



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

Volume 40

January 20, 2019

Issue 1

From the Pulpit

Wow!!! Would you believe that our average Sunday attendance is down? I say this because what we need to make budget is down too. Then I say this because our year has ended, and an offering portraying the miracles among us was set for December 30th. The goal was \$20,000. WE DID IT. We did it with a whopping \$21,585. Our offering truly was an offering of miracles, so this is a celebration article.

This Sunday (Jan 20th) we plan to celebrate with a celebration worship service followed by potluck. The weather outside may be snowy and cold, but inside we will bask in warmth and fellowship. We will gather after the 10:30 hour services in our fellowship hall. There we will have a wonderful worship moment (led by Dave) while our deaconesses layout our potluck dishes. Then with a closing prayer by Gage we will feast in so much more than food.

It was July of 2005. We had just finished a similar offering goal and just look at the article then:

We have another big project before us—preparing the Aldi's (store) building from being a shell of a building to being a functional part of our building complex. The price tag sounds high (\$150,000). The goal of having the dollars before we do it sounds intense. The nation's economy sounds discouraging. And then to top it off, we haven't even been making our budget. What a time for God's glory to shine in us. We celebrate our Just Tithe Sunday, but we need your commitment and prayers. The ministry of FCC isn't just yesterday it's today. Please don't use your regular giving for the building fund. Let the building fund stretch your faith further—this is when God shines at his best.

We still have a vital mission for Jesus, "We are building relationships with God." Remember our imagination is the only limit that we have. Look at what we have done with the Aldi's building of yesteryear. What will we do today?

Come and celebrate this Sunday.

Bill



A LATE THANK YOU: Sally and I appreciate all of your expressions of love and kindness through the past month, including several notes, cards, words, tasty treats and financial gifts. We pray that the joy of our Lord is yours each and every day as we await the return of Christ Jesus.

GOD HAS BLESSED US ABUNDANTLY and we need to express our appreciation to Him continually. Our every breath is a gift and opportunity to serve Him more through Jesus. Let us lift up each other as we work for the glory of Christ. We will soon be giving a reckoning to the Master as to the use of what was entrusted to us. Let us be found faithful and wise.

CHOIR HAS RESUMED PRACTICE: More singers are welcome and we meet most Sunday evenings in the sanctuary at 5:00 pm for an hour long practice. Watch your Sunday bulletins for variations (i.e. no practice on Jan. 20). We are preparing a dramatic Easter musical for April 21st and your participation in numerous practices is important. Practice aids are provided and help is available.

THE CROSS of Christ is where our sins were completely paid for through God's precious blood sacrifice. "The cross of Jesus is as relevant today as when it first stood atop Calvary. It transcends time and supersedes cultures. It overshadows the dismissal of skeptics as well as the whim of popular opinion. It remains God's stamp of approval signifying that the sacrifice offered for our unpayable debt has once and for all been accepted." (Lillenas Publishing Co.)

Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Please let me know which music talents God has blessed you with and if you would like to assist with any of the services. Have you thanked a musician lately for all of their time and effort they give to help us in our times of worship?

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS FOR ADULTS, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in a verse by verse walk through the Old Testament Minor Prophets (Zechariah, then Malachi).

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 meet in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care.

Young Adult Small Group: Monday evenings at 6:00pm with Gage.

Walking with Jesus,
David Rorabaugh

Jesus in the Wilderness

In the High School Sunday school class, we are discussing the life of Christ leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection at Easter. A few weeks ago we discussed the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, and there are a few interesting things that I would like to share with you as well. If you would like to see the passages where this account is found, the references are Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, and Luke 4:1-13.

So for starters, Jesus has been following the same steps as the nation of Israel so far in His life, and this is no exception. As the nation of Israel wandered the wilderness for 40 years while being tempted nearly every step of the way, Jesus wanders the wilderness for 40 days (while fasting mind you), and faces temptation just as He is about done.

Satan tempts Jesus three times, and each time there is some kind of an “if” statement attached to the temptation. If you are the Son of God, for example. Satan tempts Jesus with food, which is more accurately a temptation to comfort. If Jesus uses His power to escape this momentary hunger, then how much easier would it be to use His power to escape any other inconvenience He would face later down the road. Also, if He escapes any inconvenience, how has He related with man as one who has suffered?

The second temptation is one of pride. Appearing at the top of the temple, and falling and being saved by angels, would have been a very easy way to get people to believe Jesus was the Messiah. It would have been a quick fix to something that needed more faithful endurance and hard work. Here we also see Satan using Scripture out of context, which is a danger that we all face in life. Scripture can say anything you want it to if you remove it from its context.

The third temptation is that of power. Satan claims to have dominion over the earth, which, to a degree, he does. But what Satan is really doing here is he is asking Jesus to short circuit God’s plan for redemption. If Jesus is immediately given power, then there is no need for the cross. Also, Satan requests that Jesus worship him, which is outrageous, and also interesting in the context. In the Greek language, the wording would basically be the same as “just this once.” This is also a temptation that many of us face today. I’ll drink just this one. I’ll look just one time. I’ll go back just this once.

I’ll leave you with two applications. First, Satan has not changed in the ways he tempts people. I am sure each and every one of us has been tempted with comfort, quick fixes, power, and the always begging comment of “just this once.” With that in mind, Jesus gives us the best answer in the very way that He responds to Satan. Jesus always responds to the temptations with Scripture. This is the second application. If you hold Scripture in your heart, it becomes so much easier to flee from temptations.

James puts it this way. “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double minded.” James 4:7-8 ESV

So in whatever you do, keep Scripture in your heart, and draw near to God more and more every moment of every day.

Until He returns,
Gage Addington.

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.



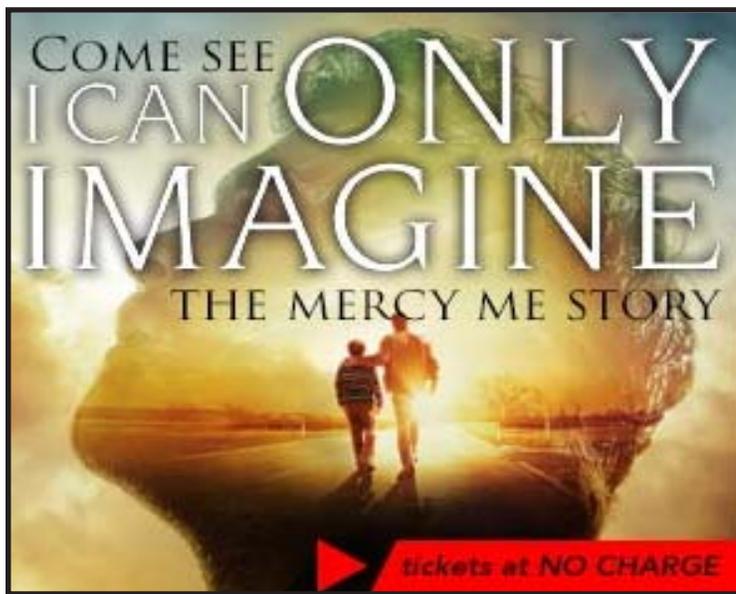
Anyone needing a ride to Sunday School/ Church in our vans, please let us know by calling the church office at 667-3540 **BEFORE NOON on FRIDAY.**



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 is \$55.00 per broadcast.**

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 January products:** Canned veggies, mac & cheese, , raman noodles, pork & beans, salt, cereal, and applesauce.





Friday, January 25
6:45 pm

**First Christian Church
Sanctuary
204 South Washington**

Refreshments will be available on a donation basis.



Join the Celebration! This Sunday - right after the 10:30 and 10:32 services. Join your church family for a

short praise service and then a covered dish lunch to celebrate our successful Offering of Miracles!

Souper Bowl of Caring - Sunday, February 3 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us for some fellowship while watching the big game. Please bring canned goods/non-perishable items for our "caring" collection. The chili cook off will be taking place again this year. Please have your entry at the church by 5pm.

Bring a snack to share, board games and invite a friend. We will have a special half-time presentation as well as our annual pre-game trivia competition. Hope to see you there!!



Are you a prayer warrior? Do you regularly pray for friends and loved ones? Do you feel urged to pray for people in this congregation who ask for prayer? If so,

would you like to be included in a prayer chain?

We are updating our prayer chains. Most prayer warriors receive prayer notifications by text, but some by phone calls. If you would like to join, please sign up on one of the sign-up lists on the Welcome Centers in the Parlor and Fellowship Hall.



We welcome **Matt and Aubrey and Maddie Courtney** as new members of First Christian Church. They are transferring from St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Stockton, Missouri.



It's a Girl!

Rick and Tina Jones would like to proudly announce the birth of **Laurel Amiya Norwood**, their daughter, Jessica's first child. She came into the world weighing 8.5 oz and 19 inches long.

An Eldership Training Session begins Monday, January 21, at 7:00 pm in Pastor Bill's office. All members are invited to attend. Even if you do not desire to become an elder, it is a good opportunity to learn leadership skills and to learn more about the biblical role of elders in the church.



The Missouri Christian Convention is Friday & Saturday March 22 & 23 at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. Your registration has been paid!! The Board and Elders approved paying the "church wide rapid registration" that pays for all FCC attendees. If you would like to attend the convention please fill out and mail an 'Individual Registration Form' available at the Welcome Centers. **You may also go online at www.mcconvention.org.** If you would like to carpool, please sign up on the list provided next to the registration forms. Call the office at 417-667-3540 with any questions.

PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



HELPING HANDS - February 2019



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

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Susan Swearingen

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.



YOU CAN HELP

Suggested February products: Canned tuna, canned veggies, canned fruit, jelly, pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut butter.



Children's CHURCH

Leaders: Kathy Butler and Susie Platt



Junior CHURCH

Leaders: Dave Serna and Melissa Austin

CHURCH Stats

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week

SG	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
124	47	62	78	186

Offering needed during the month of December in order to meet budget was \$31,014.40.

Offering collected in December was \$47,896.88.

	Offering received:	Total
Dec 02, 18	\$ 6,409.43	\$ 6,409.43
Dec 09, 18	\$ 7,336.87	\$ 13,746.30
Dec 16, 18	\$ 6,080.01	\$ 19,826.31
Dec 23, 18	\$ 8,799.36	\$ 28,625.67
Dec 30, 18	\$ 19,271.21	\$ 47,896.88

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

VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children

Feb 03 - Randy & Tracy Ellifrits
 Feb 10 - Erik & Staci Andersen
 Feb 17 - Tracy & Mike Serna
 Feb 24 - 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, February 3, 2019. 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, January 29, 2019.



February BIRTHDAYS

2/01 Brad Hurst	2/18 Delores Hurst
2/03 Addyson Bowen	Scott Ring
Doug Gammon	2/19 Cindy Worley
Robbie Knapp	2/21 Ude Mba
2/05 Maynard Browning	Betty Jo Robinson
Sharon Knapp	2/24 Tena Tyler
2/07 Kathryn Phillips	2/25 Randy Allen
Pat Schwartz	2/26 Vernille Cabbage
2/09 David Miller	2/27 Angela Hedges
2/11 Kaylee Hawks	2/29 Tracy Serna
Pete Moffatt	
2/12 Marlene McCarter	
2/14 Gary Balk	
2/15 Levi Pruitt	
2/17 Chris Deming	
Angie Modlin	

