

CHURCH Life

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



In the shadows of current events lurks a chilling truth concerning the modern-day world in which we live. A few years back I had felt that the United States of America must surely be as divided then as during the great civil war that almost destroyed our country. A sobering realization has occurred to me that the same divisive spirit has now again been overtaking our land and only continues to strengthen. The murder, martyrdom, assassination, of Charlie Kirk this past month has become another catalyst for division. For those celebrating his death and demonizing the multitudes who grieve the loss to those who seek to exact revenge in a similar fashion, all are working together to measurably weaken what has once been considered the greatest civilization the earth had ever seen. Please consider these thoughts carefully.

The summer that opened the flood gates of terror on our streets justifying themselves by the death of George Floyd, have given us a glimpse of the things that are to come. During His explanation of the end of the age, Jesus said, *"And because lawlessness in increased, most people's love will grow cold."* Matt 24:12 The ugliness of what I am witnessing in our culture grieves me. To celebrate the death of a fellow human being reduces us to nothing more than any of the other beasts of the field, a dead chicken left in the coup will eventually be picked at and eaten by the remaining chickens. Ugly? Yes! Has this become how we are defined.

The prophet Isaiah, speaking for God, paints a picture of much of what we see today; *Woe to those who drag iniquity with the chords of falsehood, and sin as if with cart ropes; Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and clever in their own sight! Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine, and valiant men in mixing strong drink; who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away the rights of the ones who are in the right!* Isaiah 5:18, 20-23 These same people mock God as in verse 19 of chapter 5; *"who say, 'Let Him (God) make speed, let Him (God) hasten His work, that we may see it;*

and let the purpose of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come to pass, that we may know it!'" The wicked of the land mock God and then challenge Him. In their arrogance they attempt to bait God into a duel. *It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.* Heb 10:31 The context of this passage is clearly defined as divine judgment as vs 30 states; *For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay."* And again, *"The Lord will judge His people."*

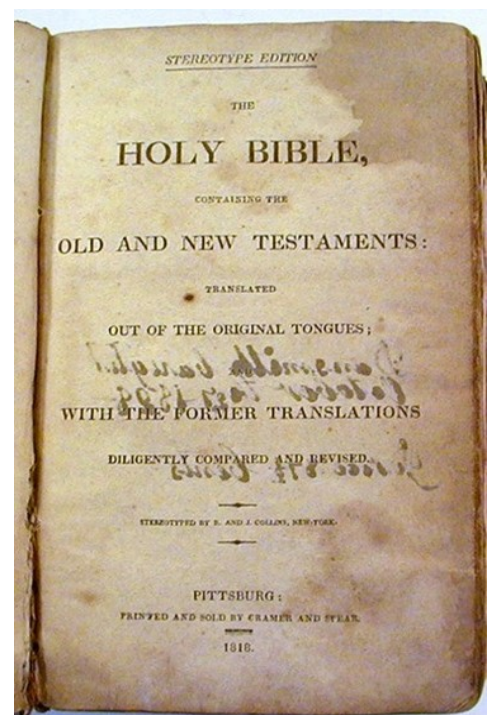
Life, a divine right declared in our constitution clearly states that it is a gift from God, along with liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I grieve Charlie's death but I also grieve the truth that Tyler Robinson may very well receive the death penalty. It is not my intent to discuss capital punishment here, but the thought of anyone passing into eternity without their sins forgiven by the blood of Jesus shed on the cross, grieves me. The radical Muslims who blow themselves up thinking that act of savagery will somehow earn them blessings in paradise immediately find themselves facing; utter darkness, flames, worms, and torment for all of eternity. I grieve their deceived minds and the eternal judgment that they will face.

I am not God, and neither are you! To wish someone dead or determine their judgment is not our place. I have confidence in our constitution and pray the judicial system operates in a just manner. I pray God will open Tyler's eyes to the Truth and provide him an opportunity to receive Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Our world is rapidly moving to the point where they do know what they are doing and challenging God in the process. I am not a pacifist, I will fight to protect my family and property, I will fight to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, I will fight to protect the truth of the Holy Bible and the preservation of His church, however, I will not become a part of the ugly and foolish divisive warring occurring in our land. *Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and any city or house divided against itself shall not stand.* Matt 12:25 Our enemies know this and are attempting to apply this spiritual principle against us. We must stand for truth, we must not waver from the

teachings of the Scriptures, we must strengthen and encourage each other especially in these times we face. We must; think, speak, and act, under the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit of God.

What is Jesus saying? How is the Holy Spirit of God leading and directing in these days? What does the Word of God say concerning how we are to live and act? *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God to those who are called according to His purpose.* Rom 8:28 Is that true? Can I sincerely put my trust in God? Is this not an excellent opportunity for me to choose to do things God's way? Do I really believe that God is just and righteous and that He will do what is right and good? I sincerely believe we are in the last days, the end of this age, the soon and eminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, what we are witnessing has been predicted in the Old and New Testaments. We should not be surprised or jarred off balance by the news reports. *But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.* Luke 21:26

O church! Be the bride of Christ, let the love of Jesus shine through you in an ever-darkening world. Be strong and courageous in your faith.



Prayer Concerns

Week Ending September 20, 2025

Kay Arrington, Marth Brubaker, Susan Carter, Jim Croy, Jerry Hall, Family of Joyce Jones, Linda Kaluk, Michael Rule, Family of Steve Shrewsberry, Steve & Sylvia Spooner

Week Ending September 13, 2025

Sam & Margaret Conner, Carol Dixon, Don Hanchock, Wendy Johnson, Family of Charlie Kirk, Believers in the Ukraine, Nathan & Lucille White

Week Ending September 6, 2025

Memory Bhebhe, David Foley, Amy Hingerty, Family of Keira Walkup, Wisdom for our government, loved ones in Israel & Palestine

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, October 7, 2025

Church Council

Tuesday, October 14 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



Operation Christmas Child



The time has finally come to pick-up the shoeboxes and get them ready for delivery to children all over the world. The boxes will be available on Sunday, October 26th. Our goal is at least 100; can we do more?

Boxes must be back at the church on Sunday, November 16th. Please include a check

made payable to Samaritan's Purse or cash for \$10 for shipping and handling. Directions for how to pack, what to pack and the age of the girl or boy you are packing for, will be included with each shoebox.

Thank you for your willingness to bring the Gospel to children, their family and possible their whole village. I'm looking forward to a very successful year. *Linda Cheverton.*

OCTOBER 2025

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves

Deacons: Ben haring, Mark Murphy

Deaconess: Darlene Hall, Drema Wall

Lay Reader: Tonni Bennett

Sunday School Class

The Adult Class, that meets downstairs at **10:00am to 10:45am**, Sunday mornings is discussing a 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, October 14, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship, faith, family and friends.

From the Archive



Our fifth pastor was Perry Judson Cook, who served our congregation from 1926 to 1931.

He was born November 29, 1884, on a farm near Crossingville in Crawford County, PA, to Jason Cook and Elizabeth Wright Cook. He married Edna Williams of Meadeville, PA, on May 22, 1913. They had two daughters, Irene and Ester.

Rev. Cook attended Edinboro State Teachers College, Edinboro, PA, for two

years; Phillips Bible Institute, Canton, OH, for two years; and Bethany College, Bethany, WV, for two years. In 1925, he received his Doctor of Sacred Literature degree from Central Christian College, Centerville, IA. The doctorate was completed during his first regular pastorate in Elkins, WV, which he held from 1922 to 1926.

When he joined us in late 1926, we faced an urgent need for larger and more adequate space for Sunday School and for the worship service. Under his leadership, we developed a plan for a new church to be constructed in two phases: an Educational Unit and a Sanctuary. The Educational Unit was dedicated in 1929. Rev. Cook served as the superintendent of construction, thus avoiding the considerable expense of a general contractor.

During his time with us, 511 people joined the church, 146 wedding ceremonies were performed and 76 funeral services were conducted.

After leaving us, he pastored churches in Titusville, PA, Valparaiso, FL, and Ft. Lauderdale, FL. In all of his pastorates, he was active in community organizations.

He passed away on August 13, 1964, in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

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

October 2025



First Christian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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Yom Kippur Day of Atonement: October 2, 2025



Community Outreach

“Remember the life of David; Don’t tell God how big your Giants are, tell your giants how Big your God is!” 1Samuel 17:45 Get To Know Him! *Pastor Rick*
45 David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

Game Night

Have fun with us as we play games, fellowship and eat together. Sunday, October 12 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Membership

Sunday, October 12th is Pastor Appreciation Day. We appreciate Pastor Steve very much! He is always there for us! He does a wonderful job! Thank you for everything you do for the church. Enjoy your day.

We will have Fellowship in the Narthex on Sunday, October 19th. It will be from 10:30am until 11:00am. There will be goodies, coffee and juice. Please join us! Thank you!
Donna Reeves Membership

Our Homecoming celebration will be Sunday, October 26th. Rev. Steve Janning will be delivering the Message. There will be a lunch after the service. Please invite your family and friends to the celebra-

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 worship 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.

Women’s Bible Study

All women are welcome to join us for our Fall Bible study. Sundays at 6pm to 7:30pm from October 5, to November 2, 2025. The study will be held at Andrea’s house. The book cost is \$14. Please let *Teressa Janning* or *Andrea Haring* know if you would like to join us.

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Larry Wimmer*, for the month of **September 2025**. We are looking forward to having *Tonni Bennett* as the Lay Reader for the month of **October 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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