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Mattoon First Christian Church

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From the Pastor's Heart

What is it we need right now? I believe it is faith.

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Hebrew 11:1

We can hope and have faith that God will see our nation through an ugly, contentious and immoral national election, and our national sins will be forgiven, and that the Constitution will be followed by the leaders of our land. We can hope and have faith that God will heal our land. This is promised if we return to God and repent. I believe if we do this individually, this will become an epidemic. People are hungry for the peace and unity that only our Lord Jesus can bring. Go and tell people about Jesus and His Church. We can have the assurance that God is with us even as we face our greatest enemies, greed and apathy. Apathy is the enemy of the church. We were designed and created for action. Greed enslaves us to debt and taxes and welfare and inaction.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels or demons, neither the present nor the future nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

It is so uplifting as a believer to know that God loves us and has not forsaken us.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Steve

Cookie Walk/Craft Bazaar

The annual Cookie Walk will be on Saturday, December 3rd from 8 am to noon. Cookies, crafts, coffee and rolls will be for sale. The deaconesses are asking each lady at FCC to please donate 5-6 dozen cookies or candy or craft items. We also heard the cookie monster might visit!



Coats 4 Kids

The Coats 4 Kids Committee will give away coats and blankets on Saturday, October 29th from 11 am—3 pm. If you would like to help with this ministry set-up will begin at 7:30 am that morning and clean up at 3 pm. If you want to volunteer to help out during the Give Away please come anytime.



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 the Shawnee Hill Bed and Breakfast in Southern Illinois!



Remember to set your clocks back one hour when going to bed on Saturday, November 5th for the end of Daylight Savings Time.

Thanksgiving Dinner

The All Church Thanksgiving Dinner will be on Tuesday, November 15th at 6 pm. The turkey, noodles, mashed potatoes, rolls, butter and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own table service and food to share. Following the dinner at 6:45 pm a program will be held in the sanctuary from the Holy Hands Puppet and Drama Ministry.



Thank You Note

Thank you to everyone at FCC for their kind words, cards, and gestures toward us during the last couple of weeks we were at FCC. Thank you also to the Staff and to the Discovery Class for the nice time of celebration you had for us. It has been wonderful to be a part of a great fellowship of believers.

In His service,
Paul and Evelyn Weber

Thank you to the H.I.S. Class for the Birthday card and wishes. I really appreciated it.

Veronika Burk

Pastor Appreciation

Pastor Appreciation Day will be Sunday, October 30th. There is a basket 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.

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.

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

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/Craft Bazaar 8 am
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.



News on the Shoe Drive

I want to thank all who have donated shoes. We have collected in the area of 400 pair of shoes. I have had several others who have indicated that they have shoes to donate. I need to encourage you to do this by November 22nd. This is the last day for me to get them to my friend, Steve Kull.

They have collected somewhere around 4,500 pairs of shoes thus far. When they set a goal of 7,500 they knew that it was a lofty goal. I would like to see us at First Christian give a total of 500 pairs of shoes. We need 100 more pairs. Check your closets and bring them to the church.

Thank you from the Kull family and Richard Eident.



All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, November 5th at 7 am.

Please help us with the security at the church. Please make sure all lights are off if you are the last one to leave. The outside doors are controlled by the church office computer but if you unlock the office door make sure you lock it back.



Church Life

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 One Worship Service
10:30 am Ministry Fair in Campbell Hall
5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting

Monday, October 31

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 1

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, November 2

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group
4 pm Stewardship Meeting
5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice
6 pm Chancel Choir Practice
6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program
6 pm Line Dancing at the Eagles'
7 pm Praise Team Practice

Thursday, November 3

7 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Friday, November 4

6 pm Singles @ First Game Night

Saturday, November 5

7 am Men's Breakfast
5 pm 18-25 Group Meets

Sunday, November 6

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting

Monday, November 7

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 8

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, November 9

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group
5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice
6 pm Chancel Choir Practice
6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program
7 pm Praise Team Practice

Friday, November 11

Veteran's Day—Office Closed

Saturday, November 12

5 pm 18-25 Group Meets



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

Upcoming Special Music

October 30	Praise Team, Chancel and Bell Choirs
November 13	Bell Choir
November 27	Chancel Choir
December 4	Chancel Choir
December 11	Kings IV Group
December 18	Bell Choir

Church Basement Ladies

Anyone wanting to go see the "Church Basement Ladies" at the Effingham Performance Center on Thursday, December 8th is welcome to attend. Each ticket will cost \$37 if 15 people go. The plan for the day is to leave from Mattoon at 11 am for lunch at Niemergs then attend the Play at 2 pm. Note: we will take an evening group if there is interest. If you plan to attend please call the church office at 234-2928.

Noodles and More

Beverly Beeler is going to make noodles for the All Church Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, *November 12th* at 10 am in the church kitchen. Anyone wanting to help is welcome.



All ladies are invited to the church on Saturday, *November 19th* from 8 am—noon to create candy or cookies.



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.

- 1 Mark Scott
- 3 Madonna Moncel
- 6 Judy Smith
- 8 Mary Logan
- 9 Lily Maninfior
- 11 Jack James
- 14 Janice Morgan, Delmar Luckey
- 24 Lisa Hatfield, Madonna Johnson
- 26 Katie Landrus, Dakota Arthur, Kay White
- 30 John Greathouse



- 1 Steve and Kay White
- 6 Bud and Betty Miller
- 7 Delbert and Stelma Dunn



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.

Church Attendance

Oct. 16: Traditional: 113, Contemporary: 58 = 171
 Oct. 23: Traditional: 85, Contemporary: 60 = 145

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:
\$230,553.98

Serving Communion

Sunday, October 30

9:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Steve Lane, Jack Little, Bud Miller

Sunday, November 6

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Denny Booker, Jack Browning, Gene Swearingen
 10:30 am — Max Betty, Donica Brand, Chanon Fine, Dennis Goings

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Senior Pastor: Steve Hayes

Return Service Requested

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