

August 2010

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM Sunday School 5:00 PM Nurture Committee 6:00 PM Movie Night Leo and Phyllis Adams</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 PM Pitch-In Dinner with Gary and Judy Woods, Missionaries to Tanzania 7:00 PM Kingdom Builders Aryn Meritt</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 AM Minister's Breakfast 6:00 PM Cub Scout Meeting</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>6:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lindi Bonesteel</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Richard and Judy Garrard</p>	<p>7</p>																																																																																			
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM Sunday School 5:00 PM Youth Committee Leon Williamson</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Mission-Memb 6:30 PM Board Meeting Judy Garrard</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>																																																																																			
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM Sunday School 2:30 PM Worship at Cotillion Ridge</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Charles and Trudy Zum</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>6:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Donna Dickinson</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>																																																																																			
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM Sunday School 6:00 PM Singspiration at Hardinville United Church 6:30 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>6:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>																																																																																			
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM Sunday School 6:00 PM Singspiration, followed by Ice Cream Social 6:30 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00 PM Elders' Meeting</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Jul 2010</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>Sep 2010</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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The Voice in the Wilderness

the voice of one shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths straight.' (Mar

1:3 NET.) - August 2010



FIRST Month

Welcome to a new month of "Voice" with a new format and a new logo! A few weeks ago, while attending the North American Christian convention, it struck me that we still needed a new logo. The one we have is ok, but we something simple, more

attractive, and is readily identified. It needs to speak to the core of who we are as a Church, which is the body of Christ.

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1Co 12:12)

With that in mind, I began to consider the core of who we are, the functions that enable the body to function.

We were all called by Jesus to follow Him. "And Jesus said to them, **Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.**" (Mar 1:17) Just as the disciples at Galilee, so we too respond in obedience and follow the one who called us.

Also, since we are the body of Christ, we are called to imitate the Lord, in our thoughts and actions. "Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God." (3Jn 1:11)

Also, since we are heirs of the Restoration Movement, founded by Thomas and Alexander Campbell, we work to restore the Church to its New Testament roots of Pentecost and piety. "After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it," (Act 15:16)

Finally, who would we be if we did not serve the one who called us, both inside the body as officers and ministers, and outside the body, as missionaries and Jesus' hands and feet in the world? "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple;

and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence." (Rev 7:15)

Thus, with these ideas in mind, we of First Christian Church put Christ FIRST: following, imitating, restoring and serving under the cross of Christ. That is who we are. And then, suddenly, it all fit. And so, this is the logo I came up with:



Established 1839

"where Christ comes first, everyday!"

With a little tweaking and fiddling on the computer, I got the letters lined up and the text to work out right. This is a logo we can take into the next decade and the symbol of who we are as a Church. But before we get into coffee mugs and T-shirts, consider carefully your role at First. Because our success as a congregation will only be as strong as the people who are a part of it.

Maybe you are reading this newsletter but haven't been to First for a while. It's time to come back. Maybe you are one who hasn't made a commitment to Jesus Christ. It is time. Will you decide today? This week? Because Jesus is waiting for you. Will you come this week?

SERMONS FOR AUGUST

- 1 - FOLLOWING JESUS
- 8 - IMITATING JESUS
- 15 - GUEST SPEAKER (MERITT'S ON VACATION)
- 22 - RESTORING JESUS' CHURCH
- 29 - SERVING JESUS

THE PIONEER POST-IT

Wow! July was amazing, but August is going to be even better! Our big youth event in July was the Lock-in the 16th and 17th. Though our numbers were few, our zeal more than made up for it. I would like to welcome the newest member of our youth group:



Tanner

Miller, who was a huge help during our Lock-in. We went to Bogey's in Terre Haute for a couple hours and then came back to do a scavenger hunt in Palestine and painting downstairs. Of course, we are only half done with the painting, but we'll get back here soon to paint again. It's going to look great!



This month, school starts back up, so everybody's schedule will be getting back to normal. The Youth Committee is planning a float for the Labor Day parade, so we will be working on that, schedule TBA. Also, Youth Group will resume after the first full week of school on Sunday nights at 6:30pm.



Keep your eyes peeled for the mail as new fliers and notes will be coming your way!

Worship Servants for July

Elders: Sarah Carpenter, Richard Garrard, Pat Schofield
Diaconate: Carolyn Bradbury, Starr Grimes, Janet Seany
Communion Prep.: Tim McDaniel
Greeter: Trudy Zurn

Bible Study Schedule: for July

This month, we meet August 4th, 18th and 25th. We will be studying 1 John through to the end of August.

NOTICE:

The Church Email has changed. Our Internet service provider has been purchased by Frontier, so our new email is: fccpalestine@frontier.com.

Fellowship with the Church



Pitch-In and Missions Report from Gary & Judy Woods of Tanzania (CMF) is August 2nd at 6:00pm, here at FCC
Kingdom Builders is August 2nd (7:00pm) at First Christian Church of

Bridgeport
Nursing Home Worship is at Cotillion Ridge August 15th (2:30pm)
Singspiration is August 22nd at Hardinville United Church

HOARDERS

by Doug Harvey, Disciple Heritage Fellowship – July 2010
I am fascinated by the TV show, "Hoarders." It documents interventions in the lives of people whose homes have been overwhelmed by the accumulation of "stuff." One person has a house crammed wall-to-wall with clothes bought at garage sales. Another has 40-some cats living in a house crowded with clutter. The cats have shredded and soiled everything in the home. Another has accumulations of food trash rotting everywhere, but she can't let it go because it still might somehow be salvaged. All have been reduced to living in one or two minimal spaces while the rest of the house consists of paths through stuff piled high in every imaginable space.

When we watch "Hoarders," Bev and I often say, "How could someone live that way?" It just seems impossible. But hoarding is a surprisingly common problem. For one reason or another, people find themselves unable to part with things, and soon their whole lives are overtaken by stuff they are emotionally attached to, or I might need someday." It's disturbing to watch people in genuine agony over throwing out a broken ironing board or a can of corn with an expiration date of 2002.

As an outsider looking in through the TV, I can say, "Just let it go. In fact, just let it all go." But to the hoarders, the smallest decisions are gut-wrenching, even paralyzing. And the follow-up studies find most of the hoarders after having their living space restored and their house cleaned up, return to their old ways and within a year are completely buried in a new collection of stuff.

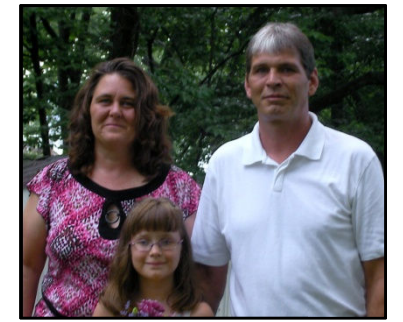
One of the core values of our movement is that of shedding the weight of "stuff" that the church has accumulated over the centuries. We seek to get free from human traditions and historic divisions and just be simple, New Testament Christians. It's a great idea, but we often find it hard to let go of our "stuff." A recurring theme of the church in the last 25 years has been "worship wars" in which congregations tear themselves apart over the proper form and feel of Sunday morning's worship experience. If you go back to the New Testament, neither hymns nor choruses are commanded. Neither drums nor organs are advised. Quiet, reverent worship is not preferred nor is loud celebratory worship. No rules are posted about having services begin at 1:00 or keeping the service to 60 minutes. Instead these debates hinges on our personal preferences. The real question we should be asking is, "What worship flow and musical style will best express the hearts of the people God has called us to target with the Gospel?"

Debate inevitably follows when someone suggests changing the format of Sunday School or moving our youth ministry to a cell-group model or holding a separate worship for those who worship best with a style we don't appreciate. God help the poor pastor who suggests that, instead of taking five minutes out of every service to talk about the offering and pass the plates through the congregation, the church experiment with a box at the back into which people can place their tithes and offerings.

As I watch the hoarders, I keep talking to the TV, saying, "Quit agonizing. Let it go. You don't need it. Keep what you really need, and let the rest go." If an unbiased outsider came to your church this week, would he shake his head at the "stuff" that is cluttering your church's life? Would he be discouraged to see what "stuff" people would defend to the death of the church? Let's get serious about holding lightly to the things that are not eternal while holding tenaciously to those things that are lasting. Part of DIIF's ministry is to keep lifting up the things that are eternal so churches and church leaders can "keep the main thing the main thing." Your generous giving keeps this ministry strong. - DH

Congratulations!

Our congratulations go out to Mr. and Mrs. Ruchard Hughes. Richard and Shiela were married July 9 in rural Palsetine.



Prayer Concerns

Carol Anderson	Gary Matteson
Jim Ballew	Dick McCarty
Floyd Fuller	Baby Mercy
Jack Grimes	Jerry Roth
Vina Hare	Eldon Schofield
Lanny Hoke	John Vinyard
Don Illyes	June Vinyard
Carol Sue Maddox	
Our Church	
Government and Corporate Leaders	
Those serving in the Military and their Families	
Our Country and our Leaders	



UPCOMING EVENT

The Nurture Committee has planned a Singspiration for August 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Homemade ice cream and cake will be served after the song fest. Volunteers are needed to bring ice cream and cake. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back window for anyone willing to bring a freezer of ice cream or a cake. Other churches in the area are invited to come join us.

Summer Worship Schedule!

Be aware that for the months of June, July and August, we meet for Worship at 9:30am and Sunday School at 10:45am. This schedule will conclude with the last Sunday of August and we will resume our normal worship schedule September 5th, with worship at 10:30am and Sunday School at 9: