

**First Christian Church
(un-denominational)
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Memphis, MO 63555**

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First Christian Church - Memphis, Missouri
EVANGEL

VOLUME LIII DECEMBER 05, 2016 #45

www.fccmemphis.org

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Dear Ones,

What gets you into the Christmas spirit? Over the years, I've come to understand a few "motivators." A number of them are evident on this Monday morning. Greeted by chilling temperatures and snow on the ground, it is feeling a bit like Christmas. I walked into the church auditorium to seasonal decorations. Listening closely through the doorway between the church office and my study, I faintly hear the music, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

More personally, we may get into the Christmas spirit by our actions. We fight crowds at the store or shop on line for those special gifts for special people. Maybe we address envelopes and sign Christmas cards. Maybe it is a Christmas letter that gets our focus on the "reason for the season."

Are you having any difficulty getting into Christmas spirit? Let the fine folk of FCC Memphis help you. Might it be helpful to watch our children share the message of the Messiah at their program this coming Sunday Morning? How about joining us for our annual Christmas dinner immediately following? Perhaps an old fashioned mobile choir is in order as we go Christmas caroling on the Sunday before Christmas. Don't forget about the "Christmas Eve Service" when the church family comes together making memories in this wonderful Christmas tradition. (All the details are in the announcements.)

One last thought. How about participating with us in our "gifts for Jesus?" Might you make a physical note that you can put in an envelope telling the Lord what you intend to do as your Christmas gift to Him this year? I wrote a bit about this last week and will visit it again in next week's evangel.

Lord Bless, *Preacher Jack*

Youth Preacher's Post

In the first seven chapters of Romans, God's Holy Spirit is mentioned only once. In chapter 8, Paul mentions the Spirit almost twenty times. It is the Spirit who frees us from sin and death, enables us to fulfill God's law, changes our nature, gives us the ability to overcome the desires of our unredeemed flesh, confirms our adoption as God's children, and guarantees our eternal glory. In short, there can be no success or progress in the Christian life apart from an utter dependence on the third person of the Trinity.

Paul closes the chapter with profound teaching about the believer's absolute security. Not only are we saved by the blood of Christ and indwelt with the Spirit, but we also are safe in the Father's love. The God who is in control of all things, who has graciously saved us from sin and death and who has begun the process of transformation in us, will never let us go.

The Holy Spirit is the divine agent who creates, sustains, and preserves spiritual life in those who place their trust in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is not merely an influence or an impersonal power emanating from God. His is a third member of the Trinity, equal in every way to God the Father and God the Son. The Spirit filled life does not come through mystical or ecstatic experiences, but from studying and submitting oneself to scripture. When we are filled with God's truth and led by His Spirit, even our involuntary reactions, those that happen when we don't have to time to consciously decide what to do or say, will be godly.

In Christ, *Josiah Holloway*

Prayer Requests:

Please Pray For...

John Wheeler
Jim Kratzer
Ron Alexander
Sam Berkowitz
Stephanie Sumption
Mary Morgan
Emmett Phillips
Georgia Couch
Dana Kapp

Shut-In:

Dixie Drummond
Roberta Small
Roberta Beckert
Jean "Effie" Allen
Viola Heiner
Georganna Lister

**Church Family
Residing At:**

Scotland Co. C C & R.C.F.

Donna Meeks
Bette Herbert
Donna Wheeler

Schuyler County N.H.

Marietta Garrison

ANNOUNCEMENTS



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

**Children's Christmas Rehearsal
December 10th
2pm Church auditorium**

**Children's Christmas Program
Sunday, December 11th**



**All Church Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner
December 11th**

Following the morning service plan on staying, visiting, and eating some wonderful food.

**Christmas Luncheon
December 13th**

Young @ Heart and Joy Group
Soups and drink provided. Bring finger foods and enjoy each other.

Dads Shed 528 N. Adams Memphis, MO

All Church Christmas Caroling

**Sunday, December 18
at 2pm**



If a member has a neighbor, friend, or family member they would like to have visited by carolers please contact the church office with the name and address or share their name and address on the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.



December Book of Month

Revelations

STATISTICS

December 04, 2016

Sunday School...52
Worship....95

General Fund.....\$4,807.00

BUDGET (To Date)

Weekly Needs.....\$3,242.00
Budget needs.....\$158,340.53
Gifts.....\$148,905.53



Sunday Services

Sunday School.....9:20 AM
Worship.....10:30 AM
Junior Worship (Ages 3 to 5yrs).10:30 AM
Super Church (Grades K—6th).....During sermon

Church Staff

Jack Sumption.....Preacher
Josiah Holloway.....Youth Minister
Kelly Cochran.....Secretary

Reminder December 11, 2016

West Greeter.....Lynn Fincher
West Usher.....Terry Fincher
East Greeter.....Dorothy Harvey
Sunday School at SCCC.....Truth Seekers
SCCC Pianist.....Jana Muntz
Nursery.....Elaine Forrester
December Bus Driver.....Lee Parish

660-945-3921 or 660-341-5178