



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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# Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXXV

December 19, 2017

Number 12

**Minister:** Pastor Tracy Siegman

**Music Director:** Rachel Eve Davis

**Moderator:** Larry Chamberlain

**Elders:** Sharon Amburgey  
Roger Byrd  
Dave Lombard  
Matt Lyons  
Dorice Perkins  
Karen Powers  
Martin Schaefer  
Guy Stone  
Cliff Thompson

Over the past few months, the Board and Elders have been doing the groundwork that prepared the congregation for our Spiritual Retreat in November. From the conversation at the spiritual retreat a vision developed that is both a gift and a challenge from God.

I shared that vision with you in December. I presented God's vision to you in the form of a brochure. For those of you who have not received a brochure, there are copies in the Narthex or it is attached to the electronic copy of the newsletter. The presentation of God's vision in the format of a brochure is that if we live into this vision the brochure will reflect who we are in 2020. So, if someone asked us who we are and what we do, we could give them the brochure.

## SEE YOU SUNDAYS:

Adult Sunday School – 9:15  
Young Adult and Children's  
Sunday School – 9:45  
Worship – 10:30 a.m.

After the first of the year, I hope we can get to work on some of these projects. We need to be mindful that this vision is bigger than we are because it comes from a God bigger than we can imagine. It will take the work of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of God in order for us to achieve the goals. But, it will require us to invest in our future. Too, we must be mindful that this is a vision for 2020. We don't have to do everything in 2018. We can set a reasonable pace to plan and implement the ministries as we have the time, gifts, and resources without stressing us out or stretching us too thin.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesdays- Bible Study 2 PM  
Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:00 PM  
12/24 Christmas Eve service  
12/31 Week of serving Shalom  
01/03 Esther/ Rebekah 1 PM  
01/03 Sarah Circle 7 PM  
01/21 Hannah Circle  
01/22 Elder Mtg. 7 PM  
01/28 Blanket Sunday  
01/28 Week of serving Shalom

Some of you have already shared with me how you would like to participate in the new ministries. I look forward to speaking with all of you about how you feel called to participate. I will be meeting with the Outreach Committee and Board in January to talk about how we can best coordinate the work that needs done so that it is the work of the whole congregation and not one committee.

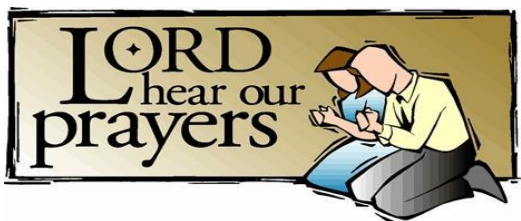
## STATISTICS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
12/17/17	70	\$3,193.00
12/10/17	58	\$2,504.00
12/03/17	62	\$3,273.00
11/26/17	56	\$1,250.00
Christmas		\$315.00
Coins for Camp		\$60.27

## ***FINANCE NEWS FOR DECEMBER***

The Stewardship – Finance Commission wishes to thank everyone for their generous giving this past year. If you have any questions as to whether you are current on your pledge, just see Marilyn Chamberlain at church and I will get you your current statement.

Since there is a possibility that a tax bill may be passed soon, all those who itemize their deductions on their tax returns may wish to give their tax professional a call before the end of the year. It may make sense to pre-pay your January pledge in December due to the changing tax law.



### **Prayer List:**

**Health:** Ivis Caudill, Briana Cuellar, Barbara Gray, Linda Lombard, Matt Lyons, Jake Padich, Lucas Smith, Dominic Watkins.

**Special Needs:** Edna Bartlett, Jean Greathouse, Helen Hall, Elisabeth Lemmert, Janet O'Neal, Sue Whitt.

**Others:** Caregivers, children and teachers, the homeless, heroin epidemic, racism, and all human rights, our Country, war, violence, S.H.A.L.O.M, our church, our congregation and our church leaders.

## **PASTOR'S CLASS**

Pastor Tracy will be starting a Pastor's class after the first of the year for the youth. This is for youth who have been baptized but have not done Pastor's class and for youth who are considering baptism. They will be meeting every other Sunday beginning 1/14/18: 1/14/18, 1/28/18, 2/11/18, 2/25/18, 3/11/18 and 3/25/18. They will meet at 9:30 am during the Sunday school hour before church. Elder Martin Schaefer will co-teach the class with Pastor Tracy. If you have not already talked to her about your youth participating in the class, please do so ASAP. As Easter approaches, she will have more details about baptisms for those who choose to be baptized after the class.

Please pray over the coming months for the following who will be participating in Pastor's class: Cameron Fowler, Aiden McMonigle, Owen Lyons, Nick Otis, Angel Dearth, Travis Hendricks and Riley McMonigle. These youth, Martin and Pastor Tracy need your prayers through these classes. It is an important time for the youth to learn and prepare for a new chapter in their faith story.

## **OUTREACH**

We would like to send out a huge thank you to all who contributed to our Outreach projects this year. The food, gifts for children, monetary donations, help with shopping and gift wrapping allowed us to help many individuals and families. We received special gifts for our Hat and Mitten Tree and would like to say thank you to Joann Grimes for the beautiful handmade hats. Families will be picking up their food boxes and gifts this Thursday and what a blessing it is to be able to add some joy to their lives. Thank you for making this possible!

We became aware of the plea for assistance for the Middletown family of nine children who recently lost their mother. Outreach responded with a \$200 contribution into the account established for the family.

Another way to give of ourselves is to volunteer to help with SHALOM. We are still in need of help with meals, the time slot from 7 to 10 pm and overnight. If you would like to share your gift of time with individuals who are very appreciative of all that we offer, this is a great opportunity. We have a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you may contact Linda Poynter or Sharon Amburgey if you have questions. We can partner you with someone who has experience in this service.

The dates we serve are January 1, 3 and 5. The dates of our second week include January 29, 31 and February 2, 2018. Thank you for being a blessing!!!

Sharon Amburgey and Linda Poynter

## **CWF NEWS**

Hannah Circle and Sarah Circle sponsored a needy family for Christmas this year. Hannah is planning a January get-together in January. Sarah Circle met at Zola McClish's home on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> for a carry-in dinner. Esther/Rebekah Circle had lunch in early December at the Golden Lamb in Lebanon.

On Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, a planning meeting was held for our Spring Fling Craft Show and Luncheon. The date will be March 17<sup>th</sup> of next year and the time will be 9:00 – 2:30. We will rent booth space to crafters for \$20 (regular size space) or \$30 (large space). We will also have a table for our crafters here at First Christian. If any of you have knitted, crocheted, quilted, etc. items for our event, we would appreciate any donations. Other homemade items – such as wood crafts, pottery, etc. - would also be welcome. We are also planning on putting together Easter baskets and theme baskets. The men will serve donuts, coffecake and coffee in the morning and lunch will consist of 2 soups, sandwiches, salads, and desserts. There will also be a bake sale table. We will have another planning meeting in January to discuss further details.







Just a reminder that Blanket Sunday will be Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Also note that Sarah Circle will meet at 7:00 pm Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, at the church.



*Merry Christmas*

# December/January, 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		December 19	20 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	21	22  Rick Treadway Cameron Fowler	23
24  Dave Lombard	25 	26	27 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	28	29  Judy Dixon	30
31 Week of serving SHALOM begins	January 1 	2	3 Esther/Rebekah 1PM @church  Choir practice 6:00 	4 Sarah Circle 7PM	5	6
7	8	9	10  Sharon Amburgey Sue Whitt  Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	11  Betty Stacy	12	13
14	15	16  John Andrews	17 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	18	19	20
21 Hannah Circle following service ----- 28 Blanket Sunday Week of serving SHALOM begins	22 Elder Mtg. 7 PM ----- 29  Judy Andrews	23  Peggy Byrd SuAnne Farkas ----- 30	24 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 ----- 31 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00	25	26	27

