

The Marshall Christian

LIX

NO. VIII

December, 2017

Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

December 3rd & 10th

Elders:

Dan Brandt
Lloyd Bentley

Deacons:

Gwen Clemens
Leroy Wise

December 17th & 24th

Elders:

Buddy Hannaford
Wayne Buck

Deacons:

Tyler Clemens
Jean Dowell
Hope Richards
Shirley Schultz
Makenzie Thomason

December 31st & Jan. 7th

Elders:

Paul Crews
Kris Milliron

Deacons:

Cindy Brandt
Vince Buck
Linda Crews
Chris Layton
Lori Layton

Outside Communion:

December 10

Mark Harvey
Paul Crews

December 24

Buddy Hannaford
Wayne Buck

Worship Leaders

Dec. 3- Wayne McReynolds
Dec. 10- Mark Harvey
Dec. 17- Buddy Hannaford
Dec. 24- Wayne Buck
Dec. 31- Paul Crews

“God Lights”

Nine years ago I flew into Chicago in late November, and as the plane approached the city in the dark we flew low over the many suburbs around Chicago. From the plane I could see thousands of flashing, twinkling lights in the residential areas and wondered what those could be. As our altitude dropped I could make out Christmas trees and other holiday decorations in the yards and on the houses. Just after Thanksgiving so many people in that area had gone all out with their preparations for Christmas with lavish house lighting projects that reminded me of something that would make even Clark Griswold of ‘National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation’ proud.

I began to think that when these folks put up their lights they probably did so for visiting family members to see or to share with their neighbors. They most likely did not give any thought to passengers in overhead planes seeing their lights shine and twinkle, but here we were, passengers in a plane thousands of feet above their homes and their houses; people that they would most likely never meet, enjoying the lights they had made possible.

Jesus calls us to be lights to the world, and when we do so, we really have no idea what people might see the light shining from us. These could include people that we will never meet. I love the way the Message version of the Bible puts Jesus’ words to us from Matthew 5:14-16 – “You’re here to be light, bringing out the God colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light

stand. Now that I’ve put you there – shine! By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God.”



With the news this past year of terrorist attacks, shootings, so many natural disasters, and many other forms of darkness, there is a need for light in the world. Many need to be reminded that even in the darkness light does exist for there is hope. God has made us his torch bearers, his light carriers to bring out the God colors in the world to people who have yet to notice them. Let’s not keep God’s light a secret for ourselves. As we enter the seasons of Advent and Christmas...let’s shine on!

In God’s Grip,
Loy



Finley Elyse Asbury .. Born November 1, 7 lbs. 12.7 oz, 21 3/4 inches long. Parents are Jacob & Breinne Asbury. Grandparents Tim & Gwen Clemens. Great-Grandparents Wayne & Carolyn Buck

Single Ladies Group

Our December get together will be on Thursday, December 7th in the home of Kathryn Jones at 11:30 for lunch.

If you plan on attending, please call Kathryn at 886-6391 by Monday, December 4. It is very important to RSVP. If you need a ride please call Roberta Reed at 886-7520.

Church Office Hours

Reminder – the church office is open 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, and an answering machine is available to take messages after hours. You may also contact us via e-mail at FirstCCofice@yahoo.com. The minister’s office hours are 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday and by appointment.

December Anniversaries & Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1– Paxton Joliff
Molly Krog | 22– Linda Dryer |
| 2– Jeff Wise | 23– Amanda McCord |
| 3– John Fletcher
Cindy McCord | 24– Carolyn Buck
Kevin Dryer |
| 6– Stacey Smith | 25– Tyler Merchant |
| 10– Chris Layton | 26– Ann Pannell |
| 12– Gwen Clemems
Cyrus McCord
Bert Shannon | 27– Virginia Bryant
Jeff Dryer
Jo Wilhite
Wayne Wise |
| 14– Brienne Asbury
Holly Malan
Heidi Joliff | 28– Kevin Ash
Vic Hessel
Carl O’Dell
Tyler Smith |
| 15– Sherry Shannon | 31– Abby Gass
Randall Wilson |
| 17– Bryant Eads | |
| 18– Karolyn Kaldwell | |
| 19– Madison Gaba | |
| 20– Jill Buck
Meg Kissner | |
| 21– Emily Kueker | |
| 22– Leslie Coslet | |



Anniversaries

- 1– Justin & Abby Schroeder
- 10– Matthew & Jessica Green
- 12– Loyd & Ann Pannell
- 17– Paul & Michelle Scarff
- 18– JW & Jill Clemens
- 23– Dale & Lois Pontius
- 26– Ed & Ginger Reis
- 27– Paul & Linda Crews
AJ & Barbara Utlaut
David & Marlene VanHorn
- 28– Loy & Rhonda Hoskins
- 31– Josh & Natalie Hoffelmeyer

Jell-O and Pudding for Holiday Project



We are collecting boxes of Jell-o and/or pudding mixes for the Saline County Community Holiday Project – distribution to be held December 14 at the Martin Center. You can bring your boxes to add to the stack that is being built in the Sun Room near the west wall. Our goal is to collect 650 boxes by the 12th of December.

200 Years of Disciples in Missouri

In this year when we have been celebrating our congregation’s 175 years, the Mid America Region is celebrating 200 years. In 1817 the first Disciple congregation was formed in the area that would become the Mid America Region. It was 15 years before the ‘Christians’ led by Rev. Barton Stone and the ‘Disciples’ led by Alexander Campbell joined forces that a congregation was founded near today’s Highway P near New Franklin, Missouri, under the direction of Rev. Thomas McBride, who had been baptized by Barton Stone. Only a few foundation stones and a marker with a plaque remains in the corner of a cemetery to indicate where the church building once stood.

A document originally signed by the 13 founding members reads: “The Church of Jesus Christ on the east fork of Salt Creek constituted Saturday, November 22 A.D. 1817 by Thomas McBride and the names of those constituted. The above named persons agreeing to take the Old and New Testament alone as their only rule of faith and practice.” Of the five women, four men, and four children who originally signed the document, only Polly Bradley could write. She wrote out the document along with all the signatures, including her own, then the other twelve put their X over their names. A photocopy of the document is in the church office.

Our Christmas Adopted Family

This year we will be adopting a father and his 14-year old son for Christmas. Our goal is to collect food for them along with gift cards or cash to support their financial needs. If you turn a check into the offering on Sunday mornings for them, please put “for Christmas family’ in the memo line.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Our church has volunteered to ring the bell for the Salvation Army giving at the entrance to WalMart on Saturday, December 9. Pairs of volunteers will be there from 10:00 in the morning until 6:00 that evening. A sign-up sheet is in the Church parlor.

Looking Back at Our History...

As we continue to celebrate the 175th anniversary of our congregation this year, Priscilla McReynolds of the Library Committee offers us this detailed look back at our history in the years 1980 - 1989 :

In May of 1980 Rev. Bob Sweeten announced something new for the church – a drive-in worship service. On Sunday, June 1, 1980 at 8:00 a.m. the first drive-in worship service was conducted at the Parkside Drive-In Theatre. Several lay persons of the church were on hand early to distribute printed programs with words to the hymns and communion elements as well as coffee. As the cars parked facing away from the big screen, Dr. Sweeten climbed a ladder to the top of the concession stand and preached to the congregants in their cars from there.

Rev. David Van Horn resigned in 1980, but has remained in Marshall. He has served as the president of the Marshall Ministerial Alliance for the past 15 years. In September of 1980, the construction of a 74-foot bell tower became a highlight of development at the church. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Quinn established a memorial after their son, Rick, and his wife, Jaime, died in December, 1979, in a car crash in Hawaii. Their memory was to be erected as a tower reminding the people of our church and community to a commitment to the 'loftiest essence of excellence'. Family and friends also contributed additional funds to the cost of the project.

The tower is visible from some distance and was built containing audio amplification for a Schulmerich Carillon with thirty-seven Flemish and thirty-seven Harp bells. These were played manually from the console and would also play pre-recorded selections, as well as the Westminster Chime and hour strike. The bell tower and carillon were dedicated November 23, 1980. The service that day marked the first use of the carillon for worship. The CWF ladies were hostesses for a reception held in the fellowship hall following the dedication services.

In December of 1980, the church celebrated the 30th year of the annual Holy Nativity pageant. Many of the original beautiful costumes, made by the Christian Comrades Sunday School Class, were still in use; however, some shepherd and angel costumes had been replaced. During the years following the church fire in 1963, the pageant had been held in the auditorium of what is now Bueker Middle School. The pageant was a 30-minute service with the Chancel Choir singing the choral background as the pageant was enacted with narration and organ music.

In 1981 Rev. Richard Cline was called to serve as Associate Minister. On March 7, 1982, music lovers enjoyed the Community Hand Bell Festival in the sanctuary of First Christian Church. Hand bell choirs from Redeemer Lutheran, First United Methodist, Covenant Presbyterian and First Christian churches performed under the direction of the bell choir directors from each congregation. The carillon was also played as part of the program. Following the program, a reception and social hour was held in the fellowship hall.

Rev. Cline resigned in 1982 and Rev. Kathy Bryant served as our Associate Minister in the years 1983-1987.

Upcoming Sermons

Dec. 3	“Advent Begins with Hope” (<i>Hanging of the Greens</i>)	Isaiah 64:1-9
Dec. 10	“The Beginning of the Good News” (<i>2nd Sunday in Advent</i>)	Mark 1:1-8
Dec. 17	“Rejoicing in God’s Faithfulness” (<i>3rd Sunday in Advent</i>)	1 Thess. 5:16-24
Dec. 24	“Is Mary’s Song...Our Song?” (<i>Christmas Sunday</i>)	Luke 1:47-55
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service at 6:00 p.m.	

First Christian Church
130 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, MO 65340

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Just a thought...

Always give more than you
get.

**Visit our
Church Website!**

Stop by our website at www.fccmarshallmo.org to check out upcoming events and activities, serving schedules, bulletins and newsletters, and information about our groups, ministries, staff, etc.

Contact Information:

firstccoffice@yahoo.com

Phone: (660) 886-3338

We're on the Web!
fccmarshallmo.org

Church Staff

Senior Minister– Rev. Dr. Loy Hoskins

Music Director–Hope Richards

Youth Director– Kris Milliron

Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp,

Larry Smith

Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant

Secretary– Hope Richards

Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,

Judy Morris