



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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## THE BEACON

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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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## From the Pulpit

Susie and I are excited about our newest grandchild. Her name is Madeline Amelia. She arrived very early on October 18th. Both mother and baby are doing well. While on the phone with Abi a day or so after, I could hear little Maddie in the background. Many newborns have that wonderful little cry that sounds quietly like a purr. Not so with little Maddie! She was roaring like a lion. She was demanding attention. Life tends to come on like that. It tends to roar for our attention and many of us miss out on some of the greatest time with God because of it.

*“People don’t always follow the best leaders. They follow the ones who communicate the best.”*  
— Donald Miller, CEO, StoryBrand

This quote is a tribute to good communication and leadership, but it also declares the truth with an edge. We tend to follow after the well-done roar. Our time with God is only done in the midst of rush because the roar is so inviting, demanding and at times satisfying. We may live in fear of the roar, but it determines our schedules. The roar fulfills our need to feel as if something is finished. The roar satisfies the predictable within us. The roar makes life controllable.

Peter warns of the roaring lion that roams to and fro (1 Peter 5:8). A bit of trivia from a wildlife expert tells us that you don’t need to fear the roaring lion. The job of roaring is usually the job given to the old and toothless lion. The roaring lion is used to herd the prey towards the hunter lions who are quietly creeping up on you. Life does that. We are so focused on the roar while life is surrounding us with the hunters.

I ran on to this piece by Eugene Peterson: *“I want to be a pastor who prays. I want to cultivate and deepen my relationship with God. I want all life to be intimate—sometimes consciously, sometimes unconsciously—with the God who made, directs, and loves me. And, I want to waken others to the nature and centrality of prayer. I want to be a person in this community to whom others can come without hesitation, without wondering if it is appropriate, to get direction in prayer and praying. I want to do the original work of being in deepening conversation with the God who reveals himself to me and addresses me by name. I don’t want to dispense mimeographed hand-outs that describe God’s business; I want to report and witness out of my own experience. I don’t want to live as a parasite on the first-hand spiritual life of others, but to be personally involved with all my senses, tasting and seeing that the Lord is good.”* (The Unbusy Pastor)

In order to pray, I have to spend time with God. This would be time that God is the focus. It is not the on-the-run moment stolen while attending the roar. I know from experience that life can be overwhelming when time with God is anemic.

Meanwhile I know that Abi & Kevin are dealing with Maddie in the best ways. This is one of those times when I am tickled to be a grandpa.

C U Sunday, Bill



**The ARMOURAIRES GOSPEL QUARTET** will be here November 12 at 6:00 pm in concert. Come enjoy some great music and Christian entertainment from this dynamic team of men who love Jesus Christ. We enjoyed a tidbit of their talent about a year ago and immediately began laying plans to have them return. So here they come. They will have a product table for you to purchase their music. Don’t miss this blessing. And as you receive a spiritual blessing, please be a blessing to them by giving a generous love offering.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** continue Sunday nights (except Nov. 12) at 5:00 pm in the sanctuary. More singers are welcome and we will help you. The cantata, *“Jesus, Our Emmanuel,”* will be presented the morning of December 17<sup>th</sup>. Join us as we blend our voices 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.

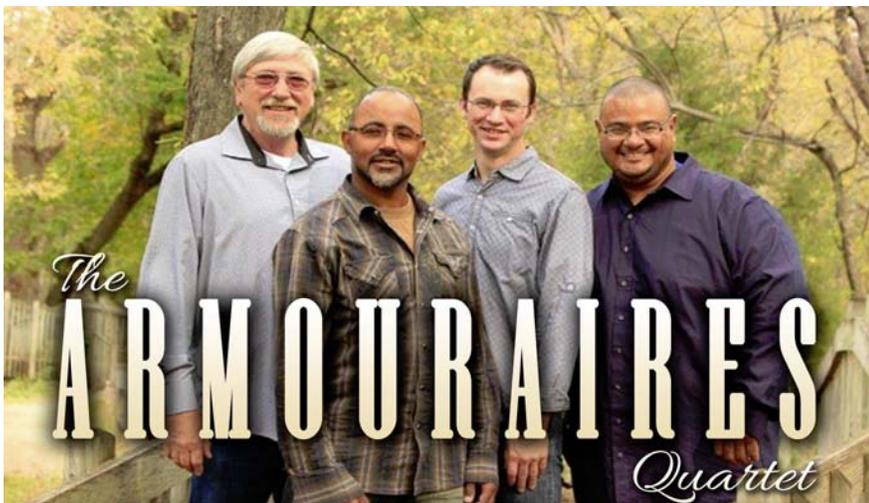
**LITTLE TREE MINISTRIES AND SEEKERGEN** activities are in full swing for your children, Wednesdays and Sundays, respectively. Parents, get your kids involved with the matters of eternal significance.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** meets each week in the church parlor at 6:30 pm. The book of Ezekiel is the focus of study at this time. If child care is needed, please call the office during business hours.

**SOUL SISTERS** assemble for fellowship and 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.

**CORD BROTHERS**, for all men, meets in the Youth Center on the First and Third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 pm.

Praising God through Jesus, David Rorabaugh



**Sunday  
November 12, 2017  
6:00 PM  
A Love Offering  
will be taken.**



*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/box for shipping costs. For additional information please contact Charlotte Buerge.*



**Charlotte and Scott Buerge would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and cards that were received at this time of loss of their great grandson, Watson Michael Estes. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is so appreciated.**

**Join us Friday and Saturday, November 17 & 18 as First Christian Church distributes Thanksgiving Baskets.** We start Friday night, November 17, at 5:00 pm. Dry goods are carried into the Fellowship Hall, arranged on tables and prepped for Saturday morning. Then, bright and early Saturday at 8:00 am, we haul in the perishable items and set them up on the tables. Then we gather supplies to pack the baskets. After a delicious biscuit and gravy breakfast, we welcome and assist the folks who come to receive their baskets.



**Community Thanksgiving Dinner comes to the FCC Fellowship Hall.** Coordinated by Crossroads Community Church, a free Thanksgiving Dinner for the Nevada area community will be served on Saturday, November 18.

Dinner will be served from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. If you would like to donate food, labor or money please call the church office at 667-3540 or sign up on the sheet provided in the Welcome Centers. Please call to let us know if you need a ride.



**Vernon County Ministerial Alliance invites everyone in our community to their Community Thanksgiving Service,** scheduled for Monday, November 23 at 7:00pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church located at

115156 E Pony Hill Rd in Nevada. An offering will be received.

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



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.

