# first christian church

### A Note from the Pastor

I have been sharing a weekly online devotion, "Devo With Stevo", digging into the book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah preaches a message of repentance for 40 years. Not too many takers! He warns of a 70 year captivity in evil Babylon. No one repents. Jerusalem is leveled and the people of Judah dwell 70 years in Babylon just as predicted. Nevertheless, God is a God of restoration!

Ezra tells us around 50,000 people make the trek back to Jerusalem. Upon arrival they see the devastation. They establish a rebuilding program. They lay the foundation for the new temple and the people respond, "God is good! His love endures forever. And the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord. No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away." Ezra 3:11,13.

We are returning to our house of worship! God is good! May we make much noise! Here is our timeline:

June 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Online worship services will continue thru this Sunday on our Facebook page. Even if you are not a member of Facebook, you can still worship with us on Facebook without logging in. Richard Eident will again be preaching this Sunday! I love to hear Richard preach the Word!

**June 21st Praise at the Property!** ~ On Sunday June 21st, we will have a drive-in worship service at our church property on Old State Road near Lincoln Fire Station. The service will begin at 10:30 am. Parking attendants will guide vehicles where to park. We ask that you stay in your vehicle or near it, tailgate style, with lawn chairs near your vehicle, or in the bed of your truck. The service will be broadcast on Facebook and on an FM radio station in your vehicle. We encourage you to observe social distancing.

**B.Y.O.C.** ~ Bring Your Own Communion! If you would like to participate in the Lord's Supper, bring your own bread and juice as you have been doing at home.

In case of rain, the event will be postponed, with the service being held online only on our Facebook page as we have been doing since March.

(continued in the next column)

June 28<sup>th</sup> Back in the Sanctuary ~ Running from June 28<sup>th</sup> thru July 26th, we will offer one service at the church at 9:30 am. If you are immune compromised or concerned for your personal health stay home and worship online. Come back when you are ready. If you are ready, by all means, get back in here! If adult Sunday school classes would like to resume, contact your Sunday school leader for time and location.

Kids Outlet, Kids Sunday school, toddler and nursery care will **not** be available. We will continue to monitor the CDC and IDPH as to when we can safely re-engage our youth programs.

A detailed outline covering a safe meeting-in-person worship service will be published before June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Romans 12:18, "Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone."

In Christ, Pastor Morgan

### Praise and Worship Service The FCC Praise Team will be streaming a live Praise and Worship Service on Wednesday, June 24th at 7:00 pm. We hope you all will join us on-line for a wonderful evening of worship!

#### 65th Anniversary!

Congratulations to Ed and Helen Dowling who will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on June 12th.



#### High School Graduates



Congratulations to the following High School Graduates from FCC: Alexis Bialeschki (Mattoon), Kade Dunn (Neoga), Ivy Goodwin-Gage (Mattoon) and Noah Scott (Mattoon).

#### Board Splinters/June 8th

Elders: have met several times and discussed the video streaming and reopening the church.

Deaconesses: they did not meet due to the virus; took a meat tray to the Vera Hildebrand family; and communion will start on June 28th at the 9:30 am service and prepare 125 cups.

Elementary Minister: Outlet is over and no VBS this year. Worship Leader: with the governor relaxing the 10 or less rule for churches Jan and Bryce have been added back into the rotation and a streamed Praise and Worship Service will be held June 24th at 7 pm with the entire worship band.

Worship: planning the Father's Day service at the land for 10:30 am and discussed on moving forward with the rest of June and July at a 9:30 am service time.

Outreach: they will pack food for 65 kids on June 18th. Christian Ed: Adult Sunday School can start back up and Donica working on a CPR training.

Stewardship: went over the reports.

Personnel: met on May 18th and will advertise for an Associate.

**Trustees:** The last payment to Industrial Services was paid; new pew pads have been ordered; purchasing cameras for worship services at a cost of \$15,047.49; 8-10 feet of the northwest corner of Education Building needs tuck pointed and a cost of \$112,000; and some of the ground tile at the church land needs fixed for a cost of \$500 from Chris Overton.

## My sister, Sue Daniel and I (Kay Goble) want to say a special thank you to all of you who brought communion or

- Jason Mathews, Joan Young
- 6 Sandy Herren
- 7 Barbara Bridges, Gary Cardinal
- 9 Jack Little
- 11 Amy Hall

1

- 14 Steve Morgan
- 15 Jared Armer, John Janes
- 16 Trish Tomlinson
- 19 **Rvlan Armer**
- 23 Blake Maninfior, Marlene Webb
- 24 Marcia Roetker
- 27 Rod Fleming
- 29 Jeanne Siford



- 17 David and Jennifer Gergeni
- Dan and Jeanne Cunningham 21
- Bob and Janice Morgan 24
- 27 Pat and Teresa Stuttle
- 29 Jason and Kelly Morgan
- Mike and Donica Brand 30

#### Thank You Note

said a prayer for my mother, she looked forward to it when she was able to be up. We appreciate all the gifts and prayers over the years. You were all so kind and caring. Sincerely, Sue and Kay

We have cookbooks available for \$8 and pecans for \$12 per bag. Nancy will deliver the goodies if you contact her at 258 -6247 or email her at: nhuckaba@consolidated.net

> Website: www.mattoontcc.com Email address: fcchurch@consolidated.net Phone: 234-2928

> > Senior Pastor: Steve Morgan

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passing of her sister.

We extend our sympathy to the Vera Hildebrand family on her passing on May 29th. We also extend our sympathy to Mary Roberts on the