

THE CALLER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
OWENSBORO, KY



From the Preacherman....

Often called the first modern novel, *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes was among my mother's favorite books to teach in her high school English classes. I can still see her, face radiant in front of the class, energy electrifying her small frame, tilting at the windmills/dragons we would all face in our lifetimes. Margie Michael teaching that literature was such a waste of time and had such profound and lasting importance. Both are true. We forget that at our peril.

Being a preacher right now seems as frivolous and unimportant as *Don Quixote*. It's positively Quixotic to consider the myriad issues and problems in our world. We see so much news from so many places, so much suffering and loss, that we either ignore it or shut down emotionally in the face of it all. There is another way, however.

My choice is to follow the way of the One who walked in days of oppressive, dismissive political power demonstrated from afar. Jesus was kind, confronted selfishness and self-importance, loved fiercely and freely, and died for it far too soon. Astonishingly, he was always where his feet were. Not anywhere else. That's my choice: to be faithful, to laugh, to talk seriously about life, to weep for things that matter and that don't, to care about things that mean not a whit. (Like college football. Maybe Jesus had a favorite team?) And perhaps the key to faithfulness is not acting because the outcome matters, but because it is the right thing to do, no matter what.

You must decide or others will decide for you. Where do you live? What do you touch and see and feel each day? To whom do you get to speak and listen? Where are your feet? However you answer, that is your place. Those are your people. This is your time to be God's person in the world. Decide and act. What have you got to lose? Your reputation or your place in society or your perceived grasp of power? Really? Your life and mine will end sooner than we think. Get busy living or get busy dying.

Life has limits. My faith helps me to live within those limits with kindness, grace, some prophetic anger and humor. Lots of humor. And also a deep sense of my own impermanence. Garrison Keillor once said, "Cheerfulness is the only way to regard mortality: life is a gift, so be grateful." So I try. You can, too. Make it a practice, tilt at some windmills and see where it leads.

Peace, Chris





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1  Church Office Closed	2	3 Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Worship @ 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups @ 6:15 p.m.	4 Refugee Food Pantry	5	6
7 Worship/Sunday School	8 OCTC Chorus Rehearsals begin Monday Nights @ 6:30 p.m.	9 Primetimers Plus Lunch Outing @ O'Charleys 11:30 a.m.	10 Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Worship @ 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups @ 6:15 p.m.	11	12 Elders Retreat	13 Elders Retreat
14 Worship/Sunday School	15 Retired Teachers Luncheon 10-1	16 Board Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.	17 Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Worship @ 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups @ 6:15 p.m.	18 Refugee Food Pantry	19 Rehearsal	20 Wedding @ FCC
21 Worship/Sunday School	22	23	24 Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Worship @ 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups @ 6:15 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Worship/Sunday School	29	30				

Birthdays

1 Stuart Gant
 2 Cate Gaddis
 4 Lucille Fischer
 4 Mike Robinson
 5 Emme Roberts
 5 Jim Westmoreland
 5 Lily Belcher
 7 Mary Yerington
 11 Nancy Connor
 13 Anne Carlisle
 13 Martha Lee
 22 Cheryl Bell
 25 Chris Gaddis
 25 Carroll Laswell
 25 Steve Rice
 25 Marilee Thompson
 26 Norman Woodward
 26 Brenda Hoyt
 28 Tom Maddox
 28 Meghan McKinley

14 Mike Bruce
 16 Gloria Goodaker
 16 Patty Schrecker
 17 Kyle Jackson
 18 Reise Elliott
 19 Ross Johnson
 19 Tom Norvell
 21 Margaret Miller
 21 Katie Sterett
 21 Terry Brownson

Anniversaries

Kyle & Sara Aud
 Adam & Kaitlyn Fischer
 Wayne & Gloria Goodaker
 Todd & Amy Harper
 Tab & Vickie Quisenberry
 Tres & Katie Sterett
 Gary & Mary Lisa Tunget
 John & Elizabeth Yager
 Mike & Patty Matthews
 Doug & Brenda Hoyt

July Financials

Offering for the Month:	\$30,091.00
Other Revenue Month:	\$4,244.93
Total Revenue:	\$34,335.93
Expenses:	(\$46,096.85)
Net:	(\$11,760.92)
Year-to-Date Offering	\$258,142.03
YTD Other Revenue	\$17,365.44
YTD Revenue	\$275,507.47
YTD Expenses	(\$363,386.89)
Net for the year	(\$87,879.42)

YOUTH



August & September

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

august 20

WELCOME BACK!

JOIN US FOR A CHURCH POTLUCK TO CELEBRATE THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!
(5:30 PM)
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH TO FEED 8-10 PEOPLE

august 27

REGULAR CHILDRENS & YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

NOTE: PROMOTION SUNDAY IS AUGUST 10! PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN ATTENDANCE TO RECEIVE A BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING & TREAT!

september 3

REGULAR CHILDRENS & YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

september 10

CHILDRENS:
REGULAR MEETING
YOUTH:
TOUR OF 1010 ALLEN STREET & LEARNING ALL ABOUT ISAF

september 17

REGULAR CHILDRENS & YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

september 24

OUTING!
DETAILS TO COME


BEGINNING AUGUST 27, THERE WILL BE A 15 MINUTE WORSHIP SERVICE EACH WEDNESDAY BETWEEN DINNER & YOUTH GROUP. ALL ARE WELCOME!



REMINDER: YOUTH GROUP WILL NOT MEET DURING SCHOOL FALL BREAK!

NEW JUNIOR DEACON PROGRAM

WE ARE EXCITED TO BE BEGINNING A NEW JUNIOR DEACON PROGRAM. ALL CHI-RO (6TH-8TH) AND CYF (9TH-12TH) STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE PROGRAM TO LEARN TO SERVE COMMUNION AND COLLECT OFFERING. WE WILL PRACTICE AND PREPARE TO BEGIN SERVING ON SUNDAYS. PLEASE REACH OUT TO MEAGHAN MURPHY TO JOIN THE PROGRAM!



INTERESTED IN RINGING THE BELL OR LIGHTING THE CANDLES? SEE RILEY!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND HELPERS FOR YOUTH GROUP ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS. PLEASE REACH OUT TO MEAGHAN OR RILEY TO VOLUNTEER!





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