



THE BEACON

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

204 S Washington
Nevada, MO 64772

Telephone: (417) 667-3540
E-mail: lyndaj@fccnevada.org
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, Greg Barneburg, Scott Buerge, Don
Cubbage, Doug Gammon, Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones

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From the Pulpit

Imagine a thank you so big, that you couldn't see over it. Imagine a thank you so big, that you couldn't get under it. Imagine a thank you so big, that you couldn't get around behind it. Now that you have the image in your mind. I would say thank you for being the church family you are.

Not once but twice you have walked through issues of my physical heart. Sometimes it does my heart good to remember the presence of this church family in those times. You have walked with me when my mom and dad died in an auto accident. You have walked through the ache of my heart when Linda was diagnosed with ALS and then would leave me in death. You gave meaning of being the church during that time. You walked with me as we celebrated the union of Susie and me. What a joy to know that you helped raise Susie to be the blessing she is. Imagine the size of my thank you.

I am but one testimony of what this church has done. Imagine the mission for this church to come. We are about relationships with God.

We have marriages that have lasted the span of lifetime. We have ministers that have grown up among us. We have generations that profess their heritage among us. We have memories bound up in what Jesus has done.

God loved us so much (Imagine how big that must be.) that He gave His only Son to die for us, so that we might have eternal life with God. We are about building relationships with God. My prayer is that our offering of miracles (December 30th) proclaims our testimonies.

Imagine with me, C U Sunday.

Bill

This Is Worship

This past Wednesday night I was able to take my sister to see my favorite band for her birthday/Christmas present (I know, I'm a great brother). The concert was amazing, the bands all did a great job, the crowd was very engaged in the whole experience, and the performances were definitely experiences to remember. However, I began to notice something, and my sister picked up on it as well and asked me about it on the ride home.

All around us there were people singing at the top of their lungs with eyes closed and hands raised. Don't get me wrong, live music really does move people, but this concert, for many of those around us, looked as though it was a worship service. When my sister brought it up, she was asking me what the difference was between that concert and worship. You see, many people have the understanding that worship is simply this thing that we do when we meet together on Sunday mornings to sing and listen to a sermon, but the Biblical idea is much broader.

In the Greek and Hebrew languages there are more than 10 different total words used to describe worship and they can mean a vast array of things depending on their contexts. Worship can be something as simple as bowing down and something as complex as giving up one's life. This is why it is important for us to grasp what it means to truly worship. God desires that our lives would be an offering of worship to Him, and I think that Paul grasps and explains this idea very clearly and concisely in his epistle to the Romans.

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:1-2 ESV). I also really like how the NIV put the first part because it refers to living as a sacrifice as true and proper worship.

The beautiful, and at times terrifying, thing about worship is that every action that we take (or opt to not take) is an act of worship. So when we are at work, we are worshiping God. When we play and enjoy different activities, we are worshiping God. When we take care of our bodies and care for our health, we are worshiping God. No matter what we are doing, we are doing it as an act of worship, and the eternity of our lives will greatly hinge on who/what our object of worship is.

My prayer and my hope for you, and myself, is that we would continue to live in such a way that our lives would be poured out as an offering of worship to the one and only God. That every action, reaction, and everything in between would be something pleasing in His eyes. And that we would strive to be more like Him in all that we do. I hope you have a great week in the Lord!

Until He returns,
Gage Addington



**Sunday, December 23,
10:30 AM**

Schedule for the day:

8:00 Early Service

9:00 Coffee Fellowship

9:30 Sunday School

Only one 10:30 Service - in Sanctuary



First Christian Church will hold a congregational meeting on December 2 for the purpose of approving the Proposed Budget for 2019. 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 from the church office by calling 667-3540.

The KUM DUBL Sunday School Class Potluck Christmas Party is Saturday December 8, at 12 NOON in the church parlor. Please bring food to share and a White Elephant gift to exchange. All class members and guests are invited.



2019 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. **The cost for 2019 has increased to \$55.00 per broadcast.**

Life Choices Tree of Life will be going on all throughout December. If you would like to participate, just pick a tag off the tree and check the back of it for what is needed. 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 January 1. If you have any questions, please contact Pauline Jeans.



FCC wifi will soon have a password. It is currently open and accessible without a password. Church leadership has determined that FCC wifi needs to be password protected. The password will be changed quarterly and published in the bulletin. Look for it soon.



First Christian Church Cancellation Procedures: In case of inclement weather, cancellation information will be broadcast on the following

media: KOAM, KODE, KSNF and FOX 14 TV; the First Christian Church website, www.fcnevada.org; and the First Christian Church Facebook page.

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 December products: Canned Tuna and Chicken, canned veggies, soup, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, and jello.

