First
Christian
Church
(Disciples of Christ)

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Pastor Molly

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The Echo

Volume 13, Issue 5

May 2013

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, May 5 immediately after the worship service, FCC will have its annual Congregational Meeting to elect the slate of officers and deacons which can be found on page 4. Please make every effort to attend as the entire congregation will be voting on these leaders.

Youth Sunday

On Sunday, May 12, the youth of the church will lead in worship service with scripture reading, their favorite hymns, and a message from each of the youth members. The theme of the Youth Sunday service will be "A House Built on Faith and Thriving on Love." This is sure to be an inspiring service! We will also honor all graduates from FCC. Please see the Graduate Honor Form on page 4 for more information.

Pentecost

On Sunday, May 19 we will observe Pentecost. Please remember to wear the color red in honor of this important day in the liturgical year.

Office Closed

The office will be closed on May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

The youth are very busy preparing for Youth Sunday which will take place on Sunday, May the 12th. Youth Sunday will be a beautiful service that will honor the many gifts and talents of these very important members of our congregation. Please mark your calendars and show up to support our youth.

To the parents of the youth, we will continue to prepare for Youth Sunday by meeting next Sunday, May the 5th. After grabbing a quick bite to eat from the First Sunday Luncheon, we will meet until 1:30 p.m. If you are not planning to stay for the luncheon, please plan to pick up your youth at 1:30 p.m. In addition, I need all of the youth to show up at 10:00 a.m. on the morning of Youth Sunday, May the 12th for one last practice before the service.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with this dynamic group of younger and older youth as we prepare for this important service.

—Mary Claire Williams

"Use what talents you possess: The woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best."

-Henry Van Dyke

Over the last few months the choir has been growing in spirit, in our bonds and relationships as a group, and in setting aside inhibition in favor of being genuine and truly connected. However, while we are few and strong, we could grow more with even just a few more in number. I believe that the commitment to singing in church choir should not be one that has to be signed in blood, it is a voluntary offering within the church community. Ideally, I'd love for there to be enough people in choir so that if someone is out (sick, visiting family, having a life?), we are not left with someone having to sing a part by themselves. We keep a calendar for people to sign out on the days that they know they will not be here to help with planning. Again, I don't want the commitment to singing in this church choir to be like a homework assignment that never goes away. It is fun, and rewarding in so many ways.

It is also part of my personal philosophy that everyone can and should sing (bring it on, I accept your challenge). If you have been considering the choir at all and have questions, please talk with me or one of the choir members, I promise we will not bite you or kidnap you forever. There are many things already in place to help people in the choir that don't read music or need extra help/time to learn a piece. We practice each piece at three rehearsals before singing it in church and recordings are also available to practice with at home.

-Diana Knoll

A THANK YOU FROM PASTOR MOLLY

I'm fond of quoting a variety of poets - from TS Eliot to Mary Oliver to Robert Zimmerman (look him up). But today I am quoting Michael Jagger: "You can't always get what you want, but if you try, sometimes you get what you need." The sabbatical did not go the way I had envisioned, but in the end I think I came away with what I needed. Leon and I had both had deaths in our families, we lost a treasured church member, and in what was a WONDERFUL surprise - we gained a daughter in law and a bonus granddaughter!

As I return, I would like to thank a few folks who absolutely went above and beyond in making sure the family was cared for. Elder chair Marge Thomas deserves her OWN vacation (and a raise) and Jami Hornbuckle is a close second. Ryan Brown certainly kept things going on the day to day of it all. A special thanks to Roger Fischer, Erin Cash, and Paul Semisch for speaking the Word on Sundays, and of course Mary Claire and Diana stepped up to fill any extra spots. Leon and I missed two work days, and I can't wait to see all that was accomplished by the many elves who make a difference. I felt your prayers and love surrounding me while I was gone; I hope you could feel mine.

A sabbatical is supposed to be a time of reflection, study, meditation, and renewal. I hope this time will show itself to you as we continue to work and worship together.

Mack Building Fund

In Memory of Tommy Griffith's mother
Jack and Peggy Bizzel

In Memory of Sarah Esther Allen
Roger and Dianna Fischer
Fran Helphinstine
Mickey and Liz Reffitt
Jim and Emma Lou Gross

*A generous donation was made by Margaret (Muff) Scott to both the Mack fund and to the operations account.

Joyce Hart

Living Memorial Fund

<u>In Memory of Agnes Williams</u> Barbara Holbrook

Terry & Mona Thompson Annabella Moore James and Julia Perry Jane Holbrook Robert Wolfe Jack and Janis Ellis Roger and Jackie Russell

<u>In Memory of Dorothy Walters</u> Fran Helphinstine

<u>In Memory of Alice Akin</u> Fran Helphinstine

In Memory of Sarah Esther Allen David & Darlene Perkins Glenn & Eva Johnston

May Birthdays

- 1—Emma Banks
- 3—Sarah Chaney
- 8—Deb Eastwood
- 11—Dianna Fischer
- 11—Mike Seelig
- 16—Di Walke
- 19—Troy Burgess
- 20—Thelma Brown
- 20—Beth Ousley
- 21—Tony Hobbs
- 26—Sonny Jones
- 26—Ned Breschel
- 29—Faith Fannin
- 29—Dennis McKay
- 29—Charlene Bradford
- 31—Al Evans

Looking to give someone a birthday or 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

May 27, 2013

Committees @ 6:00pm 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:

May 5: John 14: 23-29

May 12: Youth Sunday

May 19: Acts 2: 1-13 (Pentecost)

May 26: Proverbs 1: 22-31

During the month of April, our church received a check for \$252.00. The cost of healthy food rises each month—PLEASE continue to reload and use your Kroger card to continue to fund this ministry.

Treasurer's Report

Income for the first four Sunday's in March \$13,408.00

The average monthly income needed to pay the church expenses is \$7878.31

May Deacons

Josh Akers, Maggie Miles, Etta Jane McCarty, Alta Blair...we need two more deacons!



The One Pot Topic this month has been canceled due to it having been scheduled during Memorial Day weekend. Stay tuned to hear about future One Pot Topics.

Thanks to the individuals who helped make our church home sparkle! Those individuals were: Yvonne Baldwin, Sarah Chaney, Carmen Eldridge, Jami Hornbuckle, Holly Pollock, and Marge Thomas.

Attention committee chairs: please have your proposed budget totals for the new church year ready to give to Joe Barrett ASAP. Thank you!

Slate of Nominees

The following slate was presented by the Nominating Committee at the April 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 5, 2013**. The officers from this past year were voted by the Board to retain their positions into the next church year—

President: Jami Hornbuckle

Vice-President: Sarah Chaney

Treasurer: Joe Barrett

Secretary: Fran Helphinstine

<u>New Deacons:</u> Carmen Black, Ned Breschel, Dayna Seelig, Mike Seelig, Paul Semisch, and Phillip Swim.

Meditation Group

Our bi-weekly meditation group continues to meet in the month of May. If you are interested, please contact Paul Semisch at pauljsemisch@hotmail.com or 356-4324. The days that meditation will meet in March are Thursday, May 9, and Thursday, May 23, both at 7pm.

Thanks to the individuals who helped make our labyrinth garden grown! Those individuals were: Yvonne Baldwin, Jami Hornbuckle Maggie Miles, Holly Pollock, and Gail Tingle.

An Easter flower donation was unintentionally left off the back of the Easter service bulletin:

In memory of Sierra, Phoenix, and Karma, given by Rachelle Bombe.

There will be no Feldenkrais in the month of May. Stay tuned to hear about more opportunities to participate in this group in the future.

If you would like to facilitate children's church in June, please see Ryan at church or call the church office. We have wonderful curriculum that the kids seem to really enjoy, and the adults have enjoyed teaching!

First Christian Church will have a morning bake sale during the Memorial Day Parade from 10 to 12 on May 27th. Please bring your baked goods with the prices marked or canned pop to the church on Friday or Sunday. We will be looking forward to seeing the church's float in the parade this year!

We will have our First Sunday Lunch this coming Sunday, May 5. It will take place after the annual Congregational Meeting. Please bring your favorite Mexican food dish. There is no cost, but please consider making a donation in the amount you would spend at a restaurant.

	Graduate Honor Form
Name	School Attended
Degree/Achievement Earned	
Future plans (if known)	
How graduate is connected with FO	CC

*Please cut out and hand this slip into the office by May 8th. You may also call the office to submit your graduate's information. Graduates will be honored during the church service of May 12th. We honor those graduating from high school, college, graduate, and technical school.

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	2 5:30 Yoga	co	4
5 9:45 Sunday school 10:45 Service After service: Congregational Meeting First Sunday Lunch	6	7 5:30 Yoga	8 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	9 5:30 Yoga 7pm Meditation	10	11
12 Youth Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service	13	14 5:30 Yoga	15 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir	16 5:30 Yoga	17	18
19 Pentecost 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service	20	21 5:30 Yoga	22 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	23 5:30 Yoga 7pm Meditation	24	25
26 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service	27 OFFICE CLOSED BOARD MEETINGS: 6:00 Committees 6:30 Executive 7:00 Full Board	28 5:30 Yoga	29	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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The women's retreat at Carter Caves State Park was a success. The Faith Presbyterian Church and First Christian Church alternated one hour book studies on Mary Lou Redding's book, <u>The Power of a Focused Heart</u>, during Lent. The five ladies then met the Friday following Easter for the culminating discussion of the life lessons from the Beatitudes.

