

Subject: Notes from First Church Women (FCW) Gathering June 10,2024

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to all who were able to attend last evening. 14 women gathered, and yes, we missed you who were not able to join us! These meetings notes will be long in length coupled with many attachments. So, grab a coffee or tea and read on to stay up to date.

* We welcomed [Gwen Robbins](#) to our gathering last evening! Gwen provided her email address (G.J.Robbins.82@gmail.com) and she is copied on these notes. [Gwen](#), last evening you were interested in a copy of First Church Women's Mission Statement. I will send you a copy to your email.

* [Rose Adams](#) shared the opening devotion from Galatians 6:9 where Paul wrote: "Let us not become weary in doing good, [for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up](#)". Rose sharing Paul's wisdom serves as a strong reminder that with faith, prayer and action we are to continue to: **1)** persevere even where there is difficulty, **2)** love others, do good to all, **3)** our work/efforts matter.

* [Lisa Hightower](#) facilitated session #3 of Psalm 90, "Number Our Days". Thank you Lisa for sharing how befitting the lesson was considering the recent passing of our sister, Cindy Daubenspeck, who was 'promoted' to Heaven this week.

* Following the video talk, Lisa led our discussion which focused on: **1)** what do we need to be content? **2)** What is the difference between contentment and complacency, **3)** Where can we take refuge when our circumstances feel more than we can bear? ***Pray with confidence***

Several topics were discussed last evening and likely too many! ***However***, recall our July gathering is a dinner and it will not lend itself to focused topics. With that in mind, thank you everyone for your attention to the information shared last evening and noted below. You will also find some information attachments to supplement the discussion and to keep those who could not attend, apprised of FCW activities.

Finance:

* Pam Barlow provided the June **FCW statement balance of: \$2,209.41**, and reiterated funds into the FCW account are a separate/secure line item within the church accounting system.

- Thank you to everyone being faithful with their offering into FCW's fund via church envelopes. [Please note your giving in the "Other" fund category and specify: FCW](#)

- Trades of Hope contributed \$75.98 into the FCW budget based on *qualified sales* at the 2023 Trades of Hope fund raiser event. They sent a 'thank you' letter to FCW and it was passed around for those gathered to read. A special call out goes to Spring Mingy (Daughter of Pam Barlow) for her 10% profit donation going to the FCW account. And, Spring's many hours of effort to the fund raiser.

- Bev shared in the coming months, online giving into the FCW account will become reality. Jade Smith (Denise Gilman's daughter) has the 'task' in her work queue. More information to come with online giving in the future.

- On Monday, June 10, Bev Drazul was reimbursed \$243.62 from the FCW account. This amount represents half the miscellaneous expenses for the May 8th Ordination Dinner. (expenses consisted of: pastor and staff gifts, table decorations, etc.). The Men's Ministry will be reimbursing Bev the remaining \$243.61. You may recall in February, FCW and Men's Ministry previously decided to fund the *miscellaneous expenses* for the celebration.

Please note: Food for the Ordination Dinner was funded via the Impact budget. The dinner was held the last Impact Wednesday for the season where people attending paid \$6.00 each for their dinner.

FCW/First Church Events:

* **First Church Women Dinner: July, 8, 2024 - 5:00PM - LEC FCW contact: Pam Barlow**

A signup sheet was distributed for this dinner gathering. Thank you for those who signed up last evening! We **must know** if you plan to attend to provide a 'setup number of seats' to Facilities. **Please note:** The dinner will be held in the Parlor in the LEC. **Rose**, please share with Mae, she is more than welcome to attend! (we don't have her email)

* **August Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for our church Stained Glass Window repair.**
(August date TBD) -**FCW Contact: Hollie Hastings**

Thank you for those who signed up last evening to help with this church event! We need your assistance to make this church fundraiser a huge success to repair our beautiful windows! The Church has ~ 60 windows and the cost is \$1,635 Per Window for their preservation/restoration. When adequate funds are secured, the church will be in a position to have the artistic skill of the repairman to continue with restoration. (You may recall the ascension window was repaired; look online on the First Church website for more details of the repair efforts).

* **Sept. First Church Women Fund Raiser event:** (Sept date TBD) **FCW contact: Bev Drazul**

FCW is changing up its account Fund Raiser method for 2024! We will have a 'Freewill' offering and do some light crafting in September. Craft samples were shared at June's gathering. Your monetary donation to the event will go directly to the FCW account so we are able to share in support and service to others. Please refer to the attached document for more details.

Note: We are looking for YOUR ideas for fundraiser to the FCW account. Thank you!

* **Oct - Aspire Christian Fellowship Opportunity October, 2024 - FCW contact: Pam Barlow**

"Aspire was born out of the desire and need for women to enjoy a night out, with fellowship and spiritual growth. We stand on the promises of God that He is enough, and that aspiring after His purpose will affect the lives we lead as well as the people we interact with.

The first event began in September of 2014 in Arizona and continues to be a one-night three-hour evening of music, comedy, and teaching that speaks to the hearts of women; to inspire, encourage, and remind them of God's love and purpose for their lives.

Aspire is a brand of Extreme Faith Productions (EFP). EFP has been promoting concerts and events across the United States since 2002. We exist to serve God's people by providing quality events to the Christian community. [Please see the attachment for more information. This event is being held in Haines City, Florida](#)

Future Opportunities - Dates TBD

*** Very preliminary stages for a road trip to see the Ark Encounter & Creation Museum.**
(located outside/south of Cincinnati).

A few FCW women last evening indicated interest. Bev has communicated with Jereme Brown and he indicates an interest and will be speaking to Men's Ministry. Pastor Mark is 'onboard' and would like to place a notice in future church bulletins. The more people to go on the trip helps to keep the price down! Stay tuned for more information.

*** The Little House Next Door (located on Church Street in Deland)**

Pam shared a brief description about this daycare facility'. This location might be another opportunity(?) to request a tour to understand their support of our youngsters! More to come on this topic. See attachment.

Thank you everyone for reading this very long email. Enjoy your evening,

Bev