

# CHURCH *Life*

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



*“Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act. God will not hold us guiltless.” Though the words have never been directly traced to Bonhoeffer, do they not sum up what he said in so many other ways? And isn’t that certainly why they so often have been attributed to him? Real faith then – which is the path to our true humanity and therefore our path to God – requires our muscles and our sinews. And sometimes even our blood, as it would in Bonhoeffer’s case. And all of it depends quite completely on the historic and viscous blood of God himself, enduring agony on a Roman cross. So to sit praying while Jews go in box-cars to death camps, and to do no more than pray if we can do more than pray, is to mock God, who is not fooled by our counterfeit obedience.* Eric Metaxas “Bonhoeffer Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy” Introduction pg. xxiv.

Far too often than not, my spirit parallels that of Lot as he found himself living in Sodom; *and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day with their lawless deeds),* 2Peter 2:7-8 Not that I am claiming to be righteous, other than the righteousness of Christ imputed upon me, I find my soul tormented as I witness the conduct of unprincipled men, the lawless deeds, not only leading our great country but propagating the immoral behavior upon the up and coming generations.

Concerning our day and time, Jesus said; *And because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.* Matt 24:12 The atrocities against our nation and in particular the Constitution of the United States; the abuse of power for personal gain and wealth, and the perversion of our founding fathers and their intent for the people

to govern themselves. The overwhelming and unadulterated perversion of our humankind, who, created in the image of God, has been twisted. Everything from our God-given gift of human sexuality to every demonic and evil imagination of their heart, has been used to spit on the face of the One who created us. The crowning jewel of their effort is clearly seen in the murdering of our unborn babies where sixty five million innocent lives were never given an opportunity to breathe.

*Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.* James 4:17 Prayer is absolutely the first and most significant thing that we as believers in Jesus the Son of God the Savior of the world, have the responsibility to engage in. However, if that is where we stop, than we are no better than the German Christians who sang louder so the cries of the Jewish people crammed in rail cars would not be heard as they passed by their Sunday Worship Services. Millions of our babies are being rushed to the death camps of the abortion clinics. Unimaginable, to me, are those so called believers who vote into political office promoters of abortion, as well as those who are forcing upon our children the ungodly perversion and mutilation of their bodies using the public school system for their own religious indoctrination, the intentional dismantling of the defining principles that make this great nation what it is, primarily a structure built upon the Bible and Judeo-Christian principles.

The book of James reinforces the Biblical truth that our faith is not just for intellectual enlightenment, but for practical daily living in the lives of us all. The leading variable that empowered the Nazi party to seize absolute power in Germany was found in the absence of the church. During the 1960’s in the United States, the church was shamed into silence and engagement in our government. The

twisting of “separation of church and state” was used as a catalyst to nullify the voice of millions of conservative Christians. The intention of our founding fathers was not to protect the government from church, but to protect the church from government. It is clear in the writings of these great men, without a Biblical life structure, “this great nation would not last long.” The probability of being accused of political grandstanding must not stop me from speaking of the grave responsibilities we all share. I believe there is hope for our country, but it lies solely on the church repenting and turning to God in all holiness and truth. 2Chr 7:14. Around the nation there are reports of many young people coming to the Lord and being baptized by the hundreds and thousands. We may be witnessing the later rains that Joel prophesies about.

O how desperately we need to draw near to God! There are too many voices clamoring for our attention. It is impossible to know which voices are good and which are evil, the potential for deception has exponentially accelerated. Now more than ever we need to be familiar to the voice of Jesus our Shepherd through His Holy Spirit. We need not fear for Jesus said He will never leave us nor forsake us. We are living in Biblical days for He put us here at this place and time because He chose this for our lives. The Scriptures strongly indicate that we are the generation that will see the second coming of King Jesus and the end of this age. *“Bonhoeffer and others are not merely figures from history but are now more alive than we are and are cheering us on as we run the race of faith for which we were born into the world. And that is the same race and the only race that will carry us out of this world and into the very presence of those cheering us on this minute. And, most wonderfully of all, it will carry us once and forever into the open arms of God himself. Amen”* Eric Metaxas March 2020

Prayer Concerns

**Week Ending May 25, 2024**

*Ruth Mullens, Nannie Reed, Steve & Sylvia Sponner*

**Week Ending May 18, 2024,**

*Wendy Johnson, The Family of Cleo Miller, Scooter Smith, Believers of Ukraine*

**Week Ending May 11, 2024**

*Patty Crotty, Jack Kaluk, Loved ones in Israel & Palestine, Bud & Judy Raines, Wisdom for our government, Cami Woodyard*

**In the Military:**

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

**Our Friends Who are Homebound:**

*Betty Craft, Betty Doyle, Mike Elmore, Lola Fanning, Evelyn Jenkins*

**Our Friends in Nursing/Retirement Facilities:**

*Ridge Care: Peggy White  
The Havens: Cleo Halsey  
Stonerise Princeton: Gary Reed*

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

*Church Council—7:00 p.m.*

**Tuesday, June 11 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](http://firstchristianprincetonwv.org)*

*Youtube: First Christian Princeton WV*

*E-mail: [fccprincetonoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccprincetonoffice@gmail.com)*



Memorial Gift Fund

Memorial gifts have been given in loving memory of:

† *Jerry Tennant* by Sam & Margaret Conner

† *Dover & Elsie Jackson* by Robert & Sandra Jackson

† *Jerry Tennant* by Larry Wimmer

† *Jerry Tennant* by Linda Cheverton

† *Jerry Tennant* by Jim & Brenda Nofsinger

† *Jerry Tennant* by David Bradley

† *Sheila & Jerry Tennant* by Donna & Kenneth Reeves

JUNE 2024

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves

Deacons: Willie Nelson, Randy Winfrey

Deaconess: Cindy Brannon, Deidre Crutchfield

Lay Reader: Tonni Bennett

Christian Women Fellowship

Christian Women Fellowship will be preparing and serving food for Amy's House of Hope on **Thursday, June 13th.**

Christian Women will meet on **Thursday, June 6 at 11:00 a.m.** We will meet in the upstairs lounge.

Senior Breakfast

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

From the Archives



Our former pastor Frank Stuck (1932-1943) was an avid radio enthusiast and experimentalist. His interests and efforts lead to the first radio broadcasts of our Sunday morning services. In addition to providing radio resources to the church, he also provided radio assistance to other organizations in the community as reported in this article from the March 10, 1938 edition of the *Princeton Observer*.

“Airline Opens Schedule, Princeton to Washington

Makes Trip Wednesday From Washington With One Passenger;  
To Purchase Ten New Planes

Princeton was put more fully on the map by a new airline schedule set up Wednesday when the Tri-State Airline ran its first plane into Princeton from Washington.

Beginning on March 15, the new line will set up flights between Washington and Princeton via Charleston, Morgantown and Martinsburg.

The plane will leave Washington each morning, fly directly to Princeton, thence to Charleston, thence to Morgantown in northern West Virginia, thence to Martinsburg in the eastern panhandle, thence back to Washington that afternoon, the round trip from Washington back to Washington taking about four and one-half hours.

It is reported that line will purchase 10 new planes for the coming season's work.

The placing of Princeton on the southern terminus of this airline definitely puts Princeton on the map as having the most available airport in southern West Virginia.

The Rev. Frank Stuck is installing a new radio outfit at the airport through which the student flyer may contact the groundman at the hangar.

The first trip on the new airline was made on Wednesday, when Bob Mino came in from Washington going to Anawalt, with the first trip from Washington.”



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

# June 2024

First Christian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div><div><div>May 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>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><div><div>Jul 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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div></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				<div>1</div> <div>Lawrence &amp; Beverly Reed, Terry &amp; Rhonda Rose, Rocky &amp; Karen Hedrick</div>
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<div>2</div> <div>10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>JoAnn Brennan 7:00 PM Church Council</div>	<div>5</div> <div>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Keith &amp; Cynthia Duncan, Jack &amp; Linda Kaluk  Daniel Cooper 11:00 AM Christian Womens Fellowship 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Karen Hedrick</div>	<div>8</div>																																																																																				
<div>9</div> <div>10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Houston Coburn</div>	<div>11</div> <div>9:00 AM Senior Breakfast/Cracker Barrel  6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Team</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Hobart&amp; Ernestine Bailey 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Timothy &amp; Kendra Morris, Jr.  Donna Belcher, Bradie Jackson CWF: Amy's House of Hope 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Dolly Lane, Randy Wall</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Taylor Coburn, Wesley Benbow</div>																																																																																				
<div>16</div> <div>Father's Day 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Newsletter Articles &amp; Announcement</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Rusty Howard</div>	<div>19</div> <div>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Summer Begins 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Steven &amp; Vickie Harry</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Dana Nelson</div>																																																																																				
<div>23</div> <div>Brittany Dye 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Teresa Dye, Victoria Vipperman  Neal &amp; Tonni Bennett</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Joyce Coburn, Bobby Honaker</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Alice Cusaac, Steven Harry 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Gary &amp; Judy Reed 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>																																																																																				
<div>30</div> <div>Tonni Bennett, Paul Broyles 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 12:30 PM Congregational Meeting/Immediately after service</div>																																																																																										



But blessed is the one who trust in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. Jeremiah 17:7

Membership

We celebrated Mother’s Day on **Sunday, May 12th**. All the women in the church were recognized with a gift. The oldest mother and the youngest mother were honored with flowers and candy. The oldest mother was Darlene Hall and the youngest mother was Kristin Janning. Congratulations!

Graduation Sunday will be on **June 9th**. Wyatt Anderson graduated from Princeton High School and Memory Bhebhe will graduate in **July** from Walden University. *Donna Reeves*

A Graduation Blessing  
By Barbara D. MacAdam

Embarking on a journey which began some time ago, how  
could you have imagined all the things you’d come to know.

You learned to use each challenge as an opportunity,  
to overcome each problem-despite adversity.

It wasn’t always easy keeping up with things at school, but  
YOU held on to your beliefs, and followed “the golden rule.”

You found your voice & chose a path that honors who you are,  
and that, I think, may be your greatest lesson learned thus far.

For no one could be prouder of the person you’ve become,  
and that is why I’m confident that the best is yet to come.

May you never waste a moment wishing life was not  
unfair. Rather use the gifts God gave to you,  
to change the world out there.

Your Graduation signals us that you  
are on your way. So spread your  
wings and fly my dear,  
forever and a day!

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Dan Crutchfield*, for the month of **May 2024**. We are looking forward to having, , *Tonni Bennett* as the Lay Reader for the month of **June 2024**.



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



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