



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, Greg Barneburg, Scott Buerge, Don Cubbage, Doug Gammon, Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones

Volume 39

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Issue 19

From the Pulpit

How should a Christian be involved with Politics?

Did you know that if you were born in Puerto Rico you are an American Citizen? This is like the Apostle Paul being born in Tarsus. He was born in an area that was not Rome, but by the time that he was born anyone born there was a citizen of Rome. Saul (his Jewish name) at this time chose to be a citizen of Judea. Judea struggled with Roman rule. Judea sought to be a country where God ruled. Thereby they formed a group called the Sanhedrin that was a representative government of the leaders of God (Pharisees) and leaders of the community (Sadducees). Their priority was not necessarily of God. Saul sought to be politically involved as a pharisee.

That being said, this tells us that Saul (Paul) sought to be politically involved. In fact, his persecution of the church was a politically charged strike ordered by the Sanhedrin in which Saul was a major force. Then in Acts 9 Saul has a confrontation with Jesus that changes not only his name, but his priority. Paul begins to preach Jesus at every opportunity in communities throughout the Roman empire.

His citizenship becomes kingdom motivated. By kingdom, I mean that he is a citizen of God's kingdom, the church. He was a child of God, an apostle of Jesus Christ, a bond servant (slave). Paul refers to himself as serving in many roles but rarely a citizen of Judea or Rome. When he does, it is only as it would serve the kingdom of God. He is an excellent example of someone with the priority of being involved in politics, but only as it serves God and his kingdom.

In my last blog I pointed out how important it is to be informed, to be true to the conviction of God (pray) and to vote for what God leads. Jesus calls us to be light in darkness. Jesus also refers to us as salt in a world needing flavor. Salt is such a small thing, but in the first century world had tremendous qualities that were highly esteemed. As Christians we are the salt that flavors, preserves, medicates, and purifies the world and it should show in our vote. It should be heard in our voice. It should be evident in our stand. If the community wants to know what God thinks about it... we should be the source, God's kingdom – the church.

Some Christians will seek office and my prayer is that they are Christian politicians, not political Christians. The difference in title declares what is at the heart of their politics. We are Christian, citizens of God's kingdom and this will have bearing on our politics. I am a Christian American, not an American Christian. How would God vote on marijuana, Bingo, or abortion?

“We have an immense amount of power over how we interpret the world... It's not, ‘Oh I'm going to wish things are good and therefore they are going to be good.’ It's knowing that we add a lot of interpretation on top of our realities.” — [Ryan Holiday](#)

God Bless, Bill



My Thanks to all of you who attended and helped with the concert with the *Armouraires* on October 13th. We enjoyed some great singing, beautiful violin music and fantastic fellowship over supper.

My Thanks to each of you who baked a pie for the Ministerial Alliance presentation for the United Way Oktoberfest. The pies were great and we sold all of them.

Seek the Lord FIRST and join us at Sunday School! If we took a simple test on your knowledge of the order of the books of the Bible, would you pass? What scriptures carry you through your life challenges and do you know where they are found? What are you doing to encourage and support your brothers and sisters in the faith? Please come at 9:30 AM Sunday mornings to learn more about the Bible, how to apply it to your daily challenges, and to share your experiences, helping others grow in their faith and obedience. We have a choice of adult classes to try out, plus classes for all of your children. And/or join one of the mid-week studies.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS FOR ADULTS, at 6:30 pm in a verse by verse walk through the Old Testament Minor Prophets (the book of Micah). We finish at 7:30 pm.

Soul Sisters and *Cord Brothers* meet at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The ladies gather in the Fellowship Hall and the men are in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care.

College Age Small Group meets most Monday evenings. Check the bulletins or with Gage on the schedule.

JOIN OUR CHOIR Sunday evenings from 5:00 to 6:00 pm in the sanctuary! Practices have begun for you who enjoy singing praise to God... there is room for you. Time is quickly ticking by before we perform, so please join us now. Resources and help are provided for those who are new to reading parts. Come try it out. We are preparing the cantata titled "*Heaven On Earth*" to present Dec. 23rd.

Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Please share your talents with Jefferson Smith for the 10:32 Service, or with me if you would like to assist at 8:00 or 10:30 am.

Because of Jesus, David Rorabaugh

What would Jesus say to me?

The other day one of my friends and I were discussing this question: "If you could eat a meal with anyone in history, who would you eat with?" My friend said he would eat with Tyler Joseph (the lead singer of Twenty One Pilots), so he could ask him about his tattoos. Pretty quickly I said I would choose to eat with Jesus, but the more I thought about it, the more it seemed somewhat intimidating to me. Like, I know that I would have all kinds of questions that I would want to ask Him. I would want to know if I was right in the way that I think, I would want to know what I was supposed to work toward long term, I would want to know all kinds of things, but when I look to Jesus' interactions with people in the Gospels, He doesn't always answer people in the way that they think He will.

That isn't inherently a bad thing, and I think that if Jesus sat down with me and told me the true issues behind my questions, which I believe He would, I would be inspired to change. So something I will be trying, and something that I would challenge you to try as well, is asking these new question as often as I can: "What would Jesus say to me in this moment? Where would He lead me? What would He ask me to do?" I believe that if we were to ask these questions, especially when we live in this world that is so counter-Jesus in so many ways, we would begin to represent Him in a way that brings more and more glory to His name.

Until He Returns, Gage Addington



Everyone is invited to the Wrapping Party scheduled for Sunday, November 11 in the Fellowship Hall following church services. A pizza lunch will be provided. 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 — no toothpaste. ***Please bring \$9.00 for shipping costs. Please contact Charlotte Buerge or the church office if you are coming or have questions.***



Dear Friends and Partners at First Christian,

Thank you so much for your partnership on our Africa journey for sooo many years. Way back to our days living in the Maasai bush! I'm remembering the days with Linden, Ronda, JL and Jeff, trying to figure out how to solve the problem of earthquakes cracking our water tank, so many years ago! You all have been with us through thick and thin, and we are very grateful!!

Love,
Gary and Judy Woods

To my Church Family,

Thank you for the many acts of kindness that were shown me at the time of and following my hip replacement surgery. The cards, flowers, food, and visits were greatly appreciated. Most of all, I appreciated the prayers offered on my behalf. It is a blessing to have such a loving church family. I am doing well and will be in church soon!

In Christian Love,
Susan Swearingen



First Christian Church will be distributing Thanksgiving Baskets this year on Saturday, November 17. If you know of someone who needs a basket, please contact Becky Butterfield at 684-7403 or the church office at 667-3540 **by Friday, November 2.**

Please include the recipient's name, phone number, address and number of people in their household. **Absolutely no names accepted after Friday, Nov. 2!**

Anyone needing a ride to Sunday School/ Church in our vans, please let us know by calling the church office at 667-3540 **BEFORE 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:** Hamburger/Tuna helper, canned veggies, jelly, cereal, applesauce, soup, and peanut butter.



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



HELPING HANDS - November 2018



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

COMMUNION Marita Pippin
PREPARATION: Helper - Jim Pippin

Hospitality Ministry
 When you see a visitor say "Howdy" and be 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: Mac & cheese, canned veggies, canned fruit, pork & beans, sugar, pancake mix, and pancake syrup.

Children's CHURCH
 Leaders: Eric & Staci Andersen

Junior CHURCH
 Leaders: David Serna & Melissa Austin



CHURCH Stats

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week

SG	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
115	48	62	81	191

Offering needed during the month of September in order to meet budget was \$31,014.40.
Offering collected in September was \$26,751.74.

	Offering received:	Total
Sept 02, 18	\$ 5,677.15	\$ 5,677.15
Sept 09, 18	\$ 8,258.80	\$ 13,935.95
Sept 16, 18	\$ 4,763.37	\$ 18,699.32
Sept 23, 18	\$ 2,120.10	\$ 20,819.42
Sept 30, 18	\$ 5,932.32	\$ 26,751.74

Offering needed each week to meet budget in 2018 is \$6,202.88

VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children
 Nov 04 - ?? Driver needed!
 Nov 11 - Erik Andersen
 Nov 18 - Tracy Serna
 Nov 25 - Daniel Turowski



Van Ministry

Join Us For Adult Bible Studies

Wednesday - Bible Study @ 6:30pm, Church Parlor
1st and 3rd Thursday each month - **CORD Brothers** (Men's Bible study) @ 6:30pm, Youth Center.
1st and 3rd Thursday 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, November 4, 2018. 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 30, 2018.

November BIRTHDAYS



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	11/20 Tinley Bowen
11/05 Darrian Hinds	11/21 Rachel Doty
Zoya Immekus	11/23 Nancy David
Jerry Reedy	Julie McKinley
Geoffery Serna	11/24 Alivia Bowen
11/06 Cesar Zermeño	11/25 Angela Overton
11/08 Luke Andersen	Brandon Moore
11/10 Nathan Rorabaugh	11/26 Barbara Turk
11/11 Dalton Bates	11/28 Beth Gerster
11/12 Kathy Soukup	11/29 Kay Greenway
11/13 Bryant McKinley	Carolyn Lamb
11/14 Becky Kurth	11/30 Sherry Hurst
11/15 Shan Lanham	Gail Wysong
11/16 Lucas Turowski	