

# CHURCH *Life*

A monthly publication of First Christian Church, Princeton WV



## WARS & RUMORS

*Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. And it will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it. Zech 12:2-3*

The news these days has brought many people to a place of confusion, and consternation. Jesus prophetic warning concerning our day; *And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars...* Matt 24:6a, is causing great panic and suffering worldwide. In particular I would like to discuss the recent invasion and terror attacks by Hamas on Israeli soil.

Depending upon who you receive your news from will more than likely mold your opinion of the events occurring at this time. Whose right? Whose wrong? Who are the terrorists? Whose land is it anyway? These questions are causing riots worldwide and fueling a war where thousands have already been killed, wounded, and forever terrorized. As it is impossible to ignore the current events of our day, I challenge you to the absolute best of your ability, search for the truth in the matter. Avoid sources that are pushing an agenda without reporting the entire story. Pray, for God to intervene on behalf of the innocent and bring to justice those causing this terror.

A brief history of the land is the correct place to start. About two thousand years before Christ God brought Abraham to the land of Canaan and spoke to him there; *And the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land..."* Gen 12:7a. To Isaac God said, *"I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham."* Gen 26:3. To Moses God said; *"Every place on which the sole of your foot shall tread shall be yours; your border shall be from the wilderness to Lebanon, and from the river, the river Euphrates, as far as the western sea. Deut 11:24.* The largest land footprint Israel ever achieved was under the reign of King David yet not even encompassing two thirds of God's promise. During the Roman occupation, Israel consistently

rebelled and fought to regain their independence. About 135 AD the last of the nation was conquered and killed or dispersed throughout the Roman world. Rome's Emperor Hadrian, being so furious at the cost to Rome for over 60 years of rebellion and siege, wanted the memory of Israel removed from history. The people were dispersed and the name of the land was changed to Palestine after the ancient enemies of Israel the Philistines. Until 1948 the name remained the same where even Jews born there were called Palestinians.

So an important question to ask is this, has God removed His promise to the descends of Abraham through Isaac? Through the prophet Joel God said; *"For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,"* Joel 3:1. The prophet Ezekiel in chapters 36 and 37 reveal detailed information concerning the restoration of Israel which we have witnessed in our day and time. Paul said in Romans 11:1a. *I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be!...* The largest and most significant prophetic sign that we are living in the last of the last days is the reemergence of the nation of Israel, even speaking their ancient language. A true miracle and the fulfillment of God's Word. From a Christian standpoint, the ownership of the land is scripturally clear, by God's design it belongs to the nation of Israel.

Following WWII and the atrocities against the Jews, the United Nations partitioned the land for them permitting them to once again have a homeland. The current struggles and wars are a fascinating study and I encourage further inquiry concerning them.

Were there unjust sufferings imposed upon the people inhabiting the land prior? There are evidences of suffering of the indigenous people as there would be in any nation establishing itself in a land, just as there was with the beginnings of the United States of America. Again I challenge a concerted effort to research unbiased reports concerning these events.

My conclusion: What we are seeing played out before us is the unfolding of prophetic events. Detailed visions of the Old Testament prophets, the

disciples, and Jesus Himself, clearly painted a portrait of our day and time. The events reported to us are just the tip of the iceberg as powers and plans behind the visible are far greater. Israel is God's chosen people! He is still, and always will be, King of all creation. His plan will not be thwarted nor hindered. Now more than ever we must put our faith and confidence in Him. Now more than ever we must pray for Israel and peace for Jerusalem which we know will not happen until the Prince of Peace returns to this earth. We must pray for justice and righteousness to flourish in our time. We must pray for the innocent and Christians caught in the middle of this great struggle. We must be counted among the faithful servants who are anticipating their Master's return. We must love His church, the expression of the Kingdom of God on the earth. We must not fear! *But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.* Luke 21:28. We know how all this will end. We must have the mind of Paul as he wrote to Timothy; *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.* 2Tim 4:7-8. We are the generation possibly so bless to see the coming of our Lord and savior! We are the generation He has called to be His witness in this age. We are His church, His bride. *He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly."* Amen. *Come Lord Jesus.* Rev 22:20.

Pastor Steve



**Prayer Concerns**

**Week Ending Oct. 21, 2023**

*Family of Christy Cordell, Gary Reed, Loved ones in Israel, Wisdom for our Government*

**Week Ending Oct. 14, 2023,**

*John B., Ronnie Cecil, Margaret Conner, Brad Elliott, Barbara Terry, Jerry Wimmer, Sandra Wimmer*

**Week Ending Oct. 7, 2023**

*Pastor Bill Pollack, Mary Jane Rorrer, Scooter Smith, Sylvia Spooner, Kylie Sprage, 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:**

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

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

*Church Council—7:00 p.m.*

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023**

*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)  
Phone Live Stream: 1-833-336-0457*



**Memorial Gift Fund**

Memorial gift has been given in loving memory of:

† *Violet Belcher* by Drew H. Foster

**NOVEMBER 2023**

Elders: Michael Reed, Kenneth Reeves  
Deacons: Dan Crutchfield, Randy Winfrey  
Deaconess: Tia Kaluk, Deborah Murphy  
Lay Reader: Randolph Evans

**Thanksgiving Observance**

By Author Unknown

Count your blessings instead  
of your crosses;  
Count your gain instead  
of your losses.  
Count your joys instead  
of your woes;  
Count your friends instead  
of your foes.  
Count your smiles instead  
of your tears;  
Count your courage instead  
of your fears.  
Count your full years instead  
of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead  
of your mean.  
Count your health instead  
of your wealth;  
Count on God instead  
of yourself.



**Christian Women Fellowship**

Christian Women will meet on **Thursday, November 2, at 11:00 a.m.** We will meet in the upstairs lounge.

**Senior Breakfast**

Senior Breakfast is on **Tuesday, November 14, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. Come join in the fellowship and fun.

**From the Archives**



By the mid 1930s, our congregation finished the Educational Unit, moved the church into that building and demolished the original church building, which stood roughly where our current sanctuary stands. In a contract dated January 26, 1935, the congregation agreed to rent the former church site to a Mr. Matney for the purpose of constructing a Gulf Oil Company filling station (gas station). Possibly, this was done to relieve some of the debt incurred in building the Educational Unit or possibly to provide an additional revenue source in the midst of the Great Depression, but there is no record of the reason. The station was constructed and remained in operation until the early 1940s. Starting in 1938, the church started having problems with collecting the rent. In June of 1940, the lease was cancelled because the rent had not been paid for three months. Under the terms of the contract, the church took possession of the property and gas station on June 15, 1940. The business was closed and the gas station was demolished.

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

# November 2023

*First Christian Church*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																																			
<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="7">Oct 2023</td></tr> <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>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Oct 2023							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					<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="7">Dec 2023</td></tr> <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> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Dec 2023							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							<p><b>1</b></p> <p>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM</p> <p>7:00 PM Children's Program</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>11:00 AM Christian Womens Fellowship</p> <p>6:00 PM Handbell Choir</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><i>Sam Conner, Tim Reed, Jr.</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>Day Light Saving</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Morning Service</p> <p>6:00 PM Fall Bible Study</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>2:30 PM -3:30 PM Straley Homework Session</p> <p>7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM</p> <p>7:00 PM Children's Program</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><i>John Dye; Linda Peck Goodall</i></p> <p>6:00 PM Handbell Choir</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><i>Skipper &amp; Carmen Ball</i></p> <p><i>MacKenzie Coburn; Mike Mooney; Barbara Terry; Sylvia Spooner</i></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><i>George Harman</i></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Operation Christmas Child Box Return</p> <p><i>Debra Ball; Billy Harman</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Morning Service</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:00AM Senior Breakfast/Cracker Barrel</p> <p>2:30 PM -3:30 PM Straley Homework Session</p> <p>6:00 PM Elders Meeting</p> <p>6:30 PM Ministry Teams</p> <p>7:00 PM Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><i>Sheila Tennant</i></p> <p>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM</p> <p>7:00 PM Children's Program</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><i>Gary Cooper; Briar Kaluk</i></p> <p>6:00 PM Handbell Choir</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><i>Ethan Lilly</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Morning Service</p> <p>6:00 PM GPMA Community Service/Immanuel Baptist Church</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><i>Eric Bowling; Cleo Halsey</i></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>No church activities</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Happy Thanksgiving</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Jerry Wimmer</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><i>Uriah Testa</i></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><i>Randolph Evans; Diana Okes</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Morning Service</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>2:30 PM -3:30 PM Straley Homework Session</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>11:00 AM Adult Bible Study &amp; 7:00PM</p> <p>7:00 PM Children's Program</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Handbell Choir</p>	
Oct 2023																																																																																																																																									
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																																																																																																																																							
Dec 2023																																																																																																																																									
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																																																																																																																																									



*Happy Thanksgiving*

As we grow into the fellowship of believers that God has called us to, we are excited to see what God is going to do through each and every one of us. We are working toward new opportunities to fellowship and worship together. Be praying about your part and role and how you can use your Spirit given gifts to build up the body of Christ.

*For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ. Eph 4:1*



**Membership**

All Saints' Day will be celebrated on Sunday, **November 5, 2023** during the morning worship. We will recognize and honor our veterans on **Veterans Sunday, November 12th**. Thank you,.

*Donna Reeves Membership*



**Outreach**



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Boxes must be returned to the church on **Sunday, November 12th**. The good news is that there will be **no cost** for the shipping these boxes as there has been in the past.

Fill A Bag, Feed A Family

In **December** we will help the Salvation Army with their food bank at Christmas time. Grocery bags will be available for pick-up with a list of suggested food items. More information will be available next month.



**ZIMBABWE CHURCH PROJECT:**

Be prayerful for the ministry outreach to the country of Zimbabwe. Continue to pray for God's work in this area as First Christian Princeton continues to have a place in that work.



**Worship**

The first Sunday in Advent is **December 3, 2023**. Decorating the church for the Advent season will be on **Sunday, November 26th**, right after church service. There is always a lot of work to accomplish this so if you can please stay and help. There will be a light lunch after the decorating.

We wish to thank the Lay Readers, *Pastor Ishmael Bhebhe* for the month of **October**. We are looking forward to having *Randolph Evans* as the Lay Reader for the month of **November**.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
Permit No. 58

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



Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Princeton, WV  
Permit No. 58