

**First  
Christian  
Church  
(Disciples of Christ)**

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# The Echo

Volume 12, Issue 4

April 2012

## Holy Week 2012

### Palm Sunday

- Music by Chalice Brass and choir.
- Presentation of Palms by the youth.
- Luncheon immediately after church.
- Doug Hoff will be available after church to take photographs of new church members for the directory addendum.
- Easter egg hunt after church for youth, followed by youth group.

### Maundy Thursday

On Thursday, April 5th at 7:00pm FCC will host a service of communion and music presented by First Christian, Faith Presbyterian, and others.

### Good Friday

On Friday, April 6th at noon, the Morehead United Methodist Church will host a Good Friday service.

### Easter Sunday

- On April 8th, First Baptist will host a sunrise service at 7am with a breakfast to follow at 8am. If anyone wants to sing in the choir, be at First Baptist at 6:30am.
- FCC's Easter service will begin at 10:45am.

### Contents

- Pg. 2 Pastor Molly  
Jonathan Adkins**
- Pg. 3 Emma Irick  
Josh Akers**
- Pg. 4 Thank you letters**
- Pg. 5 Announcements**
- Pg. 6 Announcements,  
continued**
- Pg. 7 Calendar**



## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

We recently took a fairly large bush out of our yard. Leon pulled it up, by the roots, with the tractor. We left the plant where it was for a few days, to let the dirt dry out so it would be lighter in weight to move.

Funny thing. I walked by it a couple of days post excavation, and it was blooming – flowers galore! There was enough nourishment and water in the plant for it to think it was still alive and growing, even though it was completely separated from the ground and its home. It bloomed for a while, great guns. Then it started to wilt, because it was disconnected from that which gave it water, food, and life; apart from that which translated the elements into what was needed for life.

We are choosing to not replant it – in truth, I am not a gardener and not even sure if it would live if it WAS replanted. But I know this about people: even when they've been uprooted for a long while, re-growth and reconnection is possible.

Been uprooted a while? Think you're blooming when in fact you're just going through the motions? Welcome home. We love to add new plants to the garden. Happy Easter.

*Pastor Malley*



## Worship Corner by Jonathan Adkins

For centuries, the Catholic Church hosted a Good Friday service at the Sistine Chapel that was observed in total darkness. At this service, a piece composed by Gregorio Allegri in the 16<sup>th</sup> century entitled "Miserere Mei Deus" was sung in the darkness. "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."

This piece, written to the text of Psalm 51, was a closely guarded secret of the Vatican. No one but the actual performers were allowed to see the score, and only the most privileged guests were allowed to attend this service and hear the heavenly sound. This secret remained safe until 1770, when a 14-year-old Wolfgang Mozart attended the service. With his abnormally powerful musical ear, he heard the music and transcribed the score to share with the world.

Isn't it wonderful that we serve a God who does not keep his mercy a secret? Of course, there are mysteries and unexplainable phenomena that will always intrigue us, but the comfort of God and rest in His grace are news to shout from the mountain tops!



Spring is here, and I couldn't be more excited! Spring also brings with it quite the busy schedule. Palm Sunday, April 1st will be an exciting time! If you have a child that would be interested in waving palm branches, please arrive at church by 10:30. Also, this Sunday will be our Easter egg hunt!! So please stick around for that. After the egg hunt is over, we will have regular youth group, ending at 2. The week after, on Easter, there will not be youth group, so the youth can be at family festivities. The last announcement I have is that the week after Easter, we will have youth as usual. This will be the week that we really kick it into gear for youth Sunday in May, so it is very important that everyone try and attend.

I have had such a fun time this Lenten season with our youth. I appreciate the opportunity to teach them about such a special time of year. The next few weeks will certainly be busy, but I am looking forward to the joy they will bring!

In Christ,  
Emma Irick



### **The Duck's Nest**

Seeing so many multi-colored, unusually decorated eggs on store shelves over the past few weeks has reminded me of a quote from Hans Christian Anderson's story, "The Ugly Duckling." It's a tale of an awkward-looking little duckling, who happens not to be a duckling at all. Of course, that is not known until he sheds his dull, ugly coat of downy feathers to reveal the beautiful swan markings underneath. This quote is the moral of the story, "To be born in a duck's nest, in a farmyard, is of no consequence to a bird, if it is hatched from a swan's egg." Mr. Anderson goes on to explain that the young swan thought back on all of the suffering and sorrow he endured as an ugly duckling and was glad for it because it enabled him to enjoy so much better all the pleasure and happiness around him.

I think a strong parallel can be drawn between the tale of the Ugly Duckling and the Christian life. Much like the "duckling," the transformation we experience as Christians into the royal image and likeness of Christ enables us to look at the sorrow and suffering of this life differently than others. It's not that our pain is lessened or our suffering is spirited away, but rather, we can look at it within the context of the eternity of joy that we will know with our Savior and King. It's for this reason the apostles rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus', that Stephen asked forgiveness for those who stoned him, and Paul and Silas were singing at midnight in prison. To be born into the world, even the most desperate of circumstances, is of no consequence to a human being, if he or she is a child of God.

-Josh Akers

Dear Rev. Smothers and Congregations of First Christian Church,

Thanks so much for the wonderful and so needed "Undie Sunday" donation! We so appreciate your generosity. We were able to provide several students in need of these much needed items! I am truly humbled at your continuing generosity and care you offer our families in need. You are all so wonderful and I thank God for you and the support you offer the Rowan County Senior High School Youth Service Center and student/families in need. We are so appreciative. God bless you!!! Because of you and your generosity, we could accommodate the needs of our students. Thanks so very much for everything!!!! Thanks for your love and support. You are all precious to me. Thanks, Guy, for delivering the donations!! With praise and prayers,

Carol Turner, RCSHS YSC Coordinator

Dear Friends in Christ:

Life is fragile. In the blink of an eye, our lives can change. Last night, I watched television in horror as tornadoes ravaged our neighbors. Their towns were gone. Because of your generosity, we helped with a truck load of food, children's clothing, blankets, pillows, cleaning supplies and personal items. Your donated items, monetary gifts and volunteer time make it possible for Christian Social Services to provide our ministry to others in need.

Thank you for your prayers and support of Christian Social Services.

Kay Stiner  
Executive Director

### Food Pantry

The requested item for the month of April is instant potatoes.

\*Remember to pick some up the next time you go

### Addendum to the Directory

We are getting ready to create an addendum page to the directory. If your info has changed, please let the office know so it can be corrected.

Dear Friends at First Christian Church,

Thank you for your prayers and concerns, the cheerful cards, encouraging phone calls, nice food and beautiful tulips during Harry's recovery. Harry enjoyed your visits at the Life Care Center. May each of you have nice health and a blessed Easter. We have been laying a lot of fears and hope beneath that cross.

Love,

Harry and Ann Mayhew

To our friends at First Christian Church of Morehead:

Thank you for your donation of \$1000 to Luther Luckett Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your financial support, as well as your volunteer efforts, is much appreciated. Your contribution helps us move closer to attaining our 2012 budget of \$97,000. If every Disciple member in Kentucky pledged only \$5.00 per year, Luther Luckett Church (Disciples of Christ) would be fully funded! You now have the option to make donations via PayPal on our newly launched website [www.luckettprisonministry.com](http://www.luckettprisonministry.com) where you may also sign up to receive newsletter updates. Thank you for your continued support and your prayers for this exciting church.

Sincerely,

Joseph Pusateri, Treasurer  
Luther Luckett Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

### Save a Tree!

If you currently receive The Echo by traditional mail and you have an email account, consider signing up to receive The Echo by email instead. It saves the church money and saves Mother Earth, too. Call the church office to sign up to receive The Echo by email.

For those who enjoy reading the sermon Bible passages for the month, they are as follows for April:

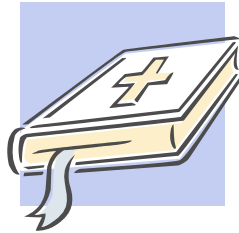
April 1: Mark 11: 1-11 &  
Mark 14: 32-42

April 8: John 20: 1-18

April 15: John 20: 19-23

April 22: TBA

April 29: John 10: 11-18



### **Treasurer's Report**

Income for March:

\$10,082.50

*The average monthly expenses calculated for the board meeting is \$9,718.27.*



For the month of March, we received a check from Kroger for \$240.80 to go towards our backpack program.



**cafe  
press**

Gym Bag

\$15.49

For more FCC items, visit  
[cafepress.com/fccmoreheadky](http://cafepress.com/fccmoreheadky)

Charlie and Gail Tingle cordially invite you to attend "A Presentation by Lt. Nathan Tingle USAF: the role of the USAF special forces & my time as a combat rescue officer in Afghanistan." It will take place Friday, April 27 at 7:00pm in the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall.

We need volunteers to provide lunch for our youth in May. To volunteer your time and services, contact Emma Irick at 937-216-8006.

### **April Deacons**

Bill Mann, Elizabeth Reffitt, Mickey Reffitt, Bill Davis, Etta Jane McCarty, and Jennifer Anderson

The following slate was presented by the Nominating Committee at the March 26 Board meeting, and was approved unanimously by the Board. These people will be voted on by the entire congregation at the annual meeting on May 6, 2012. The new church year begins on July 1.

#### **President:**

Jami Hornbuckle

#### **Vice-President:**

Sarah Chaney

#### **Treasurer:**

Joe Barrett

#### **Secretary:**

Fran Helphinstine

#### **Deacons:**

Josh Akers, Charlene Bradford, Alicia Carter, Dewayne Carter, Brenda Combs, Roger Fisher, Beth Ousley, Holly Pollock, Catherine Rogers; and returning: Stacy Baker, Joe Barrett, Etta Jane McCarty, and Ann Rathbun

#### **Elders:**

Alana Scott, Leon Smothers

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

**Monday, April 23rd**

Executive Board @ 6:30pm

Full Board @ 7:00pm

Elders meet after full board

### **Operation Paperback**

We are still sending paperback books to our troops overseas. If you would like to donate, please place your gently used book in the box provided in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Monthly Luncheon**

We will have a luncheon after church on April 1st. The luncheon is free, but please consider donating the price you would pay for a lunch out on a Sunday. All proceeds go to operations.



You are invited to a reception for Ron and Di Walke on Saturday, May 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the board room of the Rowan County Board of Education building on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. This will be a wonderful time of fellowship and expressing our love to Ron and Di.

### April Birthdays

8— Sam Rogers  
 11— Agnes Williams  
 12— Julia Hawkins  
 15— Jas McKinney  
 17— Phillip Swim  
 18— Kenny Hall  
 22— Dan Thomas  
 23— Blake Fannin  
 23— Emily Tingle Loy  
 25— Joe Barrett  
 28— Maggie Alden  
 28— Erin Wehr



Zinnia seeds from the labyrinth will be available at the luncheon on April 1<sup>st</sup> and thereafter. Hand picked and saved from the labyrinth garden last fall, the seeds will grow into beautiful zinnias—single and double blooms in magenta, rose pink, vibrant red, and a custom blend. The packets have been hand colored by the kids and some young-at-heart grownups from the church. This is a great way to plant some peace and quiet in your own garden, or give that gift to your family and friends. Why not slip a few into your Easter baskets? Begin seeds inside now or sprinkle in your garden on Derby day. Suggested donation is \$3 per packet or \$5 for two. All donations go to the care and maintenance of the labyrinth gardens. See Yvonne, Carmen, Phillip, or Maggie if you have any questions.

CoffeeTree Books and Fuzzy Duck are pleased to launch their GiveBack10 program. Through GiveBack10, customers may designate a charity or school to which they would like CoffeeTree or The Fuzzy Duck to donate 10% of the purchase price. Make sure to mention FCC next time you shop. For more information, call CoffeeTree at 784-8364 or The Fuzzy Duck at 784-9877. BE A SAVVY SHOPPER!!

### Living Memorial Fund

In memory of Joe Barrett's uncle

Fran Helphinstine

In memory of Vivian Carpenter

Margaret Scott

In memory of Johnny Whidden

Mark and Virginia Etherton

Fran Helphinstine

David and Darlene Perkins

Glenn and Eva Johnston

In memory of Barbara Fannin

Brenda Carr Reeves

Thanks to the Nomination Committee members for all their dedicated work: Roger Fisher, Emma Lou Gross, Jami Hornbuckle, Bill Mann, Maggie Miles, and Darlene Perkins.

We just learned Jonathan Adkins will have an article printed at Choralnet.com on his recent presentation at the North Carolina convention. Be on the look out!

### Time to Order Easter Lilies

If you would like to provide a lily for church on Easter Sunday, April 8th in memory or in honor of someone, *please let the florist know that the flowers need to be at the church by noon on Friday, April 6th.* They need to be wrapped in white paper with white ribbons. If you would like the dedication to appear in the bulletin that Sunday, *please fill out this form, cut it out, and turn it into the church office by Wednesday, April 4th.*

\_\_\_ In memory of or \_\_\_ In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:45 Sunday School <i>10:45 Palm Sunday service</i> After church: Luncheon, Easter Egg Hunt, Youth 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 Labyrinth in History</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 5:30 Yoga 5:00-6:30 Parlor reserved</p>	<p>4 Lily slips due by noon 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>5 7:00 FCC hosts Maundy Thursday service with Faith Pres.</p>	<p>6 Lily delivered to church by noon 12pm Good Friday service at Morehead United Methodist</p>	<p>7  </p>
<p>8 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service at First Baptist <i>10:45 Service: Easter</i> No youth 6:00 Labyrinth in History</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>11 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>12 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 10am-1pm Fellowship Hall reserved</p>
<p>15 9:45 Sunday school 10:45 Service Noon youth 6pm Older youth meet</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>18 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>19 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service Noon Youth</p>	<p>23 6:30 Executive 7:00 Full Board Elders meet</p>	<p>24 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>25 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>26 5:30 Yoga</p>	<p>27 7:00 Lt. Nathan Tingle's presentation</p>	<p>27</p>
<p><b>29 5th Sunday Offering</b> 25 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service Noon Youth</p>	<p>30</p>				<p>30</p>	

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

**Rev. Molly Smothers, Minister**

Jonathan Adkins, Choir

Emma Irick, Youth Director

Josh Akers, Youth Leader

Ryan Brown, Secretary

Chia-Ling Hsieh, Organist

Michael Young, Pianist

Sarah Chaney, Bell Choir

Kaitlyn Reynolds, Nursery

Rose Pettit, Nursery

Darrin Roe, Custodian

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We love our newly restored front doors, seen here with carpenter-magician, Doug Doerrfeld (on right) and his assistant, Ted Withrow. (Picture by Karen Doerrfeld)