



THE CALLER

Kyle's Korner

Last month, we continued our congregational conversation about healing the past and moving toward the future. Our format was a little different as I split folks up into groups for easier conversation. Essentially, I asked the groups to restart First Christian Church from scratch -- its purpose, vision, fundamental beliefs, and how one becomes a part of the church. There was fantastic dialogue and exploration of what is most significant in the life and ministry of First Christian Church, Shelbyville. However, there is little consensus to guide our way forward -- but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

When we talk about the purpose of First Christian Church, we developed a number of answers -- which means there are a lot of ways to connect to the life and ministry of our church. But, it also means that we can spread our attention and energy thin over a wide number of things. In that, we will feel unsupported by our church; we will lose energy and hope in making a difference; we will become burned out and simply fall away from participation in the life of the church. We need to be about strengthening our core.

For those of you who have ever gone to a physical therapist for shoulder, knee, hip, or back pain, you know that the first thing you will do is exercises designed to strengthen your body's core -- abdominals, glutes, and back muscles. When your core is healthy, you can begin to work on making the other areas of your body healthy again. The same concept is true for the church -- the body of Christ. From a strong and healthy core, the other areas of pain or illness can become strong and healthy again too.

To keep the conversation going, on Sunday, December 11, we will talk again -- this time over breakfast. The men will fix our breakfast and have it ready to serve at 7:45 a.m.

After most folks have finished eating, we will focus our conversation once again on the core purpose of the church. Everyone is invited to breakfast and for fellowship and conversation.

Last Sunday, the Season of Advent began. Advent is the season we prepare our hearts, minds, and lives for God to breakthrough and into this world. Our Sunday worship centers around hope, peace, joy, and love in Advent. Through this time of uncertainty and challenge, we can explore what each of these weekly themes says to us and how we move forward.

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November Budget Corner

General Budget received in November	\$12,622.00
Building Accounts received in November	\$ 100.00

God is breaking through the barrier between God's Realm and this world. God will come again this Christmas in the form of the Babe of Bethlehem. If we're ready, it will change our lives as we discover what it means to care and nurture the Babe from infancy to maturity. We need each other for support and encouragement. We need each other for strength and guidance. We need each other to be focused on the core purpose of the church to make us stronger and able to reach farther than we could alone. I'll see you Sunday.

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Kyle

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION

On Sunday, December 11, we will continue to talk again -- this time over breakfast. The men will fix our breakfast and have it ready to serve at 7:45 a.m. After most folks have finished eating, we will focus our conversation once again on the core purpose of the church. Everyone is invited to breakfast and for fellowship and conversation.

GOOD SAMARITAN

Food Needs for December

Thank you again to everyone for your generosity in November. Winter is a busy time of year at Good Sam for donations during the holiday season. We will continue to ask for any of the following: canned meats, soup, canned vegetables and fruit, cereal, crackers and peanut butter. Christmas snacks for the kids would be a nice add-on also. Your continued support is very much appreciated!



CANTATA



Christmas Cantata

The combined choirs of First Christian Church and First Presbyterian Church will be presenting their annual Cantata, Sunday, December 18, during 10 am worship at First Presbyterian Church this year. Because of the parking situation at First Presbyterian, our van will be available to shuttle anyone wanting a ride to the church. We will start shuttling at 9:15 am and make as many trips as necessary. The last trip will be at 10:45 am. In order to keep the weekly offering separate, you will be given envelopes with our red chalice to put in the plate. As always, it will be a beautiful service and we hope our members will attend and support the Cantata that is part of our Christmas Celebration.



Need a gift for someone who has everything? For the price of a video game (\$25.00), you can provide warm blankets to a family of five struggling to stay warm.

When disaster strikes overseas or here at home, Church World Service (CWS) blankets provide warmth, comfort and, most importantly, the feeling that someone cares in a time of trouble. A CWS blanket not only provides needed protection, it brings a ray of hope to people when they need it most and reminds them they are not alone.

We will be heading up the blanket drive during the Advent season. You may purchase a CWS blanket in honor or in memory of a loved one on December 11 for \$5.00 each. The blanket table will be set up in the Gathering Area. Or you may stop by the office anytime before December 22.

We will again do an Angel Tree for The Center for Family Development.. This year we will be supporting the Relative Caregiver Program. The Center offers support for family members, grandparents, aunts, uncles etc. who take care of the children in their home when the parents are unable to care for their child/children.

Unlike in past years, there are not Angels on the tree to buy gifts for. The Center has asked for only two items in which there is a great need for. 1) Warm blankets, twin & full size, and 2) diapers of all sizes. Our goal is to provide 25 packs of diapers and 25 blankets total. These gifts do not need to be wrapped. There are containers under the Angel Tree table to place the diapers & blankets.

Please return your gift by Tuesday, December 14, before noon. Thank you for all your help! It is greatly appreciated.



There are still "Sharing Our Table" cook books for sale. They make great Christmas gifts for friends and family. The cost has been reduced to \$15. Stop by the church office anytime or pick one up on Sunday mornings before or after Worship!

BAKE SALE

CWF/DWM Hosted its annual bake sale, Saturday, November 12. Coffee & muffins were served at 8:30 am and the sale began at 9:00 am and buy 10:00 am, we were almost sold out! We raised over \$1,700 to be given to our local outreach programs. A big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make this fundraiser a huge success in so many ways: for the advertising, setting up, decorating, pricing, greeting, checking folks out, preparing food and cleaning up when it was over. Everything everyone did was very much appreciated!

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 1st & 2nd Sunday of this month for their own special time of worship in the Worship and Wonder room and sometimes in Class Rooms 2 & 3.

December 4	Worship and Wonder
December 11	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 continues to meet in room 15. Classes begins at 9:00 am.

ELDERS MEETS

The Elders will meet Sunday, December 18, at 8:00 am.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will host the Congregational Breakfast on December 11 at 7:45 am, followed by a Congregational Conversation led by Rev. Kyle. Please plan to join us.

CWF will not meet in December. The next meeting will be January 10, 2017 beginning with Helping Hands at 9:30 am, followed by lunch at 11:30 am.

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet, December 13, 1:00 pm at the home of Naomi Thompson.

CIRCLE III

Circle III will meet Thursday, December 15, 5 pm at Urban Plantation on No. Main St. for a Christmas Dinner

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

There will be a Potluck Luncheon on January 8, 2017 following Worship in Fellowship Hall. PLEASE NOTE: There will NOT be a Congregational Breakfast in January.

In Nursing Homes, Hospitals or Assisted Living

Carriage House Inn
Rose Marie Clark
Mary Lynn Prince

Glenn Oaks
Albert Smithson

Brookdale Senior Living
Cornelia Riddle

At Home

Lisa Adams
Ernie Brewbaker
Terry & Sandy Craig
Brenda Hancock
Virginia Ann Haynes
Kevin Johnson
Miles McCullough
Harriet Melson
Curtis Morton
Annette Palmer
JoAnn Smith
Ruby Taylor
Mattie Ray Wisner
Ted York




Reading Through the Bible Schedule

December

1	James 1-2	Psalm 50
2	James 3-5	Psalm 51
3	Luke 1-3	Isaiah 1
4	OFF	
5	Luke 4-6	Isaiah 2
6	Luke 7-9	Isaiah 3
7	Luke 10-12	Isaiah 4
8	Luke 13-15	Isaiah 5
9	Luke 16-18	Isaiah 6
10	Luke 19-21	Isaiah 7
11	OFF	
12	Luke 22-24	Isaiah 8
13	Jeremiah 1-3	Isaiah 9
14	Jeremiah 4-6	Isaiah 10
15	Jeremiah 7-9	Isaiah 11
16	Jeremiah 10-12	Isaiah 12
17	Jeremiah 13-15	Isaiah 13
18	OFF	
19	Jeremiah 16-18	Isaiah 14
20	Jeremiah 19-21	Isaiah 15
21	Jeremiah 22-24	Isaiah 16
22	Jeremiah 25-27	Isaiah 17
23	Jeremiah 28-30	Isaiah 18
24	Jeremiah 31-33	Isaiah 19
25	OFF	
26	Jeremiah 34-36	Isaiah 20
27	Jeremiah 37-39	Isaiah 21
28	Jeremiah 40-42	Isaiah 22
29	Jeremiah 43-46	Isaiah 23
30	Jeremiah 47-49	Isaiah 24
31	Jeremiah 50-52	Isaiah 25



December 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 9:30 am CBS	2	3
4	5	6	7 7 pm Choir	8	9	10
11 7:45 am Congrega- tional Breakfast & Conversation	12	13 1 pm Circle I at Naomi Thomp- son's	14 7 pm Choir	15 5 pm Circle III at Urban Plantation	16	17
18 10 am Worship & Cantata at Frist Presbyterian	19	20	21 7 pm Choir	22	23	24
25 	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27	28 7 pm Choir	29	30	31



December Birthdays

- 3 Jimmy Simmons
- 5 Margaret Eakin
- 7 Roxanna Francesconi
Ashley Reed
- 10 Wilma Beam
- 11 Jason Philpott
- 12 Frank Douglas
- 15 Blaire Cartwright
- 19 Austin Harris
- 21 Albert Smithson
- 22 Edna King
Bette Vannatta
- 23 Layla Hayworth
- 29 Amanda O'Neal
Tripp Womble

December Elders

- Margaret Eakin
- Linda Yockey

November Deacons

- Cort Huffman
- Virginia Parrish
- Iris Schumann
- Nichole Yocky