

Newsletter of First Christian Church Disciples of Christ Versailles, KY March 2023

A few words from Marcus...

Some Thoughts about "Revival" (at Asbury or anywhere)

On Sunday morning at both worship services (2/12) I addressed what's been going down in Wilmore, KY at Asbury College. If you haven't heard, a revival has broken out! It started Wednesday, February 8 after chapel, no one left and people spontaneously stayed to pray and listen for the Holy Spirit. I'm editing this on Tuesday, February 21 and it's just wrapping up. Many people have asked what's going on.

Noah, our Youth Director, is an Asbury Seminary student and he has spent a lot of time there. He's speechless about what's going on. My son went Saturday night from 11pm-3am and several other times. How many college students do you know that want to go and STAY at worship for four hours!? God must be doing something! From Aidan and Noah, this is not some super charismatic outpouring of the Spirit, but a steady drip of amazing worship and confession and prayer that has people making some decisions about their lives. This IS NOT a planned revival like many churches tried to do back in the day.

This just shows how powerful the Holy Spirit works when people come with the EXPECTATION that God is present and working. So, I will remind any readers, revival goes on all the times in our hearts when we're receptive and obedient to God's calling and prompting. While this was happening I was hearing of reports from a friend in prison who is seeing a revival happening there too! Not in the same way as Asbury, but nonetheless, people are hearing and obeying the Holy Spirit, though in numbers that will not get the attention of the media.

What makes Asbury's revival different is the corporate revival that is bringing people in from as far as California and from a multitude of different Christian traditions. My son met people from every generation too! He went back last night with a friend who has struggled believing in the Jesus of the Bible. They left Asbury as brothers in Christ.

The Holy Spirit moves as the Holy Spirit wants. And the Spirit is moving all the time, if we're receptive to seeing it.

I have a lot of non-Christian friends who are understandably skeptical. I think some are worried about what God might do in and through them! At the same time, a little skepticism is healthy, especially from those who have experienced real pain and hurt at the hands of so-called Christians and churches. So here's how we'll know that this was a REAL REVIVAL: are the people who call it a revival more like Jesus tomorrow and the next day? Are they growing in the fruit of the Spirit or are they just having a meaningful EXPERIENCE that withers when they walk away?

Revival happens every day in the hearts and lives of those who are earnestly seeking God's presence and peace and direction for their lives. I've seen (lower case r) revivals in our church. We may not make the news and that's fine by me. As you come to worship, would you come with the expectation that God is already at work and ask Him for a glimpse of it in your own life?

From Our Director of Discipleship and Evangelism Bob Tankersley

Practicing the Way of Jesus Together as Family

I'd like to begin with a huge "THANK YOU" to Joe Wiley and Mike Duckworth for planning and leading our recent Men's Retreat. We had more than 20 men travel up to Blue Licks State Park to spend Friday evening and most of Saturday together, connecting with God and with each other. We hope to take this momentum forward through other opportunities for our FCC men to disciple one another.

Often in the church, the idea of discipleship becomes distilled down to a certain curriculum we study or a set of events we attend. I hope that, in the FCC family, you hear us speak plainly about discipleship being a **journey** as we practice the way of Jesus together. I think one of the best metaphors for discipleship is that of being an apprentice to Jesus - someone who is apprenticing into the very likeness of Jesus. As we walk with Jesus on a daily basis, we want to look, act and sound more like Him today than we did yesterday. The best thing is, like those women and men we read about in the Gospels, we are on this journey together. Often, our focus in this journey is directed toward events and opportunities on Sundays and Wednesdays, but know that our discipleship happens best in the moments shared over coffee, over the back fence, and around the tears and laughter we share together. As we apprentice together, we continue to challenge each other to daily be with Jesus - become like Jesus and to do what Jesus did.

I hope you'll join us for the next "Meeting God in the Dark" coming March 19th. Each time we gather, we watch a different movie selection and then enjoy a short discussion surrounding the themes of faith and life found within the film. The March film will be "The Visitor" - a story about a college professor who travels to New York City to attend a conference and finds a young immigrant couple living in his apartment. This is open to those in High School and older, and childcare will be offered. Please contact the FCC Office to register and let us know if you need childcare. Feel free to bring popcorn!

Our next selection for the "FCC Book Club" is "What's So Amazing about Grace" by Philip Yancey. Our discussion will be on April 20th at 7pm.

As you're reading this, **FCC Greenhouse** is right around the corner! We hope you are planning to gather with us on Saturday, March 11th, from 8:30-11:30 am for this time to us to celebrate what God is presently growing within the FCC community and to plant and cultivate new expressions of the Kingdom that God has in store for us. FCC Greenhouse is open to any who leads in any capacity at FCC (or who might desire to). We hope you'll join us.

The event is free to attend, and we will provide childcare upon request. Please let us know if you are coming by contacting the FCC office or emailing Bob.

From our Youth Director Noah Durbin

In February we have had a Lock-In. Th Lock-In went extremely well. Our students were well behaved, and we had a few guests or students newer to the group. There was a ton of fellowship and nothing or no one was broken (I count that as a success). I will say there will be a gap between the last Lock-In and the next. But I will say that it was a joyous time.

We are continuing our study of Mark. We have taken a new approach to studying the text that the students have responded well to. We have been wrestling with the concept of how we live the Gospel today in our context. I look forward to reporting more about our study. I have not nailed down a good time for our next event, which will be going bowling. But I have plenty planned, especially during the summer. If you are interested helping with our Wednesday night program or special events, then please let me know so I can add you to my list.

For camp, please continue to give towards our mission trip. The more you give, the less our students must pay. We will be raising money until April 25th. For anyone interested going on the trip with us, please pick up paperwork from me as soon as possible. May 10th is the deadline to get paperwork into me. All adults, including college students, are eligible to go until I feel we have enough solid adults going with us. Please do consider partnering through gifts of finance, time, and prayer. I am appreciative of any giving of the gifts that you give so we can go on our trip.

The Asbury "Revival", (Asbury has asked that we use the language of "Outpouring of the Spirit"), has consumed much of my spare time. I could speak so much what I have seen since it has all started. All I can say is that I can confirm that God is doing something great within His Church. I am not totally sure all the fruits that will come from these last two weeks. But I know my soul is bursting at the seams with the mission of Jesus. I cannot wait to tell and show more students, and other people I interact with, the Gospel. I will have the privilege to speak at a youth/youth leader conference this weekend. Please continue to ask about my reflections on the Outpouring as I enjoy reflecting back upon it.

From our Director of Children's Ministry Ronda Roethle

Hi FCC, I am Ronda Roethle, the new Director of Children's Ministry!

I have been married to my husband and (best friend) Steve for thirty-five years. I have two amazing children, Hannah and Daniel, who I had the privilege of homeschooling while being a stay-at-home mom. (Best job ever!) I love my family – they are truly a gift from God.

I was born in Proctor Minnesota and spent most of my adult life in Minneapolis Minnesota. I am a die-hard Vikings fan – SKOL! I love hanging out with my family, playing board games, drinking coffee, crafting, reading, cooking and baking. I have been in Kentucky for about seven years. My husband and I love taking drives and discovering all the wonderful little towns in Kentucky – it really is a beautiful state.

I am excited and honored to have the opportunity to minister to the children here at FCC. It is my heart's desire to teach children from the earliest age and up about the love of the Savior. We have such an amazing God, and He desires for us to know Him. He wrote us love letters (the Bible) so that we would be able to know Him, love Him, serve Him, and obey Him. I look forward to working with the children and their families as we all venture onward in our journey to know God and Jesus our Lord and Savior

*Wade Bailey, 15 yr old cousin of Ruth Ann Boyd – out of hospital

Peggy Cains-Gillette – treatments have worked, cancer free!

Barry & Angie Newton - have joined FCC as members

PRAYER CONCERNS

Parker, nephew of Mary Beth Gaines Linder - cancer Roberta, Dedre VanHoose's mother, health concerns Hunter Armstrong – health concerns

Wayne Ball, uncle of Melissa Gregory - lymphoma

Jessica Coleman - battling cancer

Nancy Cressman, Becky Warren's Mother - health concerns

Harold Duckworth, Mike's Dad – health concerns

Richelle Duncan - fighting cancer

*Mike Faust – health concerns

David Hudson, friend of Sally Boutcher – battling cancer

*Gary Jones, recovering from knee replacement

Jonathan Jones, Friend of Mike VanHoose - prostate cancer

Lisa Kendall, friend of Duckworth's - health concerns

*Richard Kendall, Mark Kendall's dad – health concerns Carolyn Leet – health concerns

Sheree McGraw, mother of Ruth Anne Boyd – health concerns

*Norma Monson, friend of Jan Stuckwish – health concerns

Jeremy Norris, friend of Ordways – cancer

*Savannah Ordway – health concerns

Anna Bell Phillips - health concerns

Jane & Tom Phillips - health concerns

Cathy Ritter, Missy Mix's mom - health concerns

Gary Sacra - battling cancer

Karen Starcher, mother of Jeff Starcher – health concerns

John Stephens, brother of Mary Ann Moss & Freda

Demarest - health concerns Laveda Taylor, Ken Taylor's mom - health concerns

James Traugott, father of Bonita Hill - health concerns

*Kelly Trent – health concerns

*Mike VanHoose – upcoming surgery on 2/24

Steve Ward - health concerns

Uncle of Heather Webber - kidney cancer

Jamie Williams, aunt of Ruth Ann Boyd - battling cancer

Remember Those Who Cannot Worship with Us on a **Regular Basis**

Ann Craig, Joan Ethington, Doris Green, Kay Hall, Priscilla Landreth, Patty Olson, Clifford Young

March Birthdays

- **Ivy Hughes** 1 -
- Joy Soper 2 -
- Larry Wheeler 5 -
- Ruth Anne Boyd
- 8 -Melissa Gregory Jane Jones
- 17 Bill Beverly Mike Sunseri
- 21 Garrett Lewis Teresa Varble Todd Rose
- 22 Brogan Webber
- 28 Jennifer Lynn Cathy Noel Anna Bell Phillips
- 29 -Kay Hall

If you know someone who should be added to our birthday list, please let the church office know so that we can celebrate their special day with them!

ALL CHURCH POTLUCK

We will have an all-church potluck on March 26th after the 11:05 service. Church will provide meat and drinks. There will be a sign-up sheet for sides and desserts. Be looking for more details.

HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for 1-2 people to learn the ropes on running the sound at our 9:00am service. If you are interested or need more information, contact Marcus.

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available on our website www.fccversailles.com. Just go to our website and click on giving. From there just follow the prompts.

TEXT GIVING

Want to text your contribution? Just send a text to 859-214-6164. If you don't have an account set up, you will be prompted to set up an account the first time. After that it is easy...just type your giving option and amount...i.e. Regular 5.00...in the message. You will receive a confirmation text.

GIVING BY CHECK

If you would rather mail a check that is good too. Just send to FCC Versailles, 160 Lexington Street, Versailles, KY 40383.

Vital Statistics		
2022 Budget	\$375,571	
Needed Each Week	\$7,223	
Expenses thru February 21	\$44,042	
Received thru February 21	\$78,029	
In Person Worship Attendance 2/5	173	
Sunday School	58	
In Person Worship Attendance 2/12	166	
Sunday School	56	
In Person Worship Attendance 2/19	172	
Sunday School	55	

Wednesday Night

Every week: Shannon Nally, Leader

Every week Helpers:

Karen Marsee

Cindy Meholovitch

Tressie Hird

Kelly Lariscy

The group will be studying "Seeing God All Around Us".

Serving In March

Elders

Ron Baker Joe Wiley

Audio & Video Engineers – 9:00am

Steve Menshouse - March 5th
Darra Shipp - March 12th
John Thompson - March 19th
Steve Menshouse - March 26

Audio & Video Engineers – 11:05am

Mike Sunseri -March 1st & March 5th
Ben Smith -March 8th & March 12th
Neil Smith -March 15th & March 19th
Mike Sunseri -March 22nd & March 26th

Pre-K Sunday School

All Pre-schoolers transitioned to Elementary
No Preschool needed at this time.
Please let us know if you have a preschooler, so
that we can plan for them

Elementary Sunday School

March 5	-Shannon Nally, Leading
	John Nally, Helping
March 12	-Stefanie Wiley, Leading
	Deann Watts, Helping
March 19	-Freda Demarest, Leading
	Helper Needed
March 26	-Stefanie Wiley, Leading
	Tressie Hird, Helping

Childrens Worship 11:005am

	11.0004111
March 5	-Abby Webb, Leading
	Ronda Roethle, Helping
March 12	-Jessica Kendall, Leading
	Ronda Roethle, Helping
March 19	-Ruth Ann Boyd, Leading
	Ronda Roethle, Helping
March 26	-Allison Lewis, Leading
	Ronda Roethle, Helping

Sunday Morning 11:00 Nursery Workers Taylor Gilpin

& Cindy Meholovitch are always here

Lesley Gilpin and Connie Boyce are Helpers