



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

204 S Washington  
Nevada, MO 64772

## THE BEACON

Telephone: (417) 667-3540  
E-mail: [lyndaj@fccnevada.org](mailto:lyndaj@fccnevada.org)  
[www.fccnevada.org](http://www.fccnevada.org)



**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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Volume 38

December 3, 2017

Issue 22

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## From the Pulpit

The prophetic voice of our today seems to come through a lighted monitor. It may be held in a hand or started by a remote, but it calls to us much like the outspoken false prophets of the scripture. Its manipulative glow lights up our nights and fights for our attention during the light of day. Many think it is the voice we should hear.

The message that it proclaims is so diverse and compelling. Everyone can find a message that they seek to hear. The only thing you must do if you don't want to hear it is change it or tune in to another voice. The voice of this prophet calls us to want only the best, or seek the thing that will grant us happiness. The voice of this prophet will inform us of anything we want to know. The voice of this prophet says that your will reigns. During some seasons the voice of this prophet even gets louder. The voice of this prophet will even pick up on your moods and desires so that it can shape itself to appeal to you more.

The Apostle Paul would write to his young protégé, Timothy (2 Timothy 4:3-4), "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths." Who knew that our faceless prophet (teacher) would even have the blueish halo of electronics.

So, what do we do? The techie stuff isn't bad. But what do you tune into on the techie stuff? During this season of Christmas, what plies for your attention? The prophets are many and the desires they reach out to are beyond our imagination. I would urge you to read the stories of Christmas from Matthew 2, Luke 1 & 2, John 1. I would urge you to read them daily to remind you of the Christmas priority. Dwell on the call of Jesus to love God and love your neighbors found in Mark 12:28-31. You can even read these scriptures on the techie stuff. Then pass these thoughts along to family, friends and others.

In the Old Testament, the people of the day would seek out the prophets that told them the news they wanted to hear. Several occasions these people would testify to the fact they didn't want to hear certain prophets who told truth because people didn't like it. Don't let your Christmas belong to the false prophets.

C U Sunday, Bill



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**JESUS, OUR EMMANUEL, the Presence of God With Us**, by Marty Parks, will be presented by the Chancel Choir and Narrators of First Christian Church during the 10:30 worship service on December 17<sup>th</sup>. You and yours are cordially invited to come and reflect on the wonder of the Christmas story through song and narration. The 8:00 am service will feature a regular service with a sermon. There will be no 10:32 Service on this date.

**FINAL CHOIR REHEARSALS** Sunday nights at 5:00 pm in the sanctuary. We have TWO more practices before presenting the cantata, "Jesus, Our Emmanuel," the morning of December 17<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 service. Choir members should 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.

**MANAGE YOUR TIME WELL TO INCLUDE READING AND KNOWING GOD'S WORD.** 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. For you adults, we have a variety of classes Sunday mornings, then mid-week, including Bible studies nearly every Wednesday, and, every First and Third Thursdays of the month. **FEED YOUR SPIRIT WITH WORDS OF LIFE AND LIVING WATER. JOIN US!**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** December 20<sup>th</sup>, leaving the church by 6:00 pm. There will be no Adult Bible Study that night.

HONORING AND WORSHIPPING JESUS IS THE BEST REASON FOR THE SEASON.

Celebrating King Jesus,  
David Rorabaugh



**The One-in-the-Spirit Christmas Party is Friday, December 8, at 6:30 pm at Bill and Susie's house.**

Please bring finger food to share and a Christmas ornament to exchange.

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**The KUM DUBL Sunday School Class Potluck Christmas Party is Saturday December 9, at 12 NOON in the church parlor.** Please bring food to share and a White Elephant gift to exchange.

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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!! Brrrr!!

**Life Choices Tree of Life will be going on all throughout December.** Just pick a tag off the tree and check the back of it for what is needed, If you would like to participate. Then purchase the needed item, tape the tag to what you have purchased, and place it under the tree. These items are what fills up a gift basket for each expectant mother who comes into Life Choices. The deadline for placing your item(s) under the tree is December 31. If you have any questions, please contact Pauline Jeans.



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



Bill,

Thank you for allowing me to report to you on behalf of the Gideons. I enjoyed worshiping with you and praise God for your generous support of the Gideons. Many will now have God's word because of you.

Richard Hovey  
Pres. Nevada Gideon Camp



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

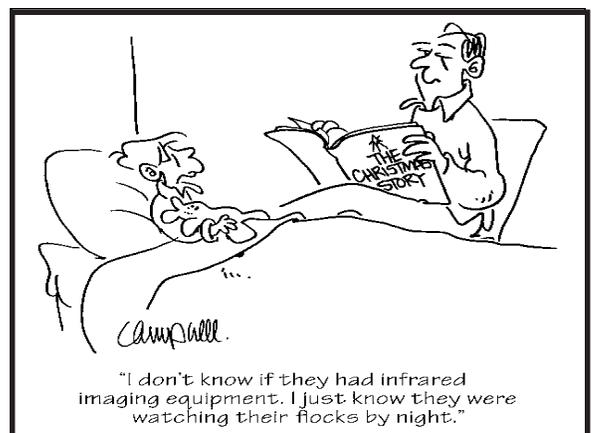
There will be the early service at 8:00 am, coffee fellowship and Sunday School that morning, but there will only be one service at 10:30 am.

**2018 Radio Broadcast Sponsorship - Only a few spots are left!!** 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.



**Teachers are needed for Children's Church.**

Children's Church is for youth age 4 and up through 2nd grade. There is a curriculum that is used and is easy to follow. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Balk-Webb at 417-321-1833. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center in the Parlor



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.

