



Kyle's Korner

I have shared with you before that I was a fan of the TV show “The West Wing” because of its great writing (read storytelling) and acting (read character development). It was just a quality show that offered a variety of fictional perspectives on how the people in the highest levels of our government live. In one of my favorite episodes, the President and the White House staff found themselves losing every battle -- personally and politically. At one point, the Chief of Staff tells this story (which I’ve told you before):

A man was walking down the street and fell into a hole and couldn’t get out. A doctor walked by. The man called out for help. So the doctor wrote a prescription, tossed it to the man and walked away. A clergyman walked by. He stopped, wrote a prayer for the man, tossed it into the hole and walked away. Finally, a friend of the man walked by. Again, the man called for help. The friend jumped in. The man said, “Joe, what are you doing? Now we are both stuck in this hole.” The friend replied, “I’ve been in this hole before and I know the way out.”

Friendship is powerful. Relationships are critical to our survival as they feed our intangible needs. We may be able to learn things from books or video or the Internet, but nothing can take the place of the experience we get when we are with someone else. Mentors are friends who have been there before and will help show you the way to what comes next. Sometime we are the mentor. Sometimes we are the mentee. Either way, the relationship heightens the meaning of the lessons learned.

“So, Kyle, why are you repeating yourself by telling us this story again?” you might be asking. Well, there’s method in my madness. For the last few weeks, in my sermons from the Gospel of Matthew I have been asking you to look at each of the stories about Jesus in a different light than what the traditional interpretation has offered -- to ask yourself who you say Jesus is based on how you make decisions in your life, to imagine a different world based on Jesus’ offerings of grace, mercy, and peace instead of the world’s violence and power. I have even asked you to look differently at how following hard rules works against relationships and what that might mean for living in community.

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January—August Budget Corner

General Budget received through August \$111,951.79

General Budget expenses through August \$118,203.91

And so it is, the church -- the collection of people -- are our mentors in the Christian faith. The members of the church nurture our spiritual growth and our sense of community. Sometimes we are the teacher; sometimes we are the student. Always we are in relationship with one another and with God.

I think it's helpful on our spiritual journey to be mindful of how we are being mentored in our faith and what we are doing to mentor others. We tend to be pretty good at recognizing how others impact us. However, we're not so good at affirming to ourselves that we matter to others -- that we add value to others' lives.

As the "West Wing" episode continued, the staff began functioning as a team, learning from each other and caring about how things went. They started winning some of those battles. Their personal relationships improved and their political momentum increased. It was a happier ending than what it might have been without each other's help.

I'll see you Sunday.
Kyle



First Christian Church will volunteer to serve the Community Soup Kitchen meal at the First Methodist Church on the Square. We are responsible for all facets of the meal — preparing, hosting, plating, serving, and cleaning up. Serving starts at 5:00 pm. Cooking starts at 3:00 pm. Everyone is invited to serve.

Thank you to all who served in August. Both nights (August 1 and 22) were wonderful occasions for fellowship and service.

GOOD SAMARITAN Food Needs

Thank you again to everyone for your generosity in supporting Good Samaritan. No matter what time of year it is, Good Sam is always in need of food. We will continue to ask for any of the following: canned meats, soup, canned vegetables and fruit, cereal, crackers and peanut butter. You may also bring other kinds of food that is not mentioned above. If you would rather not shop, please feel free to leave a donation in the box on the Good Sam shelf in the Gathering Area. Your continued support is very much appreciated!



COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

Community Bible Study, the independent and non-denominational Bible study program meets again at First Christian. CBS meets on Thursdays, following the Bedford County Schools schedule, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and will study Romans this fall.

For more information or to sign up, contact Joyce Adams at 931-580-3135 or djca2012@yahoo.com.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TIME

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

September 3 Worship and Wonder
September 17 Worship and Wonder

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will continue to have Sunday School for adults. The Adult SS Class, led by Ruth Cartwright, meets in the Parlor. The Caring & Sharing Class, led by Wayne Schumann, meets in room 11. The Cross & Chalice Class, led by Frank Douglas meets in room 15. Classes begins at 9:00 am.

ELDERS MEETS

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

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will host a breakfast on Sunday, September 10 at 8:00 a.m.

CWF will meet September 12.. Beginning at 9:30 am Helping Hands. 11:00 am is Fellowship. 11:30 Lunch provided and then at 12:00 Missy Parsons from Homes of Hope of Bedford Co., Inc. will present the program. Each lady in the church is invited to join.

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet, Tuesday, September 19 pm in the Parlor

CIRCLE III

Circle III will not meet this month.

BOARD MEETS

The Church board meets at 11:15 on September 17.

In Nursing Homes, Hospitals or Assisted Living

Carriage House Inn

Rose Marie Clark
Mary Lynn Prince
Carolyn Ray

The Heart Remembers

Mattie Ray Wisner

Brookdale Senior Living

Cornelia Riddle

Celebration Way

Wallace Hancock
Harriet Melson

At Home

Lisa Adams
Virginia Ann Haynes
Annette Palmer



SAVE THE DATE

The Annual All-Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, October 8 at 4:30 pm at the Charles and Karen Sue McDonald's farm. More details to come!

Thank-you

We would like to thank each one of you for everything. For the love, hugs, prayers, concern, food, love offering and more prayers. You all will never know how very very much we appreciate all your love and concern that you have shown and still are. Church family and friends are a Blessing from God and we have been truly Blessed.

Anita, Donnye, and Bonnye

Congratulations to all who completed the Bible reading in just one year!!! Great job!!!!

OUTREACH CHAIR

I want to thank the Outreach committee and all who helped with our recent “Hot Dog/Ice Cream Supper”. Your help was very much valued and appreciated. Thanks to all who donated food and the whole congregation who made this event very special. We felt the Spirit of the Lord in our midst. Thanks to Billie Crowell for sharing her musical talent with us. Blessings, Ruth Cartwright

REQUEST FROM HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

A request from this organization for community support to help stock the pantries of two families who will be moving into their homes this fall. These families have worked 350 hours, saved \$750, completed their education classes and will receive their 0% mortgages. The following items are needed: **BAKING:** Sugar, flour, cornmeal, baking soda, salt, pepper, brown sugar, spices, oil, etc. **CANNED GOODS:** Tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, broth, vegetables, fruit, beans, etc. **DRY GOODS:** Mac and cheese, oatmeal, rice, instant potatoes, spaghetti sauce, etc. **CLEANING SUPPLIES:** Broom, mop, dishwashing soap, laundry detergent, window cleaner, bathroom cleaner, toilet paper, paper towels, etc. Items can be dropped off at 107 W. Cedar Street starting September 15. Blessings, Ruth Cartwright, Outreach Chair

WORSHIP CHANGES

On September 10, we will make a few changes to worship. The biggest change is that we will now offer a Children’s Moment each Sunday where the children are invited up to the chancel for a special message for them. Also, you will notice candles up front to light to offer personal prayer concerns. This is not a structured change, but an opportunity for you to say personal prayers at any point during worship. Then, once a month, we will put our bodies in motion to take Communion by intinction. If you’re not able to come forward, the Deacons will be looking to take the bread and cup to you.



September 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5	6 7pm Choir	7 9:30 am CBS	8	9
10 8:00 am Breakfast	11	12 9:30 am Helping Hands 11:30 am CWF	13 7pm Choir	14 9:30 am CBS	15	16
17 8 am Elders 11:15 am Board	18	19 2 pm Circle I Soup Kitchen at FMC	20 7 pm Choir	21 9:30 am CBS	22 Autumn Begins	23
24	25	26	27 7 pm Choir	28 9:30 am CBS	29	30

happy birthday
wishing you
love
happiness
peace

September Birthdays

- 4 Lisa Lindsay
- 5 Marvin McBee
- 6 Wayne Schumann
- 12 Mai Coffey
- 15 Marilyn Lewis
- 24 Bucker Huffman
- 27 Charlie Mitchell
Lynette Womble
- 28 Bevin Williams

September Elders

- Bobby Newell
- Wayne Schumann