

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

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The Echo

Volume 14, Issue 11

November 2014

**November 2: time change Sunday,
Silent auction, Christmas
Sign up and birthday dinner!**



**New Members Tim Scott and Leah Craig
joined our church on October 5, 2014**

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR:

Though it's easy to point fingers and moan about the Christmas decorations that show up around September, in reality that's sort of similar to what happens around a church.

In July, the staff, the officers, and committee chairs got together and planned out the entire 2014-2015 church year. We worked backward from Christmas Eve, to allow for scheduling: when the choir cantata needed to be ordered; when the resource center needed to get us the family names for Christmas outreach; when the youth needed to shop for Thanksgiving baskets; when the sanctuary needed to be decorated; and not only those dates but the other planning that goes along with each step.

As I write this, it is the end of October. The Advent Meditation books were ordered in August and are ready to go out in the sanctuary in a week or two. The choir has been working on their music for over a month, and the narrators are in place and have their scripts. The youth just completed their Reverse Trick or Treat, and will shop for 10 Thanksgiving baskets of food during their next meeting. During the month of November, the youth will prepare their Advent Sunday service as well. Outreach – especially Dayna and Mike – have collated and charted all the shopping and buying and wrapping that needs to occur during this month. Earlier this morning, I wrote scripts for each of our staff to use as they light the Advent Candle each Sunday.

And, no, it's not even November. And, yes, it was almost 85 degrees yesterday.

It sounds as if we have things in hand, doesn't it? But it will need so many more people to put things together so it all works out. We need folks to buy toys (sign up Sunday!); we need folks to buy food (also, you can sign up Sunday!); we need many dollars of donations. MANY dollars of donations.

But most importantly, we need **you**.

So before there is a chance of complaining about how much you already have to do, and how little time there is, before you start out already worn and weary and callous and hard.....

Stop. Pray. Take a whiff of Douglas Fir. Remember Zuzu's petals. Let your heart grow 3 sizes. Rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing. BEFORE it's Christmas. BEFORE Thanksgiving. Even BEFORE Halloween. Because there will always be work to do. But to help others, and to help us, it has to be done **with love**.

Not because Jesus is the reason for the season. But, because Jesus.

Just because Jesus.

It's a full sentence.

Pastor Malley 

Choir Director

I hope you've all enjoyed the musical offerings we've had this last month or so! From our soloists to our bell choir to a traditional music ensemble to a harpist, there has been something for everyone to love. If there is another type of musical offering you enjoy, please feel free to contact me with any suggestions.

The choir is hard at work on our Christmas Cantata, which is entitled "The Christmas Story," which will be presented at Sunday service on December the 7th. We are working on anthems and worship music as well, including a responsorial psalm for November 16th.

I'd also like to encourage you to mark your calendars for two upcoming local musical events that some of our choir members will be participating in. First, the Morehead State Department of Music, Theater and Dance will present their annual Madrigal Feast on December 4th and 5th – all four of our choir interns will be singing in that event; and on December 7th, in the afternoon, there will be a performance of Handel's Messiah at the First Baptist Church by a choir and orchestra made up of members of our local community, including several FCC choir members.

Genny Jenkins
FCC Choir Director

Youth Directors

The youth had a great time visiting the elders for the reverse trick-or-treating on Sunday, October 26th. The elders loved their goodie bags, but a visit from the FCC youth is what really made their day! Thank you to Kathryn Rogers for assisting with the trip. Thank you to Natalie and Mitch for providing the delicious chili this month and to all who donated for the elder goodie bags. What a great way to celebrate Heritage Sunday!

The November meeting will take place on Sunday, November 23rd immediately after the service until 3:00 p.m. Thank you to Thelma Brown for providing the meal for the youth in November. We will be shopping and putting together the Thanksgiving baskets for the ten families that FCC is sponsoring. We will also begin preparing for our Christmas Program this month that will take place on Sunday, December 14th during the church service.

Love & Blessings,

Chris Prichard & Mary Claire Williams
FCC Co-Youth Directors

November Birthdays

- 1- David Perkins
- 5- Bill Davis
- 5- Neva Griffith
- 6- Marge Thomas
- 9- Carrie Frazier
- 12- Chris Prichard
- 12- Wiley Tanner
- 13- Isaac Young
- 14- Darlene Perkins
- 23- Pat Adkins
- 24- Jim Gross



Yard Sale Update

This year's church yard sale total has been raised to \$970.10 for church operations.

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

- November 2: Rev. 7: 9-17
- November 9: Matthew 25: 1-12
- November 16: 1 Thess. 5:1-11
- November 23: Matthew 25: 31-46
- November 30: Mk. 13: 24-37



Treasurer's Report

Income for October is \$7,477.00.

The average income needed to pay the church expenses is \$10,206.39.

Children's Church

Be sure your young person is here each week for Children's Church. During the month of November, Mary Claire Williams will be working with them to start putting together the annual Youth Service, which traditionally falls on Advent 3 (December 14th, this year). Ages 3 through high school will be participating in this most special morning.

Practicing Gratitude Feldenkrais Class Monday evenings, Nov 3rd, 10th, 17th 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Gentle, meditative movement is the context for exploring how we can be more intentional about the spiritual practice of gratitude in our daily lives. Class members will be encouraged to do a few simple exercises during the week, such as keeping a gratitude journal or following a gratitude calendar—whatever works for you. You will also learn new ways easily done at home to make the spiritual practice of gratitude a daily habit of joy. This is a gentle, relaxing class experience, open to anyone over 18, and all physical fitness levels. Class members are encouraged to bring a box of cereal as a donation to the food bank. Please wear comfortable, loose clothing. If you have any questions, please ask Maggie Miles (776-4769) or Ned Breschel (776-6683). Email

Mack Fund

In memory of Catherine Rogers' aunt
Mieko Horne
Fran Helphinstine

Prayer Ministry

On November 16th: We will gather up the paper slips of prayer requests and burn them on the cairn in the labyrinth after the church service. This is a tangible and powerful sign that we give our struggles, pain, and concerns to God.

Peoples' Clinic Volunteers

Our thanks to Alta Blair, Mark and Ginny Etherton, Emma Lou Gross, Joyce Hart, and Etta Jane McCarty for feeding the People's Clinic volunteers during the month of November. We appreciate your time and your efforts!

Thanksgiving Offering

The Thanksgiving Special Day Offering (November 9 and 16) supports students who choose Disciples higher educational institutions. Your support of Disciples higher educational institutions through the Thanksgiving Special Offering makes a difference in the lives of the more than 26,000 students. Please give!

November Deacons

Deacons for November are Sasha Reinhardt, Brent Rogers, Anita McNeal, Catherine Rogers, Cathy Hammond, and Dewayne Carter.



October
around FCC



Thank You

I loved getting the newsletter about the church. It is so comforting to know that my church here reads the same scriptures as my Morehead Church. I'm glad the youth group is still thriving. It was such an important part of my Kentucky life. Fall was always so beautiful there. I hope all is well and continues to be so.

Peace and Love,
Muff Penix Scott

Christian Care Communities

First Christian Church of Morehead is a wonderful friend to the Older Adults served by Christian Care Communities. Please share our thanks with your members for your gift of \$97.00 received on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. Through gifts like yours, Christian care is able to live out its mission to "enhance the journey of life for Older Adults." You are a blessing! In Christ's love,

Bill Schiphorst

Advent

Advent is creeping up on us! Advent 1 is November 30th (the Sunday after Thanksgiving); our hand bell group will provide our music and we will look at an odd little passage from Mark. Advent 2 (December 7th) our choir will lead in worship with a cantata; they have been working on it for several weeks already. Advent 3 our youth, from youngest to oldest, will provide the entire service; after that we will deliver the Christmas outreach bundles, which is always one of the highlights of the season. Advent 4 we will look at the mother of Jesus and her role in the story that changed the world. This year Christmas Eve is on Wednesday night; be sure to come and bring your family at 10 pm for our candlelight service.

Thank You

Dear Pastor Molly, First Christian Church Board and Congregation: I wanted to express my deepest appreciation for the monetary donation to Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corp (RAM) by First Christian Church. This donation was entirely allocated for expenses for the Morehead RAM event that was held at the Johnson First Church of God this past Saturday and Sunday, October 25th and 26th. These expenses would include housing and feeding volunteer providers, office supplies and general necessary items. You can find more information about RAM at www.ramusa.org. The clinic provided medical screenings, vision exams with glasses delivered the same day and dental care to anyone that would wait in line for services. The dental clinic had 38 dental chairs and 33 providers.


All patients were treated with compassion and gentle care for their dental needs. I also want to thank the church for allowing me to borrow 12 tables and all the chairs that I could fit on my trailer. Thanks to some church "angels" that happen to show up at the time I was loading them. That would be Mike and Dayna Seelig and Barbara Marsh. Thanks guys. This event had some distractions in planning it; however, a core group of dedicated individuals worked through the circumstances and made this clinic very successful. FCC has supported my mission to provide free dental care over the last four years at the Peoples Clinic. Because of your kind donations it was possible to buy dental supplies and provide care for many that could not afford treatment. Thanks so much.

Sincerely, Charlie Tingle, Dental Coordinator, Morehead RAM Expedition

Thank you from Pastor Molly

I would like to thank the congregation for the generous gift certificates given for Pastor Appreciation Month. Though if truth be known, it is the Pastor that appreciates the congregation. Hard to believe we've been working and worshipping together for almost 10 years.

November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 All Saints Day 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service 12pm Birthday Dinner/ Silent Auction/ Christmas Sign Up 5pm Heart of Christianity Book Study	3 5:30 Feldenkrais Class	4 5:30 Yoga 	5 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir	6 5:30 Yoga	7 	8
9 Higher Ed Offering 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service 12:00 Prayer Slip Burning	10 5:30 Feldenkrais Class	11 5:30 Yoga	12 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	13 5:30 Yoga	14	15
16 Higher Ed Offering 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service	17 5:30 Feldenkrais Class	18 5:30 Yoga	19 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	20 5:30 Yoga	21	22
23 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service Noon - Youth shop for Thanksgiving Baskets	24 6:30 Executive Board 7:00 Full Board	25 Thanksgiving Baskets Delivered 5:30 Yoga	26 5:30 Bells 7pm Choir	27 Thanksgiving Office Closed No Yoga	28 Office Closed	29
30 Advent 1 9:45 Sunday School 10:45 Service						

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Molly Smothers, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Choir
Mary Claire Williams and
Chris Prichard, Youth
Barbara Marsh, Secretary
Chialing Hsieh, Organist
Sarah Chaney, Bell Choir
Ashley Morris, Nursery
Bethenny Glahn, Nursery
Darrin Roe, Custodian

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Betsy Chaney gets a blessing;
so does her best friend, Rex.