

A Note From Your Pastor

As I begin my ministry with you, I want to express my gratitude to each of you for the opportunity to serve as your pastor during this time of transition. Interim ministry can be a strange concept to many. Since the advent of being clergy as a profession, all ministries are interim in nature. Very rarely do congregations form under the leadership of one pastor and that pastor stays for their whole ministry. Clergy move from congregation to congregation – but the ministry of the congregation continues. So, being in an intentionally interim ministry, what does that ministry look like? Why is what we do now important for the future of the congregation?

There are three biblical images of interim ministry that provide structure to our life together. First, the people of Israel left slavery in Egypt on their journey to the Promised Land. What they thought was supposed to be a short journey became 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. Many important things happened to the people of Israel during those 40 years. That journey from one reality (slavery) to a new life (in the Promised Land) informed and shaped the people and their community.

Second, in preparation for Jesus' public ministry, he spent 40 days in the wilderness in prayer and fasting. In this time, Jesus gained clarity about who he was as the Son of God and what his ministry on earth would look like. Jesus resisted temptation and prepared himself for the journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb. The third biblical image for interim ministry is fixed in the person of John the Baptizer (aka Baptist – he wasn't a Baptist, he was a baptizer). John preached the message of Jesus' coming that he would be the savior of God's people.

Each of these images is important to keep in mind as we begin our life together. There are things we need to learn on our journey toward your next settled minister. There are trials and temptations that we will endure as the congregation gains clarity around what your ministry will look like in the future. I am here as your temporary shepherd to nurture you and guide you into your next phase of ministry.

(continued on page 2)



September Budget Corner

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| General Budget needed per month | \$22,522.67 |
| General Budget received in August | \$15,606.00 |
| Building Accounts received in August | \$ 1,230.00 |

What that ministry looks like is up to you – you have the opportunity to shape a reality in this community that will embody Christ’s resurrection. One of the things we understand about the Gospel of Mark’s account of Easter is that the ending of the Easter Story has yet to be written. As 21st Century Christians, we understand that we are an Easter people and we can’t hesitate to proclaim, “Christ is risen!” From that first Easter moment to now, the old rules have been abolished as life trumps death, hope overcomes despair. This is the Easter world in which we live, no matter the time of year.

I look forward to helping you write the next chapter in the ministry of First Christian Church. I am honored to be with you in this time.

I’ll see you Sunday.

Kyle



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, who is in her 39th year at First Christian Church!

| | |
|------------|-----------------|
| October 4 | Ellen Taylor |
| October 11 | Evelyn Taylor |
| October 18 | Cathy Haithcote |
| October 25 | Buie Williams |

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP TIME

Worship and Wonder: Children ages 3 years old through fifth grade are welcome to join Donnye and Bonnye Fields following the praise hymn the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month for their own special time of worship in the Worship and Wonder room and sometimes Class Room 2 & 3

| | |
|---------|--------------------|
| Oct. 4 | Worship and Wonder |
| Oct. 18 | Worship and Wonder |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will continue to have Sunday school for adults, children & youth from ages 4 through 12th grade.

Men’s Group

The Men’s Group will meet October 11, at 7:30 am for breakfast. Guest speaker will be Jason Sanders.

Disciples Women (CWF)

The Women's Group will meet on October 13.

Beginning at 9:30 am with Helping Hands

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am Light lunch - provided by Christian Care

12:00 pm Program-representatives from Christian Care

Elders Meet

The Elders will meet Sunday, October 18, at 8:00 am

Circles Meet

Circle I - Tuesday, October 20, at 2:00 pm in the Parlor. Naomi Thompson is facilitating. They will be studying “The Bait of Satan” by John Bevere. All ladies are welcome.

Circle III - Tuesday, October 20, at 6:00 pm in the Gathering Area. Janelle Douglas is facilitating. They will be doing a Bible Study led by Wilma Beam. All ladies are welcome.

We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, love & support for our family during Charlie’s long illness. Your kindness is appreciated more than you know! Charlie loved First Christian Church, as you know, and always considered this his “home” church. We know he would be pleased with all the Memorial contributions given in his memory.



With love & gratitude,
The Coffey Family



A BIG THANK YOU TO THE McDONALDS!!!

On Sunday, September 20, Charlie and Karen Sue McDonald hosted a BBQ for the congregation at their beautiful farm. Over 100 members and friends enjoyed BBQ, sides, desserts and soft drinks. There were hayrides, buggy rides, and lots of games for all ages. We also had the privilege of meeting our new Interim Pastor, Kyle Harris, his lovely wife Elisa and their two children, Austin and Julia.

The weather was perfect, the food was awesome, the love & fellowship we shared was wonderful...what a blessed day we all had! We would also like to thank the Membership Committee for all their hard work in planning and organizing this special day for us!

Prayer Concerns of the Church



In Nursing Homes, Hospitals or Assisted Living

Carriage House Inn

Rose Marie Clark
Melba Henry
Mary Lynn Prince

Glenn Oaks

Albert Smithson

Brookdale Senior Living

Cornelia Riddle

At Home

Janie Burke
Jennifer Carden
Mai Coffey
Sandy Craig
Terry Craig
Brenda Hancock
Buddy Haynes
Virginia Ann Haynes
Miles McCullough
Curtis Morton
Annette Palmer
Leighton Reed

John & Betty Deason
DJ Deason
George & Kay Dennis
Keith & Suzanne Drummond
Terrence English
Billy Fox
Jimmy & Debbie Glover
Steve Gollhofer
David & Susan Guernsey, Jr.
Rhoda Gunter
Carolyn Harris
David Hogue
James & Virginia Holland
Helen & Betty Horton
Henry & Lynn Hulan
Joe & Jenny Hunt
Bill Johnson
Charlene Judd
David & Brenda Knight
Lattimore Black Morgan & Cain
Lee Adcock Construction
Marvin & Cheryl McBee
Charles & Karen Sue McDonald
Anne McMahan
Annette Palmer
Virginia Parrish
Clay, Susan & Carter Pelst
Carlena & Mark PottsPilot Travel Centers
Samuel Sells, Jr. M.D.
Buddy & Ellen Taylor
Doug & Patricia Underwood
Bette Vannatta
Naomi Thompson
Stephen & Luanne Wade
Jerry Ward



Memorials

In Memory of Charlie Coffey

Lee & Kay Adcock
Susan Baker
Janie Bartlette
Joyce Bell
Joyce Boggs
James & Pat Bone
Rose Marie Clark
Evelyn Coffey
Mrs. Charles Crenshaw III
Ray & Carol Crouse
Billie Crowell
David & Liz Deason



October 2015

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|---|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | 1 9:30 am CBS | 2 Women's Retreat 3 pm | 3 |
| 4 Women's Retreat | 5 | 6 | 7 6 pm Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm Choir | 8 9:30 am CBS | 9 | 10 |
| 11 7:30 am Men's Breakfast | 12 | 13 | 14 6 pm Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm Choir | 15 9:30 am CBS | 16 | 17 |
| 18 8 am Elders Meet Kyle out | 19 | 20 | 21 6 pm Prayer Meeting | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 6 pm Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm Choir | 29 9:30 am CBS | 30 | 31 Halloween |



October Birthdays

- 2 Lynn Riddle
- 3 Mark Potts
- 4 Randy Simmons
- 5 Allison Haithcote
- 6 Annette Palmer
- 12 Benji Philpott
- 13 Kathy Reed
- 16 Leland Arnold
Janie Bartlette
- 22 Tripp Reed
David Riddle
- 24 Doris McNamee
- 25 Virginia Ann Haynes
Jack Conditt
- 26 Johnny Reed
- 27 Libby Davidson
- 29 Owen Womble

October Elders

- Johnny Reed
- Wayne Schumann

October Deacons

- Eric Richardson
- Iris Schumann
- Hilda Smith
- Becky Thompson