

CHURCH *Life*

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



Many have declared that Christianity is only one generation away from extinction. From a secular viewpoint that statement is absolutely true, but from a Biblical world-view even the gates of Hades will not prevail against Jesus' church. Matt 16:18 There remains a small handful of church structures that date back as far as 303AD although mostly as testaments to a once strong congregation. Etchmiadzin Cathedral in Armenia is the oldest standing structure to date although many house churches have been excavated as an archeological site revealing evidences of a once vibrant fellowship of believers. Sadly, there are no known churches that were started by the disciples remaining to this day. Within our own community there are many church buildings going unused and dilapidated that once housed a fellowship of believers reaching into their neighborhoods. There are many old church buildings repurposed into houses, community centers, museums, and even athletic centers. What is the prophetic future for First Christian Church

Princeton? The building itself is not eternal and will one day be removed for something else to replace it. Much effort has been invested to delay that inevitable fact over the past eight years and our heart is to push that time much further into the future.

A local church is not the building but the gathered believers that use that space to come together to; worship, pray, encourage, fellowship, study the Scriptures, and evangelize. If our structure experienced a catastrophic event such as fire or storm, would the body of believers still come together to fulfill that purpose? Would we rally together to continue our church?

Looking at such an AI generated photo the thought brings sadness to think of such a thing, but the truth be told, if we fail now to do the work necessary to avoid such a future the inevitable will eventually occur. Much hard work was necessary to start this congregation, much hard work is necessary to keep this congregation alive, and much hard work is necessary to project this congregation into

the future. It takes all of us operating in our gifts along with much prayer for God's mercy and grace to not only use us now but to grow us into a vibrant, dynamic fellowship that impacts this community now and for generations to come.

How much do you love your church? Could you take it or leave it? Would it impact you if FCC ceased to exist? Are you so opinionated as to hinder a younger generation from assuming leadership? Our dedication is to Jesus Christ and His church, and our prayer is that He use our fellowship for His glory.

Pastor Steve



Prayer Concerns

Week Ending October 25, 2025

Donna & Ed Colley, Sam & Margaret Conner, Carol Dixon, Wendy Johnson, Believers in the Ukraine

Week Ending October 18, 2025

Lou Belcher, Selena Compton, Jim Croy, Dennis Crum, Davis Dunson's mother, Bob & Monica Garnett, Michael Gilpin, Jerry Hall, Steve & Sylvia Spooner, Aundrea White, Victor Woods, Wisdom for our government, loved ones in Israel & Gaza

Week Ending October 11, 2025

Kevin Cozort, Aleta Dorsey, Family of Rev. Richard Flowers, Bonnie Gills, Kathy Kennedy, Bobby Mitchell, Lucy Pack, Linda Shaw, Family of Stanley Walkup

In the Military:

Mike Kennedy, Devin Lusk, T. J. Morris, Robert Worrell

Our Friends Who are Homebound:

Betty Doyle, Mike Elmore, Evelyn Jenkins

Our Friends in Nursing/Retirement Facilities:

*Glenwood Healthcare Center:
Cleo Halsey
Glenwood Healthcare Center:
Gary Reed
Ridge Care Assisted Living:
Ralph Repass*

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Church Council

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

*Elders Meeting — 6:00 p.m.
Ministry Teams — 6:30 p.m.
Board Meeting — 7:00 p.m.*

Social Media Broadcast

Follow us on Facebook at First Christian Princeton WV.

Website: firstchristianprincetonwv.org

YouTube: First Christian Princeton WV

E-mail: fccprincetonoffice@gmail.com



Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child is now well underway. Please have boxes back to the church by **Sunday, November 16th** at the latest. The children have already packed 20 boxes. Our goal this year is at least 100 boxes. Pray over your boxes and let God lead you. *Linda Cheverton.*



NOVEMBER 2025

Elders: Ishmael Bhebhe, Michael Reed

Deacons: Mark Murphy, Randy Winfrey

Deaconess: Tonni Bennett, Beverly Reed

Lay Reader: Haleigh Murphy

Sunday School Class

The Adult Class, that meets downstairs at **10:00am to 10:45am**, Sunday mornings continues to discuss the topic "Overcoming Emotions That Destroy", which is focusing on anger. The speaker is Chip Ingram. Please come join us!

Senior Breakfast

Senior Breakfast is on **Tuesday, November 11, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship, faith, family and friends.

From the Archive



Our second pastor was Charles Nash Williams, who served us from 1916 to 1917.

He was born on November 8, 1876, in Norfolk, VA, to Jas and Martha Williams. He graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1900 and also attended the College of the Bible in Lexington, KY (renamed Lexington Theological Seminary in 1965). He married Josephine Gouldin in 1905 and they had two children, Charles and Louise.

He was baptized in 1888 at First Christian Church, Norfolk, VA, by Rev. Harry Minnick and was ordained in 1901, at the same church, by Dr. William Albert Buxton and Elder J. G. Burroughs.

Rev. Williams pastored congregations in Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, and Ripley, WV, before becoming the minister at First Christian Church in Princeton. The Ladies Aid Society of our congregation purchased the parsonage at 805 Highland Avenue in 1916 and the first occupants of the parsonage were Rev. Williams and his family.

He was then called to Boyd Memorial Christian Church (Charleston, WV), where he stayed from 1918 to 1929. He was appointed to a State Secretary position in 1930 and moved to Washington, D.C. While living in D.C., he became a pastor for Third Christian Church (1934). Rev. Williams retired and then returned to pastor at Third Christian Church in D.C. and in Haskell, TX, in 1942 and 1943, respectively. Before officially retiring, he continued his ministerial career in Maryland, South Carolina, and ultimately at Black Mountain Christian Church in North Carolina. In his final years, Williams moved to Madison, Wisconsin, to live with his daughter. He died on July 7, 1977, at the age of 100.

Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

November 2025

First Christian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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2 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Bible Study/Andrea's House All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends	3 Sam Conner; Tim Reed, Jr.	4 7:00 PM Church Council Election Day	5 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Children's Program	6 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	7	8																																																																																				
9 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service 6:00 PM Game Night John Dye; Linda Peck Goodall Veterans Sunday	10 MacKenzie Coburn; Mike Mooney; Barbara Terry, Sylvia Spooner Skipper & Carmen Ball	11 9:00 AM Seniors Breakfast/Cracker Barrel 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Teams 7:00 PM Board Meeting George Harman Veterans Day	12 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Children's Program Debra Ball; Billy Harman	13 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	14	15																																																																																				
16 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Narthex Fellowship 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service Gary Cooper; Brian Kaluk	17	18 Ethan Lilly	19 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Children's Program	20 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	21 Eric Bowling; Cleo Halsey	22 Pastor Rick Newton																																																																																				
23 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service 12:30 PM Decorate For Advent/Light Lunch	24 Jerry Wimmer	25 Uriah Testa	26 Randolph Evans; Diana Okes	27 Thanksgiving Day	28 Church Office Closed	29																																																																																				
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Community Outreach

Information without inspiration leads to stagnation!
Jesus told the Jews, "you search the scriptures for in them, you think you have eternal life, but they are they which testify of me, but you won't come to me that you might have life." *John 5:39,40*
The heart of Jesus, is to give life to the fullest, to all of mankind. It's not His will that any should per-
ish...He did not die on a cross just for us to subsist! He said "I have come that you might have life and
have it more abundantly." It's an intimate relationship with the One who is **LIFE**, that gives us **LIFE**! Get
to know Him better, this Christmas season we're coming into. Think about why He came and the differ-
ence that can make in your life and family! Jesus is the *Reason* for the *Season*! *Pastor Rick*

Game Night

Have fun with us as we play games, fellowship and eat together. **Sunday, November 9 at 6pm** in the Fel-
lowship Hall.

Membership

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: We will be observing *All Saints Day* on **Sunday, November 2nd.** Jean Foster is the Saint we will be remembering who passed away in our congregation (since our last All Saints Day remembrance).
VETERANS SUNDAY: On **Sunday, November 9th**, we will be celebrating *Veterans Day*. We will be recognizing the Veterans from the congregation who served in the various branches of the military. We would like to thank them for their service in protecting our country .
NARTHEX FELLOWSHIP: We will have Fellowship in the Narthex on **Sunday, November 16th.** It will be from **10:30 until 11:00am.** Goodies, coffee and juice will be available during the fellowship. Please join us! Thank you!

Welcome New Members

Dwight & Linda Gillespie, and Michael Laughery have been worshipping with FCC for a year and have become a blessing to all. They are all active not only in the wor-
ship service but Sunday school as well. Michael has been a participant in the plays the young people perform. Thank you, Dwight, Linda and Michael for coming forward and joining FCC.



Worship

Advent season is quickly approaching. The first **Sunday** in *Advent* is **Sunday, November 30th.** We will be decorating the church after worship service on **Sunday, November 23rd** with a light lunch afterward. There will be special trees for the children to decorate. Come one, come all. It doesn't take long with many hands to help.
We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Tonni Bennett*, for the month of **October 2025**. We are looking forward to having *Haleigh Murphy* as the Lay Reader for the month of **November 2025**.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
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First Christian Church
805 Straley Ave
Princeton, WV 24740
Rev. Stephen M. Janning, Minister
firstchristianprincetonwv.org



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