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Mattoon First Christian Church

Web: mattoonfcc.com

From the Pastor's Heart

Last Sunday, I began a six week series of messages on Worship. The feedback from my web family and church family was amazing. It seems as if the Lord has directed me to a very important topic. If you were unable to attend you can hear the message on the website, just click on the media tab on www.mattoonfcc.com

Jesus said: "**The true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.**"

Jesus is saying that there is a right way and a wrong way to go about worship. It is crucial for the growth and viability of our church and the kingdom that we learn how to do it right.

Here are just a few points from Sunday's message...

Many of today's worshippers think that church should make them feel good, the worship music should be geared toward their tastes and preferences, the sermon should speak to their problems. Sunday morning becomes something that "I" do for "me."

I suggested that we keep sight of the fact that the point of worship as well as the point of church attendance and the point of Christian service is not to feel good but to please God.

Worship is a group event, a family affair, a community event, a team sport. God has called his people to come together faithfully and often in His Name to worship together, with one heart and mind. (Psalm 122:1)

Obviously, you can worship alone, at home, or in the beauty of nature and this is a good thing to do. But it's not enough. You need to worship with the people of God. (Matthew 18:20)

When Christians meet together, no matter how small the numbers, we have the promise of His Presence. Without His Presence there is loss and you will not enter His peace in your life.

Would you change your lifestyle to at a minimum, worship in His house weekly? Without your participation there is loss, for we are family.

May the Lord Bless You With His Presence,
Pastor Steve

Daylight Savings Time



On Sunday, March 12th Daylight Savings time will begin at 2 am. Please move your clocked ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

Thank You Note

Thank you to Pastor Steve for coming to the hospital when I had surgery and staying with my family. Thank you to everyone for the prayers and cards concerning my surgery and recovery.

Sid and Mary Guill

Singles @ First

The Singles Group will meet on Friday, March 3rd from 6-8 pm at the church for Game Night. Please bring a snack or drink to share.



No Men's Breakfast

There will be NO Men's Breakfast in March. They will resume on Saturday, April 1st (no foolin' ☺.)

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 5

special music by Bobby Reynolds at both services

Sunday, March 12

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Special music by the Chancel Choir at both services

Sunday, March 19

Special music by the Chancel Choir at both services

Tuesday, March 21

Movie Day of *Ruth* at 1 and 6 pm

Saturday, March 25

FROG and ROCK Students to serve lunch at PADS

Sunday, March 26

Special music by the Bell Choir

Saturday, April 1

Men's Breakfast at 7 am

Sunday, April 2

30 Pieces of Silver Fundraiser Begins

Sunday, April 9

Camp New Hope Easter Offering Begins

Mini-Cantata *Mercy Tree* at both services

Friday, April 14

Good Friday Service at noon

Sunday, April 16

Sonrise Service 7 am

Easter Youth Fundraiser Breakfast 8-9 am

Easter Service at 9:30 am

Tuesday, April 18

Deaconess Meeting at 6 pm

Sundays: April 23, April 30 and May 7

Steve Morgan preaching

Sunday, April 30

Gary and Judy Woods (missionaries in Africa) will be here



Building Fund balance:
\$254,384.54

Church Life

Friday, March 3

6 pm Singles @ First Game Night

Sunday, March 5

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Group Meeting

Monday, March 6

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 7

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, March 8

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

1:30 pm Joy Eident's Ladies Small Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Outlet Program

7 pm Praise Team Practice

Sunday, March 12 (Daylight Savings Time Begins)

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Group Meeting

Monday, March 13

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Trustees' Meeting

7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, March 15

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



Serving Communion

Sunday, March 5

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Tom Dickerson, Steve Lane, Jack Little

10:30 am — Max Betty, Donica Brand, Chanon Fine, Jeff Maninfior

Sunday, March 12

8:30 am — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Denny Booker, Tim Buford, Gene Swearingen

10:30 am — Dennis Goings, Marlin LoPiccolo, Amy Maninfior, Nick Maninfior

Sympathy



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Barry Inman (40) who passed away on February 26th.

Musical "Ruth"

All are invited to attend the showing of the DVD from Sight and Sound Plays in Branson captivating musical, Ruth. This treasured Biblical story, follows the improbable journey of Ruth and Naomi, two destitute widows whose faith in God and in each other ignites a chain of events that changes the course of history. The movie will be shown on Tuesday, March 21st at 1 pm and 6 pm. It is approximately 130 minutes in length and there will be an intermission at the end of Act I.

The church invites members to apply for the *Laura Catherine Van Gundy Young Memorial Scholarship* who attend U of I, Urbana-Champaign; EIU, or Lincoln Christian University, (Christian ministry majors only). Recipients must be enrolled in a course of study that culminates in a bachelor's or advanced degree in one of the following fields: Engineering or sciences, Medical sciences or services, Christian ministry or Business.



For more information and how to apply please visit the church website at www.mattoonfcc.com. Deadline to apply for this scholarship is March 31st.

Chancel Choir Musical



"Mercy Tree," a mini-musical will be presented on April 9th at both services. If you are interested in participating, please join and all ages are welcome. The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays for rehearsals at 6 pm. If you have any questions, contact Julia, at fccchoirdirector@gmail.com or 273-4793 for more information.

Church Attendance

February 19: Traditional: 98, Contemporary: 70 = 168

February 26: Traditional: 107, Contemporary: 80 = 187