



# THE BEACON

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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Volume 40

May 19, 2019

Issue

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## *From the Pulpit.....*

### **The Age of Illusion**

We live in an age of illusion. Many of us post a special connection on FB in hopes that our large FB family will see it and respond. We savor those connections that, at most, make a comment on our post. But, compared to the sacrifices that relationships need – comments come easy. Relationships require far more than a post and a comment.

Illusion shows itself in other ways too. Our desire for material things leads us to think that all will be well if we can have this particular item. Newlyweds want to have all the things that mom & dad have. It is the career shift that will make my world better. It is driving the latest and most colorful vehicle. A college degree, at any and all cost, will set the stage for my tomorrow. Or, we buy into healthy gimmicks that promise to build our bodies or vanquish death. Many of us build our world upon these illusions.

Hollywood attracts us with glittery experiences. After all, what can be sweeter than an overnight fling? What could be more rewarding than the delight of a child? My favorite illusion of glitter is that all of life's problems can be solved in 30 minutes, or at the longest, 2 hours (or three hours if you've been to the new Avenger's movie). All that glitter disappears with the daylight of reality, revealing it to be only an illusion.

Illusions even show themselves in our spiritual beliefs. Often at funerals there is talk of reunions in heaven when, in fact, Jesus is very clear that the "way is narrow ... and there are few who find it (Matthew 7:13-14)." Grace has become the "Get out of hell free" card. Illusion shows itself in the numbers of people who attend church on Sunday but live as if Jesus has no place in their life Monday thru Saturday.

So how do we see through the mist called illusion? First, focus on knowing Jesus. He is truth. John 18:37 shares, ... Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Next, realize that prayer and Bible time are a priority not a backup. Finally, spend time with people of truth – the church, because all of us are wrestling our way through illusion. What one of us has tackled may help another of us.

Gather with us Sunday and lay your illusions aside.  
Bill

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### **The Wedding at the End of Time**

This past Sunday, I was able to stand next to my best friend as he was married. The ceremony was beautiful, the friends and family were great, and we had a very long, but rewarding, day. The thing about weddings is that the main event, aside from the vows and the kiss, is the entry of the bride. Everyone stands as she walks in. The wedding party faces her at all times. A special song announces her entrance and accompanies her walk toward the altar. The wedding begins when the bride is ready.

Weddings are never explicitly described in the Bible, but they are alluded to throughout the Scriptures. I would like to look at one specific wedding in the book of Revelation. Revelation chapter 19 describes the wedding of the Lamb (Jesus) and His bride (the church). Since the ascension of Jesus, this is what the church has been waiting for; the opportunity to be reunited with our Savior in eternity. I don't think this was an accident. God designed everything for a reason, and I believe that reflections of eternity are hidden within the things that we interact with on a daily basis. This is why death seems so unfamiliar and unnatural. This is why we can find ourselves crying at happy times. This is just the way we were made. We were made to be eternal beings, and we long for that in everything we do.

So, just as we celebrate the coming of the bride in weddings, all of creation will celebrate the union of the Lamb and His bride, as they shout: "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and

exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure.” (Rev. 19:6-8 ESV). But for now, we wait in eager anticipation for the coming of the groom, and what a day that will be.

Until He Returns,  
Gage Addington



**Congregational Meetings will be held Sunday, May 19** immediately after each service to elect Board members for a three-year term effective July 1, 2019. Nominations include: for **Deacon** - Earl Higgins and Berry McClure; for

**Deaconess** - Shirley Johnson and Teresa McClure; for **Trustee** - Charlotte Buerge for a regular 3 year term and Ronda Post who would serve the remaining 2 years of Jeff Post’s term.



**The Nevada Griffons invite you to join them for Church Night at the Ballpark on Sunday, June 2 at 7:00pm at Lyons Stadium.** Free admission is given when you take your worship bulletin from that morning.

The church with the most people in attendance will receive a \$75 donation to their church’s youth group. This is Fan Appreciation Night so admission is free for all.

**The Nevada Griffons are in search of a few more families to host a Nevada Griffon Baseball Player.** Please contact Pookie DeCocq at 417-667-1261 for more details.

# Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

**WORD LIST:** covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

M I C W L O O F Y C C M N C T  
 D S K A C X J X H M K I P P N  
 E N I L P I C S I D A Y R E A  
 E J H K T O T R N T W O Y K S  
 D E L I G H T E N O T U R A A  
 E U G N O T G U A E S T C S E  
 H T A P N Y O N C C D H O R L  
 A U J L X F Z T E C H Y V O P  
 E Q N E I G H B O R T I E F W  
 T H G I S N I F L R T L N J I  
 H O N E S T A O E I B S A G S  
 E V I L I T R V I M S R N T D  
 V M X U H D O A U M I T T A O  
 O E R E Y P Y H E K U B E R M  
 L F R K S L E E P H C N P N R



*We Rejoice  
in the recent  
Baptism of  
Cameron Copple!*



**Change For Life by Life Choices. From Mother’s Day to Father’s Day, fill up a baby bottle with change.** The money from the baby bottles goes towards baby supplies, ultrasounds, parenting classes, emergency needs, etc. Contact Pauline Jeans at 417-448-9408 for more info.

**Small Groups Begin Soon.** Sign-up sheets are now available for small groups that are forming. The Butterfield/Clark Group has begun meeting on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm at the Butterfield’s house at 201 North Webster. The Moore/McCarter/Barneburg Group begins on Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 pm at 18349 S 1453 Road. The Jones/Platt Group begins on Monday, June 3 at 6:30 pm at 1913 N Elm. Sign up sheets are at the Welcome Centers.



**For Operation Christmas Child we are collecting items each month throughout the year. The suggestions for May are plastic cup, plate,**



**utensils (hard plastic for reuse, plastic water bottle (reusable), nail clippers/files.** Collection boxes are in the parlor and in the fellowship hall where you can place the items.

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 May products:** Pork & beans, applesauce, mac & cheese, raman noodles, canned veggies, salt, cereal.



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



## HELPING HANDS - June 2019



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

**COMMUNION** Marita Pippin  
**PREPARATION:** Helper - Jim Pippin



**Hospitable 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 June products:** Canned chicken, canned veggies, soup, jelly, oatmeal, Jello, peanut butter.



**Children's CHURCH**

Leaders: Angie Moore



**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
173	42	63	58	159

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**Offering needed during the month of April in order to meet budget was \$23,217.32.**  
**Offering collected in April was \$27,303.15.**

	Offering received:	Total
Apr. 07, 2019	\$ 6,723.35	\$ 6,723.35
Apr. 14, 2019	\$ 4,878.65	\$ 11,606.00
Apr. 21, 2019	\$ 6,282.00	\$ 17,884.00
Apr. 28, 2019	\$ 9,419.15	\$ 27,303.15

**Offering needed each week to meet budget in 2019 is \$5,804.33.**

### VAN DRIVERS

**Adults and Children**

June 02 - Randy & Tracy Ellifrits  
 June 09 - Eddie D. & Jerry A.  
 June 16 - Crystal Bloom  
 June 23 - Daniel Turowski  
 June 30 - Terry Jones



### Join Us For Adult Bible Studies

Monday - Young Adult @ 6:00 pm, Church Parlor  
 Wednesday - Bible Study @ 6:30 pm, 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, June 2, 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@fccnevada.org](mailto:lyndaj@fccnevada.org) no later than Tuesday, May 28, 2019.



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/02 Gus Smith	6/22 Blaine Griggs
6/03 Kathy Butler	6/23 Sharon Webb
Susie Platt	6/24 Jeanie Allen
Sally Rorabaugh	6/26 Sandy Carter
6/05 Tracy Ellifrits	Gary Ogle
6/06 Dan Carpenter	6/27 Beverly Ayers
6/07 Ellen Balk	Judi Eastland
Wade Hanes	Judi Thoreson
6/09 Nathan Vincent	6/29 Noah Austin
Ronnie Radford	Kyler Tarr
6/12 Doug DeCocq	6/30 Finley Butler
Melissa DeCocq	
6/15 John West	
6/16 Michael Brown	
Norma Bruhn	
Pat Culbertson	
6/18 Jennifer Ring	

