of shoes that we are donating. Check your closets and let's help them reach their goal of 7,500 pairs of shoes by November 22nd. We have donated 125 pairs so far!

Richard Eident

Church Life

Saturday, October 15

5 pm 18-25 Group Meets

Sunday, October 16

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting

Monday, October 17

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

7 pm Christian Ed. Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 18

7 am Prayer Time

6 pm Deaconess Meeting

Wednesday, October 19

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Program

6 pm Line Dancing at the Eagles'

7 pm Praise Team Practice

Saturday, October 22

5 pm 18-25 Group Meets

Sunday, October 23

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service/Eagles' Wings

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

2 pm Pre-Pack at the Food Center

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting

Monday, October 24

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Evangelism Meeting

Tuesday, October 25

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, October 26

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Program

7 pm Praise Team Practice

Saturday, October 29

7:30 am Set-up Coats

11 am—3 pm Coats 4 Kids Give-Away

5 pm 18-25 Group Meets

Sunday, October 30

9:30 am Combined Service

10:30 am Ministry Fair in Campbell Hall

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting



Just a reminder to please notify the church office of any address changes (permanent, just for the winter or even putting your mail on hold while you are away) BEFORE you change your address at the Post Office. This will ensure you will still receive the newsletter and the church won't have to pay a postage due. When you change your address at the Post Office they will NOT forward the newsletter to your new address.

Line Dancing



Cinda Moran has started back the Line Dancing Classes on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. The class will be held at the Eagles' and is open to the public.

Pastor Appreciation

Pastor Appreciation Day will be Sunday, October 30th. There will be 4 boxes set up in the narthex to receive gifts (ex: gift cards, baked goods, etc.) for: Pastor Steve, Steve Morgan, Richard Eident and Stephanie Anderson. Don't forget their spouses.

Cookie Walk

The annual Cookie Walk will be on Saturday, December 3rd. Please mark your calendars and plan on donating some goodies and/or crafts.



It's always a good time to join the choir, call or email Julia at fccchoirdirector@gmail.com or 273-4793.

Special Music for October

October 16 Mabelle Morgan at both services

October 23 Eagles' Wings at 8:30 am service

October 30 Combined Service at 9:30 am.

Board Splinters

The official meeting of the Church Board was held on Monday, October 10th. Steve Huckaba, chairman of the Elders presided over the meeting.

Elders: met on October 1st and next meeting is December 3rd at 8:30 am.

Deaconesses: Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 15th.

Sr. Minister: no report.

Elementary Minister: Mid-week is going good.

Worship: will participate in the Ministry Fair, prepared the new budget and next meeting will be November 3rd at 7 pm.

Outreach: will meet on October 17th.

Evangelism: have spent \$250 on the Ministry Fair and the Saturday Night Service has ended.

Christian Ed: talked about upcoming youth events.

Stewardship: went over the financial statements.

Personnel: no report.

Trustees: going to fix the stain-glass on the doors entering the sanctuary.

World Missions: no report.

Seniors' Minister: no report.

New Business: a motion was made to accept Paul Weber's resignation as the Men's Minister, Elder and World Outreach Chairman and accepted Evelyn Weber's resignation as a Deaconess. The following people were approved as the nominating committee members: Ed Dowling, Greta Grafton, Donica Brand, Dawn Albin, Linda Fleming, Candy Tate and Cindy VanDeventer.

Church Attendance	
Oct. 1st:	Saturday Church: 11
Oct. 2nd:	Traditional: 109, Contemporary: 51 = 160
Oct. 9th:	Traditional: 103, Contemporary: 65 = 168

Children/Youth News



The Mid-Week Children's Program for K-5th graders and JHH students meets on Wednesday evenings. The program is from 6-7:30 pm with supper being provided.

The FROG and ROCK (middle and high school students) meet each Sunday evening from 5-7 pm.



	Building Fund balance: \$228,408.98
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Serving Communion

Sunday, October 16

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Tim Cyr, Dan Cunningham

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

Sunday, October 23

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

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

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