



A few words from Marcus...

In a recent article by Pastor Rob Miller I was reminded of the "Three Kinds of Churches" theory that posits (and makes sense to me) that most congregations self-select into one of three categories: Memorial Churches, Maintenance Churches, or Movement Churches.

The Memorial Church loves to look backwards to the past and operate with the assumption that the church's best days are behind them. The Memorial Church often reflects fondly on a once-filled sanctuary and believes that it would happen again, if only the world would come to its senses, and learn to appreciate "our way of doing church."

The Maintenance Church is focused on the present and believes that things right now are as good as they will ever be. Regardless of their mission statement, Maintenance Churches work hard to keep the members happy. The ministries are often unknowingly, but intentionally designed to promote a consumer Christianity, striving to meet the wants, needs, desires, and expectations of those who already belong. Worship becomes a production and seen as the most important thing the church can do. Everything is done in such a way to keep the church running.

The Movement Church is focused on the future with a firm conviction that the best days are yet to come. There is an unquenchable passion for reaching more people with the love of Christ and equipping one and all for participation in the life-changing Kingdom work that is shared in Jesus' name through the church body (not building). These churches are always moving forward and looking for new and creative ways to help people participate in a disciple-making movement. Movement Churches frequently find themselves in uncomfortable situations because new is rarely safe or simple. It's messy. It has a pioneer spirit.

The danger (and reality for most churches) is that even though most start as a Movement Church they can easily drift off course and take a wrong turn towards a Maintenance Church, which can easily turn into the bumpy road of being a Memorial Church.

Does this trichotomy make sense to you? Do you think FCC Versailles is a memorial, maintenance, or movement church? What type does our community and world need?



FALL GATHERING

I hope everyone has added Sunday, [October 15th](#) to their calendars for FCC's Fall Gathering at the Duckworth Barn!

There will be fun for all, including music by Puncheon Creek, food available for purchase from Rolling Oven, Trifecta Barbecue and Des's Taco Tootin, activities for our youth & children prepared by our own Ronda and Noah, hayrides by our own Michael Duckworth, hot apple cider and complimentary funnel cakes by none other than our own Neil Smith! Water will be provided, but if you want to bring your own drinks and food, please feel free to do so! Don't forget to bring a chair, a smile and invite a friend and/or neighbor!!

From Our Director of Discipleship and Evangelism

Bob Tankersley

Practicing the Way of Jesus Together as Family

First of all, words simply cannot express the gratitude that Sharon and I have for our family here at FCC. Your outpouring of love through calls, texts, and offers of meals after her recent time in the hospital has just been overwhelming. We love you all, and deeply appreciate your love of us!

At this point, we're about halfway through this Fall's Missional Community Experience on Wednesday evenings. We've spent the last few weeks together discussing how MCs support our journey as disciples of Jesus. Each week we've been looking at the whys, whats and hows of Missional Communities. We still have a few weeks together this month - it's not too late to join us for the remaining group times.

However, if you haven't been able to be a part of our MC Experience group on Wednesday evenings and would like to know more about Missional Communities here at FCC, please reach out to either Marcus or myself - we would love to talk with you!

We'll also be starting some new offerings for our Wednesday Adult Connect Groups at the beginning of November. Be watching for more information about group topics coming soon!

The **FCC Book Club** returns this month! Our October reading is "The Shack" by William Young. We will gather on Thursday, October 19th at 7pm for our discussion. I hope you'll join us!

Mark your calendars - our last **Meeting God in the Dark** of 2023 will be on Sunday, November 19th at 2pm.

Three great questions to ask ourselves as Jesus' disciples:

1. Who is one person God has highlighted (nudged) or sent you to be Good News to?
2. What is an act of love (a blessing) that you can do for them this week?
3. Who can you bring along when you do this?

Be WITH Jesus - Become LIKE Jesus - DO what Jesus

BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Backpack Program needs your help...FCC packs on average 90+ bags for students who have been identified as needing extra nutritional help over the weekends **each week of the school year**. The cost of each **bag is appx. \$4.87** which **totals up to over \$400 a week and over \$10,000 for the school year**. Your financial help and prayers are greatly appreciated. Please note "Backpack" on your gift.

HANDBELLS

The bells being used by our handbell choir are being refurbished on November 5th. We have been saving up for this...cost about \$5,000, but are still a few hundred dollars short. If anyone would like to donate to this please note bells on your check. Thank you.

NEW ADDRESS

Margaret Harp
486A Scarborough Dr
Versailles, KY 40383

From our Youth Director

NOAH DURBIN

The youth ministry is up and running with our Wednesday night activities. We are continuing our Mark study that we were working through last semester. I have enjoyed our students ability to understand the Gospel while being open to new concepts that I present. We will be in this study until November, when we will start a study on Tough Questions of the Bible. I am excited for this study as there is no limit to the faith questions that our students can give me. I will not be answering these questions necessarily, instead I will guide the students through the Bible and articles by smarter people than me to find the answers.

I am planning on bringing some outdoor activities to our Fall Gathering on October 15. When reflecting back on my first year working here, the Fall Gathering was great way to relate to students and families outside of church. I look forward to connecting with returning and new students and families this year.

There's so much more on the docket this semester but for now that's what we have coming up. I hope you and your family stay safe and healthy. Enjoy the fall weather, which is a blessing from God Almighty.

In the "Bazaar World"

We are back working on Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 if you would like to join us!

We are gearing up for our November 10th and 11th Bazaar. We are pricing, and organizing and crafting.

If you have donations, if you could price and store for us until closer to the bazaar that would be great as we are blessed to be almost FULL 😊! If you can't let us know and we will try and make room. Also, if you do need to drop items off, please make sure to not block pathways to food room or stairs.

Be praying and considering how you can help. You can cook, help in the kitchen, set up, work the floor or the cashier table and of course SHOP!

From our Director of Children's Ministry

Ronda Roethle

Kingdom Kids

Wednesday night classes are underway, and we are all having a wonderful time. We kicked off our first week with a game. I gave the kids all the materials they needed to play the game and then told them to go. They stood there looking confused. I then randomly started yelling penalties at them for what they did or didn't do. After a bit of frustration someone shouted, "What are the rules?" This was the start of our lesson on why we need rules. We had a great talk on the importance of rules – but most importantly, the importance of God's rules.

Each week Moses delivers one commandment to the class, and we focus on that commandment. The kids all want to be Moses but with there being only Ten Commandments we will have to improvise to allow everyone a turn!

Sunday School

We have been enjoying our new curriculum. Some of our lessons have been related to what we have been learning from our time in worship. I love when the kids are the ones to point it out. It means that they are not just learning a "lesson" but that they are understanding it and even applying it, which is very encouraging.

On a sidenote, I am in need of volunteers for Sunday school, so if you are interested in serving in this way I would love to talk with you about the opportunities available.

Worship

I shared last month that the kids have been learning the Doxology. One of the kids said that they are getting so good at it that they should sing it for the church. Well, I will say they are doing well with making a joyful noise – but I do think the LORD is very pleased with their worship!

Nursery

Lily Gourley has started teaching the kids a Bible lesson each week. She has a coloring sheet available for those who are able; some of the littles are not interested in coloring yet. She is encouraged by the interest of the little ones as she reads the Bible stories to them. Children are never too young to learn about our amazing God!

Prayer and Praise

I was so blessed to be able attend the Awana Children's Discipleship Conference in Tennessee on September 21st and 22nd. It was encouraging to be in a room with people who all had a heart for children to know, love and serve Jesus. They had so many wonderful speakers sharing a ton of information related to children; the challenges that they are facing emotionally, physically, in school, in home, and in church.

To be honest, it was all a bit overwhelming. Our children are facing so many hard issues today. When they shared statistics on some specifics, it broke my heart. At FCC we have an amazing group of children, and we all have an opportunity to pour into their lives. It is my prayer that the church will be there to help not only teach the love of Jesus to these children, but to actively show it to them as well. My final thought - it is always good to remember that as big as the problems are or seem to be – our God is Bigger than any and all problems! May God be glorified in and through these children.

PRAISE

Teresa Kelly – joined by transfer of membership

SYMPATHY

Family of Crystal Campbell – passed away

*Kristi Stuckel's mother passed away 9/22/23

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mark, cousin of Connie Boyce – health concerns

Parker, nephew of Mary Beth Gaines Linder - cancer

Roberta, Dedre VanHoose's mother, health concerns

Hunter Armstrong – health concerns

Janet Arrowwood, neighbor of Ordways - battling breast cancer

*Caroline Boldizar – 11 yr old serious health concerns

Nancy Cressman, Becky Warren's Mother - health concerns

Susan & Richard Jones – health concerns

Carolyn Leet - health concerns

Sheree McGraw, mother of Ruth Anne Boyd - health concerns

Shawn Morris – health concerns

Jeremy Norris, friend of Ordways – cancer

*Eliot, son of Anna Nucklos – 5 month old with cancer

*Pete Pettyjohn – battling cancer

Melody Phelps – health concerns

Cathy Ritter, Missy Mix's mom - health concerns

*Karen S, friend of Debbie Slatten - battling breast cancer

Yolanda Smith – 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

Mike VanHoose – health concerns

*Steve Watts – battling cancer

Uncle of Heather Webber - kidney cancer

Larry Wheeler – health concerns

Jamie Williams, aunt of Ruth Ann Boyd - battling cancer

Anaiah Wilson – 15 year old battling leukemia

Remember Those Who Cannot Worship with Us on a Regular Basis

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

*Indicates a new name

**Unless additional time is requested, all prayer requests will be removed after four consecutive weeks on the prayer list

If you have a prayer concern you can email it to the office
fccdoc@windstream.net, text to 859-459-0443, or call the
office 859-873-3901

Vital Statistics

2023 Budget	\$404,454
Needed Each Week	\$7,778

Expenses thru September 26	\$259,276
Received thru September 26	\$326,592

In Person Worship Attendance 9/3	177
Sunday School	60
In Person Worship Attendance 9/10	155
Sunday School	55
In Person Worship Attendance 9/17	161
Sunday School	58
In Person Worship Attendance 9/24	154
Sunday School	57

October Birthdays

1 - Roy Asher
Carrie Hollin
3 - Sharon Hardin
4 - Royce Gilpin
6 - Andrew Gordon
7 - Melody Gilpin
14 - Bennett Morris
17 - Lil Hoferkamp
18 - Bonita Hill
22 - Sheila Hollin
23 - Harry Dennison
24 - Debbie Duckworth
26 - Luke Watts
28 - Heather Sunseri
Gary Jones
31 - Amanda Dennison

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!

First Christian Church
160 Lexington Street
Versailles, KY 40383

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.