



# THE BEACON

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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**Sr. Min.** Bill Platt; **Assoc. Min.** David Rorabaugh; **Youth Min.**

**Elder Emeritus:** Ron Greenway and  
Glen Noble

**Elders:** Don Andersen, Scott Buerge, Doug Gammon,  
Wayne Jeans, John McKinley

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## From the Pulpit

This month we will honor our graduates on May 14. Also, it is our intent to dedicate our younger children (preschool age or younger) on that same Sunday. If you haven't caught it yet, this is Mother's Day. It will be a fun Sunday.

It has been a year without a youth minister. Our search committee is still prayerfully seeking. I would urge you to pray as well. Many of you may be wondering how our youth ministry is doing? The two most prominent youth programs are Little Tree Ministries (early school age) which meets on Wednesday eve and our SeekerGen (Jr & Sr High) which meets on Sunday eve.

Little Tree averages toward 40 children most Wednesdays. Staffing is vital and approximately 20 to 25 volunteers help in varied ways. Among these volunteers, are high school volunteers of which many are called Watchmen (Leadership group of our SeekGen). Bobby & Garry Dade prepare food every week to feed the multitudes. Angie Moore organizes and prepares material each week. Tommy Bowen leads their worship and announcements. Dave Serna will set up and drive vans. These are but a few of the many volunteers involved. It is the volunteers that continue to keep the strength in this program.

SeekerGen attendance tends to be averaging toward 15 to 20 many weeks. Treats are put together and vans run so that those who want to be there can be there. Following the story/lesson for the eve they break into small groups and dialogue over what they have learned. Many of the volunteers for Little Tree are present for SeekerGen. Also with our older youth, there are many other things that transpire like highway pickup, seasonal parties, FUSE (united worship among several youth groups), and more.

A youth minister presence is still sought, but thank you to multiple volunteers who keep the programs going strong. This is truly a sacrifice of love. Summer is coming and camp season is soon. Vacation Bible School will be July 30 to August 4th. Plus, a couple of mission trips are planned. Please pray for our youth teams. For each day of May pray for the different aspects of our youth ministry to youth and begin with our volunteers.

C U Sunday, Bill

**Mission:**  
JESUS

It sure seems like time is flying by. One third of this year is already gone and we are on the doorstep of summer. I pray that you are using your time wisely as you honor Jesus in all things.

The apostle Paul's words came to mind, "And working together with Him [Jesus], we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain – for He says, 'At the acceptable time I listened to you, and on the day of salvation I helped you'; behold, now is 'the acceptable time,' behold, now is 'the day of salvation' – giving no cause for offense in anything, in order that the ministry be not discredited, but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance...." (II Corinthians 6:1-4b)

Continue to grow in honoring and serving Christ until He returns.

**SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES** for all at 9:30 AM every week. Stretch your understanding of God's will for you and others. We still have a lot of work to do as witnesses before Jesus

returns.

**Wednesday Little Tree Children's** ministry and **SeekerGen** for teens will be finishing up soon. Check the dates AND get the kids registered for the upcoming camps and activities.

**Wednesday Adult Bible Study** continues each week in the church parlor at 6:30 pm, unless announced otherwise. Child care is available for children age 3 and younger.

**SOUL SISTERS** and **CORD BROTHERS** gather for worship, encouragement and the study on the First and Third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall and Youth Center). Child care is available for children age 3 and younger.

**Praise Team helpers are welcome.** Speak with Kathy Butler, Jennifer Zermeño or Jeff Smith if you would



like to assist with the 10:32 service. Contact me to help in either the 8:00 or 10:30 am service. Jeff is going to take a break for a bit, but we sure appreciate all the work and leadership he has shared. Is God's Spirit working on you to step up and help? Please do not neglect His call.

**Chancel Choir:** Thank you for your gift of praise on Easter. I appreciate every one of you and hope you enjoy the summer break. Please turn in ALL your practice materials (books, CD's, tapes) as soon as possible. Practices will resume in the fall. Be sure to invite others to join us in the celebration of our Redeemer.

Walking with Jesus, David Rorabaugh



**May 14, Mother's Day will be a day of celebration for First Christian Church.** We will honor mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and special women in our children's lives. There will be a **Baby Dedication Ceremony** for children from infancy to pre-school age whose parents wish to dedicate their children to the Lord. Please contact the office at 417-667-3540 now if you would like your child to participate. **Graduates** from high school or college will have their years of work and dedication recognized. Finally, baby bottles for



**Change for Life by Life Choices** will be distributed for you to fill with change. The money from the baby bottles goes towards baby supplies, ultrasounds, parenting classes, and emergency needs.

**Calling all softball players! It's time to sign up to**

**play!** Check out the sign up sheets at the Welcome Centers, or text or call Ron Richards at 417-448-9101.



**Griffons Host Families Needed:** Host families are needed for Griffons baseball players for June and July this summer. If you would like to house one or

more of these fine young athletes, please get in touch with Dan Keller at 417-321-7722 or with Jeff Post.



**The 11th Annual Schowe 'n' Shine BBQ Contest (and Car Show) is Saturday, May 20. Our guys have won the contest for the last two years and are looking for a repeat victory!**

**WooHoo!!!** The prize is \$250 for the youth! Help 'em out by showin' up, chowin' down, and votin' for 'em! All proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity.

**Congregational Meetings will be held Sunday, May 21** immediately after each service to elect Board members for a three-year term effective July 1, 2017.



**Announcing the Maranatha Bible Camp schedule!!**

Beginner Day Camp for K/1st grades is June 10 and costs \$35/\$45. Junior Camp for 5th & 6th grades is June 11-14 and costs \$130/

\$160. Kids' Camp for 2nd-4th grades is June 15-17 and costs \$90/\$115. A child's grade is based upon the grade they will enter in the Fall 2017. **Early bird deadline is Monday, May 22 by NOON!! Paper registration forms are now available at the Welcome Centers in each building. There will be PAPER registration ONLY.**



**2017 VBS is the week of July 30 - August 4.** It will run each night from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Kids will dive into new adventures with **Deep Sea Discovery**

where they will learn that *God is With Me Wherever I Go!* The next planning meeting is scheduled for May 7 at 4pm in the Parlor.



**Military names needed:** The Worship Committee publishes the names of military personnel currently serving our country as well as veterans in the bulletin for Memorial Day Service. If you know of someone who is not on our list, please contact the church office at

417-667-3540.

Anyone needing a ride to Sunday School/Church in our vans, please let us know by calling the church office at 667-3540 by noon on Friday.



**We have a new website at [www.fcnevada.org](http://www.fcnevada.org).** One of the new features is a donor portal which makes it really easy to give. So... visit and check out the new ways to give. Online at [www.fcnevada.org/give](http://www.fcnevada.org/give), from your phone at [www.fcnevada.org/give](http://www.fcnevada.org/give), or check or cash in the offering plate.

To help support our local **Community Outreach Food Pantry** we are collecting non-perishable food and dry goods. A box is in the parlor for collection. **Suggested May products are:** Mac & cheese, canned peaches, peanut butter, mayonnaise, jello, sugar and toilet paper.

