

# The Marshall Christian

LX

NO. VIII

August 2018



## Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

### August 5th

Elders:

Buddy Hannaford  
Roberta Reed

Deacons:

Carolyn Buck  
Brenda Coffman  
Georganne DeMoss  
Nancy Jackson  
Amber VanDyke

### August 12th & 19th

Elders:

Wayne McReynolds  
Carol Schupp

Deacons:

Cindy Brandt  
Linda Crews  
Chris Layton  
Katie Shannon  
Ron Schupp

### August 26th & September 2nd

Elders:

Lloyd Bentley  
Kathryn Jones

Deacons:

Butch Ash  
Doug Harvey  
Missie Kreisel  
Melissa Shannon  
Leroy Wise

### **Outside Communion:**

### August 12th

Paul Crews  
Donna Smith

### August 26th

Mark Harvey  
Kris Milliron

### August Worship Leaders:

August 5– Tim Clemens  
August 12– Wayne McReynolds  
August 19– Roberta Reed  
August 26– Mark Harvey

## “Why Sabbatical?”

Ten years ago, after my fifth year as an Associate Pastor at a church in Arkansas, I was offered a sabbatical. I turned it down because I could not find a time that I could be gone from the church for the two months. As a Youth Pastor, each summer was filled with four camps, a mission trip, and VBS. The school year was busy from beginning to end. I rarely found a chance to take all three weeks of vacation each year. Two years later I left that church to become a senior minister in Oklahoma. At the time, I was burnt out from burning the candle at both ends.

In the years since, I have learned the value of setting aside time for rest and a specified time for studies. I will be on sabbatical from August 14 to September 10. In addition to getting some down time, I will be studying what other churches with extra classroom space are doing to share their extra space with non-profit and other community organizations. Part of the time I will be traveling to St. Louis, Arkansas, Iowa, and other sites to talk with church leaders about the innovative use of their space. I will be in and out of town, so I will also be in the office some.

Thom Rainer – the famous Christian writer, researcher, and speaker – wrote the following in his blog “Growing Healthy Churches Together”: *In ministry circles, a sabbatical simply means time off for rest and/or study. The pastor is given paid leave for rest, rejuvenation and, perhaps, deeper study. I would love to see churches of all sizes provide this requirement of their pastor. I have the opportunity to work with lay leaders and pastors. I have a pretty good view of both perspectives. And I am convinced that more lay leaders need to insist their pastors take regular breaks even beyond vacations. Allow me to provide five reasons for my rationale.*

- A pastor has emotional highs

and lows unlike most other vocations. In the course of a day, a pastor can deal with death, deep spiritual issues, great encouragement, petty criticisms, tragedies, illnesses, and celebrations of birth. The emotional roller coaster is draining. Your pastor needs a break—many times a break with no distractions.

- A pastor is on 24-hour call. Most pastors don't have an “off” switch. They go to sleep with the knowledge they could be awakened by a phone call at any time of the day. Vacations are rarely uninterrupted. It can be an exhausting vocation, and a sabbatical can be a welcome time to slow down.

- Pastors need time of uninterrupted study. It doesn't usually happen in the office at church or home. There is always the crisis or need of the moment. Church members expect sermons that reflect much prayer and study. The pastor's schedule often works against that ideal. The sabbatical can offer much needed, and uninterrupted, study time.

- Pastors who have sabbaticals have longer tenure at churches. I see the trend. I feel confident that pastors who have sabbaticals are much more likely to stay at a church because they are less likely to experience burnout.

- Pastors who have sabbaticals view the time off as an affirmation from their churches. I have heard from many pastors who share with me a sentence similar to this one: “I know my church loves me because they give me a sabbatical.” Pastors need affirmation. Sabbaticals can accomplish that goal.

In God's Grip,  
LOY

## August Anniversaries & Birthdays

### Birthdays

- 1– Lucy Fletcher  
Joseph Hoffelmeyer
- 2– Cindy Brandt
- 3– Bill Alley  
Bruce Blalock  
Colleen Brown  
Margaret O’Dell  
Michelle Scarff
- 5– Sarah Bentley
- 7– Dallas Coslet  
Jerry Frerking
- 8– Jim Crawford
- 9– Phil LaGore
- 10– James Merchant
- 13– Diane Green  
Bryce Payne
- 14– Wayne Shannon
- 15– Terry Cobb  
Harrell Boedeker
- 17– Azlann Buck

- 21– Heather Jones
- 23– Lisa Balance  
Linda Crews
- 24– Jill Clemens  
Christine Estill  
Shirley Jackson  
Justin Schroeder
- 26– Lee Pointer
- 28– Gary Dowell  
Darrin Schupp
- 29– Ty Pointer
- 31– Nate Sullivan



### Anniversaries

- 5– Brennan & Debbie Tucker
- 11– Doug & Kathy Swinger
- 20– Issam & Wilma Amary  
Bill & Nancy Jackson
- 29– Greg & Shirley Schultz
- 30– Rennie & Lisa Ballance

## Elders to study Book

Beginning in September at the monthly Elder Meetings, the elders will be studying the book “Your Calling as an Elder” by Gary Straub. The study and the meetings are open to anyone who has ever served as an elder. If you would like a copy of the book, please see the church office.

## Vacation Bible School Time!

This year’s Vacation Bible School will be held at First Christian Church from Monday, July 30 through Thursday, August 2. Each day will begin with supper being served at 5:00. Please invite children from kindergarten through fifth grade to attend.



## Kickoff Sunday – Aug 12

On August 12 we will have our annual “Kickoff Sunday” to help kickoff the new start of another year of children’s and youth ministries, women’s ministries, choir practices, new committees, and much more. Everyone is encouraged to **wear clothes supporting your favorite team** – high school, college, or pro. Put on your jerseys, t-shirts, warm-ups, sweats, etc., and come find a seat in the bleachers (pews) of the stadium (sanctuary) on game day (Sunday morning)! And come to the tailgate party (coffee and snacks) in the parlor between worship services.



## New Members

Join us in welcoming Erin Williams as a new member of the church. After attending with us for several months, Erin joined on June 27. Tom and Donna Bailey transferred their membership to us from Liberty Christian Church on July 8. They had been members of the church here for several years before moving to the Kansas City Area, and we are glad to have them back.

## Sisters in Faith

The Sisters in Faith group will meet following the 10:00 worship service on August 12. A major item on the agenda will be to evaluate our S.O.S. Sundays and determine if we should continue to have them. If it is determined to continue, we will discuss future dates.

## Single Ladies Group...

will be having lunch at Bloomfield’s on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. All are invited!



## “Going Home”

It was hard. As I entered the room where my Uncle laid dying, I knew this would be the last moments I ever spent with him. Until a few months before this day, Darrell had been a vibrant, care-free man. He laughed hard, and often. He was soft and gentle, yet his hands were strong and rough. Years of hard work and raising nine children had taken a toll on his outward appearance. I mean, most of us have lived through a teenager or two...but nine? Darrell earned each wrinkle honestly, and each gray hair was a gift, I am sure, given from one exasperating moment after another from the antics of his children. But he loved them. And he loved hard!

As someone without a father, Darrell filled those shoes. He wasn't around me often, but when he was I looked up to him like a small girl looks up to her real father. He always had a hug, a joke, a smile for me. And he loved me. Even if I felt unworthy to be loved at some points in my life...he loved me. Darrell loved my daughters as well. I have very fond memories of him taking the stage with Torey— him

dressed as Santa and her singing to “Jolly Old Saint Nicholas”. And yes, he even put on ballet tights and joined her on stage at a competition for a duet together. When they won, Torey gave the trophy to Darrell to keep at his house— it remains displayed.

As I sat in the hospital room with him, all these memories and a thousand more came flooding back. He laid there, so fragile. His gestures were small, his eyes had little life left in them. When he could gather the strength to talk, it was with broken words that he tried to express his feelings to us. And although I am sure we knew how much he loved us, he wanted to tell us all one more time.

Watching my Mother sit there beside him, holding his hand, was almost more than I could bare. This was her brother, her friend, her protector when she was a child. She struggled to keep it under control, to bravely reminisce with him as she held back tears. But I wasn't as strong. I walked out of the room to catch my breath...to get it together. Not only was I upset that my Uncle was

passing, but I was upset, that it slapped me good and hard in the face, that my Mother was only a couple years younger than him. How much more time would I have with her? Would she, like him, be fine one day then hospitalized and passing without warning? It all seemed unfair.

I wanted to be angry that this was happening, I wanted to scream at someone for taking him away. But because of a few words spoken to me, I couldn't be. My Uncle taught me to the end. One of the last things he said to me was, “I want to go home”. I asked if he thought the doctor would allow him to leave. He said, “Not that home”, and pointed up, “home. I am ready”.

Darrell passed away three days after I last saw him. He would no longer have to worry, have to hurt, have to suffer. His daughter Tina would meet him at the Pearly Gates, embrace him, and tell him, “Hey Dad..welcome home!”.

Learning and Leaning,

Hope



## Upcoming Sermons

July 29 “A Prayer for Our Church”

Aug. 5 “The Ongoing Gifts of God”

Aug. 12 “Living Together in God’s Family” (*Kickoff Sunday*)

Aug. 19 **Pastor Loy on Sabbatical** *David Van Horn to preach*

Aug. 26 **Pastor Loy on Sabbatical** *David Van Horn to preach*

Ephesians 3:14-21

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2

First Christian Church  
130 North Jefferson Avenue  
Marshall, MO 65340

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Stop by our website at [www.fccmarshallmo.org](http://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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*We're on the Web!*  
**[fccmarshallmo.org](http://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**

**Office Admin.– Hope Richards**

**Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,**

**Judy Morris**