



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: Greg Barneburg, Don Cabbage, Doug Gammon, Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones

Volume 40

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Issue 15

From the Pulpit.....

When life hands us the uneasy what will come of it? For most of my life I have been a runner. It was my claim to identity. When struggling with the pecking order of the first-grade school yard, my place in the order was determined by running faster than everybody else. My first trial in running was a regional track meet and coming in last. Being able to outrun my peers in the schoolyard didn't happen when running with other runners from the region. My mom gave her tidbit of motherly wisdom while I cried on the way home, "Billy if you would walk to school you would be faster." I walked to school until my Junior year of high school even though I had a car.

When life hands us the uneasy, it is easy to curl up in a corner and call it quits. If you are going to overcome, it becomes a matter of our focus on endurance. Many of us have moments in life when endurance is important. We endure the gluttonous feeling of "I ate too much." We endure taxes, mechanical expenses, aging and more when it comes to our right to drive and own a car. We endure many uncomfortable, frustrating, and even embarrassing moments for our children. But when challenged by life's hardships with other things we surprisingly back away and curl up in our corner and show no evidence of endurance. Why is that?

For many of us it is our Christian walk. God calls us to obedience, but it challenges our pleasures. Endurance disappears. **The** Bible calls us to church attendance whereby we grow, but it cuts into our weekend. Endurance disappears. Jesus speaks to loving the unlovable, but they make us so angry. Endurance disappears. Endurance becomes the fruit we don't want to grow.

James (1:2-4) tells us, "*Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*" We live in the culture of the easy which is resistant to endurance. But the nature of Jesus (Hebrews 12:2) "...who for the joy set before him endured the cross,..." calls to us endure.

Next time you consider curling up and forgetting your trials know that you are growing **the** spiritual fruit called endurance. Paul says (2 Timothy 2:12-13), "*If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself [God].*" Now that's endurance God continues to be faithful, no matter what.

C U Sunday,
Bill



CHOIR MEMBERS AND THOSE INTERESTED: Please mark September 8th as our first rehearsal date at 5:00 pm. We will review plans for our next performance. New members will be placed with their vocal group (we'll help you if you are new to this). Former members need to turn in your music books and recordings from the past for safe storage. Let's all praise the Lord!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO ENJOY GRACE HARMONY here at FCC on September 25th (Wednesday) for a 6:30 pm concert of easy listening Gospel music. Mike & Sue Filisky began "Grace Harmony" in 2001 in a ministerial capacity, offering hope and encouragement through their music to others. In 2003 they resigned their careers to work full-time for the Lord with an annual "Journey for Jesus." Bring your friends and neighbors for an inspirational evening of gospel music. A love offering will be received for the ministry of Grace Harmony.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CLASSES ON HELPING YOU HAVE FINANCIAL PEACE? Please speak with me and sign up at one of the Welcome Centers if you are interested in a class led by Dave Ramsey in his series titled *FINANCIAL PEACE*. The course costs @\$100 per kit (adult single or married couple) and will involve a series of nine lessons with homework.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP SCHEDULES: Jump on board and be blessed. Three groups meet (Mon. & Tues.) in review and application of the Sunday sermons. Join other adults at **Wednesday Night Bible Class** in the Parlor from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in a verse by verse walk through the Bible (book of Matthew), led by Bill. **Soul Sisters** and **Cord Brothers** meet at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month, with the ladies in the Fellowship

(continued on next page.....)

Hall and the men in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care. How about starting a group in your own home? I would be glad to help you.

Because of Jesus,
David Rorabaugh

Praying for Miracles

We are blessed to be a part of a congregation who prays. Our elders meet just to pray once a month. We have different groups that pray before the services. Our staff prays together every Monday. Almost everyone in the congregation is on some kind of a prayer chain. Prayer is a very crucial part of what makes this church what it is. This is a good thing. Before this Summer’s camp season I went through the book of Acts looking for every instance of prayer, and it is full of them.

When we look to the example of the early church, it seems that their first response to anything is to praise God or to offer up prayers. One specific example I would like to look at today is found in Acts 12:1-5. Herod starts to get violent with Christians and sees that the Jews (the people he is supposed to be the king over) really like the violence. Encouraged by that, he takes Peter prisoner and puts him under heavy guard, lock, and key. This would be a very scary situation for Peter for sure, but also a very scary situation for the young church. They had seen miracles, yes, but when the people who are leading the church are being killed or taken captive, it would be easy to take a stance of fear. But their response isn’t one of fear, defeat, or resignation. Their response is to go to the one who is more powerful than the earthly king who is wielding power over them.

Verse 5 says this: “So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.” The Christians understood that God was the only one who could free Peter. And what I find baffling is that they start praying when he is taken into prison, and the very night that Peter is to be executed, God rescues him. Peter runs around, thinking he is dreaming, and eventually finds the other believers, who are still praying on his behalf. This kind of dedication to prayer is one that we should model in our own lives. Now, the answer won’t always be what we want it to be, but God hears our prayers and He always answers, even if that answer is no. So may we be a people dedicated to prayer, in the small and the big, may we know that God hears us and He cares.

Until He Returns,
Gage Addington



Grab your news items!

If you or a family member have been featured in the Nevada Daily Mail we have most likely displayed the news on the bulletin board in the west entrance

in the main building. Or, hopefully, we have. We try our best to recognize everyone, but chances are that someone or some event we have missed somewhere. We apologize if we missed you or someone in your family or your group.

Most of the news articles are in a file container which is at the Welcome Center in the main building. Articles are alphabetized by last name of individuals or by school or community group. **We invite you to check it out and take your news items home with you.**



Dear FCC Family,

Thank you so much for giving us your old copier. As I sit here preparing for the launch of our recovery ministry Reformers Unanimous (RU) I am using it everyday. When I use it I think of the kind hearted fellow Christians who were used by God to meet a need neither of us knew existed at the time. God bless and thank you.

In Christ’s love and service,
Pastor Josh Smith and family at CCC



Dear Friends,

Thank you for participating in LifeChoices’ Change for Life baby bottle campaign. We are so excited about the enthusiasm this project has generated in the community. This year we distributed approximately 7,300 bottles to area churches, businesses and organizations.

As of July 17th, your Change for Life 2019 total is \$993.09! This will help continue the vital services provided through our two clinics and school programs. Last year LifeChoices served over 13,600 individuals! because LifeChoices does not receive state or federal funding, it would be impossible to serve this many people without your help. **Thanks again — your gift through Change for Life really changes lives!**

Sincerely, Karolyn Schrage RN, BSN
Executive Director



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 August products: Chicken Helper, canned veggies, canned fruit, pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut butter, jelly.



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.**



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



HELPING HANDS - September 2019



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

COMMUNION Bobby Dade
PREPARATION: Helpers - The Elders



Hospitality Ministry
 When you see a visitor say "Howdy" and be sure to give them a FCC Coffee Mug filled with goodies!

VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children

Sept 01 - Randy & Tracy Ellifrits
 Sept 08 - Eddie D. & Jerry A.
 Sept 15 - Crystal Bloom
 Sept 22 - Daniel Turowski
 Sept 29 - Terry Jones



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 September products: Mac & cheese, canned veggies, pork & beans, canned fruit, mustard, pancake mix, and pancake syrup.

Join Us For Adult Bible Studies and Small Groups

Monday - Young Adult @ 6:00 pm, Church Parlor
Monday - Jones/Platt SG - see bulletin for location
Tuesday - Butterfield/Clark SG - Church Parlor
Tuesday - B/Mc/Moore SG - 18349 S. 1453 Rd.
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.



Leaders: Tammy Clark



Leaders: Dave Serna and Melissa Austin

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, September 1, 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, August 27, 2019.

CHURCH Stats

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week

SG	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
147	41	60	58	159



9/01 Becky Butterfield	9/14 Reta Carpenter
9/02 Peggy Deming	Don Kitsmiller
9/03 Walt Cochran	9/18 Tammy Clark
Glenda Haller	Jeanne Noble
Jackson McKinley	9/22 Pat Anderson
9/04 Melissa Austin	9/24 Vincent Kurth
9/07 Wanda Arthur	9/27 Clifford Ring
9/10 Judy Gammon	9/29 Dominic Zermeño
Jim Phillips	
9/11 Alta Woolridge	
Jeanne Moore	
9/12 Sandy Arneson	
9/13 Ella Carlin	

