

# FOOTPRINTS

First Christian Church



Greenwood SC



...where strangers become family

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Volume 3, Issue 4  
April, 2017

## JESUS IS NOT JUST MY SAVIOR, HE IS ALSO MY LORD

### 4 Pillars of the Restoration Movement:

1. Lordship of Christ
2. Authority of the Bible
3. Unity of believers
4. Evangelism of the world  
(John 17:20, 21)

When I think about the Lordship of Christ, I think about what happens after baptism. We are forgiven of our sins and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:38, and in Romans 6, Paul tells us that we have new life in Christ, but what does that mean for us?

The new life means that we have a fresh start, a chance to live the way we were created to live, and that is with Jesus leading the way. Some people feel like the "Rules" of Christianity are too much to handle, but when you

think about it, there is no other system of rules that will ever be as freeing as God's rules. Here is an example. We are to do unto others as they would have them do unto us. Have you noticed much better life is when we help others? What a blessing it is to follow this rule and see the lives changed by God!

Our church follows the "Rules" of Christ, based on the 10 Commandments and summarized by Jesus: Love God and Love Others.

I love our church!  
- Earl Winfrey

I  
JESUS  
LORD

### Check us out online:

[www.fccgwd.org](http://www.fccgwd.org)

### Facebook:

FirstChristianGWD  
Early Morning Snuggles  
Mkdisciples Study Group

### Address:

First Christian Church  
474 Deadfall Road West  
Greenwood SC 29646

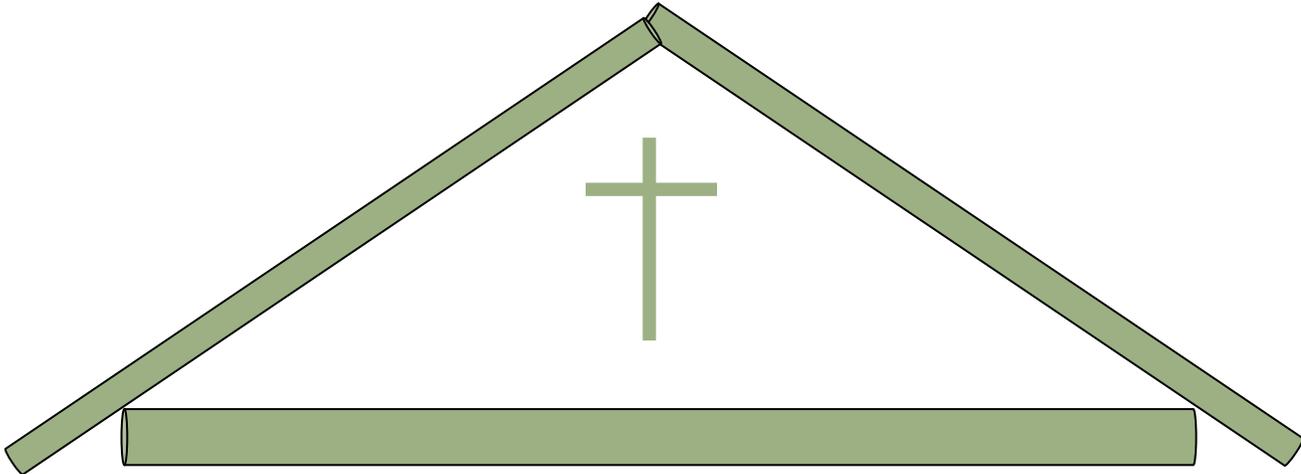
### Church Office:

864-223-2940  
[Earl@fccgwd.org](mailto:Earl@fccgwd.org)

Please keep us informed of any address changes so we can keep our records up to date.

### What Kind of Church is First Christian Church?

First Christian Church is a non-denominational Elders-led Church located in Greenwood, SC. We are part of the movement to restore the simplicity of New Testament Christianity. We believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, that He lived a sinless life, offered His life for ours on the Cross, and rose on the third day to live forever. We believe that salvation comes through simple obedience to the plan of salvation that is laid out in the pages of the New Testament.



#### Core Beliefs

A common misconception is that all churches believe and preach the same thing. Unfortunately that isn't the case. In a world that is greatly divided spiritually it is very important to know just exactly what a church believes and practices. We welcome the opportunity to sit with you and discuss these core beliefs in depth.

#### **We believe...**

1. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God who died for our sins and arose from the dead. **1 Corinthians 15:1-8**
2. That the Bible is the inspired Word of God - "a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path".  
**2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:105**
3. That every person has worth as a creation of God but "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" **Romans 3:23**
4. That forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life are available to those who trust and obey Christ as Savior and Lord. **John 3:16**
5. That we are saved by grace through faith in Christ. **Ephesians 2:8-9**
6. That the Church is the body of Christ on earth and exists to save the lost and edify the saved.  
**Ephesians 4:1-16**
7. That Jesus Christ will one day return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. **1 Thes 4:13-18**
8. That those accepting Christ must repent of sin, confess their faith and be baptized into Him.  
**Romans 10:9, Acts 2:38**

For more information about baptism, see our Baptism FAQ located on our website

# Biblical Foundation

## OCEANS (Michael Winfrey)

*"And I will call upon Your name and keep my eyes above the waves. When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace. For I am Yours and You are mine. Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders. Let me walk upon the waters wherever You would call me. Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander. And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior."*

One of our favorite things to do when we lived in Florida was to go to 27th Avenue in New Smyrna Beach. Some days we would go to get in the water, some days we would just walk on the beach, and some days we just sat on the bench and enjoyed the sounds, sights, and smells. There is something about the sound of waves ebbing and flowing, simply doing what God created them to do. Many times, while listening to those waves, I completely forget just how powerful and dangerous the ocean can be. One wave catches you wrong and your gone, yet we spend hours playing. The Wee Ones love getting their boogie boards and dashing out into the waves just to catch the "big one". The waves wash over their little heads, they disappear for a second and inevitably my heart will stop EVERY TIME. But just for a second cause I know their daddy is out there with them. His arms will instantly lift them up into the safety of his arms. He holds them firmly in his grasp all while standing in the midst of the waves.

In this day and age it feels like life is one big wave, one right after another. There are moments when we think the next one will be the "big one" that drags us under. We try so hard to tread water and we are so tired. We have a choice to make. We can either continue to tread water, doing life on our own terms, by ourselves or we could cling to the only one strong enough to handle those waves.

One thing I learned while watching my husband out in the ocean with our Wee Ones. Not once did he pick them up and move them to the safety of the beach. He never told them, "Don't come back out here cause it's too rough for you."

Our Heavenly Father is the same way. He is not going to remove us from the waves and put us safely back on the beach. He isn't going to tell us that we can't handle this thing called life so maybe we should just stay home. He calls us out into the depths, deeper than our pinkie toes can touch. He calls us out to the depths where faith is tested, stretched, and grown. He calls us out there because He knows that that is where He is.

Question is, do you pray for the deep waters? Do you pray for the moments where your faith is stretched? Do you long to be in the places where you know that you cannot but you know that HE CAN?

### "Pray for FCC"

For 2017, we want to cover our church in prayer on a weekly basis. Along with the many prayers that go up on our behalf, I am declaring every Tuesday to be a day for us to offer up special prayers specifically for our church. Please join us by praying at some point every Tuesday!

## FINAL THOUGHTS FROM NEHEMIAH - Earl Winfrey

Many times when preaching a sermon series, I have plenty of material left that didn't make it to the pulpit on Sunday Morning. For this series on Nehemiah, I decided to use some of that material in this article. Part of my preparation involved listening to other preachers to see how they handled the text, and Joe Putting from Tomoka Christian Church gave me some food for thought with Nehemiah 6. Here is the outline I created from the notes I took:

### 1. We need to do something great for God (Nehemiah 6:1-7)

- The church has become comfortable so there is no need to change anything (Wrong!)
- Too many Shirley Temples and not enough Amelia Earnhardt
- All churches that grow beyond belief have been willing to try something that looked impossible (Matthew 9 - According to your faith, it will be done)
- Even if we try and fail, God will do something with us because we tried
- Sometimes the enemies come from within. Other Christians/Churches could be telling us that we cannot do it. We must fight the status quo
- "The enemy of great is good" - Jimmy Johnson
- We must be taking action while waiting for the Lord to move
- Be careful about who you meet with because there is always somebody trying to say that it cannot be done.
- How many thousands of stories were not written in the Bible because the people gave up and quit?
- God has always been willing to do great things with people who trust Him
- Habakkuk 2:4 - The righteous shall live by faith (Action verb, not a noun)
- How do we prove to God that we are righteous? Do what God wants us to do
- What is stopping us from becoming the church God wants us to be?
- The only thing that can stop us is a lack of faith
- When you step out on faith, God goes with you

### 2. Don't be Discouraged (Nehemiah 6:8-9)

- Somebody will always be there to tell you it cannot be done
- Radio, Television, Computers, Tablets, Phones, Cell Phones, Video Phones (Invented)
- When you try to do something great for God, expect people to discourage you
- Use opposition as motivation to work harder
- (God make our church strong so we can keep going) "Strengthen my hands"
- We get so encouraged by the Bible stories but we forget to see the people
- Jesus constantly reminded the Disciples that He was with them
- How do we keep from getting discouraged?
  - Know Who you are serving
  - Know why you are serving
  - Keep renewing the vision

Back in the 1500s

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, "bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

COMMUNION MEDITATIONS - Earl Winfrey

Since Easter is this month, and we are having a Maundy Thursday Service to remember the night our Lord broke bread with His Disciples, I decided to use this as an opportunity to talk about communion meditations.

In our church, we take weekly communion because that is the model we find in the book of Acts. The church broke bread every time they met together, so that is what we do. Along with weekly communion, we have a communion song to help us settle our minds and a meditation given to help us focus on the emblems and why we are taking them.

Jesus gave the first ever communion meditation when he introduced the emblems to His Disciples, and we can find that in Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, and Luke 22:18-20. For this reason, we should follow Jesus' example and explain the meaning of the emblems before we partake. In 1 Corinthians 11:17-34, Paul warns us about approaching communion without examining ourselves first. A good communion meditation will help us examine our lives before we partake of the emblems. After the meditation is given, a prayer is offered to thank the Lord for the emblems, and then we silently meditate/reflect on our lives and how Jesus gave up His life for ours. When we eat the bread and drink the juice, we should be reminded that we have a gift that we do not deserve, and that gift is salvation.

I love communion meditations because they can help us get the most out of our communion time, but it can be a challenge to come up with good material on a weekly basis. To help with material, there are plenty of books that contain illustrations and object lessons, but we don't have to go out and purchase those books if we know where to look for help. One of the best places to find good communion meditations for free is the Christian Standard website. They give a communion meditation in their monthly magazine that goes out to subscribers, but they also give weekly meditations on the website.

Some churches use those meditations for their weekly communion because they can trust the source, and it helps the people giving them especially when they did not attend Bible College. There is no shame in reading a meditation given by the website as long as Sunday morning is not the first time you see it. Read it several times during the week so you can understand it and then you will feel more comfortable with it on Sunday morning. Here is the website for those communion meditations:

<http://www.christianstandard.com/category/features/communion-meditations/>

### Things I Wish I Had Known Before I Was 21 (H. Leo Boles)

(Taken from *It's Better to Build Boys Than Mend Men* by S. Truett Cathy, Pg. 54)

- My health after 30 depended in a large degree on what I put in my stomach before I was 21
- How to take care of money
- A man's habits are mighty hard to change after he is 21
- A harvest depends on the seeds that are sown
- The worthwhile things require time, patience, and work
- You cannot get something for nothing
- The folly of not taking older people's advice
- The value of absolute truthfulness in everything
- What mother wanted me to do was right
- Dad wasn't an old foggy after all
- More of the helpful and inspiring messages of the Bible
- The greatness of the opportunity and joy of serving a fellow human being
- That Jesus Christ wants to be my Savior and Lord

### WHY WE EXIST

We exist to exalt the Most High God and His Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and save those people who are outside Christ, to build up those Christians who are in the Body of Christ and to equip them for Christian service. Simply put... To make more and better followers of Christ!

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV), Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

You may disagree with others about a lot, but how you disagree has the ability to draw you together or drive you apart. Make sure you always aim for the "higher bar" in your interactions with others. - Tony Dungy

## Exercise daily, walk with the Lord.

### **Bibles and Batteries** ~ by Sara Lantzer

Once upon a time, a laptop had a fully charged and ready battery. Along came a human and depleted said battery. Never fear: power supply cord is here! Just plug in, charge up, and voila! laptop and battery are useful again.

Once upon another time, a laptop had a fully charged and ready battery. Along came a human and plugged in a power supply cord, which was hardly ever removed, and depleted said battery. Bummer, now when the power supply is removed, laptop is un-useful.

Once upon a third time, a Bible had been fully printed and filled with the words of God. Along came a Christian and bought said Bible. They read and re-read it over and over. Next thing you know, they are thrown into a difficulty where their Bible is in a different location than said Christian (think foreign country or prison or scene of an accident, etc). Never fear: power supply Holy Spirit is here! Just wait on Him, and He will bring to mind applicable words from the Word, and viola! Bible and Christian are useful again.

Once upon a sad time, a Bible had been fully printed and filled with the words of God. Along came a Christian and bought said Bible. They put it on a bookshelf, and brought it to church with them on Sundays, if they remembered it! Next thing you know, they were faced with a common hardship during a weekday (think being selfish or annoyed at work or dealing with screaming children, etc) and said Christian didn't have a clue as to what Jesus would do. There was no preacher or fellow church-goer around to say what was what, so they went their own way. Too bad: when a Bible isn't part of a daily plan, and the Christian relies on others for the knowledge of how to apply words from the Word, the Book on the shelf is un-useful. Said Christian doesn't recognize the still, small voice of the powerful Holy Spirit, and their faith (which they were just mooching from others!) becomes un-useful.

Sara Lantzer is a friend of the Winfreys who currently lives and works and writes in a small town in Michigan. She enjoys storytelling, creativity, uniqueness and spontaneity.

### Origin of Phrases:

#### **HOGWASH**

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "hogwash"

## Maundy Thursday Service

(With Fellowship Meal)

**When:** Thursday, April 13 @ 6pm  
**Communion Service:** After the Meal  
**Where:**

First Christian Church  
 474 Deadfall Road West  
 Greenwood, SC 29649  
[www.fccgwd.org](http://www.fccgwd.org)

## Easter Egg Hunt

(Pizza Lunch and Resurrection Story)

**When:** Saturday, April 15 @ 10am  
**Lunch:** Free Pizza will be provided  
**Where:**

First Christian Church  
 474 Deadfall Road West  
 Greenwood, SC 29649  
[www.fccgwd.org](http://www.fccgwd.org)



This year, I have been invited to sing with the chancel choir at the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood for their Good Friday Service. They are presenting a cantata called "From Olivet to Calvary," and it is a mix of drama and singing that will take us from the shouts of Hosanna on Palm Sunday to the cries of Crucify on that bitter sweet day we call Good Friday.

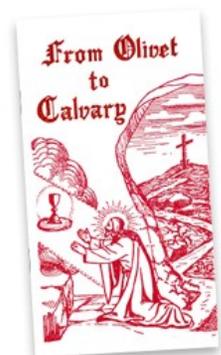
To help us learn more about this cantata, I decided to "Borrow" a brief summary found on the internet. If you would like the link I used for reference, feel free to ask and I will provide it.

Olivet to Calvary - John Henry Maunder (1858 - 1920)

John Henry Maunder studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and served as organist in several London churches, including St Matthew's, Sydenham and St Paul's, Forest Hill. Maunder started his career as a theatre composer during which time he wrote the operetta 'Daisy Dingle'. He later devoted himself exclusively to sacred music. While his oratorio 'The Martyrs' became a perennial favourite it is 'Olivet to Calvary' which has retained its popularity and appeal through the generations.

The work is a fine example of music written for the late Victorian/early Edwardian Anglican church. Considered by some to be over sentimental by modern tastes, it contains a sincerity and dedication which, despite being a definite product of its time, has carried the piece through to the modern era. Its popularity is in part due to its simplicity, needing only organ, choir, bass and tenor soloists, it is a work which can be performed by the smallest choirs.

Described as a sacred cantata, 'Olivet to Calvary' recalls the scenes which mark the last few days of Christ's life on earth. Part 1 starts with Christ's jubilant journey to Jerusalem and ends with the scene on the Mount of Olives. Part 2 begins with the Feast of Passover with Christ's commandment to his disciples to 'Love one Another' and end with the Crucifixion at Calvary. It is interspersed with congregational hymns which reflect on the scenes. (Phillip Tolley - British Choirs on the Net)



Bible Trivia Question (Send answers to Earl)

Answer to last month's question:

Peter called Noah a Preacher of Righteousness (2 Peter 2:5 / pg. 1195 in Mrs. Freda's Bible)

**Winners:** Michaela and Wil Winfrey/Freda Austin/Phillis Jackson



Be one of the first 3 people to answer correctly and you will be a winner!

Be one of #4-10 to answer and you will receive an honorable mention!

**Honorable Mention:** Michael Winfrey

This month's question:

On what day of the week was Christ resurrected?

### Soup Kitchen Donations are Appreciated

We support our local soup kitchen once per month by supplying some of the food they need. If you would like to participate, be sure to check out the list of items needed on the communication station in the Fellowship Hall. Every can counts!



## GRACE HARMONY RETURNS ON APRIL 23!

We are excited to have Grace Harmony with us for the morning worship service on Sunday, April 23. They will lead the song service that day and our Fellowship Meal will follow the service.

Be sure to check out our calendar so you can stay up to date with all of the events that are happening. We want you to be here with us!

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)*

**Don't forget to pray for those churches around us and near our hearts!**

Bethany Christian Church (Bumpass, VA)

Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL

East Win Christian Church (Memphis, TN)

First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA

First Christian Church of Hampton, SC

First Christian Church of Kissimmee, FL

First Christian Church of Mountain City GA

First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood SC

Hartford Christian Church (Hartford, KY)

Lilburn Christian Church, GA

Port Orange Christian Church, FL

Rabun County Church of Christ (Tiger, GA)

Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)

Toccoa Christian Church (Toccoa, GA)

Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)

Tucker Christian Church, GA

If anyone knows of any churches that need to be added to this list, be sure to let Earl know.

First Christian Church of Greenwood SC (864) 223-2940 [www.fccgwd.org](http://www.fccgwd.org)

## Calendar of Events - April 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday: Prayer - 9:30am S.S. - 9:45am Worship - 11am P.M.B.S. - 6pm	Daily Scriptures are given for us in anticipation of the sermon	“Pray for FCCC” reminder to pray for our church every Tuesday	Wed Bible Study 6:00pm (All ages)	Worship with Winfreys at the Magnolia Manor nursing home	Circle of Joy is open for all women to attend	1 (Nehemiah 12) Spring Cleaning At Church 9am
2	3	4 Pray for FCCC	5	6	7	8
	Matt 21:1-11	Mark 11:1-11	John 12:1-26	John 12:27-50	Psalm 118	Luke 19:28-40
9 (Palm Sunday)	10	11 Pray for FCCC	12 (Isaiah 51) Ladies' Lunch @ Mlig's (1:45pm)	13 (Isaiah 52) Maundy Thurs Meal and Service 6:00pm	14 (Isaiah 53) Cantata at First Presbyterian 7pm (Earl sings)	15 (1 Cor 15) Easter Egg Hunt & Free Pizza 10:00am - 12pm
Circle of Joy 1:30pm	Isaiah 42	Isaiah 43				
16 (Easter)	17	18 Pray for FCCC	19	20	21	22
No PM Bible Study today	Luke 8:1-21	Matt 27:45-66	Matthew 28	(Mark 16) Worship with Winfreys 3pm	John 19:16-42	John 20:10-18
23	24	25 Pray for FCCC	26	27	28	29
Grace Harmony leads the song service 11:00am	Luke 24	Exodus 19	Luke 9:1-27	(Luke 9:28-62) Newsletter Submissions due	John 2:1-12	Luke 24:13-35
30						
	Fellowship Meal has been moved to April 23 for Grace Harmony		April 12 B.S. has been moved to April 13 for Maundy Thurs		Mission of the Month: Greenwood Soup Kitchen	