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Mattoon First Christian Church

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From the Pastor's Heart

First Christian Church Leads The Community Forward Once Again In Local Mission Work

Affordable housing in Mattoon is greatly needed. After a long wait in Mattoon, Habitat for Humanity has approved a hard working family for a Habitat house. The house will be located at 612 Wabash Ave.

The Crowe family: Aisha (mom), Destiny and Trinity and her other two children who are out of the nest, Samantha and Kane will all be at the House Blessing on Sunday at 2 pm. I will be leading the house blessing, please plan to attend.

We have the opportunity to do two wonderful missions for the Crowe Habitat build:

#1 Raise enough money (\$7,500) to pay for all of the lumber on this home. We plan on cooking and selling 1000 ribs from Saturday, July 15th– Thursday, July 20th. We would like to pre-sell as many (Chairman Reserve) rib tickets as possible. They are the best pork ribs money can buy, delicious and ready to eat. They are an easy sale at \$18 per rack. Would you pick up some tickets from church and sell them? You will need to come in soon and pick them up or get them Sunday as they must be in by Sunday the 16th.

#2 Would you consider volunteering with the Habitat people to help us with the pork preparation and sale? If so, please see Tom Dickerson on Sunday to sign-up or call Robin Myers in the office during the week.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and work side by side with new people and to show our love to others.

Please pray for volunteers and sales.

May God Bless This Project,
Pastor Steve



FCC will start their Relay for Life Campaign on Sunday, July 9th. Pastor Steve will run 13 miles for this event and any pledge or donation would be greatly appreciated. Relay for Life will be August 19th at Peterson Park from noon-midnight.

Parade T-Shirts

The parade t-shirts will be available to pick-up in the narthex on July 16th or at the parade line up. Thank you to all who are participating. Candy will be provided for you to pass out but you will need to bring a container with a handle like a gallon ice cream bucket to put the candy in. Thank you to all who are participating.

Dinner 4 Eight

We are encouraging everyone to sign-up for "Dinner 4 Eight." This would be a one time commitment to have dinner with others from the church in a members home. All you need to do is sign-up in the narthex and then someone from the church will call you with a date (to see if that works for your schedule) and where to meet. This sign-up is only for people wanting to go to a dinner, not to be a host.



Along with the fundraiser, we will be helping Habitat with the building of the house at 612 Wabash Ave. The first part we will be involved with is framing which will take place on Saturday, July 22nd, July 29th and August 5th from 8 am—2 pm with lunch and drinks provided. All the tools will be furnished but you can bring your own if you wish. Experience is not necessary because each team will be led by an experienced leader. Everyone is welcome to help 16 years old and older but 16 and 17 year olds will need a parent waiver signed. We will also be painting with that date to be announced later. Volunteerism is not just limited to framing and painting, so if there are other jobs that you are interested in please volunteer. If you have any questions please contact Tom Dickerson at 254-5699 for more details and any questions.

Associate's Corner

James, the brother of Jesus, is quoted in James 2 saying, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." Those are pretty strong words. One of the foundations of the Christian faith, is that we are saved by God's grace through our faith in Jesus, and not by works. Yet James tells us our faith is dead unless we do something! That little bitty 2 letter word, "do", is a vital part of the Christian's life. Jesus was deeply concerned for the physical needs of the people: He fed the hungry, healed the sick, and even washed His disciples dirty feet! He knew that sometimes to meet the spiritual needs of people, you also need to take care of their physical needs. Mark 6:37, "You give them something to eat." This past weekend, our youth group was able to "do" just that; give a child something to eat. 16 students and 5 youth leaders fasted for 30 hours in hopes to raise enough funds to feed a child for one year through the World Vision Ministry. It was not an easy challenge. On the second day of the fast, we prepared and served 14 lunches to the homeless at PADS. Then, off to Rural King for a bake sale, right next to the popcorn machine!

At the end of the day, the kids had raised \$520, enough to feed a child for 14 months! Thanks to all the youth leaders, parents, and church members who supported this endeavor. Mother Teresa said, "If you can't feed 100 people, then feed just one."

Steve Morgan

Crafts R Us Group

The Crafts R Us Group will be eating breakfast at Denny's Restaurant on Wednesday, July 12th at 9 am and all are invited to come.

Church Life

Sunday, July 9

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Service

Monday, July 10

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting
6 pm Worship Meeting in the Bride's Room
6 pm Trustees Meeting in the Library
7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 11

7 am Prayer Time
6:30 pm Men's Church League Softball Games

Wednesday, July 12

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group at Denny's Restaurant
11:15 am Leave for "Adam and Eve" Play and Lunch in Arcola
2-3 pm Kids Summer Activity at Peterson Park

Thursday, July 13

6 pm Praise Team Practice

Saturday, July 15

10 am—6 pm Ribs for Sale

Sunday, July 16

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, July 17

No Staff Meeting
10 am—6 pm Ribs for Sale
7 pm Christian Ed. Meeting

Tuesday, July 18

7 am Prayer Time
10 am—6 pm Ribs for Sale

Wednesday, July 19

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group
10 am-6 pm Ribs for Sale
Kids Summer Activity not Meeting Today, Break Week
6-7 pm Line Dancing at the Eagles

Thursday, July 20

10 am—6 pm Ribs for Sale (if any left)
6 pm Praise Team Practice
6:30 pm Men's Church League Softball Games



We extend our sympathy to Marilee Blair on the passing of her daughter, Julie Blair (54) on June 24th in California and to the family and friends of Vanessa Worstell (21) who passed away on July 1st.

Serving Communion

Sunday, July 9

8:30 am — John Armstrong, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Tom Dickerson, Carroll Gibbons, Jack Little
10:30 am — Jeff Maninfior, Nick Maninfior, Bob Morgan, Josh Recker

Sunday, July 16

8:30 am — John Armstrong, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Denny Booker, Bud Miller, Gene Swearingen
10:30 am — Herb Ault, Max Betty, Donica Brand, Chanon Fine



Congratulations to Blake and Cassie Maninfior on the birth of their baby girl, Eva Grace, born on June 25th. Also a big congratulations to grandparents Jeff and Amy.

Thank You Note

A big thank you to everyone who donated to the Choices Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Blessing, you raised \$696.25!

Below is a list of Summer Activities for children entering K-6th grade. They will meet each Wednesday from 2-3 pm at different locations unless it rains meet at the church. If your child needs a ride, please call Mrs. Stephanie at 234-2928.

- July 12th at Peterson Park Pavilion
- July 19th - Break Week
- July 26th at Dairy Queen on Charleston Ave
- August 2nd at Sonic
- August 9th at Lytle Park Fountain

Building Fund balance:
\$257,216.68

Church Attendance

June 25: Traditional: 110, Contemporary: 63 = 173
July 2: Traditional: 123, Contemporary: 88 = 211