

CHURCH Life

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



Worship Wars

And I saw, as it were, a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had come off victorious from the beast and from his image and from the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. And they sang the song of Moses the bond-servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Thy ways, Thou King of the nations. Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? For Thou alone art holy; for all the nations will come and worship before Thee, for Thy righteous acts have been revealed." And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power... Rev 15:2-4, 8a Through the vision Jesus revealed to John, we get a glimpse into the events that will occur half way through the Great Tribulation period.

Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house, and the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house. And all the sons of Israel, seeing the fire come down and the glory of the LORD upon the house, bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshipped and gave praise to the LORD, saying, "Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting." 2Chr 7:1-3 Something very interesting is how similar these scenes are from ancient Israel to future glory in Heaven.

Two characteristics common to both scenes that have arrested my attention are the worshiping people of God and His palpable, visual, shekinah glory in their midst. The closest thing we find in the church age is on the day of Pentecost with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire rested on those in the upper room

praying and worshipping God. Acts 2:4

Recently I have been pondering the history of worship at FCC Princeton, which had led to some interesting questions; How important was music to our fathers and mothers? How many freely gave of their time and talents to enhance the worship experience? How many resources were invested into the worship experience? Beautiful instruments, choir robes, a truckloads of music sheets and books, paid staff to help direct the volunteers, these were all given, an overflowing quantity at times. The importance of music and worship played an "instrumental role", forgive the pun, in the church experience on any given Sunday morning.

Every generation has faced and will face the "worship wars". The hymns our older generation enjoy were once themselves contemporary. Many of Fanny Crosby's music were refitted bar and saloon songs with Christian lyrics. No one sings the old hymns of the 1800's and so on and so far back even to the Gregorian chants of a millennial ago. The styles come and go as today's contemporary music will one day become outdated and replaced with something different. It's not the style or the instruments that contain eternal value. It is the truth of the message in the songs and the God, the person of focus, that contain the eternal value. It is the God of Creation and His only begotten Son Jesus who give value and eternity to worship. It is because of what they have done, permitting us to share in Their eternity, that has any lasting value whatsoever.

Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Psalm 150 is an excellent pattern to follow as we discuss the importance and necessity of worship. Notice there is no discussion about

the things that cause division in many churches, but a focus on the person of God and His works. *Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre, Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe, Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals,* this listing encompasses just about every possible instrument created by mankind. The final verse of the Psalm clearly summates the true heart of the message; *Let everything that has breath praise the LORD, Praise the LORD! Psalm 150:1-6*

I led my first worship service as a newly saved seventeen-year-old. It was an evening Bible study and all that I could play on my guitar was "He Is Lord", and "Hallelujah". From that time forward Christian music and leading worship has been an integral part of Teresa and my lives. I believe that it is important to offer a blend of different styles and sounds to engage as many worshippers as possible. If we are truly singing from our heart focusing on exalting and lifting up God our Creator, then we will be able to sing and honor God regardless of the song or style. Its about giving thanks and praising Him for His excellent greatness. *Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Psalm 95:6-7a*

Come, let us worship and bow down to the Lord our Maker! God inhabits the praises of His people. Psalm 22:3 Where God's presence is there is hope, healing, and forgiveness. Where God's presence resides there is life, joy and peace.

Pastor Steve

Prayer Concerns

Week Ending May 24, 2025

Kay Arrington, Jack Fredeking, Donna Harmon, Steve & Sylvia Spooner, Shirley Vipperman, Randy Wall, Wisdom for our government, Loved ones in Israel & Palestine

Week Ending May 17, 2025

Colonel Michael R. Gilpin, Buddy Raines, Tracy York

Week Ending May 10, 2025

Family of Pearl Hamby, Wendy Johnson, Scooter Smith, Believers of Ukraine

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

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Church Council

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Elders Meeting — 6:00 p.m.

Ministry Teams — 6:30 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



Monthly Game Night

Bring family and friends and join us for a fun time fellowshiping and playing games together. **Sunday, June 8 at 6pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Fellowship Night

Join us ladies as we catch up with each other and enjoy time together. There will be food and a short devotional. **Sunday, June 29th at 6pm** at Andrea's house.

Community Outreach

Coming up for the month of **July 2025** First Christian Church will collect food for the Salvation Army. "Fill A Bag, Feed A Family" grocery bags will be available for pick-up. Let's help fill the Salvation Army's pantry with as much nutritious food as we can!!

JUNE 2025

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves

Deacons: Willie Nelson, Randy Winfrey

Deaconess: Tonni Bennett, Beverly Reed

Lay Reader: TBA

Christian Women Fellowship

On **Saturday, May 10, 2025**, CWF hosted a craft day. We had some very talented and creative ladies join us. Bracelets, earrings, cards, and bookmarks were made. We had some that painted and cross stitched. We enjoyed fellowship while crafting and having lunch. Our next CWF meeting will be in **August**.

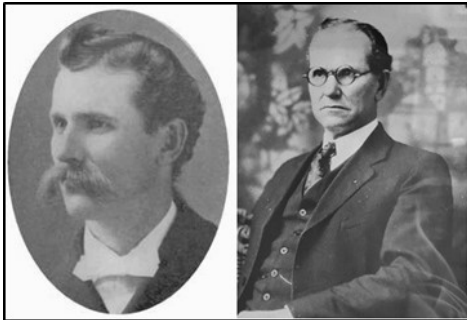
FELLOWSHIP

The annual church picnic will be on **Sunday, August 24, 2025**, more information to come.

Senior Breakfast

Senior Breakfast is on **Tuesday, June 10, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship, with faith, family and friends.

From the Archive



Our third pastor was John Charlton Reynolds, who served us from 1917 to 1921. Although our information about his pastorate here is sparse, we do know that it was marred by the tragic death of his first wife in 1920.

He was born August 23, 1870, in Craig County, VA, the second son of Ralph C. and Barbara Elizabeth Caldwell Reynolds. He married Elizabeth Holland Shawver on August 26, 1894, at Shawver's Mill, which is about 8 miles east of Tazewell, VA. After Elizabeth's death in 1920, he married his second wife, Sallie Snow Tuggle of Bluefield, WV, in 1926.

While a student at Tazewell College in Tazewell, VA, he was ordained into the Christian ministry and served as a pastor for thirty-three years. In addition to our church, he pastored churches in Ohio, Illinois, Virginia, Tennessee, and Charleston, WV. His final pastorate was at First Christian Church in Erwin, TN. He was well known for his commitment to the principles of the Restoration (Stone-Campbell) Movement. He served as an evangelist in West Virginia and in the Appalachian District of Tennessee and led in the organization and building of several Christian Churches.

He died in Roanoke, VA, on July 20, 1946, and was buried in Craig County, VA.

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

June 2025

First Christian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<i>1</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Graduate Sunday 11:00 AM Morning Service <i>Lawrence & Beverly Reed, Terry & Rhonda Rose, Rocky & Karen Hedrick</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 7:00 PM Church Council	<i>4</i> 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program <i>JoAnn Brennan</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> <i>Daniel Cooper</i> <i>Keith & Cynthia Duncan, Jack & Linda Kaluk</i>	<i>7</i> 2:00 PM Mercer Street Ministry: Copeland Square <i>Karen Hedrick</i>																																																																																				
<i>8</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 6:00 PM Game Night	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Teams <i>Houston Coburn</i>	<i>11</i> 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	<i>12</i> <i>Hobart & Ernestine Bailey</i>	<i>13</i> <i>Donna Belcher, Bradie Jackson</i> <i>Timothy & Kendra Morris, Jr.</i>	<i>14</i> <i>Dolly Lane, Randy Wall</i>																																																																																				
<i>15</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Father's Day Recognition 11:00 AM Morning Service <i>Taylor Coburn, Wesley Benbow</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program <i>Rusty Howard</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> <i>Steven & Vickie Harry</i>																																																																																				
<i>22</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 12:30 PM Big Country Breakfast/Following Morning Service <i>Dana Nelson</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Brittany Dye</i>	<i>24</i> <i>Neal & Tonni Bennett</i> <i>Teresa Dye, Victoria Vipperman</i>	<i>25</i> 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program <i>Joyce Coburn, Bobby Honaker</i>	<i>26</i> <i>Alice Cusaac, Steven Harry</i>	<i>27</i> <i>Gary & Judy Reed</i>	<i>28</i>																																																																																				
<i>29</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 11:00 AM Youth Sunday, Promotion Sunday & Baptism 12:30 PM Congregational Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Fellowship Night	<i>30</i> <i>Tonni Bennett, Paul Broyles</i>	<div><div>May 2025</div><table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table></div> <div><div>Jul 2025</div><table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr></table></div>					S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
				1	2	3																																																																																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31																																																																																				
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
			1	2	3	4																																																																																				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																																																																				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																																																																				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																																																																				
26	27	28	29	30	31																																																																																					



Discipleship

The Good News Club finished up last month

Our Good New Club with Straley elementary students was a success. We had over 60 students enrolled for our 5 week program. They learned scripture, sang, played games, and most importantly heard about God’s love for them through His Word. We got to know those beautiful children and see God move in their hearts. Many decisions were made for Christ and we pray that many seeds were planted. Continue to pray for our church to be a light to the community as we reach out to those around us.

June-29-Youth Sunday, Promotion Sunday and Baptism

Our youth will be conducting much of the service on Sunday, June 29th. We have a very talented group of young people who will use their gifts and abilities as they do music, skits and more.

We will also be promoting students from Children Church to the worship service.
Please note: If you are a believer and have never been baptized and desire to follow our Lord in water baptism, please talk with Pastor Steve ASAP. *Teressa Janning Discipleship Ministry*

Membership

We celebrated Mother’s Day on Sunday, May 11th. All the women were presented with a gift. The Oldest Mother was Darlene Hall and the Youngest Mother was Ashley Evans. They were presented with a hanging basket of flowers, box of candy and card. Congratulations ladies! *Donna Reeves*

June 1st is graduation Sunday, We have 2 graduates we are honoring this year

Haleigh Murphy graduated high school on May 17th at East River Church, hosted by the HEARTH homeschool group. She has enjoyed homeschooling since the 3rd grade. She is currently working at the Truist Bank where she is continuing her education in banking and financial training. Haleigh also enjoys dance, drama, sign language and teaching children’s church. She is a bright ray of “SON” shine wherever she goes.

Kristin Janning was graduated on May 9th, with a Master Degree in social work from Concord University. She has worked hard to earn her degree as she taught high school history and became a mommy. She is currently finishing up her field placement all while raising an adorable, active one year old boy, Ellis. Kristin and Josiah are also building a new home with plans to move in soon and start her new career as s social worker. Lots of changes on her horizon!!!

Father’s Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 15th. The men will receive a gift. We will be recognizing the Oldest and Youngest father. Thank you!
Donna Reeves Membership Ministry

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *James Folmar* for the month of **May 2025**. We are looking forward to having a new Lay Reader for the month of **June 2025**.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Permit No. 58
First Christian Church
805 Straley Ave
Princeton, WV 24740
Rev. Stephen M. Janning, Minister
firstchristianprincetonwv.org



Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Princeton, WV
Permit No. 58