

Notes from Michael

Every week here at First Christian Church we have many people who serve faithfully with their abilities in music, sound, worship leading, ushering. This past week we had Susan Floyd share her rendition of "More Than Wonder" great job Susan and as always Jan Kepley inspires us ever Sunday morning with her pre-music to focus our hearts and minds on why we are here. The choir also created a story of love and sacrifice in the presentation of "Living Hope" and on Easter morning Cindy Temple blessed us as she always does with the wonderful song "My Redeemer Lives" not to mention what happens behind the scenes with our techies who are constantly tweaking knobs, draw bars, clicking on lyrics, and making cameras focus in and out, all so that we can lift our voices in praise together lifting and offering our sacrifice of praise every Sunday morning. There are many more who contribute to our worship services including our handbell choir. It takes a village sometimes or an army to bring our services together. Week after week, month after month, year after year faithful people serve the Lord at FCC. These people are a reflection of a faithful God we serve. Deut. 7:9 says "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands." In the Psalms we read, "Your Love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies." (Ps. 36:5) The Hebrew writer has told us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." (Heb 13:8). One of my favorite hymns goes like this..."Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not; As thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be... All I have needed your hand has provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness, GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS, Lord unto me.

I am so grateful for faithfulness! And faithful servants who serve week after week for our Lord Jesus. Thank you for your unending faithfulness.

Loving You All and Loving Our Creator,
Worship Pastor *Michael W. Tomlinson*

Congratulations to Kiersten Huckaba on her transfer of membership to FCC on Easter Sunday. Welcome Kiersten!



Membership Transfer

Worship Times and Places

April 25th

8:30 and 10 am at Central Community

May 2nd

10 am at FCC

May 9th

8:30 and 10 am at FCC

May 16th

10 am at FCC

May 23rd

10 am at FCC — Youth Sunday

May 30th

8:30 and 10 am at Central Community

Thank You Notes

We would like to thank all who have brought goodie bags to us during this Covid-19 period. Last year was quite a year (one of which we have never seen). We appreciate your kindness. Thanks again!

Love To All and God Bless,

Nayne and Sharolyn Kirby

Thank you FCC friends for the prayers and cards. Your thoughtfulness means a great deal to us.

Randy and Sandy Pierce

A MONTH OF MISSIONS

For the month of April the World Outreach Committee is highlighting Hearts for Honduras. A few missionaries just visited Honduras in February and the challenges from Covid plus 2 hurricanes in 2020 took a major toll on the facilities. They were able to distribute health kits, food, vitamins, toiletries and toothbrushes to 100 families. There is a need for some funding help for the special needs school so if anyone would have an interest in giving something please contact Gary Cardinal. There will be a Mission trip in June and there may be a need for construction help along with the medical team.

Deaconess Meeting

There will be a Deaconess Meeting on Tuesday, April 20th at 6 pm. All Deaconesses are encouraged to attend.

Board Splinters 4/12

Elders: Merger committees has formed our ministry teams, just like our committees, working on the vision of the "new" church, let me know if you want to join one of these teams.

Deaconesses: there will be a deaconess meeting on the 20th at 6 pm. They will be visiting shut-ins this month.

Senior Minister: reported the vision of both churches: "A unified body of believers whose visible love for Christ and one another draws our community and our world to a relationship with Jesus. John 13:34" Starting this week our ministry teams will be meeting with CCC teams to discuss their thoughts on the merger. Created a new "What We Believe" statement document for this church and the new church.

Worship Leader: the choir sang on Easter Sunday, will sing again on May 9th. Special music has been planned through June. Purchasing a Shure dual cordless headset. Ashley Scott will lead worship on June 20th while I'm on vacation.

Worship: went over service times for May.

Outreach: will send \$300 checks to Camp New Hope and Choices. Meeting with CCC to talk about missions.

Evangelism: purchased 1000 cards made with the stain glass window on it and mailed to members who have not been able to attend.

Christian Ed: June 27-July 1st VBS with FUMC and CCC. Discussion held on Sunday School with Ron Hatfield, Amy Hall, Mike and Donica Brand and Steve and Raelyne Lane. Youth Sunday is May 23rd. Beau Scott is the lead men's small group leader at the Crossover on Tuesday mornings. Having 8-10 kids a week at youth group.

Trustees: Anyone wanting to help on the church garden, please call Charlotte Castle at 217-258-6054.

World Outreach: April is the month for Hearts for Honduras and May 16th Sammy from Share International will preach.

Church Life

Tuesday, April 20th

7 am Prayer Meeting
9 am Men's Small Group at the Crossover Church
10 am Ladies Small Group at Central Community
6 pm Deaconess Meeting

Wednesday, April 21st

No Bell Practice
Choir Practice moved to Sundays
6 pm Bible Journaling

Thursday, April 22nd

No Praise Team Practice
6 pm Men's Small Group at CCC

Sunday, April 25th

8:30 am and 10 am Worship Services at Central Community
1 pm F/R at the Food Pantry
4:30 pm Choir Practice
6 pm Men's Small Group at Truth and Grace

Monday, April 26th

10 am Staff Meeting
6 pm Ladies Small Group in Campbell Hall

Tuesday, April 27th

7 am Prayer Meeting
9 am Men's Small Group at the Crossover Church
10 am Ladies Small Group at Central Community

Wednesday, April 28th

6 pm Bible Journaling

Thursday, April 29th

6 pm Praise Team Practice
6 pm Men's Small Group at Central Community

**The Men's Small Group have 3 opportunities to meet. The same study will be taught at all sites: Central Community, the Crossover and Truth and Grace Fellowship.*



We extend our deepest sympathy to the Doris Webb family on the passing of her son, Van, on April 7th. We also extend our sympathy to Julie Allen on the passing of her mother on April 8th.