



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

204 S Washington  
Nevada, MO 64772

## THE BEACON

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

Volume 40

September 15, 2019

Issue 17

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

The FCC Elders are preparing lunch for the FCC family on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September. Rick is firing up his smoker and preparing several other wonderful delights. The lunch will be in the Fellowship building after services. Invite your family and friends and plan for a wonderful time of fellowship. It is our elder's way of showing their appreciation for the church family and all that each of you do.

During the Old Testament times elders would have been like the city council. At other times they were counselors to kings and participated in other political settings. In another setting in scripture the elders would have been like "the Judge." Elders led the local synagogues in New Testament times and as the church begins and develops, we find the elders leading the church.

The titles for the elders throughout scripture may be presbyter, bishops, leaders and overseer. The Apostle Paul comments (1 Timothy 3:1) *"This saying is trustworthy: if anyone aspires to be an overseer, he desires a noble task."*

My favorite title for an elder is shepherd. There is nothing that glitters about a shepherd. In fact, if you get within a few feet of one, he smells like the sheep that he tends. Job demands have no clock and tend to stretch the shepherd beyond his comfort zone. Shepherds love their job in order to be at peace with the demands and the job is all about the flock. Since many shepherds work for an owner, then it really becomes both about the flock and the pleasure of the owner. The shepherd is the owner's on-site elder.

The owner and creator of the church flock is Jesus. The church is and always will belong to Jesus. The men who serve as "elders" are the on-site shepherds of Jesus' flock. They have no clock as to the time they put into it. They will go beyond their comfort zones. They will pray without ceasing because the flock is threatened. They will spend countless hours scouring the directions (reading His Bible) of the owner, Jesus.

So let me urge you like **Hebrews 13:17** says, *"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account, so that they can do this with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."*

Enjoy the "Shepherd's feed"  
Bill



**WE ARE BACK.** Thank you for the time away. For those of you who didn't hear, Sally and I made a quick trip out to New Mexico and Colorado to check on family members. We had not really been planning for the trip, but it was important, necessary, and about the only time to get away without major challenges. My thanks go to Bill, Gage, Lynda J., Ella C. and Sara T. for taking care of various tasks during my absence.

**GRACE HARMONY CONCERT** on September 25<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) here at FCC at 6:30 pm. The easy listening Gospel music is written and performed by Mike & Sue Filisky who 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. Please accept my thanks to all of you who signed up to bring some goodies for the fellowship and refreshments following the program.

**CHOIR HAS RESUMED**, meeting Sundays at 5:00 pm. We are preparing **NOEL & ALLELUIA! JESUS IS BORN** (cantata) for performance this Christmas season. More singers are needed. You who are new to choral singing will be placed with the group that best meets your vocal ability (we'll help you). Former members: check your shelves **AND PLAYERS** for previous choir materials, turning them in for safe storage. Let's glorify God who is worthy of worship and praise.

**FINANCIAL PEACE with DAVE RAMSEY AND HIS TEAM!** We begin the nine lesson series on September 19<sup>th</sup> (Thursdays) from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Please sign up at one of the Welcome Centers and/or speak with me if you are interested in this financial management program. The course costs \$109.00 per adult single or married couple and will involve homework. **MATERIALS ARE HERE IF YOU WISH TO BUY THEM NOW.** You

*(continued on next page.....)*

may audit the first session if you are unsure of committing, and, previous FPU students may attend for free to refresh your memories of the plan.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP SCHEDULES:** Don't neglect God's help and guidance for you through His word. 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 Hall and the men in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care. I would be glad to help you start a group in your own home.

Because of Jesus, David Rorabaugh

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## Hide and Seek

Sometimes I try to hide from Jesus. He still sees me, and I know that, but I still try to hide. I try to wrap my shame, my deepest and most secret parts, in fig leaves so that He cannot see them. I try to keep them in the dark, hidden and cold, where I feel they are safe. This way, when Christ draws near to me, instead of seeing my shame, my secrets, and my darkness, He only sees the fig leaves I have covered myself with. Much like Adam and Eve before me, I follow in line with humanity as we seek to be hidden from God.

But Jesus doesn't allow this. In John 3:19-20, He says that "this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed." We are terrified of intimacy because of what it entails. To be known, to be truly understood, we need to bring what is hidden in the dark into the light. All of our shame, our regrets, our sins, and our deepest secrets must be laid bare before the God of the universe.

And though this may seem hard, though this may seem uncomfortable, and though this may be scary, God will not forsake you. He will not leave you. He will not define you by your sins. Instead, "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9). Just like with Adam and Eve, He sees these fig leaves we have tried to clothe ourselves with and He gives us something new to wear. But this time, instead of an animal sacrifice to clothe Adam and Eve, He has given His only Son as a sacrifice to clothe us in His glory. Though we may run, He does not forsake us. Though we may hide, He does not leave us. Though we may be unclean, He washes us and makes us new.

Until He Returns, Gage Addington

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**We bid a fond farewell to Gage! Yes, our fearless youth minister, Gage Addington, is bidding us adieu.**



He is moving on to continue his education, pursuing a Masters of Divinity degree from Liberty University. He will carry a full academic load as well as work as a substitute teacher for the Ft. Scott School District. His last day with First Christian Church will be this Sunday, September 15 where he will be preaching in all

services and facilitating Youth Sunday.

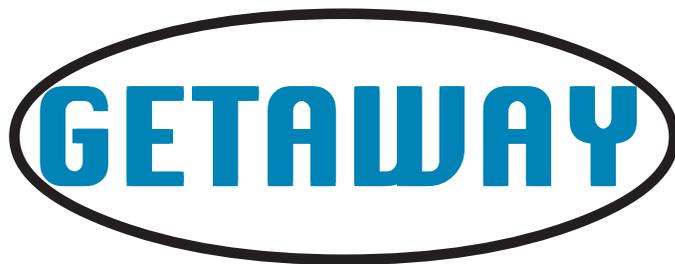
Gage's address for the time being will continue to be 2323 Jayhawk Rd, Ft. Scott, Kansas, 66701.

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



**GETAWAY is a high powered event for teens in 6th through 8th grade. It will be September 27 & 28 at Ozark Christian College. Early bird registration has passed. Regular registration is still open, costs \$45, and a t-shirt is not guaranteed.**

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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.**



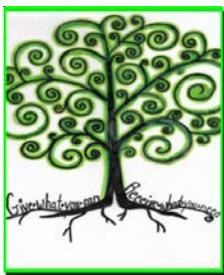


**Please join us for the Shepherd's Feed on Sunday, September 22 at Noon (after services).** In appreciation, the Elders are preparing and will serve a scrumptious meal to all members, regular attenders and their guests. **Make your plans to enjoy this wonderful meal with your church family and be sure to bring a few guests with you!**

**FINANCIAL PEACE with DAVE RAMSEY AND HIS TEAM!** The start date and time of the series is September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Please sign up at one of the Welcome Centers and/or speak with Pastor Dave if you are interested in this financial management program. The course costs \$109.00 per kit (adult single or married couple) and will involve a series of nine lessons with homework. You may audit the first session if you are unsure of committing, and, previous FPU students may attend for free to refresh your memories of the plan.



**GRACE HARMONY** performs here at FCC on September 25<sup>th</sup> (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. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the program.



**The Big Serve**  
A weekend of service in  
Vernon County  
September 28-29, 2019  
[www.BigServeVCMO.com](http://www.BigServeVCMO.com)

**Samaritan's Purse**  
**Operation Christmas**  
**Child**

Help your neighbors and your community by participating in **The Big Serve, the weekend of September 28-29, 2019.** Projects include such things as yard work, mowing, trimming, painting, power washing, and minor repairs. For more information please go to [www.BigServeVCMO.com](http://www.BigServeVCMO.com). Participant and Project Signup Sheets are available at the Welcome Centers in the Parlor and the Fellowship Hall. **You may also go to [www.BigServeVCMO.com](http://www.BigServeVCMO.com) to sign up and to obtain more information. We are actively seeking projects. If you, a family member, a friend or a neighbor needs some help, please let us know.**

**We are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Each month we collect different items. For September, the suggestions include washcloths, watches and fun jewelry.**

*"I absolutely loved the washcloth. As an orphan I had to share a towel with about 20 kids. So when I got the washcloth I actually thought it was my own personal towel."* –Vladimir, Asia

*"I was always late because I lacked a watch. Opening my shoebox gift, I found one. Now I am always on time for school."* –Niyonkuru, Burundi

**National Life Chain Event** - You are invited to participate in the National Life Chain. It is a pro-life national event. People form a life chain. **We will pray and stand with a sign along Austin street in front of First Christian Church on Sunday, October 6 from**

**2:00 to 3:00 pm.** Please meet in our parking lot on Cedar and Austin to pick up your sign. Let's take a stand for the unborn. Thank you!



Sarah Byers would like to invite you to her baby shower on Saturday, September 21 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at the Moore Few Community Room.



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



## HELPING HANDS - October 2019



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

**COMMUNION** Susan Swearingen  
**PREPARATION:** Helper -

### VAN DRIVERS

Adults and Children

- Oct 06 - Randy & Tracy Ellifrits
- Oct 13 - Eddie D. & Jerry A.
- Oct 20 - Crystal Bloom
- Oct 27 - Daniel Turowski



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

### Join Us For Adult Bible Studies and Small Groups

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 October products:** Hamburger/Tuna Helper, canned veggies, soup, peanut butter, cereal, jelly, applesauce.

- Monday - Young Adult @ 6:00 pm, Church Parlor
- Monday - Jones/Platt SG - see bulletin for location
- Tuesday - Butterfield/Clark SG - 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.



Leaders: Tammy Clark



Leaders: Dave Serna and Melissa Austin

The next issue of **THE BEACON** will be available on Sunday, October 6, 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, October 1, 2019.

## CHURCH Stats

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week				
SG	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
143	40	59	58	157



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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10/01 Judy Agee        | 10/12 Brandon Richards  |
| Joyce Ryan             | 10/16 Uche Mba          |
| 10/02 Katherine Arnold | 10/17 Billie McCullough |
| Cameron Copple         | 10/20 James Boyle       |
| 10/03 Greg Barneburg   | Ronda Post              |
| Sandy Gilmore          | Raymond Shumaker        |
| 10/06 Elroy White      | 10/22 Morgan Douglas    |
| 10/07 Melissa Smith    | Loretta Mathis          |
| 10/09 Quentin Miller   | 10/25 Jim Pippin        |
| Stacey Turowski        | 10/29 Jim Carter        |
| 10/10 Joyce Cooper     | Elton Raabe             |
| 10/11 Terry Jones      | 10/30 Charlotte Buerge  |
| Joanna Perkins         | 10/31 Vickie McCarter   |
| Orletta Simrell        |                         |