

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

Eight Signs the “Man of Lawlessness” Is Near

Written on June 18, 2023 by admin in [Uncategorized](#)

4. The increasing concern about UFOs. Jesus warned that in the last days, “There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars...” ([Luke 21:25a](#)). Some suggest these terrestrial “signs” could be an increase in apparitions of spiritual beings. Gary Bates, CEO of Creation Ministries International, has spent years researching reports of UFOs and alien abductions and suggests these “aliens” were NOT beings from another planet but demons manifesting themselves in these last days. Bates interviewed 400 Christians who claimed similar interactions with alien beings. And when these believers called on Jesus to help them, the “aliens” disappeared.

Some Christian scholars speculate these increased reports of alien sightings could become a basis for the antichrist to unite the world against a perceived otherworldly enemy. And, if Christians are raptured from the world prior to the tribulation, explaining away their disappearance as alien abductions makes uniting the world in response a much more

plausible theory.

Nevertheless, the Bible warns, “*The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved*” ([2 Thessalonians 2:9-10](#)).

5. The increasing movement toward a cashless society. Nowhere does the Bible correlate the invention of the internet as a sure sign of Jesus’ return. However, the Bible says that one way the Antichrist will rule the world is by controlling the world economy. Without the mark of the beast, no one can buy or sell. (See [Revelation 13:17](#).) Just a few decades ago, we wondered how anyone could possibly control what was bought or sold in remote areas. Yet, with the prevalence of the internet and subsequent technological advancements such as facial recognition, smartphones, Q.R. codes, cryptocurrency,

etc., we now have a better understanding of how that could occur. The World Economic Forum is lobbying for a cashless society, suggesting it will create a more inclusive economy since it could be managed by governments rather than banks. And, with more than 85% of the entire global population now owning a smartphone, emerging technologies make the transition to a cashless society much easier.

6. The formation of the European Union. The prophet Daniel predicted the people who destroyed Jerusalem would eventually be the ancestors of “*the ruler who will come*” ([Daniel 9:26](#)). Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70. Therefore, many scholars suggest the Antichrist will descend from a revised Roman Empire. Some suggest a step toward this prophecy being fulfilled was the unification of Europe in 1993, when twelve member nations, including Italy, signed the Maastricht Treaty to form the European Union.

7. The 2020 Covid Pandemic. Regardless of the origin of Covid-19, it created global

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Volume 12, Issue 8

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fear, tested submission to human authority, prepared for international oversight, and propagated lies about masks, vaccinations, and economic shutdowns. Since going through the pandemic, it is much easier for us to understand how in the end times, people throughout the world would blindly concede to unfair political and governmental demands, even under minimal threat.

8. The bizarre promotion of gender confusion. The Bible warns in the last days, God “...sends them a powerful delusion so they will believe the

Serving in August

Deaconesses:

Kim Snavelly & Margie Olds

Elder Schedule:

6—Dave Beerbower

13—Doug Haase

20—Jim McPeak

27—Mark Rhodes

Nursery:

6—SS—NEED VOLUN-

TEERS!!; 2nd—NEED VOLUN-
TEERS!!

13—SS—Barry & Kelly Von Deylen;

2nd—Jessica Arend & Julia Haase

20—SS—Eric & Angie Murphy;

2nd—Cody & Ashley Grimm

27—SS—Garry & Sandi Oberlin;

2nd—NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

Children's Church:

6—Ryan Beerbower

13—

20—Doug & Julia Haase

27—Ryan Beerbower

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Bring your family Sunday, August 13, 6-8:30, and enjoy the movie "Second Hand Lions" (rated

PG). A "concession stand" will be available in the fellowship hall.

Bring resealable drinks and a comfy pillow.



Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 Connie Tressler
- 2 Andi Gienger
- 3 Sharon Blinzler
- 5 Barb Thomas
- 6 Blake Kuzmaul, Barry VonDeylen
- 7 Carol Beerbower, Larry Snavelly
- 10 Aiden Wonderly
- 12 Dave Beerbower, Doug Haase, Ron Lewis
- 13 Jim McPeak

15 Toby Runyan

16 Case Hartman, Sue McElfresh

17 Jack Arend, Nola Girardot

18 Tim Ryan

19 Julianna Arend, John Hill

21 Jonathan McCoy

29 Terry Oxender

30 Ryan Beerbower

31 Charlene Dean, Shawn Gambler, Judy Yahraus



12 Ron & Shellee Brown (19)

15 Larry & Marilyn Sanders (31)

17 Justin & Erica McNamara (10)

19 Larry & Kim Snavelly (34)



Family News

CONGRATULATIONS!

The church family celebrates with Kory & Andi Gienger on the safe arrival of Hallie James Gienger on July 18, 2023. She weighed in at 6# 15 oz and 20.75". She joins big sister, Lucy. Maternal grandmother is Dottie Hallett. Great-grandmother is Judy Yahraus.

Sympathy

The church family extends her sympathy to the following:

- **Chuck & Madelon Salsbury on the death of Madelon's brother, Rex Rosendaul.**



Attention Senior Saints:

We will do Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, 8/22 at Wynn's (Holiday City) 11:45 AM at . Please meet there.

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Garage Sale Set Up	2 9:00 Garage Sale Set Up	3 9:00 Garage Sale	4 9:00 Garage Sale	5 9:00 Garage Sale 4:00 Clean Up Garage Sale
6 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Family Movie Night	14	15	16	17	18 9:30 5th Quarter	19 1:00 Grimm Baby Shower
20 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:45 Church Picnic 	21	22 11:45 Lunch Bunch	23 5:15 Supper 6:15 MOPS/ Bible Study Meet/Greet 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study	24	25	26
27 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	28	29	30 5:15 Supper 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study	31		



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

	July 2	
Attendance SS		Worship 47/84
Offering		\$4,707.57
	July 9	
Attendance SS		Worship 46/87
Offering		\$10,146.15
	July 16	
Attendance SS		Worship 45/99
Offering		\$126.79
	July 23	
Attendance SS		Worship 55/93
Offering		\$351.79
	Needed for Budget	\$5,020.19



Love All

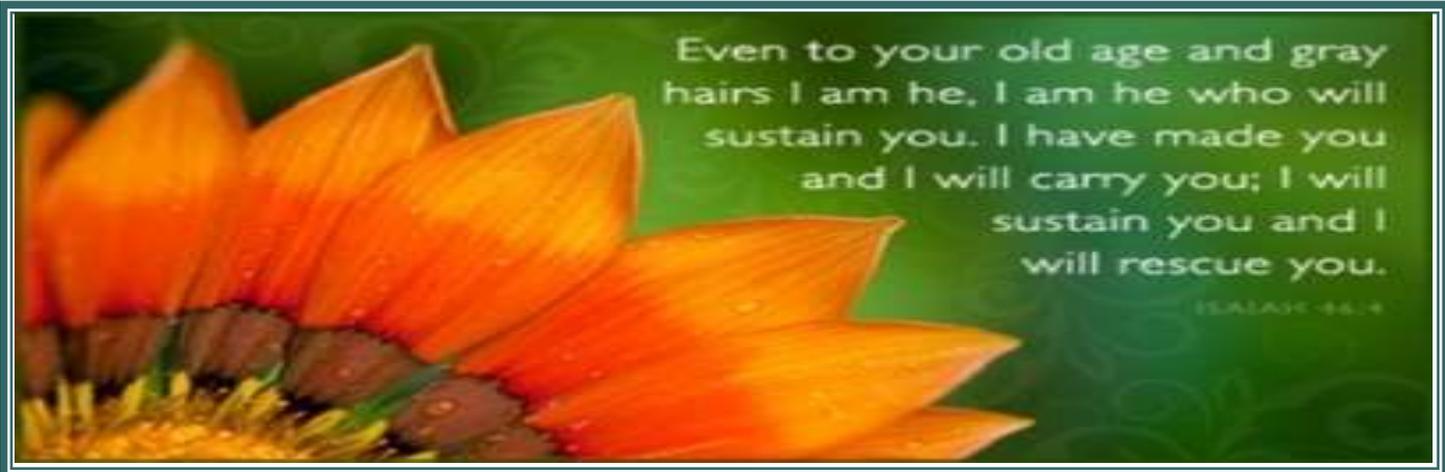
Our Service Personnel:
Austin Brandeberry (GA), Lindsey Carter (FL), Patrick Rendleman (GA), Josh Severs (AL), Braxton Singer (NC), Jordan Thornburg (GA), Katie Sparks (PA), Wesley Tressler (CO).

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Marcia Baumgartner, Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent, Jennie Case, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H., Jim Henson, Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Mark & Carrie, Chloe Merrilet, Rexann McCrary, Crystal Miller, Ruth Ordway, Mary Pinckley, Anna Pitman, Elaine Purdue, Mike Roose, Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Annette Snavelly, Lyle Snavelly, Amy Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton,

Drew Wayman, Raegan Wonderly. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Gene Nash, Kim Beek, Joshua Taylor, Gene Crawford, children's ministry, Danny Hull, Cindy Webber, Kevin Ayre, Kathy Moog, Marsha Fisher; Marty, John Fry, Jackson Wolph, Shawn Roose, Fran Mavis, Nathan Ray, Gene Johns, Nehemiah Haase, Raymond Folk, Randy Fisher, Braxton & Trish Snavelly, Annie Engel, Jason Gregg, Henry Kidd, Nikki Hull, Ryan Yahraus, Khloe Hartman, Toby Runyan, Joanne Allison, Martha Hardy, Tootie Bowman, Cindy Fumarolo,

Dave Stutzman; Shut Ins: Bryan Healthcare: Esther Rosendaul; Fairlawn Haven: John Altman; Fountain Park: Esther Krill; Hillside: Annie Engel, Charlene Gambler; Home: Ron & Linda Lewis, Marilyn Lundy, Leona Puff, Edith Wagner





lie" ([2 Thessalonians 2:11](#)). People will refuse to "believe the truth and delight in wickedness" ([2 Thessalonians 2:12](#)).

The first institution God established was the family. He created a man and a woman and brought them together in a holy union. Marriage is the building block of society. Satan is determined to destroy what God has created. In the last few years, a blatant lie has been crammed down our throats — that gender is not something you were born with, but it is what you feel inside.

Men claiming to be women are allowed to compete in women's sports and rob biological women of achievements. While other men, under the pretense of "art," masquerade as exaggerated female stereotypes and purposely expose children to hypersexualized behavior in libraries and elementary schools throughout the U.S. The U.S. Secretary of State endorsed a "Woman of the Year" award given to a biological man. The Bible warns, "Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools" ([Romans 1:22](#)).

Satan is desensitizing us to the truth and capturing the minds of our children. The goal of this cult is not tolerance but control. Below is a recent viral video from Jeffrey Marsh, a transgender person who warned, "You will respect us."

This video is satanic. It is evil, and it would have never been tolerated 20 years ago. Yet Satan is desperate. He knows his time is short and is determined to wreak as much havoc as possible. I think the growing acceptance of transgenderism is proof that "The secret power of lawlessness is already at work..." ([2 Thes-](#)

Behold,
I make all
things new.

Revelation 21:5

Steppes of Faith

[salonians 2:7](#)).

"But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober" ([1 Thess. 5:4-6](#)).

From Bob Russell's blog...

Destined to win,
Larry

