

From the Pastor's Pencil



First of all...

Laurie and I want to thank you all for calling us to serve in ministry at First Christian Church. We are honored and humbled by your trust in us and by the loving welcome you have given us in our first weeks in our new home in Shelbyville. God has truly blessed us with our new church family.

During the last few weeks, Laurie and I have had opportunities to begin to get to know many of you and to begin forming friendships that will last a lifetime. For those we haven't gotten to know yet, let me offer this brief introduction: Laurie and I met in 1969, when I was a college student serving as youth minister at Our Savior's Church in Lakewood,

Colorado, and we were married in 1972. I taught middle-school English for several years and then made a living trading stocks and commodities and teaching other people how to trade. Laurie worked in banking for many years and then helped me with our trading business.

We were living in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, when I felt God's call to become a minister. I entered Lexington Theological Seminary (in Lexington, Kentucky) in 2005 and received my Master of Divinity degree and ordination to the ministry in 2009. While I was a seminary student, I served as pastor of Mill Creek Christian Church in May's Lick, Kentucky, and Laurie

worked for Hospice of the Bluegrass. My first full-time ministry was at Stokesdale Christian Church in North Carolina, where I served as Senior Minister until Laurie and I received the call to come to Shelbyville.

I hope to serve in ministry here at First Christian Church for the rest of my working life. Laurie and I will work very hard to do everything we can to be faithful servant-leaders of our new church family. We will need God's help and *your* help to make First Christian Church the strongest, most loving community of faith it can possibly be.

My vision for our church as we begin a new year and a new adventure in ministry together is these five words:



December Budget Corner

General Budget needed per month	\$27,395.75
General Budget received in December	\$19,400.50
Building Accounts received in December	\$ 1,530.00

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Forgiveness, trust, healing, hope, and growth. I don't have space to write about each of those words here, but I invite you to think and pray with me about these five words in the days and weeks ahead. How can we work together and with God to increase *forgiveness, trust, healing, hope, and growth at FCC?*

Together, and with God's help, we'll figure it out.

Together, and with God's help, we'll do great things for Christ and His kingdom!

Two more things before I close: first, congratulations and blessings to Kobe Simmons and his proud family on Kobe's December 18th Baptism! Kobe, we hope you will remember and cherish your Baptism all the days of your life. May God continue

to bless you and your family in the new year.

Second, I'll be leading a six-week Bible study on Mark's gospel, beginning on Wednesday evening, January 11th, at 5:30. Everyone is welcome! No prior experience necessary. You will not be put "on the spot" or "in the hot seat." There might be homework (reading), but no quizzes or exams. No pressure. Just a time to learn together and share our thoughts about God's Word. I hope you will join me as we read Mark's gospel...the earliest written account of the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. What could be better than that?

Glad to be your pastor,

Rev. Tom Bierovic

Contact Information for Rev. Tom

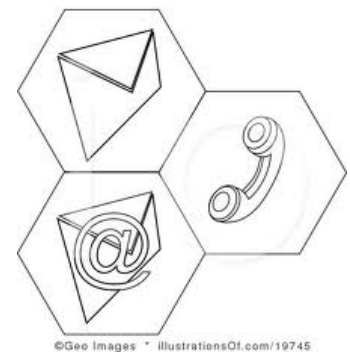
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Wednesday on Madison for 2012 January 11 through February 15, 2012

Our winter Wednesday on Madison (WOM) sessions will resume on Wednesday, January 11 with offerings for all ages. We will continue to provide a fellowship meal for \$6.00 at 5:30 pm catered by Anita Fields. Small groups will follow the meal from 6:00 to 7:10 pm. Please call the office if you need a ride.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH OFFERINGS

CHILDREN: Ring and Sing

Shana Pitts and Heather Conditt

A new serving opportunity for the children is being offered. They will learn how to play hand chimes and new songs to offer to God in worship. Room 11

This offering is for children and youth not participating in the other offerings. A time of sharing, Bible Study, prayer and...

Six men from our church family will share how their faith is reflected in their lives whether at work or home. In addition, they will share their favorite Bible story or verse with the group. Room 6

January 11 "Banking, Checking & Saving"
Marvin McBee

January 18 "Stretching Your Mind"
Bubba Dee McCullough

January 25 TBA

February 1 TBA

February 8 "Serving"
Roy Bartlette

Living Our Faith Everyday

Wednesday on Madison (cont.)

LITURGICAL DANCE: Lord's Prayer

Amy Philpott, facilitator

"Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp." Psalm 149:3 NIV



LITURGICAL DANCE

Liturgical dance sometimes called praise or worship dance is just one form of worship expression. Amy will teach a liturgical dance for the Lord's Prayer to be shared in a worship service. Offering for 6th-12th graders. Room 7

Nursery will be provided for our younger children under Barbara Thompson's leadership.

ADULT OFFERINGS:

CO-ED: Gospel of Mark

Rev. Tom Bierovic

Bring your Bible and join in this offering as Tom leads us in a study of the Gospel of Mark.



COME JOIN OUR BIBLE Study

Women's Study: Parables

Each week a different facilitator will lead our time of prayer, sharing, Bible study and discussion of the parable. Location TBA

- Jan. 11th Introduction & Parable of Yeast
Mary Jane Heuer
- Jan. 18th The Persistent Widow
Kristie Caldwell
- Jan. 25th Woman and the Lost Coin
Mattie Ray Wiser
- Feb. 1st Good Samaritan
Janelle Douglas
- Feb. 8th Parable of the Ten Virgins
Lynne Farrar
- Feb. 15th Parable of the Great Feast
Mitzi Crick

SNOW POLICY: If schools are closed, WOM are cancelled.



Children's Ministry and Youth

Worship and Wonder Schedule

Worship and Wonder will be offered on 2nd and 4th Sundays in January for children ages 3 years old through fifth grade.

January 8th : Baby Jesus is Presented to God Luke 2:22-38

January 22nd: The Boy Jesus in the Temple Luke 2:41-52

Who's Cooking?

Feast Time

When: Friday, Jan. 6th

Time: 5:30-8:30 pm

Where: Fellowship Hall



All children in 1st through 5th grades (and their friends) are encouraged to participate in cooking, eating and fellowshiping. In addition to our special feast, we will be making soup for others!

RSVP by Wednesday, January 4th—call or email Mary Jane: 615-542-4094
maryjanefcc@bellsouth.net
You may also sign up at the communication table.



Pre-K & Kindergarten Happening: Soup's On

In addition to our story, games and activities dealing with *Does God Have a Favorite Color? Could it be brown?* We will be making soup to give to others.

Please have your child bring items for vegetable soup. They can be either fresh, frozen or canned. The children will make the soup at the church and will

take some home to be given away to someone who is sick, needs an act of kindness or needs to be cheered up. Friends are welcome to join us.

RSVP by Wednesday, January 4th.

4th and 5th Graders: Prayer Pillows

Friday, Jan. 20th

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Come join in our time of sharing, studying, praying and playing together!

Each child is asked to bring several clean pillowcases to make a prayer pillow for themselves and one for someone else.

Invite a friend and RSVP by Wednesday, January 18th.

In the Life of the Church

Disciples Women (CWF)

First Christian Disciples Women will resume their regular monthly meetings beginning on **January 10, 2012**. Helping Hands will begin at 9:30 am, followed by Fellowship time at 11:00 am. Lunch will be served at 11:30.

All you ladies: help the Disciples Women get off to a great start for the New Year! Contact Ruth Cartwright for more information.



Circles Meet

Circle IV will meet January 3.
 Circle I January 17, 2:00 pm at the church
 Circle III January 17, 6:00 pm at the church

Quilting Group Invitation

The women of the Quilting group have completed two projects and will be working on various other projects in the coming months.

Some will work on the "Little Dresses for Africa" service project. Making these dresses is a great way to learn how to sew if you are not experienced with a sewing machine and what a gift to girls who need! Others may start on Log Cabin or Crazy Quilt projects. All ages are invited to come and join us on Thursday, January 19th from 6:00-8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for either the mission project or learning how to do the quilting projects.



Men's Group (CMF)

The men will have their monthly fellowship breakfast on **January 8 at 7:30 am**. All men of the church are welcome to join us for some great eats and fellowship!

Elders Meet

Elders will meet on Sunday, January 22 at 8:00 am

Sunday Night Women's Bible Study

Tamra Smith will continue to teach the Sunday night Bible Study beginning January 1 at 5:00 pm at the church. The group will continue with their current study, "One Simple Act: Discovering the Power of Generosity". Thank you, Tamra, for your time and willingness to share God's word with the women of the Church.

Christian Education Meeting

January 4, 6:00 pm in Mary Jane's office. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule

Jan. 1	Jane Bartlette
Jan. 8	Amy Mitchell
Jan. 15	Hilda Smith
Jan. 22	Kayleigh Caldwell
Jan. 29	Lucy Mitchell

Thank You from the Church Staff

The members of the First Christian Church staff are so thankful to have such a caring and giving church family. Thank you so much for your gifts of kindness given to us this Christmas season and other times throughout the past year. We have been blessed to be involved in ministry with you. Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you!

Yours in Ministry,

The First Christian Staff

Prayer Concerns of the Church



In Nursing Homes or Assisted Living

Celebration Way
 Cecil Cleek
 Alpha Philpott
Christian Care Center
 Mildred Bobo
Carriage House Inn
 Melba Henry
 Milbrey Eakin
Donaldson Place Nursing Home
 Opal Summerall

In Hospital

Baptist Hospital
 Joyce Boggs
Centennial Hospital
 Mike Jorgenson

At Home

Billy Gunter
 Normanda Huffman
 Miles McCullough
 Pete Phillips
 Dale Reese
 Don Smith
 Earlene Stallings
 Ted York



January 2012



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Church Office Closed 7:00 pm CBS	Circle IV meets	6:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting	9:00 am Staff Meeting	5:30 pm Who's Cooking	10:00 am PreK-K Happening
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7:30 am Men's Breakfast Worship & Wonder	7:00 pm CBS	9:30 am Helping Hands 11:00 DMW	5:30 pm Wednesday on Madison	9:00 am Staff Meeting		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	7:00 pm CBS	2:00 pm Circle I 6:00 pm Circle III	5:30 pm Wednesday on Madison	9:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Quilting	6:00 pm 4/5th	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:00 am Elders Meet Worship & Wonder	7:00 pm CBS		5:30 pm Wednesday on Madison	9:00 am Staff Meeting		
29	30	31				
	7:00 pm CBS					



January Birthdays, Elders, and Deacons

January Birthdays

3 Harriet Melson
Larry Morton
Sydnee Edwards
12 Bob Bellar
14 Rebecca Jorgenson
17 JoAnn Smith
20 Morris Haynes

21 Janis Cannon
25 Ann Marie Morton
28 Bobby Newell
29 Shana Pitts

January Elders

Henry Hulan
Johnny Reed

January Deacons

Bob Bellar
Sally Bellar
Bob Burke
Leighton Reed