

**First Christian Church
(un-denominational)
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First Christian Church - Memphis, Missouri
EVANGEL

VOLUME LIII DECEMBER 12, 2016 #46

www.fccmemphis.org

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Dear Ones,

"So much to do and so little time," I know we either hear or speak these words just about any time of year. Preparing for a birthday, a graduation, an anniversary or any event can bring about a bit of anxiety or even panic. How will I ever get everything done as the clock ticks down?

The Christmas season creates a bit of stress for some. Some of the season's strains have much to do with time. Please take a moment with me to consider all the activities and responsibilities on your platter. Let's lay them out there and see if we can't coordinate and prioritize them.

We have a reasonably unique circumstance this year as **Christmas Day** is on Sunday! Some congregations have perceived a dilemma. Some families have strong Christmas Day traditions. Those traditions may include a late breakfast or brunch. They may include the opening of Christmas gifts or playing games as a family. I've read of some congregations intending to cancel services for Christmas day, encouraging families to worship at home as part of their festivities. At FCC Memphis, we encourage you to **come worship with us** on Christmas morning! Make that a priority. Make that part of your plan.

Another highlight and tradition we share is the FCC Memphis **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service!** The service will be on Saturday evening, December 24th at 6 p.m. The Music, the message, the moments together all serve to center our hearts on the birth of the Christ, the Son of God. "O, come let us Adore Him." May we give priority to this in the midst of the "busyness" of the season.

Lord Bless, *Preacher Jack*

Youth Preacher's Post

Romans 9-11 is one of the most fascinating passages in the New Testament, filled with essential and very practical doctrine and focused on Israel, God's chosen people. Some people have argued that these chapters are a parenthetical body of teaching, largely unrelated to the rest of the epistle. Clearly if Paul had left out chapters 9-11, the overall argument and flow of the letter would be unbroken. His beautiful song of praise, hope, and assurance at the end of chapter 8 flows naturally into chapter 12.

This Jewish apostle to the Gentiles, however, needed to clarify some truths regarding Israel, as well as contradict some prevailing falsehoods that many early Jewish believers accepted as truth. Paul addresses the question of whether, in light of Christ's offer of salvation to all Gentiles, the Jews have been forsaken by God as a people. Did they still have a unique place or purpose in God's plan of redemption? Why, if they were God's chosen people, did they so stubbornly reject His Messiah?

God cannot be finished with the nation of Israel, for the obvious reason that all of His promises to her have not yet been fulfilled. If God were through with His chosen nation, His Word would have been false and His integrity discredited.

In Christ, *Josiah Holloway*

Prayer Requests:

Please Pray For...

John Wheeler
Jim Kratzer
Ron Alexander
Sam Berkowitz
Stephanie Sumption
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



**December
Book of Month**

Revelations

STATISTICS

December 11, 2016

Sunday School...59
Worship....116
General Fund.....\$3,749.00

BUDGET (To Date)

Weekly Needs.....\$3,242.00
Budget needs.....\$161,582.00
Gifts.....\$152,654.53

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A special *THANK YOU* goes to all the children that participated in this years Christmas program "Christmas Carol". It was fun to work with you all! Another big thank you goes to Josiah for letting me have this experience. And, finally thank you to the parents for the effort you took to help with lines, practices, and props.
Merry Christmas!

**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 24 · 6:00 P.M.



Annual Lock-In
First Baptist Church
Memphis, MO
December 30th
10pm-7am

Reminder December 18, 2016

West Greeter.....Mary Lou Harper
West Usher.....Dick Harper
East Greeter.....Sheila Berkowitz
Sunday School at SCCC.....Mike Cantril
SCCC Pianist.....Maurine Robinson
Nursery.....Patricia & Katie Miller
December Bus Driver.....Lee Parish

660-945-3921 or 660-341-5178