

The Marshall Christian

LIX

No. II

February 2016

Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

January 31st & February 7th

Elders:

Marshall Krause
Luane Miller

Deacons:

Tim Boedeker
Zach Crews
Roberta Reed
Nathan Sullivan
Hope Richards

February 14th & 21st

Elders:

Buddy Hannaford
Greg Schultz

Deacons:

Carolyn Buck
Josh Hoffmeyer
Bailee Merchant
Cindy Miller
Amber Van Dyke

February 28th & March 6th

Elders:

Dan Brandt
Loretta Green

Deacons:

Cindy Brandt
Dane Branson
Missy Kreisel
Katie Shannon
Tiffany Thornton

Outside Communion:

February 14th

Dan Brandt
Julie Hoffmeyer

February 28th

Wayne Buck
Tim Clemens

Worship Leaders

Feb. 7- Dan Brandt
Feb. 14- Julie Hoffmeyer
Feb. 21- Ken Bryant
Feb. 28- Buddy Hannaford

“Making the Most of the Lenten Journey”

We will soon embark on a journey through the season of Lent (February 10 – March 26). These days leading to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus are for some a time of fasting, where chocoholics remove one ‘s’ out of the word “dessert” and are left with “desert”. While a journey through a desert area can prepare us for the transformation at Easter and the spring of new life, the Lenten journey does not have to be as dry and crusted as the desert sand. In a truer sense, Lent is more about using everything in your life to better connect with God and draw you closer to God. With that in mind, I invite you to consider new ways to pray that might enhance your time with God, such as trying to add or do something different during your prayer time. Here are some ideas:

- Use your body: try praying with eyes open or looking up, hands folded or lifted, on your knees

- Light a candle: allow the smell and heat from the candle to add to your experience

- Stare at something holy: focus on a cross, a picture, stars, or some other object while praying

- Sing a hymn or song: find one with words that express your feelings or change the words

- Use prayer beads or other objects you can touch: dragging a finger through sand for example

- Repeat a mantra, a breath prayer, or the Jesus prayer; repetition promotes a deeper focus



- Express your emotions: laugh (tell God a joke), cry, or yell; just be true to your feelings

- Play music in the background: soft music would probably be more helpful than heavy metal

- Walk and pray: allow the rhythm of your steps to guide your thoughts and words

- Eat and drink: with each bite or sip, express another thought to God

- Feel the air: pray with the natural wind or a fan lightly blowing in your face

- Pray while slowly washing/ moisturizing your hands: let this soothing action guide your words

I hope that these ideas might lead you to more of your own. If our Lenten journey is a time spent in the desert or wilderness, perhaps our prayer times can become oasis stops along the way. You might even find yourself looking forward to those times set aside for concentrated prayer. The connection between Lent and Easter truly is an example of the journey being as important as the destination.

Praying with you on the
journey,

LOY

Fellowship Dinner

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a luncheon in the fellowship hall following the 10:00 worship service on February 21.

February Anniversaries & Birthdays

3- Greg Schultz	Nellie Estill
Shirley Schultz	
4- Sidney Ehrhardt	19- Marge Fletcher
	Grace Miles
7- Dorothy LaRue	21- Sue Bailey
8- Chloe Venable	Roger Payne
10- Jarid Wise	22- Alexandra VanDyke
11- Barb Utlaut	23- Laura Clemens
12- Tim Boedeker	Maggie Hoffelmeyer
Taylor Pistel	Jillian Pointer
Bill Rutledge	Melissa Shannon
14- Bailey Ann Merchant	25- Garrett Green
Michelle Porter	26- Kirby Rugen
Taylor Scarff	27- Zach Crews
15- Trish Fletcher	28 -Eric Arnett
Bennett Kueker	Loretta Green
16- Mona Baker	ANNIVERSARIES
Jordan Bishop	14- Luane & Cindy Miller
18- Mary Anderson	

Inclement Weather Policy

We will again be using the call messaging system if there is a need to cancel worship services or other events or gatherings due to bad weather or dangerous road conditions. We will also be once again putting messages out through KMMO radio, 102.9 FM.

Baptism Class/Commissioning Course

Classes will soon be 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, 2:30-3:30, February 10 - March 16. 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.

Youth Dates & Info

- Wed., Feb. 3 Elementary youth, 5-6:30pm
Jr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Fri., 2/5 – Sat., 2/6 C.R.Y. Cabinet meeting, St. Louis MO
- Sun., Feb. 7 Mission trip meeting, 1:00pm
Sr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Wed., Feb. 10 Elementary youth, 5-6:30pm
Jr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Sun., Feb. 14 Sweetheart Chili Cook-off at Covenant Presb., 11-1
Sr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Wed., Feb. 17 Elementary youth, 5-6:30pm
Jr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Sun., Feb. 21 Sr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Wed., Feb. 24 Elementary youth, 5-6:30pm
Jr. high youth, 7-8:30pm
- Sun., Feb. 28 Sr. high youth, 7-8:30pm

The youth will be selling frozen pastries and sweet rolls during the month of February; with delivery before Easter. All proceeds will help support mission and service activities as well as fellowship and educational opportunities. Please see any youth or Kris Milliron if you would like to order.

There will be a meeting for all 2016 Mission trip participants on Sunday, Feb. 7th in the youth lounge.

Covenant Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Sweetheart Chili Cook-off on Sunday, Feb. 14th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Come enjoy some fellowship, sample a variety of homemade chili, and vote for your favorite. All youth are encouraged to attend and assist with this event.

Kris Milliron will be gone on vacation from Feb. 19-22nd and Feb. 26 – March 6th. Please contact Rachel Guthrey, Covenant Youth Director, if you have any youth-related questions or needs.

Ash Wednesday Service February 10

An Ash Wednesday service will be held on February 10 at 6:30 p.m. to help us welcome the Lenten season. This service will be designed to help prepare us for the journey through Lent through the sharing of scripture, songs, prayer, and the imposition of ashes. It will be held in the chapel.

Lenten Devotionals Available

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 10 and last until Easter Sunday, March 27. This year's Lenten devotionals, "While Still Far Off" 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.

Scout Sunday

February 7 will be Scout Sunday and we will be celebrating our partnership with Cub Pack 45. The Cub Scouts will be attending the 10:00 worship service and have a cake sale in the parlor following worship. Proceeds from this sale will go towards their annual Day Camp in Sedalia, various activities throughout the year, and monthly awards.

All You Need is Love...

This is the month— the month most men dread and women anticipate. Yes, it is almost Valentine’s Day. Now I should go on record saying that I know there are SOME people who don’t partake of the whole “invented for Hallmark” holiday, but a lot of us with mushy girlie hearts start the countdown as soon as Christmas disappears around the bend. We try to plan special gifts, dinners, nights out, or even dare to create a romantic poem that will show the ones we love in our life how much they mean to us. And for those of us in a relationship, we hope and pray that our partner is sitting around wasting hours upon hours of precious time trying to come up with a clever way to say “I love you” to us!

Last year, as a newly engaged girl, I was hoping for a token of love from my future husband— he did not disappoint. I was so happy, smiling and humming as I went about the day. Man that was a good feeling. But truthfully, every day since then, and all the days before that with him in my life, have had that same feeling.

Slowly but surely I am trying to teach myself a valuable lesson— A gift can never hold the value of how much love you have for someone. Back in my younger days, a good year or so ago, I thought I needed the flowers, cards and gifts to feel important, or cared for. The longer I am with Brad, the more I realize those things are very insignificant.

His gifts to me come in every day things— starting my car, walking the dogs, always getting my car door, doing laundry and housework. Those are the physical things. Support, kindness to me, laughter, a shoulder to cry on, an arm to lean on, and loving me through all my faults are his emotional gifts to me. When I take a look at my life, I realize how blessed, and loved I truly am. My husband, my daughters, my family, my friends, and all the parents and dancers at the studio...who could ask for more? It saddens me that there are people who feel unloved, when I have such an abundance of it.

Love comes in all forms— the love of a daughter, a mother, your spouse, a friend, and the most joyful love...from God. It is painful to know some people feel unloved when there should be so many people to receive it from. Maybe this month would be a good month to practice spreading love. No flowers, candies or cards needed... just a simple smile or hello to someone who looks like they could use it. Maybe get real brave and hug a stranger! While you’re at it, tell ‘em God sent you!

Everyone deserves love. I have some to spare...don’t you?

Learning and Leaning,
Hope



My family and I would like to thank you all for your overwhelming love, food, support and other kindness shown us during Roland’s long illness and death. It was greatly appreciated and helped us get through a difficult time.

In Christian Love,
Marilyn Wood
Michelle & Family
Kristy & Family

Week of Compassion Offering

This month we will be receiving the annual Week of Compassion special offering on February 21 and 28. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities. In 2015 Week of Compassion responded to times of crises in 57 countries and 22 states in the U.S. (included three responses in Missouri for flood relief and storm damage).

Board Meeting Change of Date

February Executive Board, General Board and Elders Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 9th instead of Wednesday. Please make note of this change.

Upcoming Sermons

Jan. 31	“Fulfilling the Scripture Today”	Luke 4:14-21
Feb. 7	“Walking in the Light of God” <i>(Transfiguration Sunday)</i>	Exodus 34:29-35
Feb. 14	“Love That Remains” <i>(Valentine’s Day)</i>	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Feb. 21	<u>(Gideons to speak at both services)</u>	
	“Facing Trials with Faithfulness” <i>(Second Sunday of Lent)</i>	Luke 4:1-13
Feb. 28	“Original Copies” <i>(Third Sunday of Lent)</i>	Philippians 3:17-4:1

First Christian Church
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Just a thought...



**Visit the New
Church Website!**

Stop by our new and improved church website at www.fccmarshallmo.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 (Miller)
Youth Director– Kris Milliron
Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp,
Larry Smith
Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant
Secretary– Hope Richards (Miller)
Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,
Judy Morris

contact information:

firstccoffice@yahoo.com

Phone: (660) 886-3338

We're on the Web!
fccmarshallmo.org