

The Marshall Christian

LIX

NO. VIII

October, 2017

Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

October 1st

Elders:

Dan Brandt
Lloyd Bentley

Deacons:

Ed Baker
Mona Baker
Gwen Clemens
Alisa Smith
Kevin Dryer

October 8th & 15th

Elders:

Mark Harvey
Wayne McReynolds

Deacons:

Cindy Brandt
Linda Crews
Zach Crews
Chris Layton
Lori Layton

October 22nd & 29th

Elders:

Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

Deacons:

Carolyn Buck
Brenda Coffman
Georganne DeMoss
Roberta Reed
Amber VanDyke

Outside Communion:

October 8th

Carol Schupp
Wayne McReynolds

October 22nd

Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

Worship Leaders

October 1- Vickie Wise
October 8- Gwen Clemens
October 15- Vickie Wise
October 22- Ken Bryant
October 29- Virginia Bryant

“Now What?”

For the past several months we have been planning and prepping for our 175th anniversary which was held on September 24. What an amazing thing to celebrate with a good number of past members and some special guests joining with us on that day. Thank you to everyone who helped out in the many tasks that it took to make it all great. Whenever a milestone is reached or a major accomplishment has been achieved, the inevitable follow-up question is, “Now what?”

What will you do now that you’ve graduated high school...or college? What are your new plans now that you’ve earned that promotion...or gotten that raise...or now that you’ve retired? How will your life be different now that you are a first time parent...or grandparent...or now that you are a widow or widower? Now what...since you have been told you have cancer, or now what since you are in remission? Now what...since we have celebrated 175 years as a congregation? The 175 years are in our past. The celebration only lasts so long. What does the future hold? Do we remain true to our mission statement: “In an ever-changing society, we are friends and family doing God’s work in church and in our community”? If so, this milestone anniversary is a good time to realize how our society is changing and how we might adapt and respond to do God’s work both within and outside the walls of our church building.

Now what...since, like most other congregations, our attendance numbers are shrinking along with the offerings and contributions? Now what...since every month the aver-

age age of our congregation gets older and older? I would say that NOW is a time for discussion and discernment; dedication and devotion; desire and direction; definitions and decisions. Leading up to the celebration of the anniversary, we asked for memories and written prayers for the church. Nancy Wertz, the daughter of Butch and Marge Fletcher, sent us the following: My prayer for Marshall FCC: “Heavenly Father, thank you for this wonderful institution that has been such a vital and important part of my life. Thank you for this church family and your love that they have shown to me during my lifetime. Please continue to bless the mission of First Christian Church. Inspire its members to find new ways to reach out in sharing your unending love. Father, I ask you to renew and inspire this congregation so that you will be glorified. In the name of Jesus, Amen.”

Amen, Nancy, Amen. That is... what now.

In God’s Grip, Loy



Attention! Attention!

When was the last time you visited the Library in the Church? I will be honest and say I had not until the other day. I want to say I was impressed by what I saw. Carolyn and Priscilla were working on placing new books on the shelves. Everything was in order and easy to see, and the area was so inviting. Plenty of good and interesting books for any reader, and a great children's selection. I also noticed seating areas to take a moment to review a selection you have found before checking it out. This is an area that a lot of time and energy has gone into, that we as a Church are not taking advantage of. There are books for everyone. Please check it out. I feel you will be greatly surprised at what you see and may find.

Roberta Reed

October Anniversaries & Birthdays

1– Lloyd Bentley
 2– Priscilla McReynolds
 3– Correy Jackson
 4– Angela Gaba
 5– Anna Gass
 8– Rennie Balance
 Ryan Layton
 Pete Moles
 9– Torey Spitzig
 10– Gaines Branson
 Darrell Kueker
 11– Kevin Halsey
 12– Wilma Amary
 Mindy Kissner
 13– Dan Bishop
 15– Ron Schupp
 16– Jack Uhrig
 17– JW Clemens
 Rhonda Hoskins
 Matt Kueker
 Rob Ravenhill

18– Ron Absher
 Makenna Parker
 19– Paul Crews
 Matthew Green
 20– Nic Ess
 22– Lois Mencl
 23– Shane Bishop
 Beth Hanes
 Cole Perkins
 Cathy Swinger
 Natalie Hoffmeyer
 24– Jessica Green
 25– Tyler Clemens
 Brad Pistel
 28– Stephanie Green
 Rebecca Perkins
 Collin Porter
 Donna Smith
 30– Gwen Merchant



Anniversaries

3– Justin & Heidi Joliff
 4– Harold & Virginia Heymeyer
 13– Tim & Jennifer Marquess
 24– Kevin & Megan Halsey
 28– Lloyd & Rosie Bentley

Special Offering this Month

*It is the vision of Reconciliation Ministry to build just communities by breaking down the walls within our church which separate us. We envision a Church in which all communities are accountable to one another and God. The goal of the **Reconciliation Ministry Offering** is to foster life-giving community within our church and in relationship with the whole family of God. This offering will be collected on **October 15 and 22**.*

Fall Festival

Join us for the **Fall Festival in the fellowship hall, on October 22, 5:00 – 7:00 pm for food, folks, and fun!** There will be plenty of carnival style games to be played, prizes to be awarded, chili, hotdogs, pies, and other foods. Wear your costume or just come as you are, but come! Take a flyer home with you to share as you invite your friends. We're asking each committee and fellowship group to oversee a game or food booth. Contact the church office with your choices. If you need to order any items from Oriental Trading (prizes or carnival type games), turn your order in to the office by October 10th so that we can place one order.

Ring-A-Ding Time!

Bell choir will be starting up again in October. We are in need of one more ringer. If you would consider being a part of this ensemble, please contact

Hope at the Church office.



Upcoming Sermons

Oct. 1	“Remember the Lamb”	(World Communion Sunday)	Matthew 26:17-30
Oct. 8	“For the Good of All and For the Glory of God”	(S.O.S. Sunday)	Galatians 6:9-10
Oct. 15	“Together”	(Reconciliation Sunday)	Philippians 4:1-9
Oct. 22	“A Feast of Holy Humor”	(Laughter Sunday)	Proverbs 15:15
Oct. 29	“Questions From the Saints”	(All Saints Sunday)	Revelation 7:9-17

Looking Back at Our History

Homecoming Sunday on September 24 celebrated the 175th anniversary of our congregation. Priscilla McReynolds of the Library Committee offers us this detailed look back at our history in the years 1950 - 1970:

1950 was the beginning of the Holy Nativity Christmas Pageant under the direction of Mrs. R.T. Dufford and sponsored by the Christian Comrades Class. The women made beautiful costumes and they were used for years. The pageant was so popular, it was presented two or three times each year at Christmas, and there was still not enough seating. The church Constitution and By-Laws were written and accepted by the congregation in 1956. The first Youth Director, Dave Niederhauser, was employed from May 1958 to February 1959.

Rev. Harvey Baker Smith became ill on December 24, 1957, and was never able to fill the pulpit again. He died April 22, 1959. A Harvey Baker Smith Memorial fund was started. In 1971 it was turned over to Culver Stockton College as a scholarship for those training for ministry. Rev. James Spainhower moved to Marshall in August, 1958. The parsonage was sold when Rev. Spainhower purchased his own home. James Patrick Kelley served as Minister of Education from July 1959 to August 1962, when he entered Yale University for graduate study in religion.

In 1962 Rev. Spainhower was elected as the Saline County representative to the State Legislature. He won re-election in 1964. The congregation voted to remodel the sanctuary and Gordon Hall, and a fund-raising drive to raise \$100,000 began in May of 1962. In August of 1962 Rev. Edward Hughes was called as Associate Minister. He resigned in November of 1963 to become the senior minister in the Christian Church in Overland Park, Kansas.

On an early Sunday morning, February 17, 1963, a fire of undetermined origin raged out of control, causing much destruction in the church building. The sanctuary and basement dining hall were in rubble and ruins. The Harvey Baker Smith Memorial Chapel and most of the 3-story education building were spared. The blaze quickly swelled from broken windows and was first spotted about 1:20 a.m. The magnitude of the fire and its close proximity to the town square quickly drew swarms of people.

A St. Louis architectural firm was retained by the board to do the work on the buildings and construct a new sanctuary, costing more than \$530,000. A ground breaking ceremony for the new building was held July 26, 1964. In the meantime, the congregation held worship services at the Mary Lou Theater across the street (now the Wood and Huston bank building). Rev. Spainhower resigned as minister in April of 1964 to devote himself more to his work in the Legislature.

Rev. Sam Langley was called to serve as minister beginning September 1, 1964. The first worship service held back in the church was on January 23, 1966. A formal dedication was held in the afternoon, followed by a reception and an open house. The official organ dedications for the Wicks pipe organ was September 18, 1966. Rev. Langley resigned May, 1970 to accept a call from the First Christian Church in Columbia, Missouri.



Mid America Regional Gathering

Registration is open for a Regional gathering to be held October 20 & 21. We will gather in Sedalia to celebrate as a region and to participate in the Festival of Sharing. Friday the 20th is Clergy Day when clergy will have their choice of boundary or MissionInsite training sessions. All are welcome on Saturday for Festival activities and then the introduction of our new "settled" Regional Minister Team members. Both days

will include Mid-America bicentennial celebration presentations, and the weekend will conclude at the Salt Creek site, the first Disciple congregation in Missouri.

Saturday's events begin at the state fairgrounds and include an 8:00 a.m. worship, quilt auction preview, mission opportunities (bagging rice and beans, processing Church World Services kits, processing



Festival of Sharing

Missouri Packs, etc.), a speaker from Heifer International, display booths, lunch, and quilt auction. At 1:30 we will gather at Sedalia First Christian Church for business and a regional bicentennial presentation. Birthday cake and conversations will follow. Those wishing to drive to the Salt Creek site (near New Franklin) will gather at 4:00 for a celebration music, stories and reflections.

All Saints Day Recognition

On Sunday, October 29 we will celebrate All Saints Day in our worship services. During the worship we will be recognizing loved ones that have passed away since this time last year. As individual names are called, the families will be invited to stand, a candle will be lit, and the bells will toll in honor of them. We will be remembering all members of the church and immediate family of church members that have notified us.

We are reinstating the FCC Suggestion Box on a trial basis. It is located in the Sun Room. This is not a means for negative or personal comments, but the opportunity to genuinely state constructive concerns, questions, ideas...maybe even a compliment! Signing your name is not required, but remember...we will not be able to follow-up if we don't know who made the suggestion. Please help us continue to assess the needs of our congregation.

Fellowship Dinner on October 15

Make plans to join us in the fellowship hall following the 10:00 worship service on October 15 for a fellowship dinner featuring fried chicken and all the fixings! Members are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share.

Dr. Boring to Speak in Boonville

Dr. Eugene Boring, one of our country's most respected New Testament Biblical Scholars and a leader and author from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will be presenting three lectures at the Boonville First Christian Church on Saturday, October 14. This one-day event explores the theme "Revealing a Future Vision from the Past" and is the inaugu-

ral event for the newly established Boonville First Christian Church *Izola Jones Annual Lectureship Fund*. The event is open to the public free of charge and is designed for the clergy, lay people, and church leaders promoting the interaction among the leadership of the whole Church.

The first lecture, at 9:00 a.m., focuses on a prophetic preacher in Revelation and an elder addressing the problems of

Christian faith and Church life in 1-3 John. The second and third lectures, at 10:45 and 1:00, will focus on the Gospel of John, revealing the Gospel's fusion of Christology and ecclesiology (the ways we think about Jesus and the ways we think about the church). To register for this event, send an email to boonvillefcc@att.net and list your name and contact information, or, call the church office at 660-882-6239.



Not today Ocean, not today...

Boy did September go fast! During the first part of my favorite month, you know...my birthday and everything, my family and I headed to Daytona Beach for our Annual family vacation. I spend an entire year anticipating this week. Our lives, like so many of your own, is crammed and filled with obligations, deadlines, chores and responsibilities. So, when it is time for that one week of fun and sun to come around, I am ready to disconnect from everyone and everything, except my immediate family.

Arriving at our destination was no small chore. We landed and fell immediately into a car rental scheme. The cars had been booked and paid for online. Holding a receipt in hand that stated "no fees due on arrival", we were told there would be a "Florida tourist tax" added onto what had already been paid! Let me assure everyone reading this...there is no Florida tourist tax. Nice try! We ended up spending seven hours getting to our condo, which should have taken an hour or less. But, we made it. All we could do at the end of this very long day was laugh and look forward to spending time on the beach in the morning. And yes, we spent time there. So much time that I ended up with a nice sun-kissed face—the color could be compared to a lobster! But that didn't stop the fun.

The days that followed contained a little beach, a little Universal Studios, some good food and some great family time. Nothing better in my book! Our fourth day there, my daughters and I were swimming in the ocean. My youngest, Torey, decided to go to shore for a while. Unlike me, who can spend seven or eight hours straight in the water without getting out, she was ready to sunbathe. My daughter Destiny and I stayed behind, chatting and catching up on our lives. The water was a bit rough. We went out a tad farther so that the waves were breaking in front of us instead of on us. The waves weren't hitting us now, but there was quite an undertow. I have always been completely comfortable in any water, and especially the ocean. I grew up in Florida and the beach has always been one of my favorite playgrounds. So when a swell came, I wasn't too concerned. I knew it would pass by in a few seconds. But...it didn't. After a few moments my daughter asked me if I could touch. No. I told her we needed to start swimming back in...hard. The undercurrent kept pulling us out. The waves were breaking in front of us, not giving us any help. After two or three minutes of vigorous swimming, and not moving anywhere but farther out, I started shouting for help and waving my visor. No one heard. No one saw. My daughter looked at me, eyes filled with fear, and asked if we were going to be ok. I couldn't tell her yes. Instead I told her to keep trying. She was tired she said, and couldn't go much longer. I positioned myself behind her and told her to kick off of me. I knew she only needed to gain a few feet to hopefully catch a small swell that would start pulling her into shore. We had now been struggling for about ten minutes. I told her again

to use me to push off. She wouldn't do it. I had been praying, but now I really let God hear it! Give us strength! Give us courage! Let my daughter make it! In the last few moments of our struggle, I realized EVERYTHING that held value to me. Not one time did I think about my car, my home, my dance studio or things I hadn't had a chance to see or experience. From the ocean I could see my Mom sitting on the balcony, unfortunately not looking our way. I saw my daughter Torey and her husband laying on the beach. I couldn't see my husband, but I thought of what it would feel like to never see him again, and how lonely he would be. And I saw my daughter beside me, struggling to stay alive. These were the things that mattered. Would this be the end? If for me, that was one thing, but not my daughter! I gave her a shove, then another. It seemed useless. Almost. A wave was coming! If we kept swimming it would catch us and throw us closer to shore. I yelled at her to swim hard. She did. That one wave took us inches in. And then another, and another. We could finally touch. When we finally made it to the shore, all of the emotions came pouring out. We both cried. I thanked God for bringing us through. Because without him, we would not have made it out.

I've worked awful hard in my life to have the few things I do. I've missed parties and outings with friends. Family gatherings are few and far between due to time. And...I'm drained. I've decided it's time to reevaluate what really matters. Being faced with the fact that we are not promised tomorrow made me realize the important things of today. And guess what...it isn't the "things".

Learning and Leaning, Hope

Lillie Bates Circle

Lillie Bates Circle held its first meeting, to begin their new year, on September 19th at the Church with Roberta Reed as the hostess.

The Group set up their agenda for the fall quarter. Things discussed were the Festival of Sharing, the Fall Festival, Blanket Sunday and the Annual Chili Supper. Next meeting to be held at Jo Wilhites on October 17th.

First Christian Church
130 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, MO 65340

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Just a thought...

*The World is changed
by your example, not by
your opinion.*

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to check out upcoming
events and activities,
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our groups, ministries,
staff, etc.

Contact Information:

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We're on the Web!
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Church Staff

Senior Minister– Rev. Dr. Loy Hoskins

Music Director–Hope Richards

Youth Director– Kris Milliron

Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp,

Larry Smith

Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant

Secretary– Hope Richards

Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,

Judy Morris