

Subject: Notes from June 12, 2023 FCW Gathering

Hello Everyone,

Thank you for attending the June 12th gathering of **First Church Women**. We missed all of you who were not able to be with us and look forward to seeing you soon.

Please let me take this opportunity to remind everyone for the Summer months **only** (June, July, August), we meet at 6:00PM.

In **September**, we will return to our standard start time of 7:00PM, the second Monday of each month. This one hour later start in September, provides just a bit of breathing room for working women to arrive without being too rushed.

Last evening 17 women gathered to enjoy fellowship, refreshments and Lesson #4 from Liz Curtis-Higgs. "Dying for a drink" (Woman at the Well). Liz says: "God's Word tells us that it's not a shame to be thirsty- it's a blessing!" . . .

June 12th meeting notes:

- Welcome to **Melissa Brown, Cindy Evans, Denise Gilman, Lucy Hudson, Pam Pocica, Tammy Reyes, Summer Sparks, Johnnie Thornett, Michelle Welch**. We hope you enjoyed joining us last evening and sincerely want to have you return next month!
- Opening Devotion was shared by **Lisa Hightower** where the topic surrounded 'Acts of Kindness' from two resource/reference materials: The Upper Room booklet (summer, 2002 publication) and from author Oswald Chambers' "My Acts of Kindness". Thank you Lisa for sharing and encouraging others to share!

Discussion Topics:

- **Pam Barlow** confirmed a memorial gift in Barbara Waterston's name can be given to "Trades of Hope". As many of you are aware, Trades of Hope is an endeavor Barbara fully supported and believed in for the betterment and employment of women. Pam will reach out to **Amanda Dougherty** to pursue giving the memorial gift this month to Trades

of Hope in memory of Barbara. **Reminder:** Please mark your calendars: **Barbara Waterston's memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, June 24th**

- **Pam Barlow** shared about her recent retreat trip to The Cove on June 9-11 (Billy Graham's retreat center in NC). Lisa Harper was the teacher of the "**Outliers, Outcasts, and the Outrageous Compassion of Jesus Christ**" seminar where the focus was on the book of Luke.
 - The retreat was attended by 440 women from many states and included attendance by 8 women from the Bahamas. It was a peaceful and worship filled gathering of Christ's daughters.
 - For those of you interested in attending The Cove, their 2024 catalog of speakers is expected to be published in September, 2023. **Lisa Harper will be speaking next year July 19-21,2024**
- **Tammy Reyes** shared she has been tasked by the Administrative council, to recruit help for painting of the parsonage. Are you, your spouse or significant other willing to help paint? Are you able to help provide food to nourish the painters? Please stay tuned for an email from Tammy where she will provide dates and logistics for the 'painting party' to help in this church effort.
- **Lucy Hudson** shared about the recent youth mission trip where the youth built a fence. For photos of the trip, see the church Facebook page. Not familiar with Facebook? Use the steps below to navigate to First Church Facebook to see the youth photos:
 - From your Google prompt type: **First Church Facebook**
 - now look for and select **First Church Deland** (to open the church facebook main page)
 - At the main page, look to your right, select on the word **more**, then select the down arrow
 - **select 'Check-ins'**
 - You should now see the overflow Yourth icon
 - select the icon and the recent pictures will display
- **Right Now Media Access:** For those interested in viewing the previous 3 lessons by Liz Curtis-Higgs as **Lisa Hightower** reminded, they are available through Right Now Media (the church has a subscription to this media service). Did you know you also have an opportunity to view other teachers online within the media service? However, you must signup for the service via our church website.

- Go to the church website
 - Select the word **Connect**
 - Scroll down to the word **Resources**
 - the "Right Now icon will display
 - Select "**Sign Up**" and complete your registration.
- Refreshment last evening were provided by [Hollie Hastings](#) and [Pam Barlow](#). Thank you both for preparing and sharing! Thank you also to [Lisa Hightower](#) for preparing the coffee/tea station.
- **For those of you new to FCW**, upon your arrival, please feel free to help yourself to food and beverage and then get comfortable! Typically we allow ourselves ~ 20 minutes or so to settle in and chat. We then begin with a short opening devotion, then proceed with business at hand, followed by a lesson from Right Now Media or another resource.

Thank you for reading through all of the information in this email! It is truly a blessing for us to gather and stay connected. As always, please feel free and comfortable to ask questions and share during all of our gatherings. By the way, From time to time, I (Bev) will likely ask someone to speak on a specific topic where you have experience. For example, [Shirley Burnett](#) is currently traveling to Norway. Maybe you are like me and want to hear about Shirley's vacation!

God's peace to everyone,

Bev Drazul, Pam Barlow, Lisa Hightower