



THE FCC C·O·N·N·E·C·T·I·O·N

The monthly newsletter of First Christian Church

February 2016

PLANT YOUR SEEDS WISELY – by Rick Warren

Everything starts as a seed. That's the first law of the harvest.

Every achievement started as a dream seed. America started as an idea seed of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Your life started as a seed—when your father's seed was connected with your mother's egg, your life began. Literally everything that's living on planet Earth came from a seed.

In Genesis 1:11 God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds" (NIV).

A seed is anything valuable that you give away. When you give away praise, there's value to that. When you give away good advice, there's value to that. When you give away your time, there's value to that. When you give away your money, there's value to that. When you share your experience to help other people, there's value to that. When you give your love away, there's great value to that. It all starts as a seed.

Your words can also be seeds that you plant in people's minds. They grow, and they bear fruit. So you need to choose your words wisely, especially when you're talking with people that you love, like your children, your husband, your wife, and your friends.

Let me ask you this: What kind of seeds are you planting in your relationships? Are you planting seeds of trust, or are you planting seeds of distrust? Are you planting seeds of kindness, or are you planting seeds of crankiness? Are you planting seeds that build up, or are you planting seeds that tear down? Remember: You will reap whatever you sow.

Choir

I can't believe it's February already!!! The choir is going to work on singing some of our favorite songs for one of the Sundays of Music. Let me know if you have a favorite piece you would like for us to sing. Better yet, come join the choir and sing with us!

Serving This Month

Elders

Mick Arnold, Jack Dale

Elder Alternates

Allen Anderson, Phil Rust

Deacons/Ushers

Paul Knight (D/U), Adam Barker (D),
Jon Grunstra (D), Jim Sisk (D)
(Usher(s) responsible for locking
foyer door after service starts.)

Junior Deacon

Jacob Knight

Deaconesses

Jean Brannon, Sharon Dorsey

If you cannot serve during your scheduled month, please contact another server to see about switching with you.

If you know of a shut-in desiring communion be taken to them, please call Jean Brannon at 276-669-7311.



Getting to Know You

Maybe you've heard this tune:

Getting to know you,
Getting to know all about you.
Getting to like you,
Getting to hope you like me.
Getting to know you,
Putting it my way,
But nicely,
You are precisely,
My cup of tea.

I got to know someone today. I had met her before—actually, we are kin by marriage, but today I got to know her. We didn't meet over coffee, we didn't text, we didn't chat on the phone. I had watched her a bit on Facebook, saw pictures of her family. We had been to some family reunions together but she was just one in the big crowd of Peaks to try to have a moment with. I knew she was a wonderful musician but that's about all I knew about her.

You might be thinking, "Okay, so how did you get to know her?" I got to know her at her funeral. The service itself was more than I can explain, but when the Pastor gave the eulogy I got

to know Donna Peak. I found she liked having fun, she loved secrets, she taught her children well—very well. I got to know her specialties were apple pie and fresh homemade bread. I found out she loved teaching children. As I continued getting to know her I found out she was a real lady, one of high character, one greatly gifted, one who loved and depended on God's word, and believed it was true; a lady who loved the Lord and left a great legacy.

The final hymn we sang as a congregation was:

"Oh Jesus I Have Promised"

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.

And Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.

As the music played, the voices of many friends and a large family sang—a glorious choir—but I stood stirred to my core, nothing came from my voice.

I got to know someone today, one who bravely, yet with grace closed her eyes in death from cancer. This hymn was her choice. I got to know someone today who could sing, "I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side . . . and Jesus I have promised to serve Thee to the end; O give me grace to follow my Master and my friend."

In life or in death, how will someone get to know you?

In memory and honor of
Donna Peak

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good new of God's grace (Acts 20:24 NIV). †

LIFT

Ladies, for our next L.I.F.T. meeting we are going to have a special time of prayer for needs and a prayer walk for our church. This will be on February 9th from 6:30-7:00 pm. Our next regular meeting will be on February 23rd at 6:30 in The Pink Room. You won't want to miss! We'll have great devotions that will be a bright spot in your week. If you haven't had a chance to do so, this month would be a great time to join us. We look forward to seeing you there!

~ Evelyn

Lunch

VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

We will be having a Valentine's Day Luncheon immediately following the worship service on February 14th. Donations will be taken up and the money raised will go towards the purchase of kitchen appliances for the Cummins Center! The menu for the luncheon is: spaghetti, salad, bread, and dessert. Please plan to attend and help us raise the money needed! ~ Gina

FEBRUARY

2016



Calendar of Events for FCC

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|----------|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Mid-Week Service 6:30-7:30 pm | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children's Church Families & Kids Connect 6:00 pm | 8 Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 pm Board Meeting 7:00 pm (All church members are invited to attend meetings.) | 9 L-I-F-T Prayer Meeting Church - 6:30 pm | 10 Mid-Week Service 6:30-7:30 pm | 11 | 12  Meals on Wheels 10:00 am | 13 Men's Connect Breakfast 8:30 am |
| 14 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children's Church <i>Luncheon following the morning worship service</i> No evening services. | 15 | 16 | 17 Mid-Week Service 6:30-7:30 pm | 18 | 19  | 20 |
| 21 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children's Church No evening services. | 22 | 23 L-I-F-T – The Pink Room 6:30 pm | 24 Mid-Week Service 6:30-7:30 pm | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children's Church No evening services. | 29 | | | | | |

Margie is in the church office from 8:30-12:30, Tuesday – Thursday unless otherwise indicated.

Please have items for March newsletter to Margie or Judy by Feb. 19th.

First Christian Church
PO Box 158
Bristol, VA 24202



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| CONNECT GROUP MEETINGS | | <p>Saturday, Feb. 13th • 8:30am • Bethany Hall</p> <p><i>We will be continuing our study about being a Kingdom Man by Tony Evans, a great speaker and teacher. Men, if you haven't joined us yet, this is a study you can still jump in on and receive a blessing. God needs an army of Kingdom Men! I'll be looking for you! ~ Pastor Todd</i></p> |
| | | <p>Join us Sunday night, Feb. 7th, for SUPER BOWL 50!</p> <p><i>Hosted by Pastor Todd and Crystal • Bring your favorite snack foods, finger foods, or "football watching" foods and join us for food, fun, fellowship, and football! We will begin at 6pm. Hope to see you there!</i></p> |
| | | <p>Date & time of next meeting to be announced</p> <p><i>Small Group for young families balancing college, careers, and children.</i></p> |
| | | <p>Wednesday Nights • 6:30pm</p> <p><i>"Transitional Teens" – Small Group for those who are making the transition from our children's program to our youth program.</i></p> |
| | | <p>Ladies In Fellowship Together Feb. 9th – 6:30pm • Feb. 23rd – 6:30pm</p> <p><i>The Ladies LIFT group will meet <u>at the church on February 9th</u> at 6:30 for a special night of prayer. We will meet for about 30 minutes for special prayer. We will resume our regular Bible devotion with LIFT on February 23rd at 6:30 in The PINK ROOM.</i></p> |