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Mattoon First Christian Church

Web: mattoonfcc.com

From the Pastor's Heart

We love the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). Two years ago we stepped out in faith and did two pulled pork fundraisers for missions. We sold out, it was a ton of work we made some money and learned a great deal.

We then discovered ribs were much easier to prepare. We even did a 500 rib cook in the heart of January and did another 500 rib cook in April. Both sold out and we have become very good at ribs. They are delicious!

The YMCA is in my estimation, the finest organization which has the greatest potential for reaching young families in our community. I have been teaching indoor cycling at the Y for four years and have invited many people to our church. Many have visited and some have joined our church as a result of this outreach. I believe many more will join our church as we increase our exposure to this organization.

The Y is on a very tight budget and has had the desire to renovate and create a hi-tech cycling center. The cost on this improvement at this time is beyond their ability to accomplish. They will be facing secular competition this winter, so something new and exciting this fall will be a good thing for the Y.

We have decided to meet this goal and help the Y offer a state of the art cycling center. When we made this commitment a donor from the Y committed to matching our fundraising. We are doubling down!

In doing so we will connect our church with young families, help people get in better shape and further enhance our reputation as a community minded church. The Fields Church has done several events with the Y and benefited from it. Every rib sold will have attached a handout talking about our church.

The cost to our church is a labor of love. Could you help us? We have 1000 tickets to pre-sell and the Y is selling 600 of them. We hope to pre-sell 200 here at the church. The additional 200 will be sold daily from our drive thru from 10 am - 6 pm, October 10-14th. Could you purchase a few ribs?

Tickets are available in the church office and in the narthex on Sunday. If you could help us with a few volunteer hours, the work schedule is in the Narthex. This Sunday is the last day to volunteer. You will be meeting many new folks from the Y who are helping out with this fundraiser.

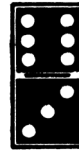
May the Lord bless this event,
Pastor Steve

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.



Singles @ First



The Singles Group will meet on Friday, October 7th at the church to play Dominoes from 6-8 pm, bring a drink to share and popcorn will be provided.

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.



Men's Breakfast



All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast on Saturday at 7 am. Pastor Steve will lead the lesson and all should be done by 8:15 am.

Committee Chairmen

Attention all Committee Chairman...October is budget month. Please add to your agendas the 2017 budget process at your October committee meetings.



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.

Cookie Walk

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



We extend our sympathy to the family of Ruth Rankin whose brother, Scott Lauwers (72) passed away on September 15th.

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. Please store the coats at your home until we are ready.



Heartland Village



October is First Christian Church's Shopping Cart month at Heartland Christian Village. They are in need of: kleenex (any size), toothbrushes, gift cards (for volunteer director to buy specific needs from Dollar General,

Dollar Tree and Walmart), cash and plastic denture boxes. There will be a box available for these items in the narthex.

Upcoming Events

October 18	Deaconess Meeting, 6 pm
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 18	Wassail Reception, 9:30 am
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 pm
December 25	Christmas Day One Service, 9:30 am

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.



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.

Richard Eident

Church Life

Saturday, October 1

7 am Men's Breakfast
8:30 am Elders' Meeting
5 pm Saturday Night Church
5 pm 1825 Class Meets

Sunday, October 2

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
1:45 pm Life Chain at St. John's Lutheran Church
5-7 pm FROG/ROCK Meeting

Monday, October 3

10-11:30 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 4

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, October 5

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

Friday, October 6

6-8 pm Singles @ First Play Dominos at Church

Saturday, October 7

5 pm Saturday Night Church
5 pm 1825 Class Meets

Sunday, October 9

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 10

No Staff Meeting
10 am-6 pm Ribs For Sale
6 pm Trustees' Meeting
7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 11

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

Wednesday, October 12

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



News from Paul

I hope this finds you doing well. This will be my last newsletter article as Miss Evelyn and I are about to start a new ministry. I am sure most of you have already heard I have accepted the position of pastor at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Cooks Mills. Evelyn and I wanted to thank each one of you for making us feel welcome the last few years at FCC. Some of you may not be aware but Evelyn was a member at FCC when we first met. However, she transferred her membership to where I was going at the time. She has expressed to me many times since we transferred our membership (back) to FCC in 2012, it has been a wonderful time of growing and feeling a part of a great family.

It is impossible for me to list everyone within the print of this article who has helped shape Evelyn and me during our time at FCC. Please know each of you have made an impact in one aspect or another. Whether greeting each other on Sunday mornings or sharing a joke. YOU have made an impact. If we have prayed together or served together, YOU have made an impact. If there were trips we have been on, or simply going for ice cream, YOU have had an impact. Maybe we have been together at a cookout or talked over a cup of coffee. These are times when YOU have made an impact. Maybe the times were spent studying the Bible or sharing a concern with one another. Again, YOU have made an impact. There is however, two deserving credit. One of course is God, who ALL glory goes to. Without Him, none of what I have described and much more would be possible. One more who needs mentioning and gets a BIG HOOAH! (an Army term) thank you goes to my bride Evelyn, who has stood beside me through our 23+ years of marriage and has helped shape me into what I am today (so blame her!). You surely didn't think I would write this without some humor did you?

The point is, there comes a time in each person's life when things change. Evelyn and I are about to embark on what I am going to school for. We look forward to what He has in store for us in a little corner of Coles County called Cooks Mills. Now before anyone starts getting all emotional here, remember we are still in Mattoon and have not sailed off around the world. You have our number.

We ask for your prayers as we journey hand in hand "up north" as I refer to it. We appreciate every one of YOU and remember, keep pressing on with what you do because you do it well.

In His service,
Pauly



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

- 1 Steve Ballinger, Aubrey Storm, Angela Freeman
- 2 Helen Dowling
- 3 Terri Goings
- 7 Brittany Wishard
- 8 Dennis Goings
- 13 Herb Ault
- 14 Delbert Dunn
- 17 Marvin Moore, Dick Vosburgh
- 21 Bonnie James
- 22 Jeanne Cunningham, Ethan and Ean Freeman
- 24 Beth Leach



- 1 Tom and Sally Dickerson
- 12 Steve and Marianna Hayes
- 15 Gerry and Carol Englund
- 27 Roger and Angela Freeman
- 29 Jim and Nancy Long



Heartland Volunteers

Heartland Christian Village is needing help with brunch on the 3rd Thursday of each month. There is a group of ladies from FCC who help and are needing a few extra volunteers. What a great way to serve a wonderful Christian-based facility! If interested call Joy Eident at 234-4316.

Church Attendance

Sept. 17th: Saturday Church: 25
 Sept. 18th: Traditional: 100, Contemporary: 55 = 155
 Sept. 24th: Saturday Church: 25
 Sept. 25th: Traditional: 123, Contemporary: 46 = 169

Book Club

All ladies are invited to this event...

Ladies Literary Event

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women
 Mattoon First United Methodist Church
 October 6th from 5:30-7:30 pm

They have selected 3 exceptional books for this year's event: *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Fields of Grace* by Hannah Luce and *God's Greatest Gift, His Word, His Name, His Blood* by Joyce Meyer. If you are interested buy the books, start reading and sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board across from the church office to participate. Come on the 6th to enjoy a light supper (\$7) and join in our Literary Event.



Building Fund balance:
 \$228,288.98

Serving Communion

Sunday, October 2

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

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

Sunday, October 9

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

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

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