

first christian

Highlights



Making disciples who make a difference!

September 19, 2018

Koinōnia (Koinonia)

koinā' nēā, noun: Christian fellowship

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

(Romans 15:13, NIV)

I can't know this for certain, but I believe that every pastor has one thing that everything else comes down to. Let me explain. A friend of mine once asked me, "What do you believe most deeply about God?" I think the answer to that question is that one thing that everything else comes down to. When it comes to pastors, whatever her or his one thing is, that seems to shape how they preach, how they care for others, and how they lead. For me, that one thing is hope.

I believe that there is perhaps nothing more powerful on this side of heaven than hope. I am convinced that anything is possible so long as you have hope.

Because I believe so strongly in the power of hope, it has become important to me to help encourage and inspire people who might be on the edge of hopelessness to hold on. I have seen too many miracles in hospital beds, homeless shelters and prison cells. I just don't believe there is ever a good reason to give up.

When Paul wrote to the church in Rome, they could definitely use some hope. They were a church persecuted from time to time by the Roman Empire. They were oftentimes cut off from their families and communities who did not worship Jesus. They were a church divided between Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians, each of whom thought they knew the right way to do things. And it would have been easy in those circumstances to allow the worst parts of themselves to come out, or to throw up their hands and quit altogether. But Paul encourages the church to hold fast to their faith and to not give up their hope. In fact, he prays

that God would continue to bless them through the Holy Spirit so that they would overflow with hope.

In our time and place, there are plenty of temptations to give up. The world is becoming less religious and more secular, churches struggle to stay relevant, we often find ourselves divided, and the threat of one danger or another seems always ready to leap out of the evening news into our living rooms. Furthermore, life can be tough and our circumstances depressing. We deal individually with illness and death, with betrayal, loneliness, setbacks, and financial strain. Sometimes our relationships seem broken beyond repair and our hearts ripped in two. Life is tough. I might be young, but I do know that much.

And so I am encouraging you today as Paul encouraged the church so many years ago. Don't ever give up hope. No one can steal it from you. Neither the Devil nor anyone else can take it away. Remember that. The only way we lose our hope is when we voluntarily surrender it. So don't ever surrender it. I assure you that God is with you even when you can't feel it, and that all things are working for your good, even when they fall apart. Trust in him. And finally when the darkness of death comes, as it always does, it is not the end of the story. We are redeemed by Christ and the forever embrace of God's eternal love is our destiny.

It is my hope that God pours out his power and peace upon you no matter what you might be going through.

With all joy and peace,
-Joey Pusateri

Inside...

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October Service Roster and Calendars

Weeks Ahead

News & Events

Wednesday Night Alive

We are halfway through the Wednesday night series on “Racial Reconciliation”. Dinner is served at 5:45pm followed by the study/discussion. Children and youth groups are meeting during this time for their own program and activities.

Youth Flamingo Flocking Fundraiser

Week of September 23-29

Our middle and high school youth are ready to “flock your friends” for this fun and crazy fundraiser. Forms are available at the welcome table or church office. Fill out the information of who you want to flock and place with payment in designated box. Checks should be made out

to The Presbyterian Church of Danville with “Flamingo Flocking” in the memo. Contact Griffin for more information or questions.

4 Cans 4 Others

Only 1 can is needed to reach 29,000 and only 1,000 to reach our year’s goal of 30,000. Thank you for always remembering this outreach program by bringing your 4 cans each week or purchasing from Soups On Us.

You are a wonderful, generous Christian family and are so appreciated.

Blessings,
Jim and Evelyn Page

Youth and Young Families Ministry

Hi to my youth, families, and FCC as a whole!!

Have you ever been to a lock-in? With 3rd - 5th graders?? It was a long evening, but it was an awesome one! We had lots of fun, we had worship, we had friends come with our kids, and we had a great woman helping me run it! Everyone say “thank you” to Patti Wright when you see her next!

Our Wednesday’s have been a fun and special time for the youth from FCC to spend time as their own group (and adults- please feel free to keep volunteering for meals!!), but we’ve also have lots of fun at our Sunday Night three-church youth group!

It takes awhile to get groups back in the swing of things, but it will always work (in one way or another) when you can tell how much the children and youth love spending time with their friends, having fun, and exploring their faith, too! Thanks to everyone who has helped and has encouraged the church during this process!

We have loved getting more children and youth trained in order to become Acolytes recently! We've already seen such devotion and love as they walk through our sanctuary. We will shortly be sending out a signup link for October and November acolytes. If you already know a day one of your children would like to serve, please feel free to contact me at the church!

A note to remember- Flocking begins on the 23rd!! We will have forms sent out and are available now in the church!! Please call or write me with any questions.

I will conclude this message with the words that we use to conclude our youth groups, yelling out as a group.

Just never forget that... “God is good!!!! All the time!!!!”

Peace,
Rev. Griffin

Prayer Concerns

Jim Baker	George Mellios
John Bradshaw	Mike Miller
Steve Bruce	Peggy Mitchell
Henrietta Cannon	Bill Morgan
Odell Hines	Ann & Will Morris
Jack Kaiser	Jo Ann Powell
Marianne Kirby	Jim & Betty Ramey
Marilyn Marlowe	Jackie Spivey
Susan McDowell	Mary Lou Withers

Kandi Williams—Disciples Cuba Mission Trip in October

Attendance

September 9

Attendance 145

Last Year 182

Greater Unity Missionary Baptist
Church (Chapel Congregation) 15

September 16

Attendance 171

Last Year 175

Greater Unity Missionary Baptist
Church (Chapel Congregation) 16

Giving

August 31, 2018

Year to Date Contributions

MTD Actual \$ 24,192.00

YTD Actual \$246,421.00

YTD Budgeted \$231,924.00

Always remember that any giving needs to be made by a separate payment or check for each type of giving.

Weeks Ahead

Week of September 23

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Worship Service
	12:00 pm	Elders Lunch Meeting
	5:00 pm	Grace Notes Handbells
	5:15 pm	Youth Group @ Presbyterian Church
Monday	9:00 am	Body Recall
	6:30 pm	PAL Support Group
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Tuesday	1:00 pm	CWF (chapel)
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon
Wednesday	9:00 am	Body Recall
	5:00 pm	Children's Choir
	5:30 pm	Youth Groups Dinner
	5:45 pm	Wednesday Night Alive
	6:00 pm	FCC Youth Groups Breakout
	6:30 pm	Women's AA Group
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Resumes
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Resumes
Thursday	9:45 am	Magnet Bible Study Group
	4:00 pm	Centering Prayer Group
	6:30 pm	Living Word Bible Study
Friday	9:00 am	Body Recall
Saturday	10:30 am	Al-Anon

Week of September 30

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Worship Service
	5:00 pm	Grace Notes Handbells
	5:15 pm	Youth Group @ Presbyterian Church
Monday	6:30 pm	PAL Support Group
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Al-Anon
Wednesday	5:00 pm	Children's Choir
	5:30 pm	Youth Groups Dinner
	5:45 pm	Wednesday Night Alive
	6:00 pm	FCC Youth Groups Breakout
	6:30 pm	Women's AA Group
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	Magnet Bible Study Group
	10:00 am	Young at Heart
Thursday	4:00 pm	Centering Prayer Group
	6:30 pm	Living Word Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Living Word Bible Study
Saturday	10:30 am	Al-Anon

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Service Roster September 23

Deacons Jay Reynolds (Team Coordinator), Janice Bohannon, Patty Castle, Lynne Dean, Sarah Hempel, Laura Hoffman, Nancy Mahan, Connie McVicker, Alice Reynolds, Jeff Withers **Elders at the Table** Elmer & Suzi Jackson **Elders Serving Shut-in Communion** Lyle McGlothlin, Evelyn & Jim Page **Steward** Martha Bryant **Worship Leader** Jan Scott **Communion Preparer** Kathy Milby **Greeters** Nyla Graham, Connie McVicker **Ushers** Julie Hastings, Rodger & Wendy Ross **Welcome Table** Sallie Carter **Children Worship & Wonder** Patti Wright, Sherrie Horn

Service Roster September 30

Deacons Jay Reynolds (Team Coordinator), Janice Bohannon, Patty Castle, Lynne Dean, Sarah Hempel, Laura Hoffman, Nancy Mahan, Connie McVicker, Alice Reynolds, Jeff Withers **Elders at the Table** Tom Hastings, Brent Williams **Elders Serving Shut-in Communion** Joey Kirk, Jan & Larry Scott **Steward** Martha Bryant **Worship Leader** Evelyn Page **Communion Preparer** Ann Barker **Greeters** John & Martha Caywood **Ushers** Eben Henson, Edna Prall, Sueann Rice **Welcome Table** Mary Ann Wilson **Children Worship & Wonder** Kandi Williams, Jackie Fowler

Next publication is October 3. Please submit information by Sept. 28.

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*Making disciples who
make a difference!*

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