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Mattoon First Christian Church

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From the Pastor's Heart

Cheers and Jeers --A Lesson On Leadership

Hi folks. It's football season, the Illini are playing at home against Ball State and the NFL is ready to go.

Marianna and I have been Peyton Manning fans from the time he began his NFL career in Indianapolis. It was sad and then thrilling to follow the culmination of his career at Denver. After being sidelined with an injury for several weeks, quarterback Peyton Manning took the field Sunday to a standing ovation, as he led Denver to a come from behind victory. Being a long time Bronco fan, it was thrilling to watch. Later, however, Peyton put the fan's response into perspective. "I'm pretty sure they were sitting in the same seats when they were booing me after my fourth interception," he said in a postgame interview.

That's right! The last time Peyton played was in November, while he was dealing with a fractured foot. His performance had been somewhat subpar and the fans let him know: They booed him off the field.

But Peyton took it all in stride, focusing instead on getting healthy again. Sunday's standing ovation, he also took in stride. "I'm pretty level-headed about this," he says. Leaders will do well to remember the fickle nature of adulation: how quickly cheers turn to jeers, and then (on occasion) back to cheers again. Long time leaders experience quite a bit of both over the years.

Playing to please the crowd puts you on a fast track to discouragement, because the crowd cannot be pleased -- not for long, anyway. And all too often, what pleases them most is, in the long run, what really matters the least.

Paul gave us a good example to follow: *For am I now seeking the approval of man or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. (Galatians 1:10)*

Do you want to get a jump on effective leadership? Put the cheers and jeers into perspective. Choose to take them in stride, knowing that your approval rating is bound to change from week to week.

Determine, instead to please God above everything else.

God Bless You,
Pastor Steve

We will be starting a 10 week small group study entitled Marriage on the Rock, based on the DVD series by Pastor Jimmy Evans. Video and study book accompany this series. Yes there is some homework, but well worth it. Each couple will need a study book at a cost of \$10. This is open to all couples; married, engaged, etc. We will be meeting in Campbell Hall at the church on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 pm, starting September 14th and ending November 16th. Refreshments will be served. If you have friends you would like to invite, feel free! Please sign-up in the narthex so we know how many books to purchase.



All Church Picnic

CHURCH PICNIC Everyone is invited to an All Church Picnic on Sunday, October 1st at the Peterson Park Pavilion from 4-7 pm. The church will provide the chicken, tea and lemon-aid. Everyone is requested to bring side dishes to share, your own table service and an item to auction off with the proceeds going to purchase a new kitchen refrigerator. There will be music, fun and games for all. If you have an orange "Love God, Love People" t-shirt, please wear it.

Our Mid-Week Children's program for K-5th grades and JHH will begin on Wednesday, September 13th. This program will be from 6-7:30 pm every Wednesday night with supper provided.



Mid-Week Volunteers: We will have a information party on September 6th at 6pm in Campbell Hall. This will be a time of fellowship, food and information for the upcoming year.

Men's Breakfast



All men are invited to the monthly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, September 9th at 7 am (note date change).

Adopt-A-Night

PADS is excited to share a new way to help those most in need and support the Mattoon Area PADS, it's called Adopt-a-Night. A gift of \$300 will cover one night of shelter, for up to 16 individuals. This includes all food, shelter and operating expenses for any night that you designate it for. If you would like to donate please send your donations to PADS, 2017 Broadway Ave, Mattoon or go to their website at: www.mattoonareapads.org

Church T-Shirts

The church will be selling the "Love God, Love People" orange t-shirts for \$10 per shirt. If you would like one please sign-up in the narthex and then place the money either in the office or in the offering plate with a note for that you are paying for a t-shirt. We have to have a minimum of 15 shirts to place an order and all the money turned in.



The FROG and ROCK students will kick off their year on Sunday, September 10th with an event at the Morgan property, 812 CR 500 E, Toledo (10 miles south of Mattoon, on Rte 121). If you need a ride, vans will leave the church at 4:30 pm. This event includes a mud pit with muddy games! Wear clothes you don't mind getting muddy and bring a change of clothes. Pizza and ice cream will served. Will return to church at approximately 7:30 pm. **GO BZRK!**

Church Life

Saturday, September 2

1:30 pm Singles leave for the Rodeo

Sunday, September 3

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Service

Monday, September 4

Office closed in observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, September 6

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

6 pm Mid-Week Volunteer Party

Thursday, September 7

6 pm Praise Team Practice

Saturday, September 9

7 am Men's Breakfast

Sunday, September 10

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

4:30 pm F/R Kick-Off Event

Monday, September 11

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Worship Meeting in the Bride's Room

6 pm Trustees Meeting in the Library

7 pm Church Board Meeting in the UIC room

Tuesday, September 12

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, September 13

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group

5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Mid-Week Program Begins

6 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, September 14

6 pm Praise Team Practice

6:30 pm "Marriage on the Rock" Small Group



Building Fund balance:
\$257,331.68

Serving Communion

Sunday, September 3

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, Dennis Goings

Sunday, September 10

8:30 am — John Armstrong, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Don Inman, Tim Buford, Mike Craig, Tim Cyr

10:30 am—Amy Maninfior, Nick Maninfior, Bob Morgan, Josh Recker

Thank You Note

Thank you to everyone for the many cards and prayers during and after my surgery. Thank you to Pastor Steve for coming to Barnes the day of the surgery. You all have been a blessing during this difficult time. Thank you!

Robin Myers

A big Thank You to all who contributed, came out to Relay, purchased Luminarias, helped in any capacity and prayed for our continuing fight against cancer. Your efforts do pay off and are most appreciated! We exceeded our goal of \$2,000!

The Evangelism committee

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Dolo Wishard |
| 3 | Gabe Leach |
| 4 | Russell Camfield, Judy Hatfield |
| 6 | Dawn Albin, Carroll Gibbons |
| 7 | Kara Brand, Richard Johnson |
| 8 | Kaylyn Armer |
| 9 | Jim Long, Hubert Aleshire |
| 11 | Veronika Burk |
| 14 | Jim Lindley |
| 16 | Beth Bergstrom |
| 17 | Bruce Morgan |
| 18 | Dave Wright |
| 19 | Mike Brand |
| 23 | Sid Guill |
| 24 | Logan Maninfior |
| 28 | Richard Eident |
| 29 | Gabe Freeman |
| 30 | Marianna Hayes |



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|----|-----------------------------|
| 2 | Don and Kathleen Inman |
| 6 | Jason and Michelle Mathews |
| 7 | Brad and Beth Bergstrom |
| | Dennis and Terri Goings |
| 10 | Matt and Stephanie Anderson |
| 11 | Jack and Sandy Herren |



Organ Recital

The Trinity Episcopal Church of Mattoon will host the fourth Centennial Organ Recital on Sunday, September 10th at 3 pm. Dr. Richard Rossi, Director of Orchestral and Choral Activities at EIU, will be at the organ along with the Downstate String Quartet. A reception will be held following the concert.

Church Attendance

August 20th — Traditional: 109, Contemporary: 82 = 191

August 27th — Traditional: 115, Contemporary: 58 = 173

Return Service Requested

1600 WABASH AVE
MATTOON IL 61938



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Mattoon IL 61938
Permit No. 23

Phone: 234-2928
Email address: fcchurch@consolidated.net
Website: www.mattoonfcc.com

Senior Pastor: Steve Hayes
Associate Pastor: Steve Morgan