



The Marshall Christian

LX

NO. XII

December 2018

Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

December 2nd & 9th

Elders:

Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

Deacons:

Butch Ash
Vince Buck
Linda Crews
Chris Layton
Melissa Shannon

December 16th & 23rd

Elders:

Buddy Hannaford
Tiffany Thornton

Deacons:

Ed Baker
Mona Baker
Tyler Clemens
Alisa Smith
Hope Richards

Outside Communion:

December 9th

Ken Bryant
Virginia Bryant

December 23rd

Paul Crews
Kathryn Jones

December Worship Leaders:

Dec. 2- Ken Bryant
Dec. 9- Virginia Bryant
Dec. 16- Buddy Hannaford
Dec. 23- Jean Dowell
Dec. 30- Paul Crews

December Children's Church:

Dec. 2- Amber VanDyke
Dec. 9- Tiffany Thornton
Dec. 16- Virginia Bryant
Dec. 23- Grace & Adrienne
Dec. 30- Tiffany Thornton

“Name Above All Names”

life. Jacob became Israel, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel.

During her last five years of public school, Sarah was in the church youth group in Arkansas during the years I served as the youth minister. After many years of struggling she and her husband are now pregnant. She recently posted on social media, “Nick and I are never going to agree on a name for this baby!” On average, more than 350,000 babies are born each day around the world. Most of us know from experience that the parents of these babies will spend a great many hours researching, thinking about, and choosing what they think will be the perfect name for their child. It is one of the first responsibilities of parenthood – selecting a name that a child will carry for a lifetime.

Names are so important. They are rooted in family history, tradition, and meaning. They identify a person and help shape personality. The Bible is filled with names that have rich meanings. Sometimes the circumstances of the birth led to a particular name. Some names were given to describe a certain character trait or what the parents hoped for the child. As in the case of Jacob, sometimes a person was re-named, given a new name to signify a new identity, a new journey, or a transformed

life. Jacob became Israel, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel.



Think about what your name means and the story it tells about you. What is the family background that you have been told? We have the ability to define the world we live in, to label something as reality and to set the perceptions of others of it through the power of a name in much the same way that Adam was given the power to name in the Garden of Eden.

In the season of Advent, we are given four weeks to wait, watch, and prepare for the coming of Christ. We are told that he was named the Prince of Peace and Immanuel, meaning “God with us.” Throughout Scripture we learn that there were dozens of names that Jesus was known by. In the same way that your name tells a story, each of the names of Jesus tells his story and they describe who he was and is. Which is your favorite name for Jesus? What meaning does that name have for you?

In God's Grip,

LOY



December Anniversaries & Birthdays

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1- Paxton Joliff
Molly Krog | 27- Virginia Bryant
Jeff Dryer |
| 2- Jeff Wise | Jo Wilhite |
| 3- John Fletcher
Cindy McCord | Wayne Wise |
| 6- Stacey Smith | 28- Kevin Ash
Vic Hessel |
| 10- Chris Layton | Carl O'Dell |
| 12- Gwen Clemens
Cyrus McCord
Bert Shannon | Tyler Smith |
| 14- Brienne Asbury
Heidi Joliff | 31- Abby Gass
Randall Wilson |



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
Tom & Donna Bailey
- 26- Ed & Ginger Reis
- 27- Paul & Linda Crews
David & Marlene Van Horn
- 28- Loy & Rhonda Hoskins
- 31- Josh & Natalie Hoffelmeyer

Poinsettias



If you wish to provide a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please bring yours to the office by noon on December 21.

Jell-O and Pudding for Holiday Project

We are collecting boxes of Jell-O and/or pudding mixes for the Saline County Holiday Project. You can bring your boxes to add to the stack that is being built in the foyer. Our goal is to collect 600 boxes by the 10th of December.



Advent Devotionals

Advent Devotional Books are available in the sun room and parlor to assist us in preparing our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. The daily meditations through Christmas Day offer short readings and prayers connected with Scripture. "Surprises Along the Way" will help you better see the abundance of blessings in your life. There are enough devotion books for each family to take one.

Inclement Weather Policy

We will again be using the call messaging system if there is a need to cancel worship services or other events or gatherings due to bad weather or dangerous road conditions. We will also be once again putting messages out through KMMO radio, 102.9 FM.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

This year our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will be held on a Monday night. Join us at 7:00 p.m. for a short, meaningful worship featuring scripture readings and hymns that will help us welcome the Christ Child again into our world...and into our lives. We will share together in communion and the lighting of candles.

Congregational Meeting

We will have our annual December congregational meetings following both services on December 30. The budget for the next year will be presented for approval.

December Newsletter

We hope to mail out the December/January newsletter by December 21. The deadline to have articles in will be December 17.

Christmas Giving

I remember it well, sitting outside on my porch, my phone in my hand as I cried into the receiver. My world had fallen apart, and for two little girls I was supposed to be the one holding everything together. I lost my job. My marriage had ended. The soon-to-be-ex drained the banking account on his way out of town. All the bills were due, some past. And the cherry on the cake of that day...the utilities had just been shut off. I was drained, mad, frightened, hurt and worried. I was failing. The emptiness was taking over and I wasn't sure how I would ever dig myself out of this mess. The glimmer of hope...was on the other end of the phone.

My mom. What can I say about a mother who has always been there? A mother who has always unselfishly done for me when she in fact, had been through worse hardships in her earlier years than I will ever experience. Words will never express the gratitude I have always had for her. On this particular day...she was my lifeline. My only hold to sanity. I was at the end of my rope. Her words were what helped me through the dense, murky bottom I had hit. And she understood.

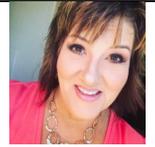
She wasn't rich. Never had been and never will be. But she took what she had and handed it to

me. And she listened. She didn't judge. I talked my way out of sadness, and bloomed right into determination mode. And she supported. I found a job I loved, even though it took me away from my girls all day. And she babysat. A few months down the road I looked back over what I had been through and could talk about it without tearing up, because I had been through the ringer and came out more vibrant and more focused than I had been in a while. And she smiled.

As I look at my life today, I realize I needed to go through what I did. It taught me a great deal about gratefulness and determination. And my empathy level? Sky high! In our Church office, many people each week come through the door needing help. Some are never afraid to ask for it. And some, well, they struggle...never being able to utter the word "help". It is those that I want to help the most. As I learned a long time ago from my mom, sometimes we are put in situations beyond our control. Whether it be on the "needing help" end, or "I should give help" end, God places us where we need to be.

Today a girl came into our office. She and her boyfriend have been homeless. He just got a job at Con Agra but would not be getting a pay check for a few

weeks. She found out she is pregnant. I listened. They have a small puppy and didn't want to take it to the shelter. She asked me if I would give it a home until they got their apartment. I will babysit. They won't have money for supplies, for the puppy. I will support. But, in a couple of weeks they will be getting steady on their feet, a paycheck will be coming in, and they will be able to get their puppy back home. I will smile. Thank you, Mom, for setting the example of helping others.



Before she left the office, Loy called me over for a "private chat". Could this be a family that our Church could adopt for Christmas? After only a few moments to consider, we both felt certain that you, our members, would want to help them get on their feet. You see, the one thing you learn about life along the way is...it could be you! And if we have enough, more than enough, isn't it what God would want...to share with those who have so much less? It's what I was taught, what I learned from observing. I want to carry on the spirit of giving. And, what a perfect season to do so!

Learning and Leaning, Hope

We will be collecting gifts and monetary donations for this family through December 19th. We have asked for a list of things they might need for the household and will put this in the bulletin when we receive it. Or, feel free to contact the office.

Upcoming Sermons

Dec. 2 "The Past, Present, and Future of Advent"	<i>(Hanging of the Greens)</i>	1 Thess. 3:9-13
Dec. 9 "Zechariah's Vision of Peace"	<i>(Second Sunday of Advent)</i>	Luke 1:68-79
Dec. 16 "Sing for Joy!" with Message through Music	<i>(Third Sunday of Advent)</i>	Isaiah 12:2-6
Dec. 23 "The Promise of God"	<i>(Christmas Sunday)</i>	Micah 5:2-5a
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.		
Dec. 30 "Paul's Lesson on Fashion"		Colossians 3:12-17

First Christian Church
130 North Jefferson Avenue
Marshall, MO 65340

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**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:

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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,

Chris Layton

Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant

Office Admin.– Hope Richards

Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,

Judy Morris