

Beckley Disciples News

September 2018

A Global Mission Church

Gone Fishin'

These cool mornings reminds us that fall is not too far away. Like the seasons, change is inevitable. True, we'll lament having to rake the leaves, as much as have grumbled about mowing the grass.

Even though it is a dirty word, change is inevitable in our life as church. Those forty-four charter members could never have envisioned the journey of First Christian Church. While we have just celebrated 125 years of ministry in Beckley and beyond, it is not so much about the past, as it is the future before us.

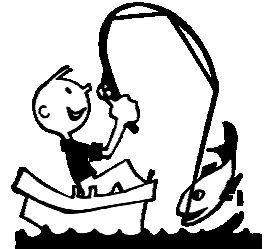
Unfortunately, there is no crystal ball in which to peer for an answer to what lies ahead for the church. We know there are important decisions before us, but we cannot allow them to weigh us down to either to complacency (at best) or inactivity (at

the worst).

What has defined this church's identity for more than a century is a servant spirit, which is willing to take big chances. Who could have known the impact of Disciples' Women purchase of the Beckley Seminary would have on education, not only in Raleigh County, but also southern WV.

When women were just beginning to enter the workforce, who could have foreseen the impact of the Early Childhood Development Center, and the hundreds of children who experienced love. Likewise, when a small group of people sought to feed the hungry, who could have imagined feeding up to 200 people a day.

It is God's Spirit who inspires vision to see ministry. It is God's providence that equally provides both leadership and resources necessary for minis-



try to happen. It is an obedient heart that accepts the challenge to plant and water seeds of Good News, without concern as to whether or not God's growth is ever witnessed.

I believe with all my heart that God has big plans for First Christian Church, both in the people we serve and the ministry we do. A patient heart and praying spirit eagerly await our Lord's handiwork.

Faithfully,

DRS

Kid's Classic

The uptown Beckley Kid's Classic is set for Saturday, September 8. Once again our church will be cooking and serving food that day. We will be serving from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and will need plenty of help. The menu will include hamburgers, nachos & cheese, chips, baked goods, ice cream and drinks. If you would like to make a donation please see Tammy. Food items are acceptable, but everything must be factory sealed. Monetary donations are also welcome. If you can help, we will begin showing up at 10:00 a.m., and are usually done by 3:00 p.m. This is one of more important outreach efforts each year, and we usually welcome at least 150 people into the church. We get many "thank you" and "glad you do this" each year. Most especially this is our opportunity to witness to our community that we truly are a church in the heart of Beckley, with a heart for the Gospel. Please pray for good weather, a good Spirit, and that God will be glorified.



Youth Yak

It seems hard to believe that summer is almost over, and all the children are back in school. I want to thank the church for you generous contributions to Operation Backpack. This year we filled 35 backpacks for the children at Mabscott Elementary school.

We will be serving once again at the annual Uptown Beckley Kid's Classic on September 8. The food will be our usual fare of hamburgers, nachos & cheese, packaged snacks, ice cream and drinks. We need plenty of help, as well as donations. If you have any questions, please see either me or

Don.

We are always looking for new opportunities to minister to both our children & youth. We continue to have inter-generational Sunday school for all ages, but are willing to consider creating more age-sensitive classes. Parents are encouraged to make their suggestions, as well as volunteer to help with both Sunday school and Children's church.

Finally, mother's pride aside, it was good to share in table fellowship with our High School graduate—Garrett Runion, along with a good representa-



tion from our Elders. We had a nice evening at Cheddars, and wish Garrett our best as he begins his studies at WVU Beckley.

Tammy

Music Notes

First, I want to thank everyone who provided special music throughout the summer for us. This includes our choir, who took a one-day respite to help us celebrate our anniversary. We were blessed by your gifts, and thank you for the sacrifice of your time.

Second, I want to thank the Snyder's for hosting our annual choir picnic once again. We enjoyed good food and fellowship; were able to catch up with one

another; and, make some initial plans for this choir year.

Having said this, we are always looking for, and needing, new choir members. I know with everyone's busy schedule the commitment this means. Particularly, as we look toward the upcoming holiday season, we need plenty of voices.

The choir will resume weekly presentations on September 9. Choir practice continues to



be on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to be in touch with me.

Yvonne

Reconciliation Offering

We live in a fragmented world; divided by race, economic status, and gender. It is the Gospel that not only brings us back to God, but also one another, because we see in the face of neighbor the face of Jesus.

The Reconciliation Offering (received September 30 & October 7) goes to support the reconciling, anti-racism initiative of the Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ). Half of the monies are returned to the Region for its use in addressing the issues of racism that we face.

We will have a Minute for mission each Sunday, and special envelopes for your contributions. Our goal for this year is \$400.

The Carpenter's Corner has



been the beneficiary of Reconciliation monies for the work it does. So what you give will come back to Beckley and make a difference.

News for the Pews

Change for Life

Those coins in your pocket or purse make a big difference in the lives of our neighbors. Because of your generosity the first Sunday of the month, we are able to share God's love in a tangible way with brothers and sisters in Christ who find themselves in difficult circumstances.

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome to the First Christian Church family Kristin Canterbury, who joined us via transfer on August. Kristin has been with us for awhile, and her nieces Sammy & Haley Jones are already members.

Library Additions

We have two new additions to the church library. As part of our 125th anniversary celebration, Dr. Bonnie Thurston presented copies of her *O Taste and See* and *A Place to Pay Attention*. Also, Bonnie placed an inscription in each book to commemorate our celebration. Stop by the Library and see these two books, and the many others we have on hand.

Meeting Schedule

Because we had to postpone the General Board meeting in August, we have put in place the following meeting schedule. On **September 9**, following worship, the Cabinet will meet in the Anchor classroom briefly to discuss recommendations for the upcoming Board meeting. The General Board will then meet on Sunday, **September 16**, following worship in the Fellowship Hall. We have several important items of business to discuss, and updates. All Elders and Deacons should plan on staying. Light snacks will be available. Finally, the Cabinet will have its budget meeting on Monday, **September 24**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Anchor classroom. Department chairs are reminded to have their budget request to Don by the preceding

Friday.

Carpenter's Corner

Our church will be serving at the Carpenter's Corner on Saturday, September 8, and Friday, September 14, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each day. There is still a growing need for those coming to this ministry, so we need plenty of help. Just show up, or call the office to let us know.

New Devotion Guide

We are in the process of switching our daily devotion guide from *The Lookout* to *My Daily Bread*. The new devotion will be large print, and available in the narthex, as well the hallway outside the sanctuary. We hope you find these enjoyable.

Kiwanis Club Day of Pancakes

The Kiwanis Club of Beckley will be having their annual Day of Pancakes on Friday, September 14, beginning at 7:00 a.m. If you call the office that day, please be patient, as they will be answering the phone, and will need to come to Don in the office. The Kiwanis Club uses these monies in a variety of ways for Beckley and her students.

Clergy Gathering

The clergy of West Virginia and Pennsylvania have been called together for a one-day meeting on September 18, at Central Christian Church in Uniontown, PA. Don will be attending, which means a Beckley departure the afternoon before. He will most likely be back in the office on Wednesday, September 19. However, if that changes a note will be placed in the bulletin.

World Communion

While world communion Sunday is not till October 7, we make a special effort to take communion to all shut-ins on that day, even if they do not normally receive it. If you are a shut-in, or know of one, and would like to have com-



munion brought to your that day especially, please call the church office and let Nancy know. The elders will make arrangements to see that all who desire it will receive it that day.

Upcoming Retreats

The Christian Church in WV has two upcoming retreats scheduled. First, the Women's Retreat is scheduled for September 7-9 at Cedar Lakes in Ripley, with Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins as keynote speaker. The Men's Retreat is scheduled for October 5-7 at Cedar Lakes. There are registration deadlines for both events. Information is available in the office or online at the Region's website.

Christian Women's Fellowship

A \$200. gift in memory of Madalene Vaughan has been given to the WV Disciples Ministry Fund by our local CWF. This newly established fund will help with Church Camp registrations, Women's Retreats, New Ministries, Christian Education learning opportunities, and Disciple leadership. The initial contribution was from the Jean Sharp Estate. We appreciate all that Madalene did for our church and are glad that we can be a part of this new regional ministry. The next meeting of the CWF will be on Sunday, September 30, following worship in the Anchor classroom.

NOTE: Don will be on vacation from August 30 through September 4. If there is a pastoral need during this time, please call the church office or the parsonage.

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(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

September 2	Rev. Richard Flowers
September 9	Luke 24: 44-49
September 16	Romans 10: 14-17
September 23	1 Corinthians 2: 1-5
September 30	2 Timothy 1: 6-7

Serving in September

Elders: 2—Jim Trader & Yvonne Seay; 9—Chuck & Carolyn Turner; 16—John & Lee File; 23—Bill File, III & Nancy Snyder; 30—Mark Tredway & Pat Freeman

Deacons: Rod, Casey & Sue Ann Baber, Ed Crouse, Doug & Nancy Korczyk.

Communion Prep & Clean-up: 2 & 9—John Welch & William Clarke; 16 & 23—Conrad & Carol Cooper; 30—Mark & Ashley Tredway.

Worship Leader: 2—Nancy Snyder; 16—Yvonne Seay.

Outside Communion: Carolyn Turner
Lead Usher: Wayne Tucker

In the Hospital in July & August

Pat Freeman & Jeremy Southers

Prayer Concerns

Prayer binds us together as the Body of Christ, because it brings us into God's presence as His people. Please remember these fellow pilgrims in your daily time with the Lord.

Randy Adkins, Mary Joyce Bragg, Jayne Chafin, Clela Cox, Sue Cresce, Woody & Patty Dacal, Karen Fama, Pat Freeman, 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.