



THE BEACON

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

Elder Emeritus: Ron Greenway, John
McKinley and Glen Noble

Elders: Don Andersen, Scott Buerge,
Doug Gammon and Wayne Jeans

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Issue 19

From the Pulpit

The crowd was in a panic and riots ruled the social encounter. Weapons were easily available. When the motive is hatred and retaliation the weapon is anything within reach. In this case it was clubs, stones, knives and just about anything that could brutalize or emphasize. The community was overrun with fear and anger. To dramatize the riot even more, they gathered in a stadium and began to chant vulgarities and threats. Good people ran the other way. Angry people just flowed among the streets attracting other members of anger and frustration toward the stadium. Repeatedly they were warned to break up and disperse or the federal government would get involved. That would mean soldiers. All of this was aimed at one man and his threat to business as they knew it.

Heroes stepped in trying to settle the crowd and many of them were brutalized. Still others tried to redirect the one man they were calling for because they feared for his life. This man was wanting to “face the crowd” but under these circumstances it would cost him his life. Finally, this man settled for staying away. Eventually the crowd dispersed. What did the early church do with this encounter?

The City was Ephesus in Acts 19. The riots were the result of anger stirred by businesses threatened by the worship of this new God and the man who dared to preach of him named Paul. One city leader was quoted as saying, “...there is no real cause for it...” This seems to be the answer for politics of any day.

We live in some troubling times. This latest shooting has us struggling with what to do. How do we fix it? What else could happen? Are we safe? This moment in the Bible reveals a few answers as to how the early church responded to troubling times.

First, church family looked after church family.

There are a couple of instances in chapter 19 where the disciples stopped Paul from confronting the riots. There is another where Apollos tried to face the crowd. Scripture even implies that Paul’s traveling companions may have taken some punches on Paul’s account. My favorite is after the riot, Paul gathers with the church to encourage them.

Next, notice what is obvious, but not so emphatic. The church never gave up its belief in Jesus.

The riots were all about the figureless worship of Jesus that took business away from idols worshipped in Ephesus. The idol makers were threatened and will continue to be threatened. But a little side note in history the church in Ephesus came to be one of the strongest in the first century. So, implication is that in troubled times the church has opportunities that declare Jesus loudly.

Finally, another obvious practice not mentioned is they prayed. The apostles prayed when they had been beaten for Jesus (Acts 4), the apostles declared that we must be about prayer and study in God’s word (Acts 6), they prayed when Peter was taken captive (Acts 12), they prayed and fasted as they sent the missionaries (Acts 13). We know that they were praying amid the riots of Acts 19.

So, when the shootings happen that rob us of our peace. When the latest FB post anger you and unsettle you. When injustice seems to be winning and we fear where this may go. Remember what the early church did: they looked after each other. After all, they will know us by our love (John 13:35). Next, they persistently declared and lived their beliefs in Jesus. Finally, they prayed. Seek out your prayer closets and tell God these things, while seeking his guidance.

May we shape the 21st century just like the church did in the 1st century.

Bill



My Thanks to the Church and the Board for allowing Sally and me some vacation time. We enjoyed the opportunity to see some of our family.

DINOSAURS COMING: Thiebaud Auditorium in Lamar, October 15-18, Sunday – Wednesday. First Christian Church of Lamar is hosting “The Museum of Earth History,” featuring Dr. G. Thomas Sharp and Matt Miles. Take advantage of this opportunity to view some archaeology and events from a Christian and Biblical view. (See the posted schedule.)

CHOIR REHEARSALS at 5:00 pm in the sanctuary for all who desire to unite their voice in praise and harmony to the Lord. You are welcome to come and we will help you, but you need to be bold enough to try. The cantata is titled “*Jesus, Our Emmanuel.*” Join us each week as we sharpen our talents in presenting the Good News of Jesus through music and narration.

Singers and musicians are welcome at all services. Speak with the worship leader of the service you would like to help with. Honor Jesus with your desire and talents.

BIBLE CLASS IS FOR YOU on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

LITTLE TREE MINISTRIES AND SEEKERGEN activities are in full swing for your children, Wednesdays and Sundays, respectively. Parents, get your kids involved with the matters of eternal significance.

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL - Wednesday Adult Bible Study which meets each week in the church parlor at 6:30 pm. If child care is needed, please call the office during business hours.

SOUL SISTERS gather for worship, encouragement and the study on the First and Third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall). Child care is available for children age 3 and younger. They are just starting a study, “*You Make Me Crazy,*” by Rick Warren.

CORD BROTHERS for men is in a study by Max Lucado. All men are invited to the Youth Center on the First and Third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 pm.

Praising God through Jesus,
David Rorabaugh



Thanksgiving Baskets
Saturday, November 18 is when First Christian Church will distribute Thanksgiving Baskets this year. If you know of someone who needs a basket, please contact Becky Butterfield at 684-7403. You may also contact the church office at 667-3540 by Friday, November 3.

Absolutely no names will be accepted after Friday, November 3. Please include the recipient’s name, phone number, address and number of people in their household.



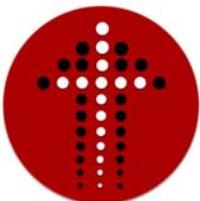
Dear FCC Leadership,

Thank you so much for your one-time gift of \$100 towards my launch expenses. It means a lot to me that you have chosen to invest in me and this ministry. Thank you for being such a wonderful church family. I truly believe it was the Lord who led me to you that Sunday morning I got lost. Thank you for welcoming me in, for supplying Bible study leaders, for the opportunity to go to ICOM when it was in Kansas City, and for everything you do for mission work.

It is inspiring to know that you are so involved and give so much to overseas ministry. I pray the Lord blesses you abundantly for your efforts to build the Kingdom at home and abroad. Thank you for letting me present this ministry to your congregation. I hope that in two year’s time I can return and give you an update of the work that has been accomplished, and of that which is still to be done.

Sincerely, Kelley Copley.

SeekerGen Youth Events



Saturday, October 21
54 Hwy Clean-Up & PaintBall Ridge

in Joplin

Times TBA.

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Car Hop Lunch

Sunday Oct. 22

Cheeseburger, chips, cookie and drink.
Available right after 10:30/10:32 services.

\$6.00

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Friday & Saturday, November 3-4

The Event

at Ozark Christian College.

Early bird registration is

\$30 and includes an Event t-shirt.

Due Friday, October 20



Everyone is invited to the Soup Luncheon & Wrapping Party scheduled for Sunday, November 12 in the Fellowship Hall following church services. You can bring soup, side or dessert to

share, but it is not required. After lunch we will be wrapping Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. Shoe boxes will be provided or you can bring your own. Information about how to fill your shoe box is provided in brochures at the Welcome Centers. **Please bring \$9.00 for shipping costs.** For additional information please contact Charlotte Buerge or Angie Moore.



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.



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 October products are:** Hamburger/Tuna Helper, canned veggies, jelly, cereal, applesause, soup, peanut butter.



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



HELPING HANDS - November 2017



If you cannot serve on the date assigned, please trade with someone on the list. Thanks!

COMMUNION Mindy Barneburg
PREPARATION: Helper - Greg Barneburg



Hospitality
Ministry

When you see a visitor say "Howdy" and make sure to give them a FCC Coffee Mug filled with goodies!

To help support our local Community Outreach Food Pantry, we collect non-perishable food and dry goods. A box is located in our parlor for collection.



Suggested November products are: Mac & cheese, canned veggies, pork & beans, canned fruit, sugar, pancake mix, and pancake syrup.

VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children

- Nov. 05 - Wade Hanes
- Nov. 12 - Erik Andersen
- Nov. 19 - Tracy Serna
- Nov. 26 - Daniel Turowski



Join Us For Adult Bible Studies

Wednesday - Bible Study @ 6:30pm, Church Parlor
1st and 3rd Thursday of each month - CORD Brothers (Men's Bible study) @ 6:30pm, Youth Center.
1st and 3rd Thursday of each month - Soul Sisters (Women's Bible study) @ 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall.

Ministers rotate serving at Moore-Few on Second Sundays.

The next issue of **THE BEACON** will be available on Sunday, November 5, 2017. The deadline for articles for that issue will be the prior Tuesday. Articles and schedule updates need to be brought to the church office or sent to lyndaj@fcnevada.org no later than Tuesday, October 31, 2017.



Leaders: The Andersens



Leaders: ??????

CHURCH Stats

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week

SS	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
87	44	62	95	189

Offering needed during the month of September in order to meet budget was \$24,105.04
Offering collected in September was \$22,841.81.

	Offering received:	Total
Sept. 03, 17	\$ 9,581.10	\$ 9,581.10
Sept. 10, 17	\$ 4,456.36	\$ 14,037.46
Sept. 17, 17	\$ 4,182.35	\$ 18,219.81
Sept. 24, 17	\$ 4,622.00	\$ 22,841.81

Offering needed each week to meet budget in 2017 is \$6,026.26



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|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 11/01 Cort Andersen | 11/17 Jay Butler |
| 11/02 Pete Moffatt | 11/18 Doris Dobbs |
| 11/03 Justin Radspinner | 11/19 Josh Jeffries |
| 11/04 Melissa Blystone | 11/21 Rachel Doty |
| 11/05 Darrian Hinds | 11/23 Nancy David |
| Zoya Immekus | Julie McKinley |
| Jerry Reedy | 11/24 Alivia Bowen |
| Geoffery Serna | 11/25 Angela Overton |
| 11/06 Cesar Zermeño | Brandon Moore |
| 11/08 Luke Andersen | 11/26 Barbara Turk |
| 11/10 Nathan Rorabaugh | 11/28 Beth Gerster |
| 11/11 Dalton Bates | 11/29 Kay Greenway |
| 11/12 Kathy Soukup | Carolyn Lamb |
| 11/13 Bryant McKinley | 11/30 Sherry Hurst |
| 11/14 Becky Kurth | |
| 11/16 Lucas Turowski | |

