



THE BEACON

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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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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From the Pulpit.....

DEPENDING ON HOW HUNGRY I AM and the time of day, I begin looking for a meal or a snack. Most of us are blessed with the ability and means to find food that satisfies fairly quickly. But are we as quick to meet the cravings of our soul? Have we realized that our Creator designed in our spirit a hunger that only He can satisfy through Jesus and scripture? God wants to be a part of our life so much as to leave heaven, coming to the earth as a carpenter's son in a little village of Galilee twenty centuries ago. Jesus saw and experienced the hardships of life first hand. But He also became our example on how to deal with our frustrations. He still extends His hand to us, saying, *"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy [well-fitted], and My load is light."* (Matthew 11:28-30)



Are you daily accepting the invitation of Jesus, from your waking moments? Have you bound your desires and intent to the control of the Master? Are you learning from Him on a continual basis? I can't make you read your Bible, come to church, Bible study or Sunday School. But I ask: If you claim Jesus as Lord, how are you accepting His invitation to learn from Him and find His rest?

We need Jesus and we need each other. I encourage you to grow in hungering for Jesus.

KEEP THE PRAYERS FLOWING: for God's guidance in our ministries, for our leaders, for God's leadership and blessing upon this congregation. Choose a time, possibly at 8:20 pm (20:20 military), or at a time that best works for you. **PRAY.** *"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* (I Thess. 5:16-18)

FINAL PREPARATIONS are being made as the choir practices the cantata, *THIS WE BELIEVE*. Pray for the members and their practices Sundays at 5:00 pm. Please watch for details regarding April 12th, including: a carry-in Easter breakfast, only Children's classes, and starting 15 minutes early for worship. More details to come....

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND STUDY GROUP SCHEDULES are listed in the Beacon. Adjust your schedule to feed your and your family's soul, as well as your friends and neighbors in the middle of the week. Watch your Sunday bulletins for changes.

Continue Biblical studies in your home for spiritual warfare, standing with Christ Jesus.

Because of the love of Jesus,
David Rorabaugh



: GNPI

GNPI, or Good News Productions, International is a team of global innovators who work to present the Gospel message in

ways that are most meaningful to the people groups they are trying to reach. In some regions, they are creating music videos that are breaking into the mainstream arts and culture scene. In other places, they are using solar-powered projectors to bring a visual presentation of the Gospel to non-literate people groups who don't have access to electricity.

It all began in the 1960s when Ziden and Helen Nutt moved to Rhodesia to serve as missionaries. They showed films that depicted the Gospel message and, while large crowds gathered to watch, they seemed to respond to the entertainment more than the message. Ziden decided to stop showing the films, but a local believer challenged him to produce his own films that reflected local language and customs. Thus, the seed for Good News Productions was planted.

Technology has advanced rapidly over the past 40 years, and GNPI has adapted their methods to fit the

cultures and worldviews of many different people groups, but the message and mission have remained the same. GNPI wants people from every tribe and tongue to hear the good news of Jesus Christ in the way that is most relevant and meaningful to them.

GNPI has several programs that carry out its mission. REDUX equips believers to track their discipleship efforts. The TIMOTHY PROJECT trains followers of Jesus to open conversations with Buddhists. The GLOBAL GOSPEL is a set of stories taken directly from scripture that visually present the life of Jesus and is now complete in 35 languages. PROJECT NOMAD trains leaders all over the world to produce culturally relevant media that draws people to Jesus.

First Christian Church supports GNPI monthly from weekly offerings and annually from the Meritt Missions Fund. Please check out the Missions Bulletin Board in the south hallway in the Main Building or visit www.gnpi.org for more information about Good News Productions, International.



Your registration has been paid!! "Not By Sight" is the theme for the 2020 Missouri Christian Convention, scheduled for March 13-14 at Lodge of Four

Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks. The Elders approved paying the "church wide rapid registration" that pays for all FCC attenders. 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.

The Youth Garage Sale needs your stuff! The Garage Sale will be Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2 and will be in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to start bringing donations to the Fellowship Hall after church each Sunday. Becky and Kenny Butterfield and some young people will be there to help you. If you have items you cannot move by yourself, please call Becky at 417-684-7403. *No clothes, please.*



Believe is a high-energy weekend event for junior high students only. It is structured

specifically for junior high students and is packed with powerful worship and teaching from God's word. It is scheduled for March 27-28 in Kansas City, MO at the Kansas City Convention Center Grand Ballroom. Featured onstage will be Heather Flies, Isaac, Josh Horton and YB. Contact Angie Moore for registration info. Additional information is also available at new.ciy.com/believe.



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.**



We welcome Rachel Shepherd, and Doug and Lisa Bowling as new members of First Christian Church. Rachel is transferring from LifeWalk.

Doug and Lisa are transferring from Moundville Methodist Church. Welcome to FCC!!



Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the honor of serving with you. Last Sunday was very special. Everything meant so much, including the meal that many of you put together, the lovely decorations, the sweet (and funny) notes that many of you shared, John's kind words and the many that came up to us throughout the day. Susie and I are very blessed by your friendship and prayers. Thank you.

First Christian has been a rock for me in so many ways throughout the years. This season of semi-retirement will continue to be a blessed time with you.

Thank you again,
Bill & Susie Platt

Calling all gardeners! The flower beds and gardens around the church need your help. If you are interested in giving some time to their upkeep please let Charlotte Buerge know at 417-684-7336. Or, you can sign up on the sign-up list on the Welcome Center.

Charlotte plans to create a text list so that she can text everyone when the weather allows her to schedule some time to work in the gardens. Then, if you are available, you can come work with her.



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 March products:** Mac & cheese, canned veggies, pork & beans, rice, mayonnaise, oatmeal, jello.

