Our Vision

To be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)

"I remember, you know, you go to these parties on Saturday night and people would say, about 8:00 on Sunday morning 'Whoa, I have to go - I gotta get to church!'

People would say, 'Why do you want to go to church, all those hypocrites?'

And I say, 'Look, why do I want to stay here with all you hypocrites?'

I never knew why going to church made you a hypocrite. They'd say because you go to church and you're all 'Holy, Holy, Holy' for two or three hours, and then you go home and sin. I'd say 'exactly!' For two or three hours you're doing pretty good!

Maybe the problem isn't that you go to church, maybe the problem is that you go home!

I never understood why going to church made you a hypocrite either, because nobody goes to church because they're perfect. If you've got it all together, you don't need to go. You can go jogging with all the other perfect people on Sunday morning

Every time you go to church, you're confessing again to yourself, to your family, to the people you pass on the way there, to the people who will greet you there, that you don't have it all together. And that you need their support. You need their direction. You need some accountability, you need some help."

The late Rich Mullins (1955-1997)

Rich and his "Ragamuffin Band" made beautiful music until his untimely death. Songs like "Awesome God", "Sing Your Praise To The Lord", "Hold Me Jesus", and so many others. But the one that stands out above the rest for me is a song entitled, "Step By Step".

~Pastor's Note~

MAN YOUR POST!

Sometimes the night was beautiful - Sometimes the sky was so far away
Sometimes it seemed to stoop so close - You could touch it but your heart would break
Sometimes the morning came too soon - Sometimes the day could be so hot
There was so much work left to do - But so much You'd already done

Oh God, You are my God - And I will ever praise You
Oh God, You are my God - And I will ever praise You
I will seek You in the morning - And I will learn to walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me - And I will follow You all of my days

Family, it's in those words "I will follow You all of my days" that left me asking questions many years ago. "Do I truly follow Him? Doesn't my church attendance count for something? I've read the bible! BUT, DO I TRULY FOLLOW HIM?" The song goes on to say, "I will ever praise you." BUT, DO I EVER PRAISE HIM?

As a Pastor I look at the empty pews on Sunday mornings and wonder if I'd pay near as much attention if they were full? Five years into the ministry and I continue to park in the spot furthest from the entrance. It reminds me that there is room for the weary traveler coming home. There's room for the member who hasn't been with us for a while. I hold out in prayer and belief that the Church of Jesus Christ is on the way home from where ever they've been. I long to see our parking lot full but more over I long to see the Body of Christ reassembled and full of the Holy Spirit. I refuse to buy into aging communities and dying industries. I will not (God being my strength) allow the world's speculation to skew my view of my God's endless love and provision. My God can do anything He wants to do!

I truly believe that Satan has fooled us in to believing that we don't need to be connected as the Body of Christ. We've allowed our anger for this or that reason to blind us into believing that the church is an obstacle and not our family. I write this today in hope that the one who reads these words is encouraged and built up. I fully believe that God is bigger than our schedules or our circumstances. He truly can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us. But, what are we asking for? His power is at work in us, but are we connecting with the God of that power? Are we making Him to fit in our box called life and have we forgotten that we are made in His image and not the other way around? For that reason I choose (God being my strength) to serve others to glorify Him.

Remember this please; Satan will throw every resource at his disposal to keep you angry and separated from the family of God. Christ has given us all we need to come home and we just need to start making the move and the decision is ours. Maybe we are firmly planted in Christ, praise God! Maybe our spiritual gifts are on full display, but are we calling on the wounded soldiers? When was the last time we picked up the phone to just simply say to someone that we miss them and that we love them? When was the last time we prayed by name for that one that is missing? When was the last time we emptied ourselves of ME, that Christ might fill us and pour out of us so that the wounded soldier and the world sees the Jesus in us?

Family of God we have some praying to do! We have some exploration to do in the word of God! We have a work to do to bring home our wounded soldiers and encourage the world to see Jesus.

I submit these words with humility that we all might see the importance of our Christian station. I write this in hopes that the reader might be spurred on and moved to a heart of reconciliation. If God is love, shouldn't we too be the reflection of His love? Let's say more than yes and be moved into action to demonstrate this beautiful expression that can heal all our wounds. For we all have been wounded one time or another and it truly takes a wounded soldier to love another wounded soldier to the point of changing the world one beautiful soul at a time.

The Lord bless you where you are and move you to where He wants you to be. Who is the church? WE ARE THE CHURCH! It's time to man our post.

Shalom y'all!

PDoug

Our Mission

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Prayer Requests

SHUT INS

June Turner
Ruth Shields
Margaret Goodwin
Marilyn Hypes
Donnie Hypes
Evelyn Wickham

HEALTH CONCERNS

Lois Gibson
Pat Hartley
Eddie Williams
Betty Williams
Jim Russell
Nancy Tabor
Zack Carter
Glenn Shoemaker
Jerry Cumby
Sue Luterick
Daniel Shrewsbury
Patty Baker
Shirley Stevenson
Wayne Collins
Carol Stafford
Daniel & Moriah Francisco & their baby girl
Judy Baldwin
Vicky Lyons
Patty Camacho
Scott Collier
Leigh Anne Hines Owen
Bill Fuzia
Charlotte Dunahoe
Art Strommer
Mary Flanigan
Shirley Hines
Toni Russell
Glen Kersey
Jo Hartley
Christy Gay
Ramona Woodson
Gregory Rashick
Sue Godwin
Vicki

BEREAVEMENT

The Family of Diana Feuchtenberger

PRAYER REQUEST

Randy & Jan Bailey
Retha Smith & Family
Our Pastor
Our Country
BCC Congregation
FCC Congregation.
Tammy Kaley & Family

Need a Ride To Church?

Contact Melissa Woolwine at 304-320-4292 or

Glenn Woolwine at 540-353-3421.

They will arrange for you to be picked up.

If you are interested in being on the Pastor's prayer warrior list, please email or text him so he can include you as a prayer warrior.

SPRING cleaning

Keep in mind that the Church Yard Sale is coming up June 15 & 16.

For more info. contact Carolyn Bassett

Bible Study – The Book of Acts

The Prophet Micah, a latter prophet prior to the birth of Christ, posed the rhetorical question:

"What does God require of you, but to love mercy, seek justice and to walk humbly with your God!" Micah 6: 6-8.

We have reached the end of the Gospel according to Luke, who was not an Apostle, and will begin the study of his treatise called the "Book of Acts. Luke had traveled as a confidant to and servant with Paul whose calling and mission was to bring the Gospel to non-Jews in the area of Eastern Europe, West Asia and then to Central Europe, the lands of the Roman Empire which had defeated the nations of Israel and governed Jerusalem and its environs. Because the majority of inhabitants in this area were non-Jews, they were grouped with the name 'Gentiles'. Luke was well educated, thought to probably a physician, and quite an historian. He wrote his treatise called "Acts', for Gentiles who did not have inherent familiarity with the Jewish teachings and traditions that evolved from Genesis through Malachi. Acts, being the 'rest of the story', begins with the ascension of Jesus and the event of the baptism of the Apostles by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost which comes 50 days following the Passover, which we celebrate as Maundy Thursday. We will begin this study on May 1, 2018 @ 7:00 pm in the parlor. As we prepare to begin this study, I recommend this guide for you for serving the Lord:

"22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. 26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. 27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." (James1:22-27).

I hope and pray for all of God's elect and that you will choose to grow in your faith by seeking to know more about the Word that became flesh to become the nourishment of all mankind and which is essential to grow our faith to maturity. Please plan to join us in the study of the books of Acts, as we embark on the study of the early life and development of Church of Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God".

May God Be Glorified

In Christ,

Roger Mullins (c) 04/18/18 rwmullins

MUSIC News

The Next
Music at First
Christian Concert
will be:

Sunday May 13, 2018
at 4:00PM

Chicken & Dumpling Fundraiser for BHS Project Graduation

Tuesday
May 8, 2018
2:00PM – 6:30PM

Cost - $10 adults $6 kids under 10

Youth News and Events

Greetings all,

As usual a lot is going on in our youth department. Easter we had five of our youth people baptized. How great is that!

With the school year winding down summer activities are quickly approaching. One of those activities is Summer Camp. This year Junior and Chi Rio camp is from June 10 –15 at Parchment Valley Conference Center in Ripley, WV. This camp is open to those who have completed 3rd-8th grades. If you would like to go see Sarah and she will get you a form. Forms are due no later than Sunday May 20, 2018.

Next on the agenda is VBS. The dates for VBS are June 24—27, and we are going to need help. If you would like to help in any way please contact Melissa & Glenn or Sarah. They will let you know how you can help.

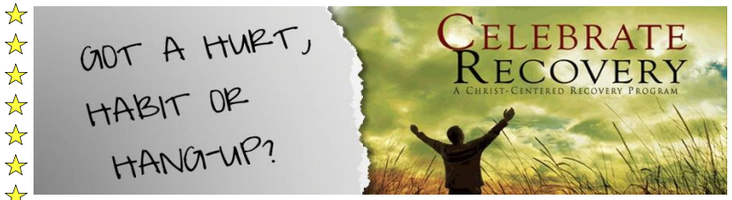
Once again thank you for the opportunity to serve you all,

Sarah Neal

Youth Activities

WOWZZA Wednesday

May 9 & 23
5:30PM
In the Christianaires Room



Celebrate Recovery

Every Thursday at 6:00PM
Contact Gery Piluso at 304-320-8566
for more information.

To order sanctuary flowers please call
Martha Royall at 304-327-8444
Flowers are $25.00

Cabinet meeting

Sunday May 6, 2018
Following the 11:00AM Service
Lunch will be provided

TREASURER'S REPORT — March 2018 — OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

Treasurer's Report

Below is the financial report for March 2018. Unfortunately, we had to make a transfer of $5,000 from savings for operational expenses. Subsequent to month end, we have received a sizeable donation and will be able to return to savings the $5,000. God is good all the time and all of the time God is good! Let us always be mindful to return to God's storehouse a portion of the many gifts he has so richly bestowed upon us all. Praise God for His faithfulness to His church! Praise God for each of you and your faithfulness to the ministries at FCC. We serve a mighty God! I am so appreciative for your faithfulness to God's work in this place and our community.

As a reminder, please continue to check for LIGHTS, RUNNING TOILETS, A/C OR HEAT, etc. following all meetings at the church. Don't assume someone else will lock up or turn off. This really helps to hold down utility costs. Also, if you become aware of maintenance issues with the property, please bring it to the attention of the Property Ministry Team (Co-chairmen, George Birkelbach and Scott Collier) or the church office. Delayed repairs can be more expensive than when they are caught early.

Our Church is truly blessed!

Mary Anne Musser, Treasurer

First Christian Church
Financial Information for March 2018

	Month-to-date	Year-to-date
Total offerings and other sources	$ 13,711.73	$ 39,272.20
Total expenses	17,195.31	46,907.46
Excess (deficit) of offerings to expenses	(3,483.58)	(7,635.26)
Transfers from (to) savings	5,000	5,000
Increase (decrease)	$ 1,516.42	$ (2,635.26)
Balances on hand March 31, 2018:		
General Fund		$ 1,278.02
Memorial and Special Gifts		13,817.49
Property Repairs and Replacement		342.69
Scholarship		4,395.45
Bequested Funds and other savings		69,442.85
Total		**$ 89,276.50**

On behalf of the family of Wayne Collins, I want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser through donations of supplies, time and help serving and contributions. Wayne is still undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments. The most recent update from Wayne's doctor is that they will be able to operate and remove the tumor once his treatments are complete. Praise the Lord for answered prayers!! We serve an awesome and mighty God. Love and blessings to all. Love, Mary Anne Musser

May 2018

☆Birthdays ♡Anniversaries

For birthday/anniversary additions/changes please notify Sarah

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 *BCC Praise Team 4:30PM *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	2 *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	3 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	4 *Kairos Cookies Due by Noon	5
6 ☆*Joe James ☆*Abby Shoemaker ☆ *Martha Umberger *Contemporary Service 9:00AM *Sunday School 10:00AM *Traditional Service 11:00AM *Cabinet Meeting after 11:00AM Worship *Women's CR Step Studies 6:00PM	7 *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's CR Step Studies 6:30PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	8 *Union Mission Dinner *BHS Project Grad Fundraiser Dinner 2-6:30PM *BCC Praise Team 4:30PM *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	9 *Wowzza Wednesday 5:30PM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	10 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	11	12
13 *MOTHER'S DAY *Contemporary Service 9:00AM *Sunday School 10:00AM *Traditional Service 11:00AM *Women's CR Step Studies 6:00PM	14 *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's CR Step Studies 6:30PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	15 ☆*Carolyn Bassett ☆ *Bethany Evans *BCC Praise Team 4:30PM *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	16 *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	17 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	18 *Newsletter Submissions Due	19 *Men's Breakfast (time and place TBA)
20 *CAMP FORMS DUE!!! *Contemporary Service 9:00AM *Sunday School 10:00AM *Traditional Service 11:00AM *Women's CR Step Studies 6:00PM	21 ♡ * Johnny & Julie Francisco *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's CR Step Studies 6:30PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	22 ☆ *Joe Turner *BCC Praise Team 4:30PM *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	23 *Newsletter Assembly & Mailing 10:00AM *Wowzza Wednesday 5:30PM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	24 ☆*Joey Bomgardner *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	25	26
27 *BCC Service 9:00AM *Contemporary Service 9:00AM *Sunday School 10:00AM *Traditional Service 11:00AM *Women's CR Step Studies 6:00PM	28 ☆*Mary Anne Musser ☆ *Gery Piluso *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's CR Step Studies 6:30PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	29 BCC Praise Team 4:30PM *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	30 *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	31 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM		

We heartily welcome all

May you be blessed today.

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am -1:00 pm

304-327-5633

www.bluefieldfcc.com

Welcome To Our Church

9:00 am Worship Service

Bluefield Community Church Service

Sunday School: 10:00 am

11:00 am Worship Service

First Christian Church

Douglas W. McDaniel Jr., Pastor

*F*irst *C*hristian *C*hurch
Disciples of Christ
2200 Bland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

BCC & FCC

US Postage Paid
Permit # 51
Bluefield, WV 24701
Non-Profit Organization

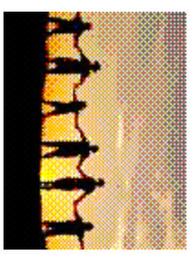
Youth Events

Sunday Youth Night
7:00PM—8:00PM

Wednesday
5:30-6:30 PM WOWZZA May 9 & 23

*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth events please contact
Sarah Neal, Youth Mentor dorkygirl9886@gmail.com
or 304.910.9933



God's Abundance

"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work...He who supplies seeds to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness... Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift!"

II Corinthians 9:8-15

Pentecost Offering 2018

HOPE
Partnership for Missional Transformation

Sharing Abundantly in Every Good Work

When the day of Pentecost had come, awe came upon everyone who witnessed the wonders being done through the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:43). Indeed the Spirit of Pentecost is alive in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through the awe-inspiring passion of the New Church Movement!

Under the 2020 Vision, we have grown our Disciples family by welcoming many new and affiliated faith communities into the fold. Our church planters are eager to answer God's call to spread the gospel in new ways and places. Our established congregations are sharing resources, love, and support. Our Church is sowing seeds and reaping an abundant harvest that bears witness to God's overflowing love for God's children.

Your gift to the 2018 Pentecost Offering will help new churches grow in your own Region or Area, and it will provide support to new church planters across the life of the Church through Hope Partnership's New Church Ministries. The stewardship of our courageous new church leaders is vital, and your contribution to the Pentecost Offering connects planters with much-needed resources for support and sustainability.

God continues to bless the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through the mission and ministry of all our congregations, and today, we have the opportunity to share God's blessings by giving abundantly to the Pentecost Offering. Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!

Learn more about
New Church Ministries
at hopepmt.org/plant

God's Abundance