



A few words from Marcus...

There are a lot of thoughts and ideas that wind up on the cutting floor as I prepare messages each week. Most of them need to be cut and tossed and never spoken of again! Then there are a few that are fine but just don't fit. Most of the time I just delete them and I can't recall what they are but sometimes I save them in a folder hoping it might be useful later. I've got three of those mini-thoughts sitting in this folder and I want to clean the folder out because they've been in there a LONG time. So here you go with some potpourri of theological riffing (how's that for a terrible mixed metaphor!).

1. 1 Corinthians 13:6 teaches us, "Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth." Where there is love, there is no room for misrepresenting the truth because love rejoices in the truth. When others get upset because the truth is being told, you can plainly see there was no love to begin with.
2. A mark of a grateful life is this (from Psalm 116:2): "I will call on Him as long as I live." To call on God's name means two things in the Bible: 1) to trust in Him and nothing else for your salvation (Romans 10:12-13); 2) to orient your whole life to prayer and worship (Genesis 12:8).
3. People [today](#) tend to examine the Bible, looking for things they can't accept but Christians should reverse that, allowing the Bible to examine US, looking for things God can't accept.

In the "Bazaar World"

The Bazaar team would like to thank all those who have donated new and gently used items, priced and helped organize, it is much appreciated and lightens the load for sure!

We have scheduled "Christmas in July" a little differently this year. We would love for you to come share your talents and gifts or just if your curious about what we do.

Instead of an entire week, we have split our time up.

We will gather from 6pm – 9pm Wednesdays, July 12th and 19th and Thursdays, July 13th and 20th to craft, price, organize and fellowship together as we work on some projects for our annual bazaar in November.

We still need some nice greenery swags & candles if you see any deals. Both have become a little pricier and our supplies our low. We can also still use some gallon or 2-gallon Ziploc bags for storage.

We still are working most Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 if you would like to join us in the Bazaar room. This will continue until May when other proگرامing ends.

From Our Director of Discipleship and Evangelism

Bob Tankersley

Over the past couple of months, we've been discussing the idea of **apprenticing under Jesus** - what we commonly call **discipleship**. As followers of Jesus, we know that this is important - and it gets talked about all the time - but what does it really mean to apprentice under Jesus?

At FCC, we believe that this means that you re-order your life around three primary goals: **Be with Jesus, Become like Jesus, and Do what Jesus did**. Let's look at that first goal.

The phrase "**Be with Jesus**" can be paraphrased as "Learning to live in a constant state of relationship with the spirit of Jesus." If you are new to practicing the way of Jesus, this is where you begin. We constantly want to "reJesus" our lives, just like when your car's GPS keeps trying to correct your course when you deviate from its instructions.

But in order to do this, we need to know Jesus more than anything else in life. It means choosing to spend time with him. I see this spelled out by Jesus himself in John 15 when he spends the beginning of that passage saying that He is the true Vine and that, as his apprentices, we should spend our lives abiding in Him. He goes on to say that those who do that produce much fruit.

Notice this isn't as simple as watching a Youtube video or a TED Talk. This isn't a continuing ed class we take at the community center. We abide in Jesus by spending time with Jesus, by developing habits cultivating a constant presence with Him. It means reorienting our hopes, dreams, and our schedules around Jesus and how He wants us to live life.

One of the simplest ways to **Be With Jesus** is to spend time reading through the Gospels. These four books of the Bible are where we have the most concentrated amount of narrative describing Jesus and what he taught the disciples. A couple of years ago, I came across the suggestion of reading through a Gospel a week - and then starting over again. That way, you read through all four Gospels each month and for a total of 12 times a year. To be honest, that was a bit hard for me to do, so I found it easier to read a Gospel over the course of two weeks. (It means just a couple of chapters a day.) That way, I go through all four Gospels in two months' time and read through them six times during the year. To make things more interesting, change the version of the Bible each time you restart the Gospels. This is an incredibly rich way of being with Jesus. Try it once, and I promise that you will gain a deeper connection with Jesus Himself.

Next month, we'll talk a bit about what it means to **Become Like Jesus**...

This Month's "**Meeting God in the Dark**" will be on May 21st from 2-5pm upstairs in the Youth Room. This month's film is "A River Run Through It". As always, 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!

Practicing the Way of Jesus Together as Family

Be WITH Jesus - Become LIKE Jesus - DO what Jesus did

From our Youth Director

Noah Durbin

It is hard to believe that we have arrived at the end of the school year. This time last year I was starting the interview process for my position and now I am teaching my last Wednesday night class for the school year. Throughout the school year, we have learned so much about God through His Word. We have celebrated many accomplishments and grieved many hurts. But through it all we have seen God moving in our midst. I normally like to tell what upcoming events are and recap the last month in my newsletter, yet I want to thank some people prior to that.

I want to start by thanking the church's leadership for their guidance and advice that I needed throughout the semester. For the congregation, thank you for always supporting me and our students. To show how amazing you guys have been, I am the only one from my graduating class at SLCC that was hired and remained in the same church a year later. That is a testimony of the love I feel and see our students receive daily. Finally, I want to thank my weekly volunteers, Joe, Stephanie, and Ruth Anne. Without you guys, I would stand no chance of accomplishing half of what I want to at our weekly gatherings.

Heading into the summer, there will some changes. I am spending time in the youth room updating the paint and layout. We are doing outings almost every week on Sunday afternoons. And I will be praying and searching for some new volunteers for the summer and school year. Joe and Stephanie have decided to step down from volunteering with the youth. They leave a huge hole on my Wednesday nights during the school year. I can only repeat what I said previously and add a thank you from all the previous Youth Directors prior to me. During Sunday school, I am rotating with Ruth Anne every other month on who is leading. Special Events, I am still searching for a few willing to help. Please join me in prayer and if God is nudging your heart to serve in the youth ministry, then please contact me so we can discuss more.

I cannot wait to report more on the amazing summer that awaits our students!

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Do you have a graduate this year? High School or College, we would like to recognize them. Please let us know and send us a current picture, future plans, degree, etc. You can email them to noahdurbin1999@gmail.com. Graduate recognition Sunday is May 7th.

WEDDING SHOWER

Reagan Lynn & Brandon Doucette

When: May 21st

Time: After second service

Registered at these websites:

TheKnot.com/Reagan-Brandon

Amazon.com

Target.com

Ikea.com

From our Director of Children's Ministry

Ronda Roethle

It has been another incredible month. We have all learned a lot more about God and each other. The more time I spend with "my" kids, the more I love and appreciate each one of them. God is truly the Master Designer, making all of His children so unique. We really are "fearfully and wonderfully made."

What We Are Learning

Praise the Lord! We made the move from the gym back to the second floor worship room. It has really made a difference for all of us. It is nice to have our own *special* space where we can gather together to worship and learn more about our amazing God.

We also changed what the kids were learning during their worship time together. The kids will now be hearing and learning about the same message that the adults will be learning about in their service. Hopefully, this will help families talk about the sermon together and find ways to encourage and strengthen each other in the ways of God.

Our Wednesday night Kingdom Kids will be finishing up their series on creation. It has been an exciting time for all of us. As we studied the days of creation, we learned even more about God, and how He had a plan and purpose for everything, including each one of us. We will finish our time together with a family night where the kids will share with their families what they have learned – via song, scripture, and their Creation Books.

In Sunday School, we are still working our way through the series of God's people in exile. The kids continue to ask amazing questions and are doing a wonderful job memorizing their Big Picture Answers, memory verses, and songs.

Upcoming Events

Kids Camp, which is scheduled for June 9th and 10th at AdventureServe Ministries in Wilmore, will be here before we know it. If you want your child(ren) to go please let me know asap. Camp is open to kids who will be going into second grade through those who are finishing up fifth grade. Also VBS, which will be June 26th through June 29th from 6:00 to 8:30 pm is right around the corner. I would love for you to be a part of this ministry. There will be plenty of ways you can use your gifts and talents to bless others and glorify God. Please let me know how you would like to help!

AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

Does anyone have an extra window air conditioning unit you no longer need? We have a need in the children's area upstairs.

Vital Statistics

2023 Budget	\$393,773
Needed Each Week	\$7,573
Expenses thru March 22	\$103,119
Received thru March 22	\$132,733
In Person Worship Attendance 4/2	127
Sunday School	33
In Person Worship Attendance 4/9	237
Sunday School	43
In Person Worship Attendance 4/16	149
Sunday School	34
In Person Worship Attendance 4/23	171
Sunday School	39

SYMPATHY

*Family of Doris Green – passed away 4-21-23

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
Bill Beverly – health concerns
Jessica Coleman - battling cancer
Nancy Cressman, Becky Warren's Mother - health concerns
Harold Duckworth, Mike's Dad – health concerns
Chris Gregory, Phil Gregory's bother - health concerns
Kit Hudson – health concerns
Jonathan Jones, Friend of Mike VanHoose - prostate cancer
Lisa Kendall, friend of Duckworth's - health concerns
Richard Kendall, father of Mark Kendall - health concerns
Carolyn Leet - health concerns
*Greg Marsee – health concerns
Sheree McGraw, mother of Ruth Anne Boyd - health concerns
Jeremy Norris, friend of Ordways - cancer
Savannah Ordway - health concerns
Serena Ordway – health concerns
Jane & Tom Phillips - health concerns
*Robin Reed – health concerns
Cathy Ritter, Missy Mix's mom - health concerns
Gary Sacra - battling cancer
*Debbie Slatten – health concerns
Edie Starcher – health concerns
Karen Starcher, mother of Jeff Starcher – health concerns
Laveda Taylor, Ken Taylor's mom - health concerns
James Traugott, father of Bonita Hill - health concerns
Kelly Trent – health concerns
Steve Ward - health concerns
Uncle of Heather Webber - kidney cancer
Larry Wheeler – health concerns
Jamie Williams, aunt of Ruth Ann Boyd - battling cancer

Remember Those Who Cannot Worship with Us on a Regular Basis

Ann Craig, Joan Ethington, Kay Hall,
Patty Olson, Clifford Young

May Birthdays

- 2- Jane Akin
Shannon Gordon
- 3 - Jim Thompson
- 4 - Madeline Marsee
- 7 - Sue Dozier
- 10 - Allison Lewis
- 11 - Kristyn Ordway
- 15 - Patty Olson
Claire Webb
- 17 - Curtis Congleton
- 20 - Ronda Roethle
- 21 - Kody Smith
- 22 - Caroline Wells
Crystal Campbell
- 24 - Judy Graves
- 26 - Cindy Meholovitch
- 27 - Lee Ann Rose
- 28 - Freda Demarest

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!

WINNERS OF CHURCH HYMN

MADNESS

Amazing Grace

– Ronda Roethle

– Kim Boyd

- Shannon Nally

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.

First Christian Church
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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.

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.