

Our Vision

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



I send you greetings in the Name that is above all names; Jesus.

Below is a note that I wrote in May of 2013. I thought it good to share again, in the event that you might have forgotten my position.

“Handel's “Messiah” was performed by Master Works and hosted by First Christian Church last month. I must say, if you were unable to attend you really missed a blessing. We are very fortunate to have such talented musicians in our area.

I happened to get to the church early that night, and began roaming around as folks started filing in. I was sitting in the back of the sanctuary prior to the performance and happened to look up. Wow! Have you ever looked up to see how high those ceiling fans are in the air? Wow, I say! “I wonder how long it’s been since those fans have been cleaned,” I asked myself. Sort of hard to get to, don’t you think?

But you know, those fans can be reached. You see, there are tools that help us to get the job done. We just have to be intentional to reach them.

That makes me think of the community we live in and the desire I have to see it reached for Jesus. There are so many people who are living like this is all there is, when we all know that isn’t the case. Church, we just can’t keep it to ourselves! I believe we possess the ability to reach those who are otherwise considered too hard to get to. Who’s with me? Let’s talk about that soon. -Blessings!!”

So on with today’s note; Greetings and a continued Happy New Year to you and your loved ones. I write this Pastor’s Note with a bit of a heavy heart. Our Uncle Steve passed away on the 15th of February at the blessed age of 91. Uncle Steve was quite the character and as I type these words my mind and heart are full of so many mixed emotions as we prepare to gather for his Celebration of Life service this coming Saturday. For me I’ll do double duty this week as I care for the family that I’m a part of and too try and mourn and process the death of one of my best

~Pastor's Note~

When Loss Presents Itself as Gain

friends.

I’m wondering for us if we really consider the ramifications of being saved and what that really means for us as we live and as we die. The Apostle Paul was quite profound with the statement of Philippians 1:21 when he said, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain”. We’ve likely heard this quoted hundreds of times. It’s one of my many favorite verses. But what does it mean for me, and not to leave you out; what does it mean for you?

Maybe we should just take it a few short steps at a time. Here we go – For me (your name) to live (to be alive right now in this moment) is Christ. Wow, that doesn’t make any more sense now than it did before! Well, sure it does, take a breath and block out all the interference. For me to live, I need Christ! Wasn’t that easy? Well, maybe the wording was, but what about the living it out? For me to live, and I mean for me to live life to the full. Fulfilled in every aspect takes a right relationship with Jesus our elder brother.

Then we look at the second part which says, “to die is gain”. Well I thought if I died, I was dead! Doesn’t seem like much to gain in dying. Well, that’s where the beauty of redemption comes in. The world would look at your corpse and say, “there’s a corpse”. But for the redeemed of the Lord we see someone who has transitioned from this physical life into the spiritual life. Paul considered it better to be with the Lord. I think most of us agree. But there’s more to it than meets the eye.

If we are to really catch a glimpse of the fulfilled life in Christ, we really have to begin distancing ourselves from this physical world. I know, I know! We’ve been taught to grab the world by the tail and ring out all we can get so we can succeed and retire in the Caymans. But there’s more to it. Have you considered giving up - to gain? I know that sounds crazy, but in God’s economy those of us who give up the things of this world gain a brighter future in our relationship with Jesus.

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)



I guess I’ve decided that I want more now! But I don’t mean more money in my retirement plan and yes, I’m trying to build that up, but that’s not my number one priority. I want more Jesus! I want to know him on a deeper level. I want to hear him more clearly, and I know that the world only provides static when I desire to hear from my Jesus more clearly. I have to find balance! The kind of balance I’m speaking to is one that weighs heavier toward my spiritual life and less to the worldly life.

In conclusion, for us to really know and be fulfilled in this life it will take a relationship with Jesus Christ. More of Jesus, and less of me? Seems that I read that somewhere. Beloved, my dear friend Uncle Steve took his last breath and gained all that heaven will offer, namely Jesus!

So, I urge you to share your stories. I can’t state that strongly enough. Make sure your people know you, and that they know the Jesus in you! Tell your neighbors and all those that you associate with. It’s life changing and life fulfilling and today we have an awesome opportunity to share Jesus with others.

Who’s with me?

I love you all and from my family to you, we thank you for all the prayers and hospitality.

Shalom and SHALOM!

PDoug



Prayer Requests



SHUT INS

June Turner
Margaret Goodwin
Glen Kersey
Pat Hartley

HEALTH CONCERNS

Nick Whited
Sue Luterick
Betsy Cardwell
Mary Anne Collins
Connie Akers
Abby Shoemaker
Richard Sexton
Roger Mullins
Nancy Neal
Mary Mash
Bill Fuzia
Dick Royall
Paul Lester
Gery Piluso
Trentin Swauger
Barbara Rose
Martha Birkelbach
Ann Ayers
Zack Carter
Wayne Collins
The mother of George Smith
Rev. George Aichel
Sarah Haller
Paris Swisher
Chip Hurley
Maggie Hancock
Sarah Wall
Teri Farley
Leandra McMillin Morlar
Will Calfee
David Phillips
The Father of Maria Whited
Debbie Saffel
Betsy Canterbury
Mike O'Neal
Helen Warner
Chuck & Susan Allen
Scott Cardwell
Chip Bradley
Randy
Bobby McCall

Wayne Collins
The mother of George Smith
Rev. George Aichel
Sarah Haller
Paris Swisher
Chip Hurley
Maggie Hancock
Sarah Wall
Teri Farley
Leandra McMillin Morlar
Will Calfee
David Phillips
The Father of Maria Whited
Debbie Saffel
Betsy Canterbury
Mike O'Neal
Helen Warner
Chuck & Susan Allen
Scott Cardwell
Chip Bradley
Randy
Bobby McCall

BEREAVEMENT

The Family of Carol Stafford
The Family of Steve Aichel

PRAYER REQUEST

Randy & Jan Bailey
Retha Smith & Family
Our Pastor
Our Country
Our Church Family
Robert Searle
Jon Gendron
Our First Responders
General Church
Regional Church
Regional Minister & Staff
Fred Haller
The Malin Family
Candice Humphrey
Patricia Daniels
Celebrate Recovery
Amber Ross & Family
Gretchen Honaker & Family
Chuck & Faye Louthan
Carey Huber & Family
Josh Lavender & Family
Bobby Cutlip & Family
Kelli Anne Louthan
Bailie Mustard
Sarah Neal
Todd Brinkley
Al & Sonia Hancock
Ann Gilbert
Sarah Smith
Jerry Fritz

**If you would like to add
someone to the prayer
list, just fill out a blue
card and place it in the
offering plate.**

*Prayer changes
things.*



Need a Ride To Church? Contact the church office at
304-327-5633 or
Darrin Coe at 276-245-8374

**Every Sunday Night At
6:00PM
In Bethany Hall**

This is an event that is geared toward the Youth of
First Christian Church who are ages 13 and up.

FCC Teen Believers



Service February 26, 2020 at 7:00p.m.



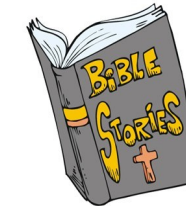
**Chicken & Dumplin's
Fundraiser Dinner
Monday March 2, 2020
5:30-7:00PM**

Suggested donation is \$10

*All proceeds will go to sponsor youth for an upcoming
mission trip in July.*

WOWZA! Wednesday

**March 4 & 18
6:00PM**



This is an event that is for youth 12 & under



**Cookies for the March
Reunion Walk are due by
March 6 at 12 Noon**





Make a Joyful noise Unto The Lord!

If anyone is interested in joining the First Christian Praise Band, just show up to practice. Practices are every Wednesday at 6:00PM unless otherwise noted. We would like to have you!

Greeting everyone!

Mid-winter unfortunately was postponed, due to the weather in Parkersburg and the flu being so widespread. It is now going to be held March 13-15, 2020 at the same location in Parkersburg.

The youth who are rising 8th graders and up are planning on doing a mission trip this July in Wilmington, NC. July 5-11, 2020 to be exact. The cost per person is \$350, but we have a fundraiser set to help offset the cost of this trip for those who participate. The first fundraiser is going to be March 2, 2020 at 5:30PM and that is going to be a Chicken & Dumplin' fundraiser dinner. All proceeds made from the fundraisers are going to go toward the cost of the mission trip for the youth going on it. If you cannot make it to the fundraisers and wish to make a donation toward the cost of the mission trip you can do that if you feel led to. Just be sure if you write a check to put in the memo that it is for the mission trip.

Join Candice Humphrey on Sunday evenings for devotion, prayer, movement, and breath work. Holy Yoga is back!

When: Sunday 5 p.m. starting March 1, 2020

Where: First Christian Church- downstairs classroom through double doors

Class is completely FREE, donations only. Some mats are provided at a first come first serve basis. This class is for all levels, modifications will be made for beginners or advanced.



SUMMER CAMP!!!

Camp for Junior and Chi Rho youth (3rd through 8th grade) is going to be June 7-12. It is going to be held in Ripley, WV. If your youth would like to go, the earlier you sign up the better it is price wise! If your youth is wanting to go please contact Sarah and she will get you all the information that you need concerning Junior/Chi Rho camp 2020.

Thank you for the privilege to serve a congregation like First Christian! God Bless,

Sarah Neal

For more information call/text Candice (304)952-5812

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
A CHRIST-CENTERED RECOVERY PROGRAM

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



January 2020

TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer's Report



Below is the financial report for January 2020. God is good, all the time!! We are off to a good year financially (and so many other ways) at FCC. We were just a little behind on offerings compared to our normal, but, God continues to bless us as we are faithful to His call and guidance. Please remember to keep up your gifts to God and His church. 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 financially support 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.

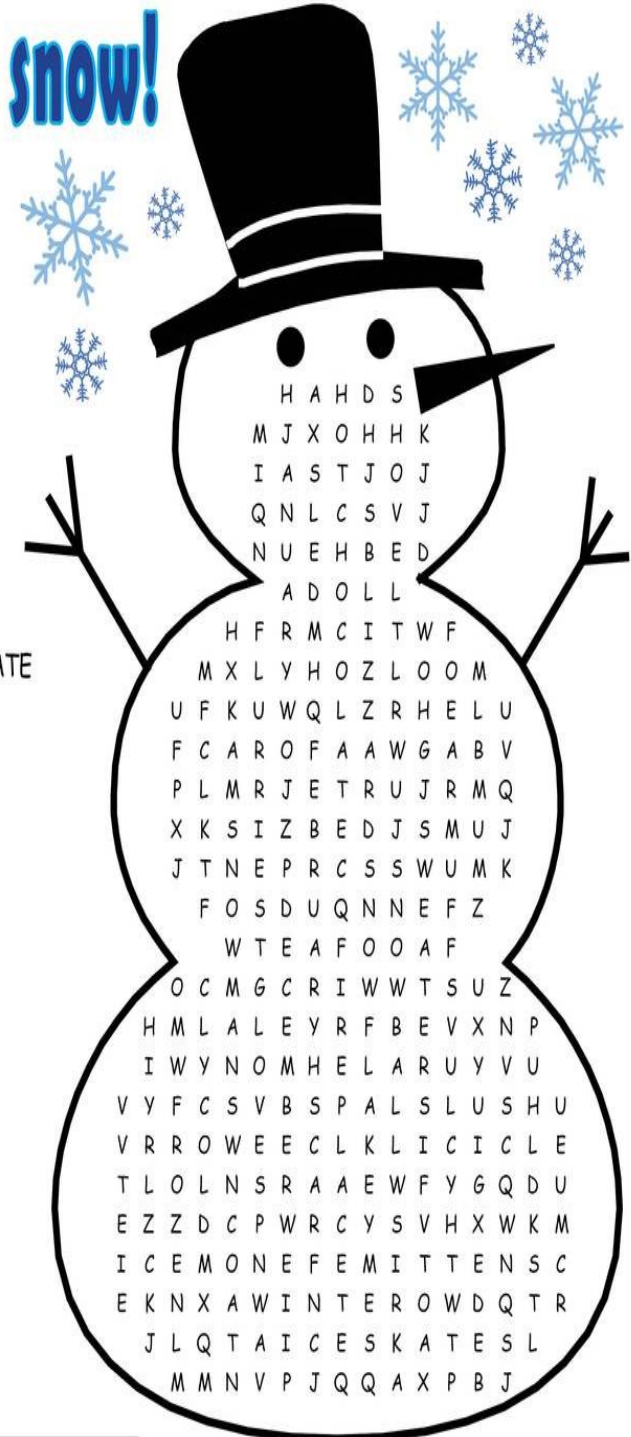
Our Church is truly blessed!

Ronnie Hypes, Treasurer

First Christian Church		
Financial Information for January 2020		
	Month-to-date	Year-to-date
Total offerings and other sources	\$ 14,676.00	\$ 14,676.00
Total expenses	15,843.57	15,843.57
Excess (deficit) of offerings to expenses	(1,167.57)	(1,167.57)
Transfers from (to) savings	0.00	0.00
Increase (decrease)	\$ (1,167.57)	\$ (1,167.57)
Balances on hand		
January 31, 2020:		
General Fund		\$ 7,249.42
Memorial and Special Gifts		12,716.79
Property Repairs and Replacement		3,736.10
Scholarship		3,486.14
Bequested Funds and other savings		95,285.64
Total		\$ 122,474.09



Let it snow!



- BLIZZARD
- COAT
- COLD
- DECEMBER
- EARMUFFS
- FEBRUARY
- FIREPLACE
- FLURRIES
- FROZEN
- GLOVES
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- ICE
- ICE SKATES
- ICICLE
- JANUARY
- MITTENS
- SCARF
- SHOVEL
- SLED
- SLUSH
- SNOWBALL
- SNOWFLAKE
- SNOWMAN
- SWEATER
- WINTER

Name: _____



March 2020

☆ Birthdays

♥ Anniversaries



For birthday/anniversary additions/changes please notify Sarah

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 *9:00AM Sunday School *10:00AM Combined Service *5:00PM Holy Yoga *Teen Believers 6:00PM	2 *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's Bible Study 6:00PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	3 ☆ *Cathy Evans *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	4 *Bible Study 9:00AM *Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *Wowza Wednesday 6:00PM *Choir Practice 7:00PM	5 *Men's Prayer 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	6 *Kairos Cookies Due 12 Noon	7
8 *Elders meeting after worship *9:00AM Sunday School *10:00AM Combined Service *5:00PM Holy Yoga *Teen Believers 6:00PM	9 *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's Bible Study 6:00PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	10 *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	11 ☆ *Betty Lou Gibberson *Bible Study 9:00AM *Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *Choir Practice 7:00PM	12 *Men's Prayer 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	13 *Mid-Winter Retreat	14 *Mid-Winter Retreat
15 Mid-Winter Retreat *9:00AM Sunday School *10:00AM Combined Service *5:00PM Holy Yoga *Teen Believers 6:00PM	16 ☆ *Ronnie Hypes *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's Bible Study 6:00PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	17 ♥ *Eric & Rhonda Hawkins *Union Mission Dinner *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	18 *Bible Study 9:00AM *Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *Wowza Wednesday 6:00PM *Choir Practice 7:00PM	19 *Men's Prayer 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	20 *Newsletter Submissions Due 11AM	21
22 ☆ *Natasha Colley *9:00AM Sunday School *10:00AM Combined Service *5:00PM Holy Yoga *Teen Believers 6:00PM	23 ☆ *Russ Taylor *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's Bible Study 6:00PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	24 *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 7:00PM	25 *Bible Study 9:00AM *Newsletter Assembly 10AM *Praise Band Practice 6:00PM *Wowza Wednesday 6:00PM *Choir Practice 7:00PM	26 *Men's Prayer 7:30AM *Celebrate Recovery 6:00PM	27	28
29 *9:00AM Sunday School *10:00AM Combined Service *5:00PM Holy Yoga *Teen Believers 6:00PM	30 *Violin Practice 2:45PM *Men's Bible Study 6:00PM *Boy Scouts 7:00PM	31 *Prayer Meeting 6:15PM *Bible Study 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 Bible Study
10:00 am Combined Worship 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 Teen Believers
6:00PM

WOWZZA Wednesday
1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month

*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth events please contact Darrin Coe, Youth Minister at 276-245-8374 or Sarah Neal, Administrative Minister at 304-910-9933