### Our Vision

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

In my studies I've started free writing and free reading. What's the big deal with that, you ask? Most everything I read is for a class or sermon prep. Most everything I write is to

complete a test or prepare a message.

So, I decided I would start reading through the bible without the intention of preparing a message, and that has been super difficult for me. In my free writing, I just write. I might pick a topic or write about a situation that has come about and what I'm learning is that when I practice this, it allows me to have a change of heart.

Preachers need to be fed. I've been asked many times; where do you get fed. Through study and meditation for sure. Through holy conversations and in my counseling opportunities. My volunteer work in the prisons and the everyday opportunities to be an encouragement to others, feeds me. Thanks be to God; I'm having a change of heart.

In my reading this morning I came across a familiar passage in John 8.

<sup>1</sup>But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was

# -Pastor's Note-

# Change of Heart

left, with the woman still standing there.

10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:1-11 (NIV)

I met a woman last evening who needed to travel to Roanoke, Virginia and did not have money for gas. I knew who she was, though we had never met. I was going into a prayer session with our KAIROS Team for their 19<sup>th</sup> walk at Pocahontas State Correctional Center. I told her it would be about an hour and that I would meet her at the gas station.

When I met up with her, she pointed to the car that needed the gas. It became clear that it wasn't her car, but someone else's. It was a nice late model sedan. Very well-dressed folks in the car and I began to wonder, am I getting scammed again? Has this lady lied to me? Was what she told me legitimate?

The old Doug would have turned around and left, but when we had met an hour earlier, I promised her I would help her. One of my KAIROS brothers overheard the conversation and when I entered the church house, he slipped me a twenty-dollar bill stating that he wanted to help me, help her. Goodness! Isn't that the church in action?

I had every opportunity at the pump to begin my interrogation. Where are you going again? Whose car am I filling up? What is your end game? You know, you have called me a dozen times over the past five years asking for the same assistance. But I didn't.

I could have rightfully walked away, but I had made a promise. My brother had helped me in the process. I had ever opportunity to cast the first stone, but I didn't. Please note, I cannot afford to fill everyone's car with gas.

### **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 could have preached at the folks, though I didn't. I could have admonished them. But I didn't. I've had a change of heart. I made a promise. So, I filled the tank, and they were on their way.

Oh, how I hope that my good deed somehow touched their heart, but that's the Holy Spirit's work. Yes, I prayed for them and pray for them now and I am extremely thankful for in that moment I could be used by God to help someone.

In our reading, Jesus told the woman to leave her life of sin. Did she? I have no idea. Did she have a change of heart because Jesus saved her physical life? No clue.

But Jesus offered her every opportunity to turn it around.

Maybe your spiritual tank is on "E" today. Maybe you are in need of assistance right now. Maybe it begins with a change of heart.

Father, help me and the reader to have a change of heart. Help us to see in this passage that we too are offered the opportunity to turn it around. Begin it in me Lord. Holy Spirit work in us, be our Champion, be our assistance, and enable us today to have a change of heart.

May the PEACE that is Christ Messiah, engulf each of us today.

Thanks be to God!

Shalom and SHALOM....

PDoug





# **Prayer Requests**

Retha Smith

David Reed

Haley Myers

Susan Alford

Nora Hedricks

Bereavement

Our Pastor

Kairos

Our Country

None at this time!

Our Church Family

Our First Responders

Regional Minister & Staff

General Church

Wade Center

Fatima Sano

Zelma Aichel

Nikki Massaro

Bob Searle

Barbara Rose

Jon Gendron

Lacky Family

Terri Dodson

Wavne Pelts

Belinda Tabor

James Rathman

Summer Camps

Young Adult Study

Gary Hendricks

Regional Church

Celebrate Recovery

Boy Scout Troop 14

AL & Sonia Hancock

The family of Dave Potonzo

Melissa Smith & Family

FCC Property Committee

Recovery Centers in the area

**Unspecified Prayer** 

WORRYING FIXES NOTHING

Request

Shirley Stevenson

Cindy Scharff & family

**Prayer Request** 



### **Shut Ins**

Pat Hartley George Brooks

### **Health Concerns**

Nancy Neal Charlotte Dunahoe Ruth Stevenson Zack Carter Wavne Collins Phyllis

Kimberly Duesing Tom Farmer

**David Hines** 

Joanna Camacho Nolan Farmer

Betty Lou Gibberson

Shirlev Hines **Buck Sowers** John Gibson

Karen Beavers Roger Mullins

Lois Comerose Tonia Russell Betty Williams

Jackie Rucker

Doug McDaniel Sr. Meghan McGuire

Mary Ann Moyer

Theresa Thomason Jimmy Musser

Pat Gomillan Jeana Cury

Lois Gibson Pam Yost Spracher

Phyllis Willis **Brandon Goins** 

Mary Crigger Rev. Bill Allen

Melissa Smith Charles Neal

Keisha Kibler

Joyce Farmer Gerv Piluso

Justin Simon

Jordan & Nathan Evans

John Murphy

Barbara McCarty Joyce Farmer

Casey Collier

Eric Collier Wanda Collier

**Brittany Thompson** 

# **June 2023 Lectionary**

June 1:Psalm 8; Job 38:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12a June 2: Psalm 8; Job 38:12-21; 2 Timothy 1:12b-14

June 3: Psalm 8; Job 38:22-38; John 14:15-17

June 4:Genesis 1:1-2:4a, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13. Matthew 28:16-20

June 5:Psalm 29:Job 38:39-39:12: 1 Corinthians 12:1-3

June 6:Psalm 29: Job 39:13-25: 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

June 7: Psalm 29; Job 39:26-40:5; John 14:25-26 June 8: Psalm 50:7-15: Lamentations 1:7-11: 2 Peter 2:17-22

June 9: Psalm 50:7-15: Lamentations 3:40-58: Acts 28:1-10

June 10: Psalm 50:7-15; Exodus 34:1-9; Matthew 9:27-3

June 11: Psalm 33:1-12, Hosea 5:15-6:6, Romans 4:13-

25, Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 12: Psalm 40:1-8; Leviticus 15:25-31; 22:1-9; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:2

June 13: Psalm 40:1-8; Hosea 8:11-14; 10:1-2; Hebrews 13:1-16

June 14: Psalm 40:1-8; Hosea 14:1-9; Matthew 12:1-8

June 15: Psalm 100; Exodus 4:18-23; Hebrews 3:1-6

June 16: Psalm 100; Exodus 4:27-31; Acts 7:35-43

June 17: Psalm 100; Exodus 6:28-7:13; Mark 7:1-13

June 18: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, Exodus 19:2-8a, Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

June 19: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Joshua 1:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

June 20: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; 1 Samuel 3:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5

June 21: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Proverbs 4:10-27; Luke 6:12-19 June 22: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 18:12-17; Hebrews 2:5-

June 23:Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 18:18-23; Acts 5:17-26

June 24: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 20:1-6; Luke 11:53-12:3

June 25: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17, Jeremiah 20:7-13, Romans 6:1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39

June 26: Psalm 6; Micah 7:1-7; Revelation 2:1-7

June 27: Psalm 6; Jeremiah 26:1-12; Revelation 2:8-11

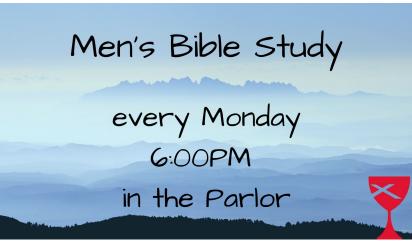
June 28: Psalm 6; Jeremiah 38:1-13; Matthew 10:5-23

June 29: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 25:1-7; Galatians 5:2-6

June 30: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 25:8-14; Luke 17:1-4

# facebook LIVE

Join us each Sunday morning at 10:00AM for our Worship service You don't have to have a Facebook account to be able to view the live video! If you are unable to watch it live, no worries you can always go back and watch the service from the beginning. Just go on the link to the church's Facebook which is: https://www.facebook.com/bluefieldfcc







Greetings,

The Summer months are upon us. That means so are summer activities.

First up, we have Chi Rho & Junior Camp June 11-16. 2023. As of right now we have 4 campers, 1 junior counselor and 2 counselors going to camp at Camp Laurelyiew in Rockwood, PA.

Then from June 25-July 1, 2023, we have CYF Conference for the high school youth. AS of right now we have possibly 8 youth signed up for CYF and 2 counselors going that week, up to Bethany College in Bethany, WV

June is indeed going to be a very busy month, but also very exciting!

We plan to have Vacation Bible School this year as well. The dates currently are Friday, August 4 & Saturday, August 5, 2023. If you would like to help in any way please contact me (Sarah Neal) at 304-910-9933 and we will find that best fit for you to help.

As always thank you for allowing to serve you all, Sarah Neal



WORD LIST

AUGUST BASEBALL

BEACH

FISHING FLIP FLOPS

НОТ

ICE CREAM

JULY

JUNE

LEMONADE

OCEAN

PICNIC POOL

SAND

SHORTS SPRINKLER

SUMMER

SUNGLASSES SUNSCREEN

SUNSHINE

SWIM SUIT SWIMMING

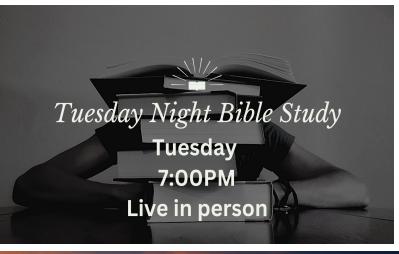
TOWEL

UMBRELLA VACATION

WATERMELON

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

STSPRINKLERDT J B N N V V L K T O W E L PUVACATIONIMM OILWZGFISHING YUCYEBOUYTFWH NXDNNMAOUPKOO YOLNIBFSDPTHF GALXECRAEKMLY ZLAELEPOVBIAS XLSHMIRBCPAAC J E S T B R E C F E N L R YRWFRAELSDAEL LBIJCOOTJNMNI EMMHBPHHAMUCS MUMSSCOSUWESU OSIVWYZSICHEN NSNNRIMCRHRNS AOGSOXMEGYVUH D S U N G L A S S E S J I EYFMUMUWUMFZN BFGLOOPSTIKEE TSUGUADUXTTGL







# **Celebrate Recovery**

At First Christian Church every Thursday at 6:00PM. Call the church at 304-327-5633 for more info.



# **April 2023**

# TREASURER'S REPORT



# Treasurer's Report



Below is the financial report for April 2023. God continues to bless us with faithful givers. God is good, all the time!! I just remind everyone to be faithful with your offerings through the summer vacation season. You are a faithful bunch, and because of such, God continues to bless His church here at 2200 Bland Road. Praise God for His faithfulness to His church!

We continue to raise funds to replace two HVAC units. The total cost will be approximately \$20,000. If you would like to donate over and above your regular giving to help with this project, just mark your donation for HVAC repair and it will go toward the project.

E-GIVING CHANGE: E-giving!! You can continue to make gifts to FCC online at the church website, <a href="https://www.bluefieldfcc.com">www.bluefieldfcc.com</a>, just click on the GIVE button and follow the directions. We have a new mobile app, VANCO MOBILE. Sarah has more detailed instructions for the transition that she will send to you via email. Just contact her if you need help. There is a charge to the church for gifts made by debit or credit card, but you can also adjust your gift to help cover that cost as well.

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 or the church office. Delayed repairs can be more expensive than when they are caught early. Thanks to Scott, Allen, George and all the rest of the guys who selflessly give their time to keep our facilities in great condition!!!

Our Church is truly blessed!

Ronnie Hypes, Treasurer

## First Christian Church Financial Information for January—April 2023

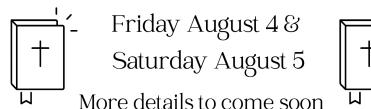
_	Month-to-date	Year-to-date	
Total GF offerings and			
other sources	\$ 15,699.40	\$ 64,360.01	
Total expenses	14,938.65	69,352.43	
Excess (deficit) of offerings			
to expenses	760.75	(4,992.42)	
Transfers from (to) savings	0.00	0.00	
Increase (decrease)	\$ 760.75	\$ (4,992.42)	
Balances on hand			
April 30, 2023			
General Fund		\$ 6,954.64	
Memorial and Special Gifts Property Repairs and		16,420.53	
Replacement		4,275.61	
Scholarship		9,843.11	
Bequested Funds and other			
savings	_	111,096.26	
Total	_	\$ 148,590.15	





Join us each Sunday morning at 9:00AM for our Family Breakfast. All are invited to attend. We hope to see you there.

# Vacation Bible School



If you would like to help with VBS in any way please contact Sarah Neal at 304–910–9933

# FCC's Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, August 6, 2023

Bluefield City Park - Main Shelter
10:00AM

More information to come soon.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31 7:30AM Prayer 6:00PM Prasie Team Practice	1 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00AM Worship	6:00PM Men's Bible Study	6:00PM Prayer 7:00PM Bible Study	7:30AM Prayer 6:00PM Prasie Team Practice	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	Yard Sale 7:00AM	Yard Sale 7:00AM
11	12	13	14	15	16	1 <i>7</i>
10:00AM Worship	6:00PM Men's Bible Study	6:00PM Prayer 7:00PM Bible Study	7:30AM Prayer 6:00PM Prasie Team Practice	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	11:00AM Newsletter Submissions Due	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00AM Worship	6:00PM Men's Bible Study	6:00PM Prayer 7:00PM Bible Study	7:00AM Prayer 10:00AM Newsletter 6:00PM Prasie Team Practice	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery		
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
10:00AM Worship	6:00PM Men's Bible Study	6:00PM Prayer 7:00PM Bible Study	7:30AM Prayer 6:00PM Prasie Team Practice	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery		
2	3	Birthday's & Anni	versaries			
		Lesa Piluso - June 1 Ann Ayers - June 5 Wanda Collier - June 7 Scott Collier - June 10 Dee Shoemaker - June 10 Pat O"Neal - June 14 Ruth Stevens - June 15 Frank Tinder - June 19 Jackson Stacy - June 24 Melissa Stacy - June 26 Faye Louthan - June 29 Bucky & Mary Anne Collins - June 15 Matt & Helen Selbe - June 16 Scott & Wanda Collier - June 18 Jim & Cathy Evans - June 18				

May you be blessed today. We heartily welcome all

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am -1:00 pm www.bluefieldfcc.com





10:00 am Combined Worship Service

9:00 am Bible Study

2200 Bland Road Bluefield, WV 24701 Disciples of Christ



Non-Profit Organization Bluefield, WV 24701



Sunday Teen Believers 6:00PM

Annual **Summer Camp & Retreats** 

\*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth events please contact Darrin Coe, Youth Minister at 276-245-8374





# WE ARE A MOVEMENT FOR wholeness IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD.

In the beginning, every church was new! It's right there in the Book of Acts. Early disciples came together, sharing all things in common, breaking bread with glad and generous hearts. God was doing a new thing: creating a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

In the beginning, Jesus sent out disciples, two by two, not to "plant" churches, but to proclaim good news, to experience the hospitality and wisdom of neighbors all around. God was doing a new thing: creating a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

At New Church Ministry, we believe God is calling the whole Church back to becoming new, back to becoming who we already are: a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

Your gifts to the 2023 Pentecost Offering, received this year in most congregations on Sundays, May 21 and 28, help ensure our movement continues to embody the Disciples of Christ vision:

To be and to share the good news, witnessing, loving, and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

Half of your gift supports the local new church movement through your region's ministry. The other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada to equip, train, and empower new leaders.

Thank you for participating in the new thing God is STILL doing yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

7 + Find more Pentecost Offering resources, including images, videos, and stories to share here: https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost

