



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

204 S Washington  
Nevada, MO 64772

## 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

Volume 38

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Issue 21

## From the Pulpit

While counseling, the question was asked, “Do you have any suggestions as to how to deal with change?” I shared a few thoughts, calling them core beliefs. First, know that God is present and loves you. Next, your commitment in marriage to the one you share your world with is vital in dealing with change. Another, is the importance of the children that your marriage relationship brings into this world. These core beliefs are tools to deal with change because you know that no matter what, they love you. Family loves you. Then I mentioned that scripture has a little known character trait that it declares so loudly and yet is so overlooked — endurance.

Randy Gariss in [A Lifetime Love](#) calls it “Gut it out.” We have in our church family several young people that run cross country competitions. If you ask, they will tell of that time in the run that my coach used to call, “your second wind.” When you feel as if you are about to collapse and can’t run another step you will get a second wind with new energy to run further.

In the book [God in the Dock](#), C.S. Lewis is asked the question by an inquisitor of Christianity, which of the world’s religions gives the greatest happiness. He answers with honesty, but with his signature wit, about the reality of Christian discipleship.

“While it lasts, the religion of worshipping oneself is the best. I haven’t always been a Christian. I didn’t go to religion to make me happy. I always knew a bottle of Port would do that. If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don’t recommend Christianity.

Christianity certainly gives us peace in Christ, but it is not always an easy discipleship. Our Lord Himself taught and demonstrated that to us on the cross.”

Endurance isn’t an easy quality in a culture that calls us to a life of ease and comfort. A choice will need to be made. God’s word in James 1:2-4 calls it perseverance. *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

Hebrews 12:1b-3 *let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

Scripture is loud about endurance. We are called to express “joy” in our trials. During this season of gratefulness let God know that you are grateful for your trials and find strength in God, your spouse and your family. Endure for the faith.

C U Sunday,  
Bill



**THANK YOU, ARMOURAIRES GOSPEL QUARTET** for the great concert this past Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. And thank you to all who came out to support this ministry. Please let me know if you want us to schedule this dynamic team of men for a return engagement.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS resume** Sunday nights at 5:00 pm in the sanctuary. We have four more practices before presenting the cantata, “*Jesus, Our Emmanuel*,” the morning of December 17<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. Choir members need to be at each of these final sessions to prepare.

**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.

**READING AND KNOWING GOD’S WORD IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** We offer everyone opportunities on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM. There is more for your children at **LITTLE TREE MINISTRIES AND SEEKERGEN**, Wednesdays and Sundays, respectively. Plus more for you adults mid-week, including Bible studies nearly every Wednesday, and, every First and Third Thursdays of the month. **DON’T STARVE YOUR SPIRIT. JOIN US!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** December 20<sup>th</sup> will be the date for our Christmas Caroling, leaving the church by 6:00 pm. There will be no Adult Bible Study that night.

Praising God through Jesus,  
David Rorabaugh



**2018 Radio Broadcast Sponsorship** - Sign up now to sponsor a weekly worship service broadcast. A sign-up sheet is in the parlor for you to choose a date that

is important to you. You may also call the office at 667-3540 and we'll help you. The cost is \$53.30 per broadcast.



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Vernon County Ministerial Alliance invites everyone to their Community Thanksgiving Service,** scheduled for Monday, November 20 at 7:00pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church located at 115156 E Pony Hill Rd in Nevada. An offering to support the Alliance's Emergency Fund will be received.



**Come to the One-In-The-Spirit Christmas Decorating Party right after service on Sunday, November 26.** Those who come to help decorate also get to eat delicious soup, stew, or chili compliments of the great chefs in this Sunday School class.



Decorating Party



**Choir members are working hard, learning their parts for the annual Christmas Cantata, scheduled for Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 am.**

There will be the early service at 8:00 am, coffee fellowship and Sunday School that morning, but there will only be one service at 10:30 am.

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.



**First Christian Church will hold congregational meetings on December 3 for the purpose of approving the Proposed Budget for 2018.** The meeting will begin immediately following each worship service. A 2/3 majority of members present and voting is required for approval. Complete copies of the proposed budget are on the bulletin boards for your review. They are also available by visiting the church office or calling the office at 667-3540.



**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. 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.

**Join us for an early Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Coordinated by Crossroads

Community Church, this dinner is free and open to everyone in our community. If you volunteered to donate food please bring it to the Fellowship Hall between 1:00 and 1:30pm. If you volunteered to help in any way, please arrive at 1:00 pm. If you need a ride please call 417-667-3540 by Friday noon.

**Those who like to brighten the lives of others through Christmas music should plan to join the CAROLING PARTY on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 pm in the Parlor.** Save the date to glorify the Christ born in Bethlehem. Remember to dress warmly. It may be cold!! Brrrrr!!



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.



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



## HELPING HANDS - December 2017



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

**COMMUNION** Angie Moore  
**PREPARATION:** Helper - Doug Gammon



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 December products are:** Canned tuna and chicken, canned veggies, soup, peanut butter, oatmeal, jello, and jelly.

### VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children

- Dec. 03 - Wade Hanes
- Dec. 10 - Erik Andersen
- Dec. 17 - Tracy Serna
- Dec. 24 - Daniel Turowski
- Dec. 31 - Terry Jones



### 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 Care Center on Second Sundays at 2:30pm.**

The next issue of **THE BEACON** will be available on Sunday, December 3, 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@fccnevada.org](mailto:lyndaj@fccnevada.org) no later than Tuesday, November 28, 2017.



**Leaders:** The Andersens



**Leaders:** Angie Moore

## CHURCH Stats

**Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week**

SS	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
87	44	62	96	193

**Offering needed during the month of October in order to meet budget was \$30,131.30.**  
**Offering collected in October was \$27,166.91.**

	Offering received:	Total
Oct. 01, 17	\$ 9,602.70	\$ 9,602.70
Oct. 08, 17	\$ 5,666.07	\$ 15,268.77
Oct. 15, 17	\$ 4,475.00	\$ 19,743.77
Oct. 22, 17	\$ 4,038.72	\$ 23,782.49
Oct. 29, 17	\$ 3,384.42	\$ 27,166.91

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



- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 12/01 Betty Sewell              | 12/14 Kenny Davis       |
| 12/02 Mark Arneson              | 12/15 Terrie Ridenour   |
| Linda Nunley                    | 12/16 Bobby Dade        |
| 12/03 Aaron Rorabaugh           | 12/17 Marlee Carlin     |
| 12/04 Terrie Robinson-Cryfyndaw | Landon Wilson           |
| 12/05 Steve Austin              | 12/18 Janet Del Rosario |
| 12/06 Ann Adkins                | Kevin McKinley          |
| 12/07 Tehya Cauthon             | 12/19 J.L. Post II      |
| Ron Kitsmiller                  | 12/20 Lynessa Baker     |
| Mike Lane                       | 12/21 Garry Dade        |
| 12/10 Staci Andersen            | 12/22 Chelsey Jeans     |
| Carl Davis                      | 12/23 Jessica Norwood   |
| 12/11 Ellie Rorabaugh           | Marita Pippin           |
| 12/13 Jerry Arnold              | 12/24 Anita Scott       |
|                                 | 12/25 Bradley Blystone  |
|                                 | 12/27 Ty Holmes         |
|                                 | 12/28 Sonny Butler      |
|                                 | Ella Serna              |
|                                 | 12/30 Willie Blystone   |
|                                 | 12/31 LaDonna Sykes     |