

Beckley Disciples News

July/August 2018

A Global Mission Church

Gone Fishin'

By now I am sure all of you know that on August 12 we will be celebrating 125 years of ministry here at First Christian Church. We have a lot of special plans made for both the worship service that morning, as well as the dinner that will follow. I do hope that you will plan on joining us for the day.

While part of our time will be reflecting on the history that has brought us to this point, we will also be looking to the future, and what God has in mind for us. We have a rich tradition of service that has defined this church, and undoubtedly that will continue. However, with the evolving nature of the world and church, change is inevitable.

We live in world where the boundaries of community are disappearing. Now these are defined not so much by neighborhood, but rather by

the connections I have on social media. I realize this is a difficult concept for those my age and older, who remember the time when computers were either non-existent, or housed in warehouse size buildings, accessible only to an elite group.

Today's young people/adults network through cell phones on a variety of platforms. While we will not forsake the "who" of our identity, we can also not be so beholden to it that it is etched in stone. The church of the 21st century must be electronic savvy, even as it builds relationships within the community.

It is these relationship that is at the heart of the church's identity. Sunday morning is more than just a gathering place, but rather a coming together of people who not only love the Lord, but also love one another. How we connect



with one another in the week has certainly changed. However, we can never forget the personal.

I look forward to our upcoming celebration. I also look forward to the future God has in store for us. We must have faith that the Lord's ministry plan is the means by which we will achieve Kingdom potential. We must also grow in our love for the Lord as well as one another, so that it all we do we might reveal the One who is the basis of that love—Jesus.

Faithfully,

DRS

125th Anniversary Celebration

While the location and buildings have changed, the identity of church has been constant. First Christian Church, which began with a small group of believers gathered in Bible study, has maintained its witness in the Beckley community for 125 years. On Sunday, August 12, we will have a special day of celebration for our church. The morning worship service will feature special music from our Chancel choir, greetings from Timothy's and Phoebe's who have been nurtured here, an inspirational message from Regional Minister Thad Allen. Following the service we will retire to the Fellowship Hall for a celebration dinner. Tickets are required and available through the church office at \$15 apiece. (All children/youth under 18 who are associated with our church will have their cost covered.) Finally, we will unveil our pictorial history of First Christian Church at the conclusion of the dinner, and one copy per family will be provided. Please plan on joining us for this day of celebration.



Youth Yak

We kicked off the summer with a successful Vacation Bible school. We didn't have a super big crowd, but those there enjoyed themselves. Our lesson focus was on Esther, and we had crafts, food, and an enjoyable time.

We used VBS to begin the collection time for Operation Backpack. These school supplies will go to Mabscott Elementary school, where I teach. We need the usual supplies (pencils, glue sticks, ruled paper, pencil boxes, backpacks), and could also use facial tissues and cleaning wipes. Boxes are located in the narthex and outside the church

office. Monetary donations are also welcome, and you can place them in the offering plate or give them to me.

We continue to have Sunday school and Children's church for our youngest members. Please note that on July 15 (while I am on vacation) and August 12 (our 125th anniversary celebration) the children will remain in worship that day with their parents.

We are looking at some summertime activities, but have not made any definitive plans at this point. Please keep an eye on the weekly bulletin for any updated information.



I hope everyone has a blessed summer, and let me know of suggestions you have for our children's ministry and activities we might plan.

Tammy

Music Notes

While the choir is enjoying a much needed break during the summer months, we still have special music planned for each Sunday. We have been blessed to have each Sunday of the summer covered. A big thank you to all those who volunteered their time to bless us.

Of special note, on July 8 we will have The Common Bond Quartet in worship with us. They will help us celebrate faith through Southern Gospel music. I know

this will be an enjoyable service, and we will receive a love offering to support their ministry.

The choir will join us on August 12 as we celebrate the church's 125th Anniversary. They will be providing some of the special music that morning. I hope you will plan on joining us for this important day of in the life of our church.

Finally, the annual Choir pic-



nic is set for August 29 at the parsonage. All choir members and guests, and potential newcomers should plan on joining us that evening.

Yvonne

Beckley Day of Hope

The 6th Annual Beckley Day of Hope is scheduled for Saturday, August 18, at the Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center. We are anticipating over 3000 guests, and we want them all to experience the love of Christ in fullest measure.

To do this we will need 1000 volunteers, to serve in a variety of areas. There is no need to sign-up ahead of time, except if you

would like to serve in the Connections Tent. Here we pray with those who desire it as the exit the event. If you want to serve here, you must attend the training that will be held on Thursday, August 16, at 7:00 p.m.

Don is part of the leadership team once again for the event. If you would like more information on how to help,



please see him. Above all else, please be in prayer for the event, the leadership team, the weather, and most especially that God will be glorified on this day.

News for the Pews

Change for Life

Even a few coins can make a difference in an individual life. On July 1 and August 5 we ask that you come prepared with your loose change, and place it in the offering plate. Gathered together these funds are added to the Minister's Benevolence fund, and provide assistance to Raleigh county neighbors in need.

Carpenter's Corner

With school out for the summer, this means increased numbers needing a meal at the Carpenter's Corner. Our church will be serving July 13 & 14 and August 10 & 11, from 11:00 to 1:00 each day. We need plenty of volunteers each day, so if you can help please either show up, or call the church office. Don't forget, to work in the kitchen you need a Food Handler's Card from the Raleigh County Health Department, or online. The Carpenter's Corner Board will meet on Tuesday, July 17, at 11:30 at The Place.

Special Day

On Sunday, July 8, we will be hosting *The Common Bond Quartet* in worship. These dynamic men will bring to us Southern Gospel music, which will inspire us in our worship that day. Following worship we will gather on the front porch for picture of the current congregation to part of pictorial history.

Safety Update

We are in the process of ordering two defibrillators (which will be purchased through a grant from the File Family Foundation). Once they arrive, one will be placed in the narthex, and the other in the Fellowship Hall. There are a few remaining projects to be done, and will keep you informed as

to their completion.

Office Notes

The church office will be closed on July 4 for the national holiday. Don will be available via his cell phone that day. Tammy will be on vacation July 15, so children will remain with parents in the sanctuary during worship that day. Don will be out of pocket on July 27 and August 24 for doctor's appointments in Morgantown. He will have his cell phone both days if you need to be in touch with him.

Choir Picnic

After a much deserved summer break, the choir will reconvene at the parsonage (103 Wickham Avenue) for their annual picnic on Wednesday, August 29. We appreciate Don and Nancy opening their home to us on that day. The burgers, buns and drinks will be provided. Choir members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to be shared. We will enjoy good food and fellowship, catch up with one another, and discuss the upcoming choir year. Guests, spouses/significant others are welcome to attend. For more information please see Yvonne or Don.

Operation Backpack

We are continuing our collection for Operation Backpack throughout the summer. These school supplies (pencil boxes, pencils, ruled paper, crayons (16 or 24 count boxes), glue sticks and backpacks will be given to students at Mabscott Elementary School. We will be collecting through August 5, and then working on packing the backpacks that week. Monetary donations are welcome as well; either put them in the offering plate, marked "operation backpack," or give them to Tammy. For more information or questions, please see her.



Christian Women's Fellowship

The CWF will meet on July 29 and August 26 (following the General Board meeting) to discuss their fall plans, and the upcoming Women's fall retreat. The Retreat is scheduled for September 7-9 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley, WV. The keynote speaker will be former GMP Rev. Sharon Watkins. This year's theme is "There is Power in the Word." There is a registration deadline, so please visit the Region's website for specific information, or contact the office.

Celebration

There will be a memorial celebration of the life of Ruth Larew at Hans Creek, WV on Saturday, July 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Folks will gather at the new family pavilion next to the Hans Creek Union Church and Hans Creek Community Center. If attending, please bring a covered dish to share with everyone. The main dish of barbecue, cole slaw and beverages will be provided.

General Board Meeting

The next meeting of the General Board will be on Sunday, August 26, in the Fellowship Hall following worship. There will be light refreshments for those attending. We will have several items of business to discuss, so all Elders and Deacons are encouraged to attend this meeting.

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Staff:

Donald R. Snyder, Senior Minister
Tammy Runion, Director of Youth and Education
Yvonne Seay, Music Director
Becky Leach, Organist
Nancy Snyder, Office Assistant
Carol Buklad, Treasurer
Angelo Martin, Custodian

Sermon Scriptures

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| July 1 | Deuteronomy 6: 1-3 |
| July 8 | <i>Common Bond Quartet</i> |
| July 15 | Deuteronomy 12: 5-7 |
| July 22 | Deuteronomy 15: 10-11 |
| July 29 | Deuteronomy 18: 15-18 |
| August 5 | Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 |
| August 12 | Rev. Thad Allen, preaching |
| August 19 | Romans 16: 25-27 |
| August 26 | Hebrews 13: 20-21 |

Serving in July & August

Elders: **7/1**—John & Lee File; **8**—Mike & Delores Vaughan; **15**—Jim Trader & Pat Freeman; **22**—John & Lee File; **29**—Chuck & Carolyn Turner; **8/5**—Bill File, III & Nancy Snyder; **12**—Jim Trader & Richard Flowers; **19**—Mark Tredway & Pat Freeman; **26**—Mike & Delores Vaughan

Deacons: **July**—William Clarke, Roger & Charlotte Hutchens, Chas Turner, Carol Buklad, Jean Ann Mearns; **August**—Conrad Cooper, Meg Prince, Alicia Terry, Lanny Okes, Sandy Palen, Kay Gaigall

Communion Prep & Clean-up: **1**—Jim Trader & Ed Crouse, **8 & 15**—Jean Ann Mearns & Connie

Ross, **22 & 29**—Casey Baber & Lanny Okes

Worship Leader: **7/15**—Yvonne Seay, **22**—Nancy Snyder; **8/5**—Paula Shrewsberry, **19**—Michael McClure

Lead usher: **July**—Casey Baber, **August**—Mark Tredway

Outside Communion: **July**—Lee File, **August**—Chuck Turner

In the Hospital in June

Ashlea Tredway

Prayer Concerns

James, the brother of Jesus, was nicknamed, "Camel knee," because he spent so much time in prayer the callouses looked like a camel's. While you may not spend all your prayer time on your knees, please remember these brothers and sisters in your daily time with the Lord.

Randy Adkins, Mary Joyce Bragg, Jayne Chafin, Clela Cox, Sue Cresce, Woody & Patty Dacal, Karen Fama, Kevin & Susan Fry, John Jordan, Nancy Kittle, Joe & Mary Korczyk, Ruby Milam, Derek Ross, Trenton Smith, Pat Trader, Gloria Tucker, Kevin Winfree, Zachary Wood.

In the heart of Beckley, with a heart for the Gospel.