

## From the Pastor

As winter fast approaches, with the lessening of daylight, and the steady drop to frigid temperatures, I am reminded of the words of James: **“What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”** Soon, we will be able to see our breath on a cold windless day, a short puff of water vapor, a mist. As young children we marveled at this scientific phenomenon. At times, I wonder, in the grand scheme of time, of eternity, is that an accurate account of our life on planet earth. I believe it is.

So time is a very valuable asset given to us from our heavenly Father. We are actually encouraged to number our days, or to make the best use of our time. Advent season is upon us. We have only 25 days to celebrate the birth of the Messiah, the one born in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes. What will consume our season of Advent? The buying of gifts; the decorating; the planning of family get-togethers; the hectic travel plans? Might I add an item to your busy list: Devotion.

We have handed out a small Advent devotion to our church family to be read and meditated on throughout the entire Advent season. It is my prayer that each family stay the course, and share in this devotion on the arrival of baby Jesus, the life of the Savior Jesus, and the return of King Jesus. May this devotion to the Holy Scriptures continue into the year 2020 as a daily Holy Habit.

**Isaiah 9:6, “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”**

*Pastor Morgan*

## Live Nativity

FCC is scheduled to provide the Live Nativity at Peterson Park on Friday, December 13th from 6-8 pm. If you or your child is interested in participating please see Jan Kepley or sign-up in the narthex.



All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, December 7th. This study and breakfast will in Campbell Hall.



**December 8th**  
Christmas Musical, both services

**December 15th**  
Wassail Reception 9:30 am

**December 22nd**  
Sermon and Children's Program, both services

**December 24th**  
Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 pm

**December 29th**  
One Worship Service at 9:30 am

## Poinsettias

The church would be happy to have a poinsettia in the sanctuary on December 22nd in memory or honor of a loved one. Call the church office by noon on Tuesday, December 17th with the information as you want it to appear in the bulletin. Please have your plant here by noon on Friday, December 20th and take it home after the Christmas Eve Service.



## Meeting



There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 8th after the 8:30 am service. At this meeting the church members will be asked to vote on new Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses and Trustees for a three year term.

**Saturday, December 7th**

7 am Men's Breakfast at FCC  
10 am Christmas Musical Practice

**Sunday, December 8th**

8:30 am Christmas Musical  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Christmas Musical  
4 pm Outlet Group  
5:30 pm FROG/ROCK Group

**Monday, December 9th**

10 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Worship Meeting  
6 pm Trustees' Meeting  
6 pm Christian Ed. Meeting  
7 pm Board Meeting

**Tuesday, December 10th**

7 am Prayer Group  
6 pm Bible Journaling

**Wednesday, December 11th**

No Crafts R Us Group  
5 pm Bell Practice  
No Choir Practice

**Thursday, December 12th**

6 pm Praise Team Practice

**Friday, December 13th**

6-8 pm Live Nativity at Peterson Park

**Sunday, December 15th**

8:30 am Traditional Worship  
9:30 am Wassail in Campbell Hall  
10:30 am Contemporary Worship  
4 pm Outlet Christmas Party  
5:30 pm FROG/ROCK Christmas Party

**Monday, December 16th**

10 am Staff Meeting

**Tuesday, December 17th**

7 am Prayer Group  
6 pm Bible Journaling

**Wednesday, December 18th**

No Crafts Are Us Group  
No Bell or Choir Practices

**Thursday, December 19th**

6 pm Praise Team Practice



**Music Practices**

Christmas Musical Practices  
Saturday, December 7th at 10 am

Bell Choir Practices  
Wednesday, December 11th at 5 pm

**Deaconesses' Sign-Ups**

Deaconesses there are sign-up sheets for you to check out on the Welcome Center: 2020 Communion and Funeral Dinner list; Wassail help for December 15th at 9:30 am; Meals for Summers family; and Shut-In Visiting.

**Coke Machine**

The Coke Machine is back up and running. The cost of each can is now 75¢ but all the proceeds will go to the Youth Fund.



	Building Fund balance: \$360,756.16
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<b>Giving and Expense Totals</b>	
November 24th General Giving:	\$6,323.56
December 1st General Giving:	\$6,955.00
Income Needed Weekly to Meet Budget:	\$6,234.23
YTD Income versus Budget Expenses:	+\$143,732.40

<b>Church Attendance</b>	
Nov. 24th — Traditional:	120, Contemporary: 88 = 208
Dec. 1st — Traditional:	98, Contemporary: 103 = 201

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Mattoon IL 61938  
Permit No. 23



1600 WABASH AVE  
MATTUON IL 61938

Return Service Requested

Senior Pastor: Steve Morgan

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