



# 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.**

**Elder Emeritus:** Ron Greenway, John McKinley and Glen Noble

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

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Issue 23

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

*A Christian should use these arts to the glory of God—not just as tracts, but as things of beauty to the praise of God. An art work can be a doxology in itself.<sup>1</sup>*

Susie and I recently took a trip to Cincinnati to see family. While we were there, imagine our delight when we found out that our oldest grand-daughter was performing in a choir concert. We found ourselves blessed to see and hear her among several other performances through the night. Then, to top off the night, we all gathered and had ice cream to celebrate.

We are the family of FCC. We are so blessed to have many exceptionally gifted and artistic people. Christmas is a time when we can show some of it. Several have shown artistry in our decorations. Still others have shown their artistry in the readings presented. Others have opened their homes presenting us with a picture into who they are. Some of my favorites are the culinary artists among us. Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> our choir will present artistry in a choral cantata. That Sunday we will have one service at 10:30.

The program will feature our Jesus' birth in the program *Noel & Alleluia! Jesus is Born*. Just like going to see a family member perform I invite you to come see your FCC family perform. Many are the voices that you have heard, but I delight in, and pray that you will delight in, hearing them again (a favorite is Sarah and a new voice is Zoie). Then, I would urge you to concentrate on hearing the words of the songs. The sermon is in the words of each song and the narration between. My prayer is that it will be an eternal celebration that will be even more special because you are there.

Finally, I would leave you with this thought, all of these efforts seek to glorify God. Artistry adds a special dimension to the worship of God. Don't miss it. In fact, I would urge you to join in by being present with us.

C U on the 22<sup>nd</sup>,

Bill

#### (Footnotes)

<sup>1</sup> Schaeffer, F. A. (1982). *The complete works of Francis A. Schaeffer: a Christian worldview* (Vol. 2, p. 377). Westchester, IL: Crossway Books.



**KEEP A 2020 VISION** as you pray: for God's will to be done; for Christ's body to grow in His will; for our leaders and decisions; for the many in need on our lists; and more. Set a regular time to pray, possibly at 8:20 pm (20:20 military), or a time that best works with you. **PRAY.**

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>: NOEL & ALLELUIA! JESUS IS BORN** (cantata) will be presented during the 10:30 am service in the church sanctuary by the FCC Chancel Choir. Sunday School for all will meet at 9:30 am, but there **WILL NOT BE** either an 8:00 or 10:32 Service. The Chancel Choir team is looking forward to sharing with you the story of God's incarnation. Invite others to join you in worship and celebration of

Jesus.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 5:00 pm. Grab your mittens, ear muffs and coats to spread Christ's joy and hope with our homebound. Bring a flashlight and a snack to share back at our kitchen after we finish. Music sheets will be provided.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT AND COMMUNION:** We begin at 5:30 pm with our traditional service of music, scripture, communion and reflection upon our Savior. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this special service.

**BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULES** will vary some the next few weeks. Be sure to check your Sunday Bulletins for the latest updates of times and cancellations. Continue Biblical studies in your home for spiritual warfare against sin and evil as you honor Jesus Christ.

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

For those whom we will not get to see in the coming weeks, Sally and I pray that you have a very blessed Christmas as we celebrate God's blessing of redemption for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. And as God allows us the days, have a very blessed New Year.

Praising Emmanuel, David Rorabaugh



*Make every effort  
to keep the unity of  
the Spirit through  
the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:3, NIV

*"If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand." Mark 3:24-25*

*"Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand." Matthew 12:25*

Acknowledging falling attendance and divisions among our church family, the board voted unanimously at last Wednesday's Board Meeting to move to one Sunday service. It was decided to have one service so all members and attenders can worship together as one body. The plan is to have the service at 10:30 am in the Main Sanctuary with blended styles of music and worship. Sunday School will remain at 9:30 am. The first unified single service will be Sunday, January 5, 2020.

The Worship Committee will take the lead in managing this transition. They need help and invite people to join them in

working to make this change as smooth and peaceful as possible. Please contact Tina Jones, Dave Rorabaugh, Greg Barneburg or the church office if you would like to help.

*"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3*



**Brighten the lives of others while having lots of fun singing Christmas carols. Join the CAROLING PARTY, Sunday, December 22 at**

**5:00 pm in the Parlor.** Let's glorify the Christ born in Bethlehem.



**We Rejoice  
in the recent  
Baptism of  
Tegan Dyer!**



**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight  
Communion Service  
Tuesday,  
December 24  
5:30 pm**



The First Christian Church,

Thank you so very much for this Thanksgiving basket. This is so sweet and kind of you. Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely, Margie Wardin

Dear First Christian Church,

You are just too kind and it is just so appreciated!

Lynda & John Lindsay

#### A Note From Finance - FYI

All year-end monetary gifts to the church that you want to claim on your taxes for 2019 **must** be received by Tuesday, December 31 or they can be mailed with a postmark of **no later than December 31. We will not be able to accept checks post-dated after the first of January due to strict IRS regulations. Thank you!**

**2020 Radio Broadcast Spots are still available** - Sign up now to sponsor a weekly worship service broadcast. **A sign-up sheet is in the Church Parlor** for you to choose a date that is important to you. You may also call the office at 667-3540 and we'll help you. The cost 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 December products:** Canned tuna/Chicken, canned veggies, peanut butter, soup, oatmeal, jelly, Jello.



Van  
Ministry

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



Pantry  
Needs



# NOEL & ALLELUIA!

## JESUS IS BORN

**Sunday, December 22**

**10:30 am**

*Schedule for the day:*

9:30 am Sunday School

Only one service at 10:30 am  
Sanctuary



Beautiful decorations on the Fellowship Hall stage.



A cozy, relaxing fireplace scene in the Church Parlor.

BIG THANKS to all who showed up for the Christmas Decorating Party on Sunday, November 24 to help decorate the church. You have made the buildings look so festive! We love it! Thank you to Tina Jones and Dave Rorabaugh for organizing the event.

If you have not seen all the decorations yet, take a little stroll around the church and view the wonderful decorations. You will enjoy it!



On Sunday December 29 we welcome a guest speaker during the Sunday School hour. Dan Britton, an apologetics scholar, will teach. He will be in Nevada visiting his sister, Mindy Barneburg.



On Sunday, December 1, First Christian Church held congregational meetings for the purpose of approving the Proposed Budget for 2020. An

overwhelming majority of members voted to approve the 2020 Budget. Complete copies of the approved budget are on the bulletin boards for your review. They are also available by visiting the church office or calling the office at 667-3540.

Will you help fill baby baskets? The Tree of Life, sponsored by LifeChoices, is a fun and easy way to celebrate the birth of Jesus by blessing a family and their new baby. These baskets are given to new moms and dads throughout the year. Simply choose a gift tag, purchase the listed item and place the unwrapped gift under the tree. That's it! Gifts will be collected after January 1st.



You are invited to FCC's New Year's Eve Watch Party on Tuesday, December 31!!! Come join the fun from 7:00 pm to midnight. Bring snack food and games. Then, enjoy lots of fun & games!!!



PLEASE SAVE THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE DURING THE MONTH



## HELPING HANDS - January 2020



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

**COMMUNION PREPARATION:** Teresa McClure

**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 January products:** Mac & cheese, canned veggies, raman noodles, pork & beans, applesauce, salt, cereal.

**VAN DRIVERS**

Adults and Children  
 Jan 05 - Randy & Tracy Ellifrits  
 Jan 12 - Eddie D. & Jerry A.  
 Jan 19 - Terrie Ridenour  
 Jan 26 - Daniel Turowski



**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  
 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.

**JANUARY**

**Children's CHURCH**  
 Leaders: Tammy Clark

**Junior CHURCH**  
 Leaders: David 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, January 19, 2020. The deadline for information for that issue is the prior Tuesday, January 14, and can be brought to the church office or sent to [lyndaj@fcnevada.org](mailto:lyndaj@fcnevada.org). There will be no Beacon published on January 5, 2020.

**CHURCH Stats**

Attendance: Year-to-date Average per Week

SG	8:00	10:30	10:32	Total 3 Services
149	40	42	59	141

**January BIRTHDAYS**

1/01 Phyllis Arnold	1/21 Kaile Blystone
1/04 Fritz Koopman	Bill Schulz
Ruthann Sirkle	1/22 Kalen Post
1/07 Norma Bivin	1/24 Pauline Jeans
1/08 Helen Shorten	Ovida Vincent
1/09 Whitley delRosario	1/25 Mary Watts
1/11 Betty Eador	1/26 Sarah Byers
1/12 Ellen Brooks	1/28 Gail Cochran
David Swearingen	Truman Smith
1/13 Chris Byers	1/29 Nicholas Riley
Tegan Dyer	1/30 Pattie Collins
1/14 Martha Waltrip	Alexandra Vincent
1/16 Lawrence Scott	1/31 Bonnie Boyle
Alice Stevenson	Zoie Keith
1/17 Sara Turley	Mike McCarter
	Alex Richards

