

# The Marshall Christian

LIX

No. IV

April 2016

## Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

### April 3rd

Elders:

Julie Hoffelmeyer  
Kris Milliron

Deacons:

Nancy Jackson  
Chris Layton  
Lori Layton  
Seth Layton  
Jo Willhite

### April 10th

Elders:

Marshall Krause  
Luane Miller

Deacons:

Carolyn Buck  
Tyler Clemens  
Zach Crews  
Ginger McGraw  
John McGraw

### April 24th & May 1st

Elders:

Mark Harvey  
Tim Clemens

Deacons:

Tim Boedeker  
Gwen Clemens  
Kevin Dryer  
Nathan Sullivan  
Tiffany Thornton

### Outside Communion:

#### April 10th

Vickie Wise  
Kay Wise

#### April 24th

Mark Harvey  
Ken Bryant

### Worship Leaders

April 3- Greg Schultz  
April 10- Vickie Wise  
April 17- Youth  
April 24- Mark Harvey

## “Happy April Fool’s Day!”

This edition of the newsletter will be mailed out before April 1, April Fool’s Day, one of my favorite holidays! That may seem strange, but the day is special to me for many reasons. First I enjoy playing pranks on people. I do this most often while at camps during the summer with Easter egg dye tablets in shower heads, rubber snakes in the bunk beds, moving campers’ silverware when they leave the table, toothpaste between the sides of an Oreo cookie, sugar in salt shakers, etc. But any day is a good day for a well planned prank or joke that allows the person being pranked to laugh as much as everyone else.

April first also has meaning for me because this year it will mark the tenth anniversary of my ordination. That came after ten years as a licensed minister. Prior to becoming a full time minister in 1999, I had been a teacher - for six years in a public school and nine years at the college level. During those years I was also a part time youth pastor. In 1999 I was 40 years old, a college professor in Kansas with my doctorate degree and a job I enjoyed along with the opportunity to be very involved with youth ministry. I loved being a local youth pastor, area youth coordinator, adult sponsor for the region’s youth commission, and getting to counsel or direct or keynote at five or six church camps each summer along with many youth events during the year.

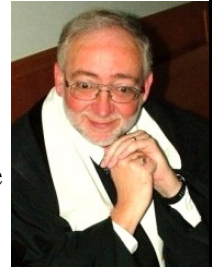
I thought my career was set – no more college classes to take, just

enjoy the job at the college and enjoy the ministry with teenagers for the next 25-30 years. Then around the first of April, God said, “April Fool!” I knew God was calling me to full time ministry which would include an 87 hour Master of Divinity degree at a seminary. I somewhat reluctantly agreed and within six weeks had been hired to serve a church in Arkansas. Sometimes it is when we are most comfortable that God chooses to challenge us.

Another reason I like April Fool’s Day is that it reminds me of Paul’s statement in 1 Corinthians 4:10 that we are fools for the sake of Christ. In 1:18 he wrote that the message of the cross is foolishness to non-believers, but to us who are being saved it is the very power of God. Indeed, the thought that the Savior of the world, the Son of God, would come to us in such a mild manner as to be born in a barn and that he would endure a criminal’s execution on a cross does seem to be foolish. But God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom (Cor. 1:25).

I hope you have an enjoyable April Fool’s Day, and if any pranks are played on you, I hope you are able to laugh about them. I’m sure that Satan still hasn’t laughed about the surprise of the resurrection of Jesus that was pulled on him!

In God’s Grip,  
LOY



## April Anniversaries & Birthdays

1- Alisa Smith	15- Joan Marsh
3- Buddy Hannaford	16- Virginia Heymeyer Loyd Pannell
6- Calista Schupp	17- Spencer Fricke Brody Kueker
7- Brennan Sullivan Marty yoder	18- Tiffany Thornton
8- Angela Igo	20- Kaitlyn Seigreid
9- Justin Joliff	24- George Fletcher Phil Perkins
10- Andrew Pointer	27- Joel Schultz
12- Jaxon Clemens Kris Milliron	28- Annette Miles Shirley Meuschke
14- Amanda Thomason William Heuman Cheyenne Lawson	29- Megan Halsey 30- Gary Malan

## Anniversaries

5- David & Janice Kueker  
8- Tim & Gwen Clemens  
18- Chris & Debbie Arnett  
22- Jeff & Kim Dryer  
26- Tyler & Shannon Clemens

### Scholarship Applications

*Now is the time for any high school seniors that are members of our Church, and are interested in applying for our FCC scholarship, to pick up an application in the Church office.*



Our annual **Youth Sunday** worship service will be on April 17, 2016. The children and youth have been working hard in prayer and preparation, and are excited to share their message with the congregation. As always, this will be a special service filled with worshipful music, prayer, and love; we look forward to seeing all of you there!! Following the 10:00am service, the youth will be hosting their BBQ luncheon and cake auction. Pulled pork, beans, salad, dessert and a drink will be served, for free will donations. While enjoying your meal, please bid on a variety of cakes homemade by the children and youth. All proceeds from this event will directly assist the youth in attending summer church camp and ministries. Thank you for your support!!

### Meals on Wheels

Our time to serve Meals-On Wheels is the week of May 2-6. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Church Parlor for those who are willing to volunteer.



### Youth Dates & Info

Brochures, information and registration forms now are available for the 2016 Youth Summer Ministries, including church camps and the C.R.Y. Festival. Completed registration forms are due to Kris Milliron by April 30th. There are many changes taking place throughout the Region, including camp locations. Please contact Kris if you would like an information/registration packet, or if you have any questions regarding dates, locations or specific camps/events.

Fri.-Sun.,	4/1-3	Young Christian's Weekend @ Silver Dollar City
Sunday,	4/3	NO Senior high youth group
Wednesday,	4/6	Elementary youth, 5-6:30 p.m. Jr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Fri.-Sun.,	4/8-9	C.R.Y. Cabinet Meeting, Billings, MO
Sunday,	4/10	Sr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday,	4/13	Elementary youth, 5-6:30 p.m. Jr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Sunday,	4/17	Youth Sunday Early Service, 8:00 a.m. in Chapel Youth Sunday Regular Service, 10:00 a.m. in Sanctuary BBQ Luncheon and Cake Auction Fundraiser for Summer Youth Ministries, 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Sr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday,	4/20	Elementary youth, 5-6:30 p.m. Jr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Sunday,	4/24	Sr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday,	4/27	Elementary youth, 5-6:30 p.m. Jr. high youth, 7-8:30 p.m.

### New Worship Banners

I hope you have noticed the new worship banners that have been up for Lent and Easter. Each one costs about \$50.00. If you are interested in helping to pay for our worship banners, please indicate so in the memo portion of your check.

### FYI

The Church Historian is working on compiling a Church history for FCC. We have a nice start, but would appreciate your donations of any photos, old and new clippings, directories, old photo albums and any other interesting archives pertaining to our history. If donating, please understand that these items will become the property of FCC and cannot be returned.

## It's Not About the Bunny?

The Easter season is always a busy time for me at Church. I will be the first to admit that sometimes I don't absorb the specialness of this time because I am too busy with the preparations that go into the programs and special services. This year, of course, was no different.

My first "kick-off" to the Easter season is the Maundy Thursday service. I started the "Last Supper" re-enactment three years ago, and I must say that every year it gets better and better. A lot of hard work goes into this, and those who volunteer to sit at the table go through rehearsals—learning how to stop on cue, come to life at certain intervals, freeze without moving, learn the songs, learn the mannerism of the disciples and memorize the order of events. And although many of the volunteers have done this since the beginning, I still worry over the final outcome. Yes, I stress! I know how much work goes into a program like this, and I want it to go smoothly when the congregation sees it. This year was no different...I worried for weeks!

Added to this worry was the stress of the Easter Music service. Once again, all involved had done this before. Yet, I worried over the little details—hoping it would all come together in the end. I worried so much that I was completely losing site of what we were actually celebrating!

The night of our Maundy Thursday service I was anxious,

worried, nervous and tired. There was nothing more to do to prepare... it was time to see how it would go. Five minutes before start time there were less than fifteen people in the pews. It felt like I had thrown myself a birthday party and no one was showing up! I wanted this service to touch someone. I wanted it to give us a small glimpse at what it might have been like to be with Jesus at the final meal. I wanted the hard work and effort of so many to be appreciated. But, appreciated by perhaps fifty, not fifteen! I took a deep breath and told myself to be grateful for those who were there. After all, fifteen was better than no service at all.

Three minutes until start time and a few more came in, then a few more, until almost fifty people were there. I stood in the Parlor, seeing if anyone else was coming. The time was one minute until start time. As I looked towards the East set of doors I could see a bunch of children coming up the stairs. Having to squint, since I refuse to wear my contacts, I couldn't recognize any faces...until they reached the doors to the parlor. It was my dance studio students! My daughter Torey had contacted all of the parents from the kids who had dance that evening and told them we were going on a "fieldtrip" to a Maundy Thursday service. The parents loved the idea, and some even showed up to help drive and chaperone the outing. My heart melted, and I cried. It meant the world to me to have such

important people in my life supporting me. I was proud of my daughters for making this happen, proud of my students for wanting to come, and very proud of my dance parents for realizing some things matter more than a dance class.

I watched their faces throughout the service to see if they "got" what it was all about. Yeah...they did. They all came forward for communion, and for some, who had never had communion before, it was a wonderful experience. After the program was over they gathered in the parlor and talked about how moving it was, and how real the characters seemed. With a big sigh of relief I realized that this service had done exactly what it was designed to do...make you think, learn and feel the sadness of what happened that day so many years ago.

To those who helped with the Maundy Thursday service and the Easter Music service, please know that your efforts made for a remarkable week of worship. Thank you for reminding us all, through movement, scripture and song, the real reason of the Easter season. Sorry eggs and bunnies, you'll have to take a back seat!

Learning and Leaning,  
Hope



### Upcoming Sermons

- |          |  |                  |
|----------|--|------------------|
| April 3  | "The Promise of Easter" (Second Sunday of Easter)                      | Revelation 1:4-8 |
| April 10 | "Stay a Little Longer to Hear More" (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter) | John 21:1-19     |
| April 17 | Youth Sunday @ 10:00 & Youth presentations @ 8:00                      |                  |
| April 24 | "Paul's Uncomfortable Conversion" (Fourth Sunday of Easter)            | Acts 9:1-20      |

First Christian Church  
130 North Jefferson Avenue  
Marshall, Missouri 65340

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*Just a thought...*

*DO not allow negative  
thoughts to steal your joy.  
When you lose your joy, you  
lose your strength.*

**Visit the New  
Church Website!**

Stop by our new and improved church website at [www.fccmarshallmo.org](http://www.fccmarshallmo.org) to check out upcoming events and activities, serving schedules, bulletins and newsletters, and information about our groups, ministries, staff, etc.

*We're on the Web!  
[fccmarshallmo.org](http://fccmarshallmo.org)*

**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**

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contact Information:

**[firstccoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:firstccoffice@yahoo.com)**

**Phone: (660) 886-3338**