

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

Welcome to 2019. I hope you and your family had a wonderful time bringing in the new year and celebrating Christmas. I hope you're excited about the opportunities that 2019 holds.

We are excited about the opportunities that belong to us as a church, and I pray that we will have enough faith to boldly go where God calls us as a church in 2019.

Our theme for this new year is "LET GO."

The apostle Paul writes to the church and Galatia in the second chapter in the 20th verse: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

It is never too late to begin a new habit—or to recovenant our side of the promise with God—or to name anew the responsibilities we have as faithful people. The following serves as a model for living our faith in the New Year 2019.

- ◆ Mend a quarrel.
- ◆ Seek out a forgotten friend.

When it comes to letting go, there are certain things of which we should never let go. Jesus Christ came into the world on the mission of getting to the cross to die for the sins of humanity, and He would never let go of that mission.

We should never let go of the spirit that would compel us to forgive. We should never let go of the spirit that compels us to love one another. There are other things that we should never let go of, and we will explore some of these as we study the Word of God together in 2019.

As we venture into 2019, there are things that God would encourage us to let go of.

Saul believed his salvation was in his ability to keep the whole of the law, that was something he would have to let go of. Peter would one day ask Jesus how many times he had to forgive an individual who kept offending him. I don't suppose Peter appreciated Jesus' answer any more than we would have.

Letting go can be a tremendous challenge, but for many of us, if we are going to live the life of faith that God calls us to, we must work at letting go of some of the things that keep us from going where God wants us to go in our faith.

The young man tried out for the school play in hopes of landing the lead

January Issue

Volume 7, Issue 1

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role. When the auditions had finished and the director had made the final casting, he found that he had just a small part as an ex-

This Year

- ◆ Dismiss suspicion; replace it with trust.
- ◆ Give a soft answer.
- ◆ Encourage youth.
- ◆ Keep a promise.
- ◆ Find the time.
- ◆ Forego a grudge.
- ◆ Forgive an enemy.
- ◆ Listen.
- ◆ Apologize if you are wrong.
- ◆ Try to understand.
- ◆ Think first of someone else.
- ◆ Appreciate.
- ◆ Be kind; be gentle.
- ◆ Laugh a little.
- ◆ Laugh a little more.
- ◆ Welcome a stranger.
- ◆ Speak your love.
- ◆ Speak it again.
- ◆ Speak it still again.
—Ruth A. Ritchie



Serving in January

Greeters:

- 6—Charlene Dean (A)
- 13—Todd & Teresa Gambler (A)
- 20—Scott Bard (A)
- 27—Toby & Jane Runyan (A)

27—Bob & Mary Lloyd

Prayer Warriors:

TBA

Communion Ministry:

- 6—Jim & Pat McPeak
- 13—Brock Rohrer
- 20—Adam Perry

Questions and Answers

“It is sometimes said that authentic religiousness reveals itself not just in how one embraces answers, but also in how one pursues questions.”

—Peter Steinfelds

Birthdays & Anniversaries



JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kayson Buchanan
- 2 Sarah Snavelly
- 3 Linda Lewis, Don Suffel
- 4 Bob Stambaugh
- 5 Diane Altman, Mark Brandt
- 6 Joanne Allison
- 9 Michael Bard, Jackson Kitchen, Ella Mangen, Rich Trubey
- 10 Haley Long
- 13 Cayl Poncsak
- 16 Taylor Dominique
- 17 Brittany Roose, Mike Rob-

- son
- 20 Hayden Thornton
- 21 Shane Ramey, Gary Rough-ton, Kelly VonDeylen
- 22 Pam Hartman, Brock Rohrer
- 23 Lena Luke
- 24 Luc Hesselschwardt, Ronnie Pinckley
- 26 Nathan Brown, Jennifer Mangen, David Olds
- 29 Braxton Snavelly
- 30 Darrell Kinnan
- 31 Alexa Brown, Ian Mangen



JANUARY
ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 John & Nora Altman (11)
- 30 Bob & Norma Stambaugh (70)

Family News

Congratulations!

The church family rejoices with these families:

- ♥ Jason & Laura Gregg on their marriage December 8, 2018!
- ♥ Lydia Rogers on her baptism December 31, 2018. Welcome to the family, Lydia!

SYMPATHY:

The church family extends her sympathy to Gene & Ruth Ordway on the passing of their former son-in-law.



A True Friend

A friend who can be silent in a moment of despair or confu-

sion, who can stay with us in our hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness—that is the friend who cares.

—Henry Nouwen

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Church Office Closed	2 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies	3 9:15 Ladies' Bi- ble Study @ Sea- sons 9:30 Senior Seekers	4	5
	6 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Snavelly Life Group	7	8	9 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies	10 9:15 Ladies' Bi- ble Study @ Sea- sons 9:30 Senior Seekers	11
13 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	14	15	16 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies	17 9:15 Ladies' Bi- ble Study @ Sea- sons 9:30 Senior Seekers	18	19
20 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Snavelly Life Group	21	22 12:45 Visitation Ministry	23 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies	24 9:15 Ladies' Bi- ble Study @ Sea- sons 9:30 Senior Seekers	25	26
27 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	28	29 11:45 Lunch Bunch	30 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies	31 9:15 Ladies' Bi- ble Study @ Sea- sons 9:30 Senior Seekers		



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Love All, Worship One,
Make Disciples



Connect with us!

Office Hours: Monday-
Thursday 8:00 AM-5:00
PM

Facts & Figures	
December 2	
Attendance SS	36
Offering	Worship 51/109 \$5,291.53
December 9	
Attendance SS	N/C
Offering	Worship 60/129 \$6,307.71
December 16	
Attendance SS	37
Offering	Worship 53/117 \$4,802.00
December 23	
Attendance SS	38
Offering	Worship 60/141 \$6,205.00
December 30	
Attendance SS	27
Offering	Worship 37/104 \$4,268.00
Needed for Budget	
	\$5,828.86

Love All

Our Service Personnel: Lindsey Kaiser, Josh Severs (Germany), Josh Tonneas (TX)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent, Paul Bowman, Sherry Buchsteiner, Jennie Case, Chuck, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H., Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Tim Mavis, Aaron Nartker, Connie Pence, Jane Perry, Mary Pinckley, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, Bob & Sue Secoy, Elizabeth Shetler, Terry Shinaberry, Lyle Snavely, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy Tobin, Jaime Trevino, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman, Al

West, Gloria Wright. Other Concerns: Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Pitts-Hill, Trevor Bailey, Dale & Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Cunningham Family, Keller Gardner, Gene Nash, Ginny Suffel, Marilyn Lundy, Kim Beek, Mary Jane Sweebe, Merit Hahn, Shirley Bard, Christopher Porter, Joshua Taylor, Cherie Whitman, Keely Strouse, Kayla Sanders, Joan Bauer; *Shut Ins:* Home: Linda Lewis, Lena Luke; The Commons of Providence Road: Barbara Hake.






Give Warmth

Touch someone with a warm word. Warm someone with a ***genuine smile. Comfort another as you've been comforted*** (2 Corinthians 1:4). Stand by one who is standing alone.

The "sympathizing tear: and the echoing laughter can each warm a cold day. Warmth, as a song, is of such a character that you cannot give it without enjoying it yourself.



tra. Though he did not land the role he hoped for, He graciously excepted his role, and at every practice and rehearsal he, along with the rest of the cast, gave their best effort. Over the many years as an actor he never did land a leading role, but he did learn something--to trust the director. That the director would get just the right person in the right role.

I am excited about what God wants to do in His church in 2019, and I trust Him as the director that He will get each and every one of us exactly the right role for us to do great things for His church and for His kingdom.

Destined to win,
Larry Snavelly

