

The Marshall Christian

LIX

No. III

March 2017

Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

March 5th

Elders:

Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

Deacons:

Butch Ash
Linda Crews
Zach Crews
Amanda McCord
Shirley Schultz

March 12th & 19th

Elders:

Wayne Buck
Kathryn Jones

Deacons:

Kevin Dryer
Phoebe Jones
Jessica Parker
Hope Richards
Jeff Wise

March 26th & April 2nd

Elders:

Mark Harvey
Tim Clemens

Deacons:

Tim Boedeker
Linda Crews
Josh Hoffmeyer
Annette Miles
Makenzie Thomason

Outside Communion:

March 12th

Wayne Buck
Kathryn Jones

March 26th

Dan Brandt
Mark Harvey

Worship Leaders

March 5- Virginia Bryant
March 12- Julie Hoffmeyer
March 19- Tim Clemens
March 26- Mark Harvey

“Shared Experiences Develop Unity ”

Just a few weeks ago we celebrated Scout Sunday during our 10:00 worship, and it brought back a memory for me. In 2005, while I was a Youth Pastor in Bentonville, Arkansas, I was on the campus of Arkansas University for an event known as Scouting University. More than 400 boy scouts were there to complete requirements toward one of the 20 merit badge classes being offered. The organizers contacted me to lead the sessions with scouts working toward their Communications Merit Badge. The organizers of the event were the members of Alpha Phi Omega, one of the fraternities from the University of Arkansas. This fraternity was built on the principles of scouting and is a national service fraternity. It's the fraternity I was a member of as an undergraduate. So when I went there on a Saturday, I put on my member pin which I hadn't worn in almost 20 years.

As I met members of the fraternity they were surprised to see my pin, the same as theirs. Many asked me about it, and I would answer, “Yep. Psi Upsilon chapter, spring pledge class of 1983.” Then time after time, as I spoke to the members, they would extend their hands and we shook hands using the fraternity handshake. I think the last time I shared that handshake with someone was 15 years earlier. These more recent members and I experienced brotherhood in that handshake which meant we had something in common. We had gone through the same pledg-

ing process, learned the same things, shared the same traditions. We had dedicated ourselves to the three purposes of the fraternity – leadership, friendship, and service. We called each other brothers and we had a family bond. It was a special feeling for me.

I feel that same way each time I attend worship on Sunday morning here at First Christian Church. We share the same goals. We worship, fellowship, work, and serve together. Together we share the experiences of ministry. We are united in Christ and we have a bond as a church family. Together we will soon begin our journeys through the season of Lent as we again prepare for the coming Easter. We don't wear membership pins or have a secret handshake, but that feeling of belonging is very real. I hope you feel it too.

In God's Grip, Loy



Roof Repairs

Repairs will soon begin on the church roof. Depending on weather, this will take about a month. Please be aware when entering or exiting the building during work days.



March Anniversaries & Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1- Zoey Dryer
Roberta Reed | 22- Ryleigh Halsey
Lori Layton
Cindy Miller |
| 2- Carol Schupp | 25- Josh Hundley
Kyle Naylor |
| 4- Amber Kueker
Andy Rugen | 26- David VanHorn |
| 5- Sawyer Asbury
Lois Pontius | 28- Doyne Alexander
Mark Harvey |
| 6- Charles Estill
Shirley Kueker | 29- Harold Stoll |
| 7- Vickie Wise
Jeanne Young | 30- Jacob Uhrig |
| 8- Barbara French | 31- Charles Bentley |
| 10- Steve Green
Brian Miles | |
| 12- Loretta Absher
Jeanette Root | |
| 14- Beth LaGore | |
| 16- Zach Gaba | |
| 18- Kelsea Milliron | |
| 22- Alice Barnes | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2- Drew & Shirley Jackson
 Chester & Alice Barnes
- 3- Fred & Jane Hartley
- 18- Jay & Marty Yoder
- 20- Jim & Stacey Smith
- 21- Bobby & Terry Cobb
- 25- Dan & Cindy Brandt

Looking Back at Our History

Homecoming Sunday on September 24 will celebrate the 175th anniversary of our congregation. This year we are including an article in each month's newsletter about the history of our church or a connection to the congregation's past.

The following are excerpts from the first edition of the Marshall Christian, 1914: The first page states, "The Marshall Christian, establish 1914, Harvey Baker Smith - Editor, published every Friday at the corner of Morgan and Jefferson Streets, subscription price - 25 cents." Page two: "The Bible School last Sunday reported an attendance of 323 and an offering of \$8.41." "Music hath charms if it is MUSIC. A great service is impossible without good music. Mrs. Smith asks that every voice that can help will please get in the choir. The preacher insists that you help make our music noted. Practice follows prayer meeting every Wednesday night." The publication listed C.E. Benlher as 'our minister in India,' and the church phone number was 296.

If you missed it last fall, SOS Sunday involved a brief all congregation worship in the sanctuary followed by breaking into teams to go out into our community to serve others. After completing our projects, we met back at the church for soup and sandwiches. It was a FANTASTIC way to put our Christianity into service in our community. Afterward, those who participated expressed an interest in continuing this mission in the spring. We have chosen April 30th. There is a poster in the hallway to sign up for a team that best fits your skills and interests. Members are asked to check with friends and neighbors, or ANYONE who could benefit from the services these teams offer, and to please let the FCC Office know at 886-3338.

Baptism Class/ Commissioning Course

Classes are being held for anyone interested in joining the church or being baptized to learn about the process and what it all means. Class meetings will be in the Youth Room on Wednesday afternoons, 2:30-3:45, March 1 - April 5. While designed for 3rd-6th graders, the classes are open to all. Contact the office to let us know if you are interested in attending or Pastor Loy if you have any questions.

Lenten Devotionals Available

This year's Lenten devotionals, "With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed" from the Society of St. Andrew, are available to help guide you through each day of the season of Lent. They include a daily scripture reading, meditation, and prayer. There are enough for each family to take one.

Ash Wednesday Service on March 1



An Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel to help us welcome the Lenten season. This service will be designed to help prepare us for the journey through Lent though the sharing of scripture, songs, prayer, and the imposition of ashes.

Fellowship Dinner

The Fellowship Committee will host a fellowship dinner on March 19 following the 10:00 service. The dinner will include Corned Beef, Cabbage, Irish Beef Stew Macaroni and Cheese and potatoes. Please bring a dessert or salad to share.



Youth News

WHEW, these last few months have been a wild ride!! The verse above from the book of Joshua 1:9 is one of my favorites that I have posted on my bedroom wall to remind me of each morning and evening. It's been a good reminder these past months as well. The holidays, the election, the weather, the inauguration, hatred, love, friends, family, illness, health, questions, doubts, and many many changes have made for some tenuous and overwhelming opportunities to remind me often of the scripture. Yet amidst all of this, and maybe because of it, I find myself so grateful and blessed to be able to lead and journey alongside the youth.

To be perfectly honest, there are many Wednesday and Sunday mornings that I wake up and think to myself 'Ugh, it's youth group day again...I am NOT ready for these kids!' I believe I felt that same way everyday when I was a mother of two young ones, if history serves me correctly. But life goes on, and the youth arrive, and they fill me – and each other – with such joy and enthusiasm and love, and I find myself sad that our time together flew by too fast.

For these youth – whether they are 5 or 15 – are my Joshua 1:9. They inspire me to be strong and courageous, and they remind me that God is with me, wherever I go.

Youth group is not always glamorous. Sure, we have fun, we laugh, we play games and goof off and act silly.

But more often than not, we explore God, discuss Jesus' teachings and life and death, question, doubt, trust, cry, love, pray, and open ourselves up to all of the joys and concerns that life brings. And God is always, always in our midst, providing comfort and strength.

People wonder why I do this job. I often hear "Bless you Kris, I could never do that." Believe me, I need those blessings after a lock-in, after sleeping (or not sleeping) on a cold hard floor, after long weekends, late nights, endless text messages, or subsisting on popcorn and pizza for days on end. But for all those days and weeks and years in between, I'm the one who is blessed beyond measure. These kids - they come without pretenses, walls or all the baggage of adulthood – they come willing and eager to be open, loving and accepting - they come ready to learn and grow. So as it turns out, I'm the one who is led, and taught, by the youth. It is my hand that is held and comforted, it is my heart that is healed.

(Kris Milliron will be attending two Youth Ministry Conferences in North Carolina this month. She will be gone from Saturday, March 4th through Saturday, March 11th. There will be no youth group on Wednesday, March 8th due to her absence.)

Souperbowl

The youth had the privilege of participating in the Souperbowl of Caring on February 3-4th, which is a nationwide effort of youth to help to combat hunger and poverty.

The C.R.Y. Festival Cabinet members concluded their quarterly meeting by serving at the Central MO Food Bank in Columbia on Saturday morning. Seven Marshall youth and adults made up the group of 18, who packed and labeled over 20,000lbs. of frozen sausage for distribution.

Members from the three youth groups spent six cold hours outside the Marshall Wal-Mart, collecting food and monetary donations for the Community Food Pantry of Marshall. Youth then collected additional donations during worship services at both First Christian and Covenant Presbyterian Churches on Sunday.

The Jr. high youth delivered the collections to the Food Pantry on Wednesday, Feb. 8th where they were met with much gratitude and excitement!

We received the following note from the Community Food Pantry of Marshall: "Dear members of the First Christian Church youth group,

Your outstanding work in sponsoring the "Souperbowl of Caring" was remarkable! Our congratulations and thanks for the \$575.03 donation and the 524 pounds of food. I would like to tell you what you have accomplished with your gifts. You helped a single parent put food on the family table. You made it possible for a child to eat this weekend. You made a difference in the life of a neighbor. You shared food. You brought hope. You inspired all of us here at the Community Food Pantry with your generosity. May God's blessings be with you always."

On a personal note, I am grateful to be a witness to all of the children and youth, as they continue to follow Jesus with generosity, love and joyful hearts. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support of the youth and myself.

Kris

Upcoming Sermons

- | | | |
|----------|---|------------------------|
| March 5 | "Living in Distraction" (<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>) | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 |
| March 12 | "In the Shadows of Faith" (<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>) | John 3:1-12 |
| March 19 | "Things to Notice at a Well" (<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>) | John 4:5-30, 39-42 |
| March 26 | "Walking Through Lent with the Lord" (<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>) | Psalms 23 |

First Christian Church
130 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, Missouri 65340

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Just a thought...



**Visit our
Church Website!**

Stop by our new and improved church website at www.fcmarshallmo.org to check out upcoming events and activities, serving schedules, bulletins and newsletters, and information about our groups, ministries, staff, etc.

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

contact information:

firstccoffice@yahoo.com

Phone: (660) 886-3338

We're on the Web!
fcmarshallmo.org