

CHURCH *Life*

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



The Easter Story

Spring time is here again and with it comes the traditional telling of the greatest story ever told. Coming to this time of the year sometimes brings with it questions and even criticisms as to why this story is repeated so often and why could we not celebrate Easter a different way?

Perhaps if we could have sat with Jesus, that final Passover He celebrated, and had a glimpse into what He was thinking and feeling? *“As often as you do this”, He said, “remember Me”*. Peter, James, and all of you, early in the morning we will be in one of our favorite places to pray. You will not be able to stay awake and pray with me, but I will. And I’ll be in such anguish that the blood vessels in my forehead will rupture and mingle with my sweat. I will be arrested and accused falsely. They will hold an illegal trial only inviting those in authority who are against Me. Matthew, false witness will come forward twisting and falsely presenting my words and teachings. They will mock and strike me whenever I speak what is truth. All this time, my disciples, my friends, you will abandon me. *“Peter before the cock crows you will deny knowing me three times.”* Andrew, there will be no one to stand with me. Early that morning I will be brought before the civil leaders with no one to represent me, no one to help me, no one to be by my side. I will stand alone.

I will be scourged by the Roman soldiers. They will not have any mercy. They will not restrict the lashes to forty less one as does our Jewish custom. They will bring me to the point of death refusing to allow me to

die. They will press a crown of thorns upon my brow. *“Take, eat this bread for it is my body which is broken for you.”* Philip, I will be forced to carry a cross beam through the jeering and mocking crowds. Yes, Philip, a cross member, you see tomorrow I will be crucified. They will nail my hands and feet to a Roman cross and raise me up in the air for all to see. *“This cup is the blood of the New Covenant which is shed for you. Take and drink it everyone.”* Bartholomew, while I will be hanging there, I want you to know that I will not be able to breathe. I will be suffocating to death slowly. After all that I already will go through, I will have to put all my weight upon the rod that has fastened my feet to the wood and push myself up just to grasp for a little air as my body struggles to live. My lungs will be filling with blood and other fluids causing great pain as I even receive that air. Thomas, because of the lashes I receive from the Romans, I will look down and see my ribs protruding from my chest. Thaddaeus, I want you to know that after all this happens, the worst is still yet to come. You see, tomorrow as I hang on that cross the sins of all mankind will be placed upon me. The penalty for every child molester, every murderer, adulterer, thief, liar, and everything the heart of man has defiled itself with will be placed upon me. This will force my Father to turn His back upon me as well. You see, He is holy, absolute purity, and no sin can abide in His presence. I have been with Him from eternity past and this separation from my Abba will be more than I can bear. *“Let not your heart be troubled, believe in GOD, believe also in*

Me.” Nathanael, I am doing this for you. Not just you but for everyone, everyone here and everyone who will be. I will be the sacrifice, pure and blameless for all mankind. I will make a way for man, GOD’s creation, to come back to GOD. I will stand alone so that you won’t have to. I will bear your iniquities, so you won’t have to. I will take the lashing for you and for your healing. I will be your High Priest; I will understand your weaknesses and temptations. I will make a way for you to the Throne of Grace that you may receive mercy and my find grace to help in time of need. *“As often as you do this, remember Me.”*

Of course Jesus didn’t tell us these things beforehand. But he knew. He warned the disciples this was coming. Paul explained the purpose for all this suffering to the church in Corinth; *He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.* 2Cor 5:21 We have to tell our children and grandchildren, we must let the world know. We must boldly declare like John; *Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.* John 20:30-31

May your resurrection celebration be joyous this year.

Pastor Steve

Prayer Concerns

Week Ending March 22, 2025

Kay Arrington, Family of Junior Dalton, David & Jan Farley, Charlotte Lett, Steve & Kathy Roberts, Family of Larry Spangler, Steve & Sylvia Spooner, Shirley Vipperman, Wisdom for our government, Loved ones in Israel & Palestine

Week Ending March 15, 2025

Memory Bhebhe, Jim Bogstad, Jean Dickens, Buddy Raines, Donna Reeves, Stephen Shrewsberry, Mike & Nance Verono, William, Highway Dept. Workers

Week Ending March 8, 2025

Gene Clark, Debra Jennings, Wendy Johnson, Ralph Repass, Family of Requel Russell, 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, April 1, 2025

Church Council

Tuesday, April 8, 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



Memorial Gift Fund

Memorial gifts have been given in loving memory of:

† *Jean Foster* by Drema & Randy Wall

† *Jean Foster* by Larry Wimmer

† *Jean Foster* by Daniel Williams & Barbara Bour

† *Jean Foster* by Linda Cheverton



APRIL 2025

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves

Deacons: Dan Crutchfield, Randy Winfrey

Deaconess: Memory Bhebhe, Christina Wimmer

Lay Reader: Pastor Ishmael Bhebhe

Christian Women Fellowship

CWF will meet on **Thursday, April 3 2025 at 11:00 a.m.** in the office lounge.

Senior Breakfast

Senior Breakfast is on **Tuesday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship, with faith, family and friends.

From the Archives



Our third Timothy was Orville L. Martin. Unfortunately, our information about him is limited

He was born in 1923 to Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Kay Martin of Princeton. The house in which the Martin family lived was on Seventh Street on the site of the parking lot of the Harvest Outreach Center church.

He received his bachelor of arts degree from Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA, on May 29, 1944, when he was ordained as a minister of the gospel. During his four years of undergraduate work, he was placed on the dean's list for six consecutive semesters. He was active in many social and academic organizations of the college and was elected to many positions of leadership by his fellow students. He was especially active in musical organizations as a member of the A Cappella Choir, the College Chorus, and the Paderewski club. Also, he was active in the religious activities of the college as a member of the Ministerial Association, the Student Christian Association, and the Religious Activities Committee.

From 1947 or 1948 to 1950, he was employed by our congregation as the youth choir director. In addition, he worked extensively with the youth of our congregation and of the community. Sadly, because of budget problems, the funding for his position was discontinued in 1950.

After that, he worked for Graham Christian Church in Bluefield, VA, as the youth director.

He served as pastor of Luray Christian Church in Luray, VA, from the early 1950s until his death in 1984.

He was buried in the Resthaven Cemetery in Princeton.

Thanks to Frank Rule of our congregation for assistance with this article.

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

April 2025

First Christian Church

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
		1 7:00 PM Church Council Hanna Gross	2 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program Wendi Coburn, Michelle Dye	3 11:00 AM Christian Women Fellowship-Office Lounge 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal Daniel Fanning, Adriana Edmonds, Alison Edmonds	4	5																																																																																																		
6 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship Sherri Shields Women's Bible Study	7	8 9:00 AM Senior Breakfast/Cracker Barrel 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Teams	9 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Children's Program	10 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal Jon S. Hawse, Zeke Hawse, Tia Kaluk	11 Jeanie Peal, Jordan Repass, Mike White	12 Emily Bucciarelli, Matthew Lilly Gary & Tami Cooper																																																																																																		
13 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship 6:00 PM Game Night Casey Dye, Freddie Howard Pslam Sunday	14 Kenny & Judith Crotty	15 B. J. Ball, Judy Reed	16	17 7:00 PM Maunday Thursday Communion Service Jeff Brannon	18	19 Michael Bayless, Wendy Peal Johnson																																																																																																		
20 7:00 AM Sunrise Service 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship Easter Sunday James Brennan Jason & Kami Anderson	21 Katie Alexander	22 Cindy Coburn, Mary Jane Dye	23 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Brenda McNutt	24 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal David & Tia Kaluk J.W. Dye	25	26																																																																																																		
27 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship 6:00 PM Women's Fellowship Night @ Andrea's House	28	29 Kayla Alexander, Teresa Janning, Chuck Wallace	30 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study	<div>Mar 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></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr><tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr><tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <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></td><td></td><td>1</td></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>			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					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
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Holy Week



Discipleship

Good New Club!!!

Starting **Tuesday, April 1,2025** our church is hosting a Good News Club for Straley Elementary students. It will be every **Tuesday** for 5 weeks.. The Good News Club, a ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship, is an afterschool ministry where kids will have snacks, play games and learn the truth of God’s word. Our ministry team consists of 10 volunteer workers. On **March 18th** our team gave out goody bags to all the students and invited them to come to the club! We are excited to have this opportunity and ask for your prayers as we share God’s love with these wonderful children!



Women’s Bible Study

Our Bible study on “rest” will continue until **Sunday, April 6.** We have been enjoying learning about God’s rest for us.

Women’s Fellowship Night

Ladies of the church are invited to a fellowship night on **Sunday, April 27, at 6pm** at Andrea’s house. Fellowship with us! There will be a short devotional and food.

Christian Women Fellowship

This craft activity has been postponed to another date. Ladies put on your crafting hat and join us on **Saturday, April 5, 2025** for a morning of fun and fellowship. There will be supplies for you to make cards, jewelry and painting. A light lunch will be served. The time is 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Don’t say you are not crafty (in a good way). I saw a sign the other day that said “The expert of anything was once a beginner.”

CWF still have nuts to sell. The price has been reduced to \$8.00 a bag. Please call the office or see Linda Cheverton or Linda Kaluk if you are interested.

Game Night

Everyone is invited to game night. Game night is **Sunday, April 13 at 6pm.** There will be games to play and light snacks. Come fellowship together with

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Haleigh Murphy* for the month of **March 2025**. We are looking forward to having *Pastor Ishmael Bhebe* as the Lay Reader for the month of **April 2025**.



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



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