

CHURCH Life

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



THE PRICE OF BEING A PASTOR By Pastor Rick Newton

Continuation Part II

Every Pastor also constantly finds he has to confront many different opinions and criticism at the same time, such as:

The Pastor doesn't visit me, Sermon was too long, The music was too loud, The building is too cold etc....

So guess what, they find themselves in a tug-of-war between opinions. Which, yes, one of those things could be true for one and not true for another. Yes the building could be too cold for one person but too warm for another. So how do you choose one over another? Then Pastors constantly find themselves juggling crisis' within a church... multiple families having challenges all at the same time. We need to learn to extend grace and understanding from time to time, because he's just one person, if not, feelings get hurt. But that's why we have deacons and elders to step up and help. Friends, let me share from experience, one of the most difficult things in the life of a Pastor is to know that at some point they may offend or disappoint people they love or let them down.

I want to tell you something that is sad but true. It surprises many people until they pause to think about it and that is, that Pastors are often the loneliest person in the congregation. You may see the Pastor being surrounded by people, but very rarely is it people who are interested in his problems, needs or even in his families lives.

If you love your Pastor, as a friend, take care of them, pray for them, connect with them and the vision that God gave them for the church. Then listen to them, but above all, love them! Remember they are human and in the same way they go through the same needs as you. I promise you that a caring and faithful Pastor calls your name out to God in the prayer, as well as everybody else's in the congregation, at regular intervals. Through discernment the Lord will reveal to him, the sheep within the fold that are hurting. Trust me, Pastor Steve will wrestle in intercession for you by name and for all his hurting sheep.

Also many pastors and their families have sacrificed comforts, rest, personal plans and so many things including some of their own needs to attend God's call. I have through the years experienced those, 2 o'clock in the morning calls from parishioners hurting and in trouble. A pastor can't talk about those because of the lives of the people involved. You probably will never hear of them because he has to keep silent. ..But they happen just the same.

Value the time a Pastor puts into his work, the prayers he makes for everyone, the burden he voluntarily carries for his ministry and calling. You don't know how much he'd appreciate knowing you do, and that you pray for him and his family. Send him a card from time to time with a personal note to express your gratitude for what he's done for you and your family. You could even slip a little restaur-

ant card in there so they can enjoy a night out together.

Jeremiah 3:15: And I will give you shepherds according to my own heart, who shall lead them with knowledge and understanding.

.....For all pastors 🙏

Thank you for all that you do!

Pastor Rick



FROM A PASTOR'S HEART

PRAYER for our Pastor
O almighty God, who by Your Son Jesus Christ
gave to Your holy apostles many excellent gifts
and commanded them faithfully to feed Your flock, we ask You to bless
our pastor that he may diligently preach Your holy Word,
and grant us grace to believe Your saving Gospel
and obediently follow the teachings of Your Word,
that we may receive the crown of everlasting glory.
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



Prayer Concerns

Week Ending Sept.21 2024

Moe Cefus, Margaret Conner,
Pastor Steve Zimbabwe Mission
Travel, Stephen Shrewsberry

Week Ending Sept. 14, 2024,

Wendy Johnson, Scooter Smith,
Believers of Ukraine

Week Ending Sept. 7, 2024

Loved ones in Israel & Palestine,
Bud & Judy Raines, Rev. Bill Pol-
lack, Wisdom for our government

In the Military:

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

Our Friends Who are Homebound:

Betty Doyle, Mike Elmore, Lola
Fanning, Evelyn Jenkins

Our Friends in Nursing/Retirement
Facilities:

Glenwood: Cleo Halsey
Stonerise Princeton: Glenwood

Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, October 8, 2024

Church Council—7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

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



With Sympathy

We offer our love and sympathy to the family of:

† Elizabeth “Betty” Holmes Craft who passed away on
September 25, 2024

The LORD your God in your midst,
The Mighty One, will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness,
He will quiet you with His love,
He will rejoice over you with singing.
Zephaniah 3:17

OCTOBER 2024

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves
Deacons: Willie Nelson, Randy Winfrey
Deaconess: Christina Wimmer, Memory Bhebhe
Lay Reader: Braxton Testa

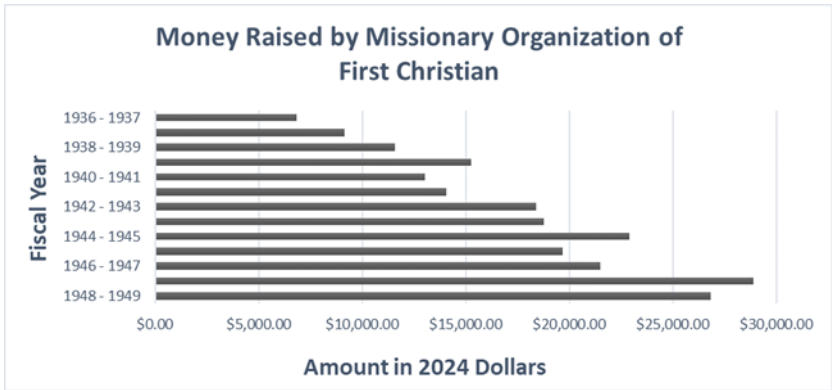
Christian Women Fellowship

Christian Women Fellowship will meet at 10:00 am on **Thursday, October 3** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be cleaning and organizing the kitchen, please dress appropriately.

Senior Breakfast

Senior Breakfast is on **Tuesday, October 8 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship and fun.

From the Archives



Our Zimbabwe project continues a long and distinguished tradition of our congregation in supporting mission work. The chart above shows our giving for missions for fiscal years 1936-1937 to 1948-1949. The amounts shown are adjusted for inflation and presented in 2024 dollars.

The amounts for 1936-1937 and 1937-1938, \$6,851.99 and \$9,134.11, respectively, are the lowest. However, the amounts are remarkable given that the country was in the midst of the Great Depression. The highest amount for this range of years is \$28,880.27 in 1947-1948. This amount also is remarkable since we were raising funds for building the sanctuary during the late 1940s.

We can be very proud of what we have accomplished in Zimbabwe. Not only have we continued a distinguished tradition of our congregation but we have done significant work when our congregation is much smaller than in previous years.

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

October 2024

First Christian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<div>Sep 2024</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr><tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	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							1 Mary Ellen Hill	2 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	3 Christina Dawson Cartwright 10:00 AM Christian Women Fellowship/ Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Handbell Choir/Handbell Room	4 Brad Carter, Jennifer Howard, Jennifer Stinson	5 Devin Honaker, Jennifer Reed O'Neal
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6 Neal Bennett; Teresa Milam 6:00 PM Game Night	7	8 9:00 AM Senior Breakfast/Cracker Barrel 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Teams 7:00 PM Church Council	9 Travis Harry, Terra Rose Cook 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	10 6:00 PM Handbell Choir/Handbell Room 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	11	12 Reserved Fellowship Hall																																										
13 Freddie & Carol Howard	14 Newsletter Articles & Announcements	15 Judy Raines	16 Erika Bowling Sutton; Kalin Follen; Randy Repass 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	17 6:00 PM Handbell Choir/Handbell Room 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	18	19 Braxton Testa 2:00 PM Reserved Barbara & Jim Wedding Reception/Fellowship Hall																																										
20 David Stinson	21 David Cooper	22 Channing Anderson	23 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	24 6:00 PM Handbell Choir/Handbell Room 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	25	26 Kimberly Alexander																																										
27 Barbara Forrest; Melissa Richardson White	28 Beth Conner; Kalie Lester; Kendra Haman Morris	29 Ellen Hill	30 Kenny Crotty 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	31 6:00 PM Handbell Choir/Handbell Room 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	<div>Nov 2024</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr></table>		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
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Nuptial Ceremony Invitation

Note of Reminder:

Please keep **Saturday, October 19, 2024** open to attend the wedding of Barbara Forrest and Jim Stophel at First Christian Church, Princeton at **2:00 p.m.**



Game Night



GAME NIGHT: You are all invited to game night. Come fellowship together and enjoy yourself. There will be board games, word games, and card games and light snacks will be provided. You are welcome to bring your favorite games or snacks. Invite your friends and family. Game night has been cancelled until further notice. *Andrea haring*

Christian Women Fellowship

For the past several years CWF has been supporting women in domestic violence situations. In the past, we have collected items to be given to shelters across the state. A few years back we felt it important to support the building of a shelter in Mercer County. A vase will be set up in the sanctuary for the month of **October** to collect money to go towards a domestic violence shelter in Mercer County. We appreciate any and all contributions. *Linda Kaluk*

Operation Christmas Child

OCC shoebox time is here again. Shoeboxes will be available the third week of October and will be delivered to Johnston Chapel Baptist church on **November 18th**. On **October 20th**, Vonda Wyatt, the church Relations Team Coordinator for SE West Virginia for OCC will speak to the congregation about her experiences with OCC.

Normally, the cost for shipping each box is \$10.00 but due to a generous donation to the OCC Fund the church will cover the cost. The young people have already filled 21 boxes. Let's see if we can fill at least 65!! Any questions, please contact *Linda Cheverton*.

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Haleigh Murphy*, for the month of **September 2024**. We are looking forward to having *Braxton Testa* as the Lay Reader for the month of **October 2024**.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Permit No. 58

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



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