

### Our Vision

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



Many years ago, when I lived in Richmond, Virginia with my mom and dad, I was very much like all the other kids at the mention of Santa Claus and him coming to town. Well of course you remember and you've seen it in the lives of your own children and grandchildren. There's such an excitement that over takes the little children and me being a little kid in 1968, all I wanted for Christmas was a little brother. Well, at least my memory is telling me that was all I wanted.

I don't have many memories of when I was five years old, but one that has never escaped me was my dad and I driving to St. Mary's Catholic Hospital to pick up my early Christmas present. I remember my dad grabbing up this new bundle of joy. Robert James (named after our grandfathers) was and remains my dad's pride and joy. I don't think I recall my dad ever smiling any more brightly than the day we brought Beau home from the hospital.

I was a little miffed as I tried to unwrap my early Christmas present and all I could hear was Dougie don't do that! Dougie, he's not a toy! But I asked for a brother for Christmas and he came early and now I can't play with him? I was upset at the whole process! I had always been encouraged to rip into my Christmas gifts and play with them and throw them and kick them and, well, my little brother wasn't a new baseball it seemed. He was a little person for goodness sake. I was five and had no experience with this new "big brother" concept and my new-found responsibilities. I didn't even know what the word responsibility meant. Come to think of it, I struggled with that concept for a long time. But there he was!

# ~Pastor's Note~

## Finding Christmas

My Christmas present, was unwrapped and gifts were stacking up under the Christmas tree and the one gift I received early, the one that I asked for, was off limits for me to play with and enjoy.

So, as you can imagine I became angry! My mom and dad were completely and utterly fixated with MY CHRISTMAS GIFT! I'm not sure I've ever quite gotten over it. So, in my mind I had to right the wrong somehow. I took it upon my self to write Santa another letter. But this time I wasn't asking for another present, I wanted Santa to explain to me why I got my Christmas present early and was unable to play with it. I asked old Saint Nick if he wouldn't mind taking it back and waiting until Christmas morning for me to receive it. In my mind I was thinking if I could receive my little brother on Christmas morning, there was no way my mom and dad would keep it from me. It's Christmas morning for goodness sake! Who would deny their precious eldest child the opportunity to play with their Christmas brother?

To my surprise, Santa did not send a reply. Seems though, he must have spoken to my parents and it seemed that he did so very sternly. For a moment I was glad that Santa had given them a well-deserved tongue lashing. Except that wasn't it at all. Apparently, the tongue lashing was meant for me. Seems that my parents and Santa were in cahoots. It seems that this precious little angelic five-year-old was right smack dab in the middle of a Christmas Conspiracy. So, what did I do? Every chance I got, when momma and daddy weren't looking (which wasn't very often – I think they were a little gaga over my Christmas gift) I ran an unwrapped it and played with it!

### 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)



My little Christmas gift turned 50 on November 30<sup>th</sup> this year.

Can you imagine the prospect of not fully experiencing your Christmas gift?

Church, we are about to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent and the greatest gift ever given to the entire world. Unwrap the gift that's been given us. Experience Him for the 1,000<sup>th</sup> time or the 1<sup>st</sup> time. But don't let another day go by without receiving the greatest gift ever given – Jesus the Christ.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

PS; It's ok to not wait until Christmas morning to receive your gift.

From me and my family, we wish you ALL a happy and blessed Christmas Season and a prosperous New Year!

Shalom and SHALOM!

P-Doug and family....



## Prayer Requests



### SHUT INS

June Turner  
Ruth Shields  
Margaret Goodwin  
Marilyn Hypes  
Donnie Hypes

Daken Bishop  
Donnie Hypes  
Kenny Ramos  
John Gibson  
Matt Anderson & Family  
The mother of George Smith  
Steve Aichel  
Tim Crouch  
Betty Lou Gibberson  
Lindsay Vareny

### HEALTH CONCERNS

Pat Hartley  
Eddie Williams  
Betty Williams  
Nancy Tabor  
Zack Carter  
Patty Baker  
Wayne Collins  
Carol Stafford  
Patty Camacho  
Leigh Anne Hines Owen  
Shirley Hines  
Toni Russell  
Glen Kersey  
Jo Hartley  
Sue Godwin  
Breanna Nicodemus  
Terry Barton Sr.  
Roger Stacy  
Tom Farmer  
Beth Hayes  
Chris Tinder  
Cleo Halsey  
Clancy Griffin  
Marilyn Hypes  
Ellen Elliot  
Gracie Figeruroa  
Melissa Smith  
Vicki  
Carl Walker  
Mary Baker  
Kenny Adams  
JR Shrewsbury  
Catherine Gillespie  
Gavin  
Danny Nichols  
Lynn McCure Burney

### BEREAVEMENT

None at this Time!

### PRAYER REQUEST

Randy & Jan Bailey  
Retha Smith & Family  
Our Pastor  
Our Country  
Our Church Family  
Dewayne  
Joseph  
Garry  
David Epperly  
Robert Searle  
Jon Gendron  
Trey McDaniel  
Our First Responders  
General Church  
Regional Church  
Regional Minister & Staff



### **Need a Ride To Church?**

Contact the church office at 304-327-5633 or  
Darrin Coe at 276-245-8374



## Kairos Cookies for January Walk

due:

January 4, 2019

By 12 Noon



2018

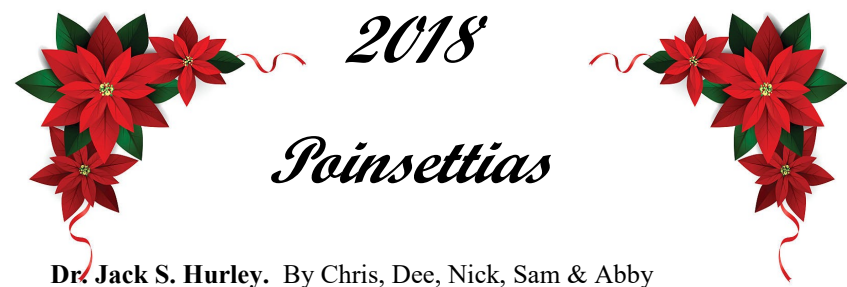
## *Poinsettias*



### In Memory of:

**Jack Martin.** By Mary Mash  
**Evelyn Wickham.** By David & Shirley Hines  
**Our Parents—J.P. & Hazel Hines and Olen & Helen Shupe.**  
By David and Shirley Hines  
**Jim Gibberson.** By Betty Lou, Jim, Susan, Brandon, Christina, Kelsey,  
Jay & Aria  
**Von, Virginia & Bobby Musser.** By Gary, Mary Anne, Gwen & Bucky  
**Ann B Carlock,** By Mary Anne & Bucky  
**Betty Brown.** By Sarah Neal & Joey Bomgardner  
**Betty Brown.** By Florence Neal & Robert Searle  
**Raymond Neal.** By Florence & Sarah Neal  
**Bonita Searle.** By Florence & Sarah Neal  
**Marvin E Stevenson.** By Ruth & Shirley Stevenson & Carolyn &  
Vernon Barber  
**Rev. Clarence, Chanie Johnson, and Samuel & Ruth Martin.** By  
Samuel James & Charity Martin  
**Opal & George Brooks Sr.** By George Brooks Jr  
**Dorothy Gonzalez.** By Nick & Maria Whited  
**Marcus Gonzalez.** By Nick & Maria Whited  
**Robert & Gladys Mullins.** By Roger, Lois, Stacy & Alison  
Mullins  
**James & Alice Barnett.** By Roger, Lois, Stacy & Alison Mullins  
**Our Parents.** By Stan & Connie Taylor  
**Marie Boerboom.** By the Boerboom Family  
**Keri Marie Smith.** By Tanaya, Elijah & Trevon Smith  
**Rocky Dunahoe & All loved ones.** By Charlotte Dunahoe  
**Jim & Ruth Snider.** By Joe & Jodi Krajc  
**Glenn R. Shoemaker.** By Chris, Dee, Nick, Sam & Abby





2018  
*Poinsettias*



*We will be having our  
Christmas Cantata  
Sunday December 23,  
2018 during our  
10:00AM Service.*

*We hope you can join us!*

Greetings all,

We are in the midst of the Christmas season. On December 16, 2018 we had our Children's Christmas Program. This years program was entitled "Just A Little Christmas". After the program we had a little reception down in Bethany Hall for the youth and their parents and guardians. I believe all and all a good time was had by all.

The next event on the calendar is a trip to the Bristol Motor Speedway to see the lights on December 21, 2018, followed by Caroling at the Maples on Sunday December 23, 2018. I believe this will conclude a successful Christmas season for the Youth of FCC.

Next on the agenda is Mid-Winter, and with Mid-Winter comes fundraising. We are planning to have a fundraiser to help fund Mid-Winter on Monday January 14, 2018 so please be on the look out for information about that. Currently we have 11 youth and 4 adults going to Mid-Winter this year.

As always thank you for the chance to service you all, and lets remember the true reason for the Christmas Season, which is JESUS!

Sarah Neal



- Dr. Jack S. Hurley.** By Chris, Dee, Nick, Sam & Abby
- Bob Stafford.** By Johnny & Julie Francisco
- Ramona Francisco and Kes & Judy Francisco**
- Jack & Virginia Akers.** By Their Children
- Emory Sexton, Tiff Kiser & Janice Sexton Kiser.** By Richard & Katharine Sexton.
- Herbert & Janie Light.** By Richard & Katharine Sexton
- Charles & Gladys Bassett.** By Bill & Carolyn Bassett
- Bill & Jimmie Sargent.** By Bill & Carolyn Bassett
- Steve O'Saile.** By Bill & Carolyn Bassett
- Beulah & Guy Harrison.** By Tonia Russell
- Jim Russell.** By Tonia Russell

**In Honor Of:**

- Martin, Johnson, Esters & Bailey Families.** By Samuel James & Charity Martin
- Pat Hartley.** By David & Shirley Hines
- Carrol Stafford.** By Johnny & Julie Francisco
- Dr. Sarah P. Sexton.** By Richard & Katharine Sexton
- Dr. R Asher Sexton.** By Richard & Katharine Sexton
- Our Children: Cari Francisco Espinoza & Daniel & Moriah Francisco**
- Our Granddaughters: Bella, Charli, Jaelynn & Selah**

**In Honor & Memory Of:**

- Virginia & Charles Hudson.** By Tonia Russell



November 2018

TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer's Report



Below is the financial report for November 2018. God is good! Praise God for His faithfulness to His church! Praise God for each of you and your faithfulness to the ministries at FCC. I am grateful for your faithfulness to God's work in this place.

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!

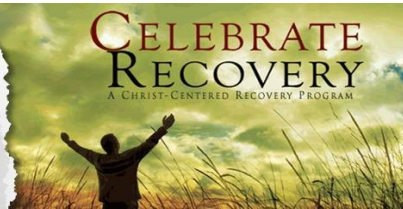
Ronnie Hypes, Treasurer



First Christian Church		
Financial Information for November 2018		
	Month-to-date	Year-to-date
Total offerings and other sources	\$ 15018.00	\$ 178,684.30
Total expenses	16,773.79	177,568.28
Excess (deficit) of offerings to expenses	(1,755.79)	1,116.02
Transfers from (to) savings	0.00	0.00
Increase (decrease)	\$ (1,755.79)	\$ 1,116.02
Balances on hand		
November 30, 2018:		
General Fund		\$ 4,898.46
Memorial and Special Gifts		11,146.67
Property Repairs and Replacement		2,235.21
Scholarship		4,395.45
Bequested Funds and other savings		92,341.15
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 115,016.94</b>

Praise  
and give thanks to  
the  
Lord

GOT A HURT,  
HABIT OR  
HANG-UP?



**Celebrate Recovery**  
Every Thursday at 6:00PM  
Contact Chuck Louthan at 276-322-4071  
for more information.



To order sanctuary flowers please call  
The Church Office at 304-327-5633  
Flowers are \$25.00

**YOUTH Activities**

Crafts **WOWZZA Wednesday**

Every Wednesday in January  
5:30PM

In the Christianaires room





# January 2019

## ☆ Birthdays

## ♥ Anniversaries



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	ERI	SAT
		<p>1</p> <p>*Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>*Wowzza Wednesday</p> <p>*Praise Band Practice 6:00PM</p> <p>*Choir Practice 7:00PM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>*Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM</p> <p>*Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM</p>	<p>4</p> <p>*Kairos Cookies Due 12NOON</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>*Contemporary Service 9:00AM</p> <p>*Sunday School 10:00AM</p> <p>*Traditional Service 11:00AM</p>	<p>7</p> <p>*Violin Practice 2:45PM</p> <p>*Boy Scouts 7:00PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p>*Union Mission Dinner</p> <p>*Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>*Wowzza Wednesday</p> <p>*Praise Band Practice 6:00PM</p> <p>*Choir Practice 7:00PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>☆ *Kyle Croye</p> <p>☆ *Lamont Edwards</p> <p>*Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM</p> <p>*Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>*Contemporary Service 9:00AM</p> <p>*Sunday School 10:00AM</p> <p>*Traditional Service 11:00AM</p>	<p>14</p> <p>*Youth Fundraiser Dinner</p> <p>*Violin Practice 2:45PM</p> <p>*Boy Scouts 7:00PM</p>	<p>15</p> <p>*BCC Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>☆ *Angel James</p> <p>☆ *Maria Whited</p> <p>*Wowzza Wednesday 5:30PM</p> <p>*FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM</p> <p>*FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>*Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM</p> <p>*Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>*Newsletter Submissions Due 11:00AM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>☆ *Chris Boerboom</p> <p>*Men's Breakfast</p> <p>*Women's Breakfast</p>
<p>20</p> <p>*Contemporary Service 9:00AM</p> <p>*Sunday School 10:00AM</p> <p>*Traditional Service 11:00AM</p>	<p>21</p> <p>☆ *Christian Bailey</p> <p>*Violin Practice 2:45PM</p> <p>*Boy Scouts 7:00PM</p>	<p>22</p> <p>*BCC Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>*Newsletter Assembly 10:00AM</p> <p>*Wowzza Wednesday 5:30PM</p> <p>*FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM</p> <p>*FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>*Men's Prayer Meeting 7:30AM</p> <p>*Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>☆ *June Turner</p>
<p>27</p> <p>☆ *Randy Bailey</p> <p>*Contemporary Service 9:00AM</p> <p>*Sunday School 10:00AM</p> <p>*Traditional Service 11:00AM</p>	<p>28</p> <p>☆ *Ann Taylor</p> <p>*Violin Practice 2:45PM</p> <p>*Boy Scouts 7:00PM</p>	<p>29</p> <p>*BCC Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>	<p>30</p> <p>*Wowzza Wednesday 5:30PM</p> <p>*FCC Praise Band Practice 6:00PM</p> <p>*FCC Choir Practice 7:00PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>*BCC Praise Team 4:30PM</p> <p>*Prayer Meeting 6:15PM</p> <p>*Bible Study 7:00PM</p>		



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](http://www.bluefieldfcc.com)

## Welcome To Our Church



9:00 am Worship Service  
Contemporary Church Service  
Sunday School: 10:00 am  
11:00 am Worship Service  
Traditional Church Service  
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  
WOWZZA Every Wednesday at 5:30PM

\*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth  
events please contact  
Sarah Neal, Youth Mentor [dorkygirl19886@gmail.com](mailto:dorkygirl19886@gmail.com)  
or 304.910.9933

2018 Christmas Special Offering

# COME

*they told me*

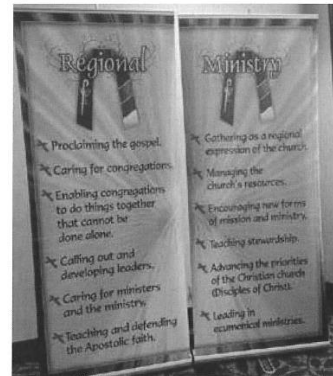


Our finest gifts  
supporting the ministries of our Region  
DECEMBER 16th and 23rd

# REGIONS



- **Connect** congregations to each other
- **Foster** faith development
- **Gather** Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- **Nurture** the development of a new generation of pastors
- **Assist** churches in calling new ministers
- **Interpret** the global mission of the church
- **Represent** the church in ecumenical gatherings
- **Counsel** and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- **Walk** with those in conflict
- **Lead** the church to address racism
- **Inspire** leaders to experiment and create
- **Witness** to the power of God to make things new



*Your gift to the Christmas offering supports the work of your Region, sustaining the life of our church. Thank you for providing your finest gift.*

