

Our Vision

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



All the lights are up and our Carolers have taken their familiar place in the front yard. I imagine if we could hear them sing it would be; “Joy to the World, the Lord Has Come”, or possibly “Oh Holy Night”, because that is Jess’ favorite. Packages are wrapped or bagged, because that just seems to be a little easier. The trees are up and the sounds and sights of Christmas have overtaken our little home. The kids will be home and that always transports Jess and me to our happiest place. We have a special guest in Courtney this year, sharing in all the holiday cheer. That’s really understated because this eleven year old is ready for Santa Claus! The Christmas Eve Breakfast we began twenty years ago is about to take over our lives as we are swarmed with family and friends on the 23rd. Somewhere in the midst of busy work for both Jess and me, and a pretty busy church life, we are praying to catch our breath and inhale the joyous occasion. Ready or not, Christmas is on the way and it’s picking up a head of steam.

“Ready or not” is where I think a lot of us find ourselves during the holidays. “It’s the most wonderful time of the year”! It has to be true because I’ve heard Andy Williams sing it about 700 times this Christmas season. But is it really the MOST wonderful time of the

~Pastor's Note~

Ready or Not

year? It could be and I’ll even suggest it should be, but is it? Well, we can woulda, shoulda, coulda that to death. But for me, I really WANT it to be the most wonderful time of the year. Jess and I went to the Greenbrier to pick up toys for the Wade Kids and that certainly infused a little cheer in this old boy. A truck and trailer delivered a ton of toys to the Wade Center last week and that brought a broad smile to my face because so many precious children will be blessed with wonderful Christmas gifts this year. A Night In Bethlehem was a phenomenal success with over 1,900 folks visiting the shops and seeing baby Jesus in the manger. To see the children’s faces as they were invited into the stable for a first-hand experience was awesome! That was what put me in the full Christmas Spirit.

It’s always been about the Christ Child. I loved playing a shepherd and kept thinking about those shepherds of 2,000 years ago. Oh what a night it must have been when the Angel of the Lord set them out for the journey of a life time. Well, ready or not beloved that speaks of us too. We are on the journey of a life time! We are to be steadily watching and waiting for the return, the 2nd Advent of Jesus the Christ. Are you excited about the possibilities? Have you been invited into a manger lately to see the beauty of the birth of Christ? That little boy who walked into the manger the

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)



other night was electric. If you could have seen his precious face, full of wonder and amazement as he proclaimed, “It’s the baby Jesus”!

Ready or not, Jesus is coming again and I want to be ever watching and waiting with amazement and anticipation. Join me this Christmas and every day before and after as we watch and wait and serve the Lord together.

Jesus, oh what a wonderful child! May the HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE of Christ engulf you....

Shalom y’all!

PDoug





Prayer Requests



SHUT INS

June Turner
Ruth Shields
Margaret Goodwin
Marilyn Hypes
Donnie Hypes

ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Logan Hawks
Evelyn Wickham
Eunice Cooper
Glenn Kersey
Matt Selbee
Lois Gibson
Marie Boerboom
Shannon Neal
Pat Hartley
Jeff Russell

HEALTH CONCERNS

Mrs. J.W. Newton
Carolyn Hines
Grat Shawver
Dennis Huber
Justin Falconi
Phillip Craighead
Fred Haller
Sarah Haller
Nancy Neal
Catherine Gillespie
Dee Shoemaker
Fonda Morgan
Barbara Sizemore
Vicki Steele
Ree Fowler
Carol Fowler
Larkin Rucker
Susan Clark
Jim Brewster

John Kettleheck
Eddie Williams
Betty Williams
Janet Lockheart
Buck Sowers

Louisa Sowers
Doris Turner
Brenda Belcher
Billy Belcher
Caroline Dammon
Dawn Hunt
Linda Wilson

CANCER CONCERNS

Jim Russell
JD Turner
Brian Chumbly
Louise McVey
Nancy Tabor
Carol Stafford
Joyce Farmer
Analyn Lily
Bernard Atwood
George Smith
Lori Yost Moss
Shirley Harless
Zack Carter
Sharon Gibson
Bill Neal
Angela Robinette
Zack Williams
Lori Johnston
Owen Walker
Patricia Miller
Lindsay Varney
Wayne Walker
Harry Hancock
Samuel B. Wells
Danny Neely
Lisa Myles
Glenn Shoemaker
Catherine Smith
Robert Dobbins

BEREAVEMENT

None at this time!

NON-HEALTH RELATED REQUEST

Randy & Jan Bailey
Retha Smith & Family
Our Pastor
Our Country
Tim & April Scott
BCC Congregation
FCC Congregation.
FCC Princeton
Brandy Smith
Tara McCarty

Report of Moderator December, 2017

In Christ we are called to work together to build His Kingdom by using our gifts received from God to equip to serve. It is in keeping with that call that I am pleased to share with you the progress we are making to further our work in the Kingdom.

On November 12, 2017 the combined meeting of the Board and the Congregation we approved the recommendation of the Cabinet to purchase a van which has been purchased and in use. Drivers are needed and should anyone under 70 be interested, please contact the property Chairs, Scott Collier or George Birklebach.

The committees have been working and activities are planned for 2018. If anyone has interest to use your particular gifts to serve God in our community, feel free to contact the chairs;

- Doug McDaniel, Mission Outreach chair;
- Ronnie Hypes, Personnel chair;
- Helen Selbee, Membership chair;
- Carolyn Bassett, chair of Hospitality sub-committee;
- Melissa and Glenn Woolwine, co-chairs of Christian

Education;

- Barbara Rose, Evangelism chair; and,
- George Smith, Stewardship chair.

The congregation is requested to volunteer to assist in our service.

Stewardship committee has presented a financial planning seminar and had good response; repeat programs are anticipated for 2018;

Education has begun Youth Sunday School classes for specific groups based upon age. Teachers are needed both as primary teachers and substitute teachers. All who have an interest if being involved in teaching our young people on Sunday mornings, please contact, Melissa and Glenn Woolwine, or, Pastor Doug.

Personnel Committee: Darius resigned since the last report and we are preparing to have a group of concerned members to determine how we need to provide quality leadership of the Youth programs. Evaluations of staff are planned. The personnel committee is designed to receive any and all concerns you may have relating to our family and programming. Be certain to let Ron Hypes know of concerns with staff or programs.

Worship Committee: has been actively planning the worship services and plan for future activities in worship. Lois Mullins welcomes all who have an interest in pulpit and worship planning.

Property Committee has a good number of volunteers but always can use others to get involved in maintenance and upkeep of our building and grounds. The new van will be supervised by the property committee.

Evangelism Committee is looking to begin programs that will bring our members who are unable to attend all functions into the close relationship with those of us who are able and willing to serve actively for our mission. A call committee, visiting committee and card writing committee are being considered; If you are interested in being involved with keeping our members in touch with our activities, or assisting Sarah in her office requirements for mailings etc., please call Barbara Rose and volunteer to serve.

Outreach Ministries is always looking for members who love to be in contact with our community ministries including the Union Mission, Salvation Army, Wade Center as well as other community non-profits like Abel Crisis Center, Boy Scouts, Habitat for Humanity, CR, etc. If you wish to become involved, please let Jessica know your interest.

Membership is working on a new Directory and, of course, is always planning for eating together as often as we can. We are planning to celebrate the Eucharist during an Agape Feast at Pentecost, similar to the practice of the Early Church. See (Jude 12; 1Cor 11:17-34 and Acts 20:11).

As we celebrate advent and look forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ, the Son of the Living God, please search your hearts and determine how you will be serving in 2018.

Thanks be to God and may He be glorified in our community effort to serve together to His Glory!

Roger Mullins, Moderator

Music News

Thank you for another year of glorious music. Stay tuned for more upcoming events.

Harold Brown

Merry Christmas

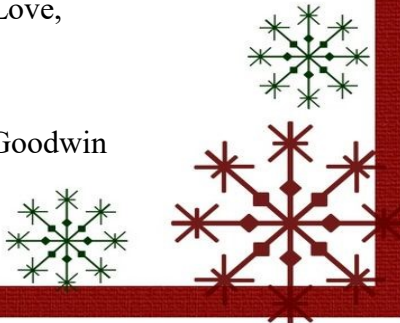
Thank You

Margaret & Donald want to take this take to thank the First Christian Church family for the cards, and notes through 2017 year. Also we want to thank you Pastor Doug for the cards you sent to us and card for my birthday

Thanks to all in Christian Love,

Merry Christmas to all,

Donald Kidd & Margaret Goodwin



Greetings All,

I want to take this time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. This is my favorite time of the year. Not because of all the presents and gifts, or even the decorations. The reason this is my favorite time of the year is because it is the time we celebrate Jesus' birthday. The fact that we have a God that would send His own son to Earth to die for all of our sins past, present, and future is astounding to me. So when you are all caught up in the gift giving of Christmas remember the true meaning of Christmas. Its not about the gifts or decorations. Christmas is about a little baby boy by the name of Jesus that grew up to do amazing things.

Mid-Winter is coming up Feb. 9-11, 2018 if you have a youth in 3rd-12th grade that would like to go to Mid-Winter please contact Sarah at 304-910-9933 and she will get the form and flyer for Mid-winter to you.

Also in January will be Pastor's Class for Youth. More information on that is to come. Please see Pastor Doug.

- Sarah Neal

Upcoming Youth Events:

January 7, 2018: Mid-Winter forms due

January 10, 2018: Wowzza Wednesday

January 24, 2018: Wowzza Wednesday

February 9-11, 2018: Mid-Winter Retreat



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





Treasurer's Report



Below is the financial report for November 2017. 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 November 2017		
	Month-to-date	Year-to-date
Total offerings and other sources	\$ 14,419.03	\$ 183,818.96
Total expenses	23,861.15	184,144.36
Excess (deficit) of offerings to expenses	(9,442.12)	(325.40)
Transfers from (to) savings	0.00	0.00
Increase (decrease)	\$ (9,442.12)	\$ (325.40)
Balances on hand November 30, 2017:		
General Fund		\$ 251.14
Memorial and Special Gifts		13,781.14
Property Repairs and Replacement		342.65
Scholarship		2,262.67
Bequested Funds and other savings		76,414.14
Total		\$ 93,051.74

Praise the Lord and give thanks to the Lord

Mid-Winter

January 7, 2018

Mid-Winter Retreat forms due

See Sarah for more information

Youth Activities

WOWZZA Wednesday



January 10 & 24

5:30PM

In the Christianaires Room



January 20, 2017

Time and Place TBA



January 2018

☆ Birthdays

♥ Anniversaries



For birthday/anniversary additions/changes please notify Sarah

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 *Church Office Closed	2	3	4	5
7 *Mid-Winter Retreat forms due. *Sunday School 9:00AM *BCC Service 10:00AM *FCC Service 11:00AM *Youth 7:00PM—8:00PM	8 *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	9 *Union Mission Dinner *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM *BCC Praise Team 6:30PM	10 ☆ *Kyle Croye ☆ Lamont Edwards *Breakfast at TBA 7:30AM * WOWZZA Wednesday 5:30PM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM	11 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	12	13
14 *Sunday School 9:00AM *BCC Service 10:00AM *FCC Service 11:00AM *Youth 7:00PM—8:00PM	15 *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	16 ☆ *Angel James *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM *BCC Praise Team 6:30PM	17 *Breakfast at TBA 7:30AM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	18 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	19 *Newsletter Submissions Due	20 *Men's Breakfast 8:00AM
21 ☆ *Christian Bailey *Sunday School 9:00AM *BCC Service 10:00AM *FCC Service 11:00AM *Youth 7:00PM—8:00PM	22 *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	23 *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM *BCC Praise Team 6:30PM	24 **Breakfast at TBA 7:30AM *Newsletter Assembly & Mailing 10:00AM * WOWZZA Wednesday 5:30PM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM	25 *Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	26 ☆ *June Turner	27
28 ☆ *Ann Taylor *Sunday School 9:00AM *BCC Service 10:00AM *FCC Service 11:00AM *Youth 7:00PM	29 *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	30 *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM *BCC Praise Team 6:30PM	31 *Breakfast at TBA 7:30AM *FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM			

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

First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
2200 Bland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701



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 WOWZA Jan 10 & 24

*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth events please contact Darius Carper, Youth Minister carperd24@gmail.com or 304.800.3774 or Sarah Neal, Youth Mentor dorkygirl9886@gmail.com or 304.910.9933



Poinsettias 2017



Poinsettias 2017



In Memory of:

- James & Alice Barnett and Robert & Gladys Mullins. By Roger, Lois, Stacey & Alison Mullins
- Opal & George Brooks Sr. By George Brooks Jr.
- Donald Cooper, the best Daddy. By Barbara Rose & Family
- Rocky Dunahoe and all other loved ones. By Charlotte Dunahoe
- Jim Gibberson. By Betty Lou, Jim, Susan, Kelsey, Brandon, Christina & Aria
- Ann B. Carlock. By Gary & Mary Anne Musser
- Our parents J.O. & Hazel Hines and Olen & Helen Shupe. By David & Shirley Hines
- Dr. Jack Hurley. By Chris, Dee, Nick, Sam & Abby Shoemaker
- Herbert & Janie Light and Emory & Janice Sexton. By Richard and Katharine Sexton
- James & Alice Barnett and Robert & Gladys Mullins. By Roger, Lois, Stacey & Alison Mullins
- Von, Virginia and Bobby Musser. By Gary & Mary Anne Musser, Glenn & Melissa Woolwine, Noah & Christian Bailey & Gwen Musser
- Our Parents. By Stand & Connie Taylor

- Mike Baker. By the Baker Family
- Jim Gibberson. By the Baker Family
- Mary Sue Davis. By Kevin & Susan Lane Lambert
- Jack Martin. By Donna & Michael Cole
- Trudy Martin. By Donna & Michael Cole

In Honor

- Eunice Cooper, family is the most precious gift. By Barbara, & Bob Rose, Mary Anne, Bucky, Melissa, Glenn, Noah & Christian
- Sarah Page Sexton, MD. & Richard Asher Sexton, MD. By Richard & Katharine Sexton