

# CHURCH Life

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



## Happy Birthday U.S.A. !

This month we are celebrating the 248th birthday of our nation, almost a quarter of a millennium. Without question, this land was set aside for a godly purpose and a God ordained time in history. The United States of America has been instrumental in propagating the gospel into the nations of the earth. It was Charles Finney, DL Moody, Billy Sunday, Billy Graham and so many more were instrumental in great awakenings and revivals across this land and around the world. It was here that a great civil war was fought to break the back of the slave trade not just here but in other nations as well. It was here that a republic form of government was successfully birthed and spread democracy around the world. What a great blessing to be a citizen of this beautiful land. What an honor to be counted as a steward by our fathers to carry on what they had started. What a tremendous responsibility to ensure that the torch that we are entrusted with be kept burning brightly as it is handed down to the next generation.

“America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.” Abraham Lincoln, almost prophetically speaking, foresaw perhaps to our day and time and the divisions that are tearing our country apart. *Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste: and any city or house divided against itself shall not stand.* Mat 12:25 Jesus speaking a spiritual principle not only diagnosis our national condition but pronounce our prognosis as well.

If one is unable to see the seriousness of the state of our union than they either are refusing to look seriously or simply do not care. Much study and discussion must occur to analyze our condition but it will all boil down to Deuteronomy chapter 28: *Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey the LORD your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of*

*the earth.. But it shall come about, if you will not obey the LORD your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.* Verses 1 and 15 are interwoven in the blessings and curses that accompany our decision to serve or not serve the God of creation.

We can and should backtrack to evaluate the circumstances and events that brought us to this point but I do not want to do that now. I am however, wanting to speak on what we should be doing from this moment forward. The answer starts with the church, all believers in Jesus Christ. 2Chr 7:14 gives us a clear pathway to recover the blessed status that we have lost. I am assuming that you, the reader, are familiar with this passage. Four conditions are listed: humility, prayer, seeking God and repentance that light the pathway we are to follow. I am convicted that it is imperative we step back one even further to the word “if”. If My people...James tells us that...faith without works is useless. James 2:20b To apply this principal to our topic, patriotism and nationality without works is useless, dead, profitless. As citizens of this great land, it is our responsibility to be engaged in our government. We are not a democracy, but a representative republic. The difference is that we elect men and women to represent our position in the government decision making. In a true democracy, every individual is engaged. When less than forty percent of the eligible voters actually vote? When those who vote know nothing of the people they are putting into office? When the ballot cast or not cast for popularity or superficial decisions that it’s no wonder we are in the condition that we are. It is “everyone” of our civic responsibility to vote in an educated, responsible manner. If one abstains from voting, for any reason, know that you are surrendering your birthright as a citizen of this country. There are too many of those who are purposefully seeking to manip-

ulate the results to their desired outcome. My father told me of a friend he had, of a particular political party, who declared “he votes early and votes often”. We hear of Mickey Mouse voting, dead dogs, cats, and people long gone who cast their votes. This is permitted to continue because we fail to become engaged! “if”, the responsibility lies with us to become engaged; spiritually, socially, and politically, by doing! Faith without works is useless.

There are some reading that have been called to civic duty themselves. Our nation desperately needs godly men and women who will shoulder the responsibility for public service. We desperately need Federal leaders to state leaders to local leaders who love and serve the living God and honor His word. We need city council, school board, county commissioners, who are honest, sincere and strive to serve the community with dignity. Too often we are led by self-absorbed, and self-serving leaders who are only interested in building their own wealth and power. We need to pray for and support such people.

Your freedom wasn’t free, your liberty wasn’t cheap! I by no means have any right or intention to persuade you for who you are to vote except I am convinced we must vote by our Christian convictions first. We must become engaged in the battle before the war is lost. We are mandated to honor God in every area of our lives which significantly includes the land in which we live. Is your heart stirred whenever, you hear our National Anthem or pledge to our flag? Do your actions support your dedication to our country or are they superficial and empty? Will you honor the memories of those who have given all that you might live in freedom and liberty? We can no longer sit on the sidelines and let others manage the responsibilities that apply to every citizen of this great land. How about your church? Does this apply?

Pastor Steve

**Prayer Concerns**

**Week Ending June 22, 2024**

*Jack Kaluk, Loved ones in Israel & Palestine, Bud & Judy Raines, Nannie Reed, Michael Rule, Wisdom for our government, Cami Woodyard*

**Week Ending June 15, 2024,**

*Norma Duncan, Becky Dunford, The family of Diana George, Sally Miller, Ruth Mullens, A J. Ruble, Steve & Sylvia Sponner, Suzie, Sharon Williams*

**Week Ending June 8, 2024**

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

**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, July 2, 2024**

*Church Council—7:00 p.m.*

**Tuesday, July 9 2024**

*Elders Meeting — 6:00 p.m.  
Ministry Teams —6:30 p.m.  
Board Meeting— 7:00 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)*



The Zimbabwe Church Project: Mupumbu, Zimbabwe

**JULY 2024**

Elders: Sam Conner, Larry Wimmer  
Deacons: Dan Crutchfield, Randy Winfrey  
Deaconess: Memory Bhebhe, Drema Wall  
Lay Reader: Deidre Crutchfield

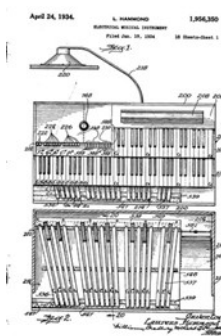
**Christian Women Fellowship**

Christian Women Fellowship will not meet in the month of **July**. We will meet again in the month of **August**.

**Senior Breakfast**

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

**From the Archives**



The organ has been an integral part of our worship services for decades. Our first electronic organ, the Hammond Electric Organ, was purchased either late 1944 or early 1945. In a letter to the congregation, dated March 1, 1945, Pastor John M. Dunn conveys the enthusiasm for the organ, saying “One of the finest contributions ever made to the worship services of this church, is now being made by the new Hammond Electric Organ. No doubt you have been thrilled with the beautiful music

you have heard rendered by our talented organists. An entirely new atmosphere has been created. God seems just a little nearer. The whole service is more worshipful.”

Rev. Dunn’s letter is a request for funding to pay the balance owed on the organ. The cost of the organ was \$1,550. The Organ Fund at the time contained just \$200. Individual contributions raised this to \$250 and the church borrowed the balance, \$1,300, from a bank. Subsequent donations brought in \$600. Rev. Dunn’s letter reminds the congregation of its near unanimous vote for purchasing the organ and requests the congregation to contribute the remaining \$700 at the upcoming Sunday service on March 4, 1945.

The figure is from Laurens Hammond’s 1934 patent application for the device that would become the Hammond Organ.

**From The Safety team**

At last, the security doors for the nursery are in service. We still are waiting for a part that will make them easier to use but we have a work-around until the part arrives in **mid-August**. There is a pushbutton mounted on the right of the doors that rings a bell inside to let the workers know that someone is at the doors.

*Randy Winfrey*



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

# July 2024

First Christian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
	1	2 7:00 PM Church Council	3 Sandra Wimmer 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study & 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program	4 Independence Day	5	6 Kourtney Paige Stephens																																																																																																		
7 Kenneth & Donna Reeves Ishmael & Memory Bhebhe 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service	8 Hatcher Anderson, Haley Coburn	9 9:00 AM Senior Breakfast/Cracker Barrel 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Teams 7:00 PM Board Meeting	10 David Osborne 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study & 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program	11 Steve & Jeanie Peal Pauline Hill 6:00 PM Florida Youth Group Dinner & Fellowship	12 Robin Beamer, Debbie Rawn 7:30 AM Breakfast For Florida Youth Group	13 John & Mary Jane Dye																																																																																																		
14 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service	15 Mark Brock, Doug Feuchtenberger	16 Larry & Christina Wimmer	17 Joy Bell; Princess Bhebhe 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study & 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program	18 Jack Kaluk	19 Christina Wimmer	20 Jill Swim																																																																																																		
21 Lisa Calfee Benbow, Darlene Hall 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 6:00 PM Outdoor Game Night	22	23 Justin Harry Darin & Michelle Haynes	24 Violet Belcher, Kenneth Reeves, Enoch Vipperman Sam & Margaret Conner 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study & 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program	25	26 Lori Broyles	27 Linda Kaluk, Keith Reed																																																																																																		
28 Vincent Alexander Jon & Jenny Hawse 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Service 6:00 PM Women's Fellowship Night	29 Heather Brennan, Rocky Hedrick	30 Vince & Kim Alexander Cindy Reed	31 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study & 7:00PM 7:00 PM Children's Program 7:00 PM Children's Program	<div><div><div>Jun 2024</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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div><div><div>Aug 2024</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>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><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></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							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						
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Christian Women Fellowship

Christen Women Fellowship prepared and served dinner at Amy’s House of Hope on **Thursday, June 13th**. During the months of **April** and **May**, we collected \$155.00 from the congregation which helped with the cost of the food. Andrea Haring, Teresa Janning, Linda Cheverton, Drema Wall, Margaret Conner, Darlene Hall, Maggie Windland, Tonni Bennett, Christie Reed and Linda Kaluk helped prepare the food. Thanks to Mike Reed for making sure the dirty dishes were taken care of. Teresa, Linda C, Drema, Margaret, Darlene, Maggie, Tonni, Christie, and Mike helped serve. Several dinners were taken to the Mercer Manor and the rest served at Amy’s. 81 meals in total. Thank you to everyone who donated money and helped with the dinner. *Linda Kaluk*

Discipleship

Outdoor Game Night : We would like to invite family and friends to an evening of Fellowship, food and outdoor games. It will be on **Sunday, July 21 at 6pm** in the church backyard. We will be providing hot dogs. We will have a sign-up sheet for sides and more. We are hoping for a fun time together.  
*Andrea Haring*

**Women’s Fellowship Night:** The women of the church are invited to a night of Fellowship, food and a short devotional. It will be at Andrea’s house at 6:00 p.m. The dates are **June 30, July 28, and August 25**. Hope you can join us! *Andrea Haring*

Membership

On **Sunday, June 2nd** FCC welcomed into membership, Ben and Andrea Haring. Ben and Andrea have been worshipping with us for several months and have already been involved in many different aspects of church leadership. Welcome Ben and Andrea, we are so happy to have you in our family.



We honored the our graduates on **Sunday, June 9** during the morning service. Congratulations, Wyatt Anderson and Memory Bhebhe.

We honored all the men with a gift for Father’s Day, **Sunday, June 16th**. The Oldest Father was Frank Rule and the Youngest Father was Josiah Janning. They were presented with a gift card. Congratulations! *Donna Reeves*

Worship

We wish to thank the Lay Reader, *Tonni Bennett*, for the month of **June 2024**. We are looking forward to0. 00 having,0



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