



## From the Pastor's Pencil

I hope you all had a blessed and joyous Easter Sunday! Now that this year's Easter celebration has passed, what's next for us in our spiritual journey together through the Christian year?

On May 24 we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. The church season of Pentecost extends for 26 weeks—all the way until the beginning of Advent on November 29 (I know it's too early to begin thinking about Christmas—T-Ball hasn't even started yet!).

Did you know that Pentecost was originally one of ancient Israel's agricultural festivals? Pentecost has its roots in the Jewish observance of the "feast of harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the fields" (Exodus 23:16). In the Old Testament, Pentecost was a time for showing gratitude to God for "the first fruits"—the early harvest.

For the first Christians, Pentecost became a celebration of God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. Fifty days (seven weeks) after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Apostles and other believers gathered in Jerusalem to observe the holiday of Pentecost.

As often happens when Christians come together to thank God for all His blessings, these first-century Christians received even more than they expected! There was a sudden sound like the rush of a mighty wind, and tongues of fire descended from heaven and rested upon each one of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak to the crowd in many different languages. About 3,000 people became members of the Christian Church on that first Pentecost Sunday (Acts 2:1-42). Christian Church on that first Pentecost Sunday (Acts 2:1-42).

The church color for Pentecost Sunday is red. The color red symbolizes the love and power of the Holy Spirit and also the tongues of fire that appeared over the heads of the Apostles on the first Pentecost—the Birthday of the Church.

I invite you to wear something red to church on Pentecost, May 24. Maybe a hat or scarf, a shirt or tie. "Seeing red" in church on Pentecost will remind us that this is a special and powerful day—the day we celebrate the birthday of the Church!

May the Holy Spirit fill our Sanctuary and touch all of our hearts on that powerful day!

Many blessings,

*Rev. Tom*

931-224-3658 (cell)



### April Budget Corner

General Budget needed per month	\$22,522.67
General Budget received in April	\$20,574.00
Building Accounts received in April	\$ 3,065.00

## Happy Mother's Day

On May 10, we'll celebrate Mother's Day. But, of course, you already knew that!

We might not remember the birthdays of all our family and friends; we might forget anniversaries; we might fail to do something special for our sweetheart on Valentine's Day—but almost everyone remembers to honor their mother on Mother's Day.

On Mother's Day, we send a card and make a phone call, if that's the best we can do because of distance or circumstances. If possible, we visit our mother, take her out to her favorite restaurant for dinner, or send her a bouquet of flowers.

Of course, even if our mother has passed away, we remember her on Mother's Day. It's one of those days when we reminisce with family and friends about our mothers—how good they were to us, all the things they did for us when we were growing up, and all the lessons they taught us.

I hope to see you all in worship here at First Christian Church this Mother's Day! Make it a happy and blessed day for you and your family!

Many blessings,

Rev. Tom

### NURSERY VOLUNTEERS



Nursery is provided during the Worship service for our infants through four year olds. Barbara Thompson is our wonderful and dedicated Nursery staff person!

May 3	Theresa Williams
May 10	Mary Jane Heuer
May 17	Janie Burke
May 24	Kay Young
May 31	

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TIME

Children ages 3 year old through fifth grade join Donnye and Bonnye Fields and Mary Jane following Children's Moment each Sunday for their special time of worship.

May 3	Worship and Wonder: Ascension
May 10	Children's Worship Time
May 17	Children's Worship Time
May 24	Worship and Wonder: Pentecost:- God's Gift of the Holy Spirit
May 31	Children's Worship Time

### THANK YOU!

The Easter Egg Hunt was a time of fellowship with each other and watching the children find the eggs! A very grateful heart to the Eakin's ladies, to those who assisted with refreshments, Elaine, Blaire, Ashton and Cathy who stepped in at the last minute to hide eggs. Please accept my heartfelt appreciation to all who were involved in this ministry. Sincerely, Mary Jane

Graduates connected to our church family include the following. If you know of others please contact the church office so we may include them and their addresses in the June Caller. Congratulation to each of you and God's guidance as you take the next step in your life journey.

Arin Harwell, daughter of Tim & Kathy  
519 Meadowlark

Jennifer Lowe, 110 Hampton Rd. LaVergne, TN 37086,  
will be graduating from Belmont University Law School this month. Hat's off to each of our graduates and families.

Mark Gilmore-grandson of Ted and Leita York, Sandy  
Gilmore, mother  
203 Warren Circle, Shelbyville 37160

## MISSION EXPERIENCE

Mark your calendar for July 23-26 Youth and Adult Tuscaloosa, Alabama Mission Experience. More details will be in the May Caller. Serving in the Soup Kitchen will be one of the opportunities for serving God!



## NEW SOUND SYSTEM



Our new sound system is scheduled for installation the week of May 11th. In order to replace two of the wall speakers in the Sanctuary, two pews will have to be detached and temporarily moved to make room for equipment. Since Sunday the 10th is Mother's Day (with family celebrations taking precedence), the plan is to remove the pews on Saturday, May 9th and return them on the following Saturday, May 16th after the work is finished. If any one is willing to help with this project, please contact Anne McMahon at 684-1467. Thank you.

## BETHANY HILLS CAMP SCHEDULE

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Tennessee invites you to join with other Christian youth at Bethany Hills for an opportunity to share in Christian Fellowship and love. We seek to provide a safe environment where love, faith, and trust can grow.



**CYF Camp and Conference** for those who have completed 9, 10, 11 or 12th grades  
Sunday, May 31—June 6. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

**Chi Ro Camp** for those who have completed 6 or 7th grades  
Sunday, June 7—June 12. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

**Eighters Camp** for those who have completed the 8th grade  
June 28—July 4. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

**Junior Camp** for those who have completed 4th or 5th grade  
July 12—July 16. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

**Discovery Camp** for those who have completed 2nd or 3rd grade  
July 19—July 22. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

**Firsters** for those who have completed kindergarten or 1st grade  
July 23—July 25. Start time 3:00-5:00 pm. Pick up at 11:00 am

All parents or grandparents are welcome to attend. Pre-registration is required.

Please contact Mary Jane or visit the Bethany Hills Campground Websites for deadline information.

## Disciples Women (CWF)

The Women's Group will meet May 12.

Beginning at 9:30 am with Helping Hands

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am Light lunch - provided

12:00 pm Guest speaker - Laura Wiggin, Author of  
The Bus Ride

## Elders Meet

The Elders will meet Sunday, May 17, at 8:00 am.

## Board Meets

The Board will meet Sunday, May 17, at 5:30 pm.

## Circles Meet

Circle I - Tuesday, April 21, at 2:00 pm in the Parlor

Circle III - Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 pm  
in the Gathering Area.

## Prayer Concerns of the Church



### In Nursing Homes, Hospitals or Assisted Living

#### *Carriage House Inn*

Rose Marie Clark  
Melba Henry  
Mary Lynn Prince

#### *Christian Care Center*

Mildred Bobo

#### *Glenn Oaks*

Albert Smithson

### At Home

Charlie Coffey  
Mai Coffey  
Sandy Craig  
Terry Craig  
Brenda Hancock  
Buddy Haynes  
Virginia Ann Haynes  
Miles McCullough  
Curtis Morton  
Annette Palmer  
Cornelia Riddle  
Ted York

Dear Friends,

I have decided to step down from my position as Senior Minister effective May 31, 2015. Laurie and I have enjoyed our time here. We thank you for your kindness and support.

As I've said before, I think First Christian Church is about half of what it should be in membership, attendance, and giving, but I think your glass is half full, not half empty.

You're blessed to be doing better than most other churches in America and throughout the world. Your doors are still open, and the lights are still on. God is still worshipped at First Christian Church. Christ is still honored here as the Lord and the Savior of the world.

I wish that the church was flourishing beyond your wildest dreams, and I hope and pray that with God's help you can still make that happen.

I know you want your glass to be filled to overflowing. Right now it's only half full. But half full is better than half empty.

Please be grateful for what you do have as a congregation. Many churches are not nearly as blessed as you are at First Christian Church.

Enjoy your church family. Be positive. Look for the good things and celebrate them. Thank people for their hard work, their faithfulness, their friendship, their wisdom, and their love.

Please keep doing the best you can for each other, for Christ, and for his kingdom!

Your friend in Christ,

Rev. Tom Bierovic

## FAREWELL LUNCHEON

There will be a potluck luncheon Sunday, May 31, following worship as we bid Tom & Laurie a fond farewell as they move onto their retirement. Please join us to show our appreciation to Tom & Laurie for everything they have done for First Christian Church.

# May 2015



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 1:30 pm Church Women United	2
3	4	5	6 6 pm Bible Study with Dennis Young Coed Class w/MJ Worship in Motion 7:15 pm Choir	7 Noon National Day of Prayer at the Court House	8	9
10 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>	11 Sound System being installed this week	12 9 am Helping Hands 11 am CWF	13 6 pm Bible Study with Dennis Young Coed Class w/MJ Worship in Motion 7:15 pm Choir	14	15	16
17 8 am Elders Meet 5:30 pm Board Meets	18	19 2 pm Circle I 6 pm Circle III	20 6 pm Bible Study with Dennis Young Coed Class w/MJ Worship in Motion 7:15 pm Choir	21	22	23
24 11:15 am Deacons Meeting	24	26 5:30 pm TBall Parents Meeting	27 6 pm Bible Study with Dennis Young Coed Class w/MJ Worship in Motion 7:15 pm Choir	28	29	30
31 11:15 am Farwell Potluck Luncheon						



## May Birthdays

3 Frank Philpott	11 Bonnye Fields	25 Ted York
4 Jimmy Clark	Donnye Fields	29 Iris Schumann
5 Wallace Hancock	Sarah Riddle Caperton	30 Amy Philpott
7 Rhonda Reed	16 Andi Harwell	31 Chris Boggs
8 Chris Simmons	21 Carol Crouse	
9 Tom Hulan	22 Ruby Taylor	
10 Alix Harwell	24 Tera Davis	
	Cory Smith	

## May Elders

Tim Harwell  
Bobby Newell

## April Deacons

Jennifer Carden  
Amy Mitchell  
Jeff Mitchell  
Shirley Smith