First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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The Echo

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We welcome the newest members of the diaconate: Phillip Swim, Carmen Eldridge, Paul Semisch, and Ned Breschel. Not pictured are Mike and Dayna Seelig.





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NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

This year's bumper sticker - "It's Not About You" - has generated some interest. Several of you have already mentioned that friends, and even strangers, have asked what it means and why it is on your car. I'm glad for anything that will open a positive discussion about focusing on our lives as they intersect and connect, and how our primary focus on God changes forever how we view ourselves and others.

Recently, our community has lost several folks whose lives were spent living out 'it's not about you'. Their commitment to the betterment of Morehead and Rowan County has created a stronger and safer place for us to raise our families. We cannot all be Clayton Perkins or Al Baldwin or Paul Ousley; but there is always something we **can** do, and we should. If just the thought of that makes you itch, consider changing your life 10 minutes a day. Take 10 minutes and sit outside to listen to God's creation. Take 10 minutes and walk around your neighborhood; smile and wave at others. Take 10 minutes and write that card you've put off composing. Take 10 minutes extra and return that grocery cart, or park farther away and walk so that someone else gets a spot closer. Take 10 minutes to catch the headlines THEN WALK AWAY. (If the Kardashians do something extra special, you'll hear about it eventually) Take 10 minutes and walk the labyrinth; look at the flowers; pull a few weeds; pay attention.

Of course, you know, when we understand that it's all about God, we all get taken care of. When we understand that no one is an island, we all live a better life. If we all do what we can, it's better for us all. I am glad that the Gordon Gecco philosophy (Greed is good) is one that is no longer as prevalent as it once was. We all do well to tune our lives AWAY from WII-FM (What's In It For Me).

The Gospel way has never been the primary way; it comes at too high a cost. But the way of Love is the only way the world will change. We need to be part of that change – for ourselves, for others, and for the planet.

Pastor Mally

P.S. — Leon and I will be gone from August 15-21. We will be going to Joplin, MO for Tyler Whipkey's ordination and will then be spending some time with family. Thanks to Paul Semisch for preaching in my absence!

Choir will be starting back with rehearsals on Wednesday, August 31. I hope to see everyone back and maybe some new-comers as well! We now have the nursery open for Wednesday evenings if you are in need of childcare and we will also be taking applications for two new soloists/choir members. These positions will be open to Vocal Music Education majors and will give students leadership positions in the choir as well as opportunities to lead sectionals, direct if I am out, and help with the clerical work that keeps the choir organized and going throughout the year. A special thank you should be noted for all of the soloists that provided special music for us in July. I am looking forward to getting started again. Remember, everyone can and should sing!

—Diana Knoll, Choir Director

The FCC Youth had a great time at our Cave Run summer picnic. We played water balloon volleyball and swam. It was a beautiful day to be at the lake and enjoy each other's company. Thank you to the parents who all pitched in for the picnic lunch, and thank you to Sasha and Darren Reinhardt for accompanying us on this trip to help supervise.

In August we will be slowing down to adjust back to the school routine. The Older Youth (7th-12th grade) will meet immediately after church until 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 18th. The Younger Youth (Kindergarten-6th grade) will meet immediately after church until 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 25th. **Please let me know if you are interested in providing lunch for either meeting this month.**

We are blessed to have such loving and beautiful youth as part of our church family. It is reassuring to watch them, from the oldest to the youngest, interact, support and love each other. What a great reminder to our whole congregation that we are all connected.

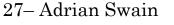
Mary Claire Williams Youth Leader

Meditation Group

Our meditation group will begin meeting once again in August. Dates will be Thursday, August 8th and Thursday, August 22nd at 7pm. If you have any question regarding this group, contact Paul Semisch at 356-4324.

August Birthdays

- 3– Jack Landreth
- 4–Rob Sloss
- 5–Joyce Hart
- 8– Adrian Swain
- 10-Kaitlyn Reynolds
- 17– Jeff Bizzel
- 20– Ival Bryant
- 21–Peggy Bizzel
- 25– Charlie Tingle
- 26– Debbie Griffin
- 27– Etta Jane McCarty
- 27 Etta Jalle McCarty







Loving on Donkey Xote at the new member party at Leonderosa.

Looking to give someone a birthday of anniversary gift? Why not send a kid to camp in honor of that person or persons? Cards to send to the recipient are available in the church office and the donations are \$25 each.

> BOARD MEETING August 26, 2013 Executive Board @ 6:30pm Full Board @7:00pm

Food Pantry

Until further notice, we will only be donating cereal to the food pantry.

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

August 4- Luke 12: 16-21 August 11- Luke 12: 32-40 August 18- Luke 12: 49-56 August 25- Luke 13: 10-17





During the month of July, our church received a check for \$ 223.60. The cost of healthy food rises each month—PLEASE continues to reload and use your Kroger card to continue to fund this ministry.

Treasurer's Report Income for July \$23,151.36 The income needed to pay the church expenses this month was **\$9,638.38**



We will reschedule the One Pot Topic from July on August 25th at 5pm in the Conference Room. Pastor Molly will lead a discussion on Jesus' earthly family.

Our First Sunday Lunch will take place on August 4 immediately following church. It will be a Back to School themed lunch! Bring your favorite school lunch items in a sack or lunch box! Pint milks will be provided.

Board Retreat

The board retreat for officers and committee chairs has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 11 from 5:00 until 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of this retreat will be to plan the goings-on at church for the coming new church business year. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share.

Undie Sunday

Sunday, July 28 began our three-week "Undie Sunday" program at church. We need all sizes of girls and boys underwear, for ages 5-18. Sports bras for teenage girls and boxer shorts for teenage boys are especially needed. The underwear collected will go to the Rowan County Youth Service Center. Place new packs of underwear in the bins provided in the church Fellowship Hall.

August Deacons

Joe Barrett, Jim Gross, Susan Thomas, Mike Seelig, Dayna Seelig, and Roger Fischer.

Children's Church

We have started back with Children's Church after the July Break. Thanks to Mark Etherton and Jackie Bailey for taking it in August and to Carmen Eldridge and Phillip Swim for taking it in September.

Communion Sign Up

We need one additional person to sign up in November and two people to sign up in December.



Directory Update

It has been two years since our last directory and with so many new members, we are in need of an update! In the next few weeks you will have the opportunity to have your family's picture taken before or after church; if you are happy with your picture from the last directory, that's okay too, or you can email us on of your own! It is crucial that we have your current information. Please use this form or call or email the office with any changes.

Mack Fund In Memory of Al Baldwin Mary Lois Butler and Lexie Centers Jane Holbrook George Barber **Jackie Bailey** Tommy and Neva Griffith Jim and Emma Lou Gross Ron and Dianna Walke Jack and Scharline Whidden Kenny and Betty Hall Joyce Hart Fran Helphinstine Jami Hornbuckle Glenn and Eva Johnston Etta Jane McCarty David and Darlene Perkins Charlie and Gail Tingle Mickey and Elizabeth Reffitt Jack and Peggy Bizzel Patricia Greenfield Susan Thomas Kenneth and Jo Smith Don and Alta Blair

<u>In Memory of Clayton Perkins</u> Jack and Peggy Bizzel Mickey and Elizabeth Reffitt Ron and Dianna Walke Jack and Scharline Whidden

As of July 30

Living Memorial Fund In Memory of Agnes Williams Ramona Gardener and Corey Gardener

> <u>In Memory of Clayton Perkins</u> Fran Helphinstine Kenny & Betty Hall Jack & Peggy Bizzel Glenn & Eva Johnston Mark and Virginia Etherton

Thank you to those who have graciously agreed to serve as chairs for 2013-14. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact one of the individuals listed.

<u>Elders</u> - Marge Thomas <u>Deacons</u> - Josh Akers, Julia Hawkins <u>Education</u>- Alana Scott <u>Evangelism and Member Development</u> - Carmen Eldridge, Roger Fischer, Susan Thomas, and Mickey Reffitt <u>Outreach</u> - Dayna Seelig, Mike Seelig <u>Property</u> - Phillip Swim <u>Worship</u> - Sarah Chaney



Created in May of 2011 from a generous gift by Jean Mack, The William J. and Jean Mack Capital Improvement Fund, better known as the Mack Fund, was established specifically for the care of our church building. In its brief history it has already paid for painting the sanctuary, changing the carpet, painting the building's exterior, items for the parlor renovation, the purchase of the flooring beneath the piano and repairs to the air conditioning, elevator and restrooms. Most recently it paid for the repair of our church organ. And it has allowed all this to be accomplished without depleting our operations funds. One of the great features of the Mack Fund is that it provides a way in which anyone can contribute to the upkeep of the church through gifts in honor or memory of others. When someone joins FCC we say "Now we're going to put you to work". Gifts to the Mack Fund are "put to work" in keeping our building in shape for worship, discipleship and outreach.

		А	August 2013			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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4 Undie Sunday 9:45 Sunday school 10:45 Service First Sunday Lunch	ر ي ا	6 5:30 Yoga	7 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	8 5:30 Yoga 7pm Meditation	Q	10
11 Undie Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service 5-7pm Board Retreat	12 5-9 Fellowship Hall reserved	13 5:30 Yoga	14 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	15 5:30 Yoga Past	16 CSA Pastor Molly In Joplin	17
18 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service Pastor	ol Pastor Molly on vacation	20 5:30 Yoga	21 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	22 5:30 Yoga 7pm Meditation	20	24
25 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service 5:00 One Pot Topic	26 BOARD MEETINGS: 6:30 Executive 7:00 Full Board	27 5:30 Yoga	28 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	29 5:30 Yoga	30	31

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Molly Smothers, Minister Diana Knoll, Choir Mary Claire Williams, Youth Ryan Brown, Secretary Chia-Ling Hsieh, Organist Michael Young, Pianist Sarah Chaney, Bell Choir Lindsey Morris, Nursery Katie Messer, Nursery Darrin Roe, Custodian

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FCC Youth having fun at the beach!