



# THE CALLER

## A Note From Our Pastor

Easter Sunday is always a joyous occasion. The celebration of the resurrection, the larger than normal crowds in worship, and the extra activities create exuberance, excitement, and hope. Sunday was no exception. I want to offer a huge thank you to Brandon Byrd, the choir, and extra musicians for sharing your gifts to enhance our worship celebration. Y'all are fantastic!

I want to offer a special thank you to Bonnye, Donnye, and Anita Fields for the Easter Egg Hunt and special snacks for the children and families. Four rooms full of hidden eggs produced many smiles on the faces of the children as they moved from room to room finding the hidden treasures filled with sweet treats. Thank you to all of those who brought candy and worked "behind the scenes" to make our children's celebration wonderful.

The tradition of the flowering cross is magnificent. I have seen other congregations do this, but the wonderful mix of colors and types of flowers in this year's cross was amazing. The beauty in our sanctuary during the service and now on display on the front steps of the church produces a warm and delightful witness to the magnificence of our faith in God's action in our world. Thank you to everyone who brought flowers, the team who arranged them on the cross, and created the display in worship and outside. Also, thank you to Lynn Hulan, Worship Committee Chair, and the whole team who created the displays of lilies on Easter and palms on Palm Sunday.

Now, a look forward. During the month of April we will have an emphasis on stewardship as we look toward the new church year beginning in July. While our budget runs on the calendar year, we did not make major adjustments to the 2016 budget from 2015. The Stewardship Committee and Board will be taking a closer look at our giving and our spending as we change persons in leadership positions, making sure we have the resources allocated properly to the priorities of the congregation.

I want to relieve any fears folks may have -- the church is NOT in financial trouble. In fact, First Christian Church is on solid financial footing as we move toward the next chapter of ministry on Madison.



### March Budget Corner

General Budget needed per month	\$22,522.67
General Budget received in February	\$15,952.00
Building Accounts received in February	\$ 140.00

As we prepare for this next chapter, it is necessary to remind ourselves to give, why we give, and what is most important in our ministry together. Sermons through the month of April will not only touch on how we are filled with new life, but how we might invest our ministry resources for greater impact on our community and the world.

Finally, on April 17 immediately following worship, the Elders, the Board, and the Search Committee will hold a joint meeting to talk about what some of those priorities are for the congregation moving forward. This is an important gathering of many of the leaders of the congregation to discuss the hopes and dreams to guide the Search Committee as they talk about the character of the one who might lead this congregation in that next chapter of ministry. The Board will hear the priorities the leaders express on how to allocate the resources and programs to guide the congregation, while the Elders will understand the spirit supporting these hopes and dreams that need to be nurtured. If you are a member of one of these groups, make plans to attend. If you are not a member of one of these leadership teams, hold them in your prayers to guide them in this time of conversation and discernment.

I'll see you Sunday.

Kyle

## GRADUATION RECEPTION

On May 1, the Membership Committee will be hosting a reception for our graduates following Worship in Fellowship Hall. There are laundry baskets set up in the Gathering Area for gifts for our graduates. This year our graduates are:



Buie Williams  
Chase Smith  
Kayleigh Caldwell  
Tripp Reed



## GOOD SAMARITAN Food Needs for April

Thank you again to everyone for your generosity in March. This month Good Sam is need of a variety of different foods. So please bring foods of your choice. Your support is very much appreciated!

## HEE HAW HOWDY

Relay for Life will be sponsoring its annual "Hee Haw Howdy" performances on April 29 and 30 at 7:00 pm at Central High School. Tickets are \$10 each in advance and \$12 at the door. Proceeds go to the American Cancer Association.

Please plan to go and support our own Johnny Reed and Cort Huffman. You will be in for an enjoyable evening for a worthy cause!



## 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!

April 3	Hilda Smith
April 10	Ellen Taylor
April 17	Kay Simmons
April 24	Mattie Ray Wisser

## 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 2nd & 4th Sunday of this month for their own special time of worship in the Worship and Wonder room and sometimes in Class Rooms 2 & 3.

April 10	Worship and Wonder
April 24	Worship and Wonder

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

## ELDERS MEET

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

## SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

There will be a joint meeting of the Search Committee, the Elders and the Board Sunday, April 17, following Worship in the Cross & Chalice room. Please see Rev. Kyle's message on page 2 for more information regarding the purpose of the meeting.

## MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet Sunday, April 10, at 7:30 am for Breakfast. Speaker to be announced.

## DISCIPLES WOMEN (CWF)

The Women's Group will meet on Tuesday, April 12, beginning at 9:30 am with Helping Hands, a light lunch (provided) at 11:30 am and a program at noon.

Our guest speaker will be Mac Howell.

## CIRCLES MEET

Circle I - Tuesday, April 19, at 2:00 pm in the Parlor.

Circle III - Tuesday, April 19 at 6:00 pm in the Parlor.



## 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

Lisa Adams  
Sandy Craig  
Terry Craig  
Missy Eakin  
Brenda Hancock  
Buddy Haynes  
Virginia Ann Haynes  
Miles McCullough  
Curtis Morton  
Annette Palmer  
Leighton Reed  
JoAnn Smith  
Ted York



# April 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 7 pm Choir	7 9 am CBS	8	9 8-noon T-Ball Registration
10 7:30 am Men's Breakfast	11	12 9:30 am Helping Hands 11:30 am CWF	13 7 pm Choir	14 9 am CBS	15	16 8-noon T-Ball Registration
17 8 am Elders Meet 11:15 am Search Committee, Board, Elders Meet	18	19 2 pm Circle I 6 pm Circle III	20 7 pm Choir	21 9 am CBS	22	23
24	25	26	27 7 pm Choir	28 9 am CBS	29 7 pm Hee Haw Howdy @ Cen- tral High School	30



### April Birthdays

- 4 Preston Hall  
Buddy Haynes
- 6 Curtis Morton  
Larry Price
- 9 Kristie Caldwell
- 10 Cornelia Riddle
- 11 Mary Lynn Prince
- 13 Sally Bellar  
Beth Parameswaran
- 14 Lucy Mitchell
- 18 Ray Crouse  
Phil Womble
- 19 Virginia Parrish
- 22 Sandy Gilmore
- 23 Eric Richardson
- 26 Lisa Adams

### April Elders

- Wilma Beam
- Wayne Schumann

### April Deacons

- Jennifer Carden
- Eric Richardson