

# FOOTPRINTS

First Christian Church



Greenwood SC



...where strangers become family

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Volume 3, Issue 7  
July, 2017

## SO THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW

### 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)

If you show me a church that does not care about the lost, I will show you a church that will not be around in a few years. It may sound harsh, but the way we treat the lost reveals our true colors as a church. This is why we are constantly reminding ourselves about the Great Commission and how we have been placed here so that we can reach those who need Jesus.

Unfortunately, this is where the Restoration Movement has been both successful and frustrating because there

are moments like Cane Ridge where several thousand were reached through revival, but there are also moments like what we are experiencing here in South Carolina, and that is the closing of churches. To be fair, I doubt that the churches that closed had a bad attitude towards the lost, but I have a feeling that some may have lost their desire because of struggles that happen when humans meet to discuss spiritual matters.

No matter how hard we try, there are times when we are just not focused enough to reach those who need Jesus.

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### 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

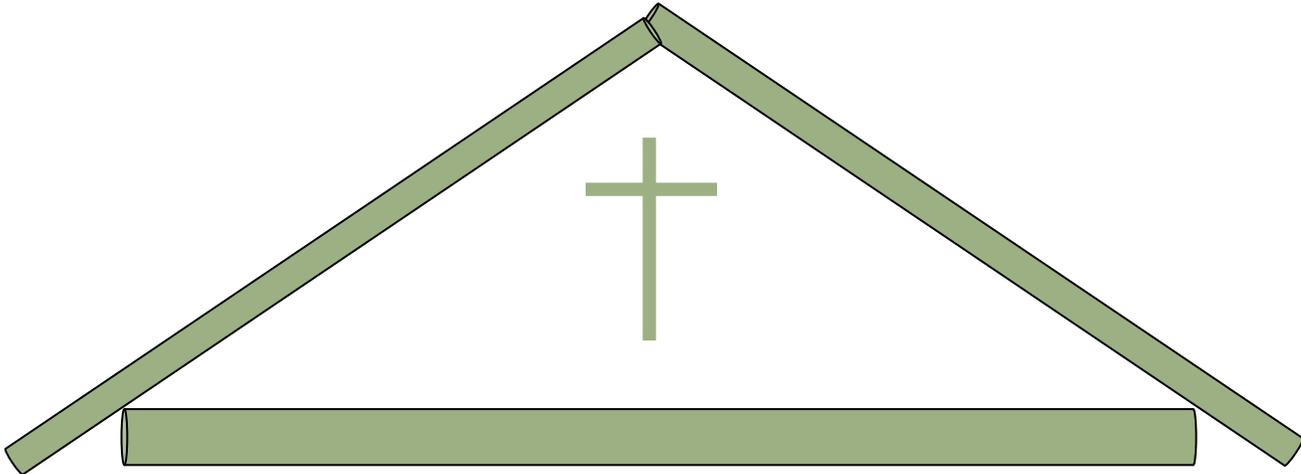
### Church Office:

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

### Just Do You! (Michael Winfrey)

*"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23)*

A few weeks ago Earl shared a Facebook post with me from one of his friends. This person's daughter has several friends who wish to be nurses when they grow up. This friend took to Facebook about how she wishes someone would have told them that being a doctor was an option.

I cannot help but shake my head and give a little chuckle at the "I am woman, hear me roar" of it all. In my 40+ years I have never equated myself with the feminist movement. If the Lord allows me to live another 40+ years, I don't think I will use that time to join up. Don't get me wrong, I am all for girls growing up to be whatever they want to be. I am all for girls knowing their worth is not found in "woman's work". I do not buy into this "woman's work and man's work" mess. Men are just as capable of washing a dish as women are of cutting grass...but I digress.

When I heard about this post, my mind began swirling. Maybe someone did tell these young ladies that being a doctor was an option. Maybe, just maybe, being at the "top" of the medical field is a position they have no desire to fill.

Humanity has such a desire to be the "top dog" in everything. Why must we HAVE to have the desire to be the top of a certain field in order to feel relevant? Not every teacher desires to be Principal. Not every football player desires to be quarterback. Not every person going into the medical field desires to be a doctor. If that were the case, there would be no teachers. Football would be such a boring sport if all we watched was Matt Ryan, Aaron Rodgers, or Cam Newton throwing the ball to...well...themselves. There would also be no nurses taking care patients!

I am not going to debate whether or not a woman can be a preacher...or a music leader. What I will debate is that God has created us all, both men and women, to do exactly what He needs done for His kingdom. Where would this world be if every person who wanted to be a preacher wanted to be Dave Stone? If that is the case there would be an awful lot of preachers at Southeast Christian Church ignoring the call to the other churches around the world. If every person who wanted to be a teacher of the Word decided that they are Beth Moore. Or that every singer wanted to be Chris Tomlin. There is nothing wrong with looking up to Dave Stone, or Beth Moore, or Chris Tomlin, as role models. God already has a Dave Stone who needs to preach to the people in Louisville, KY. Just do you! God already has a Beth Moore with her thick Texan accent, reaching millions with her books and Bible studies. Just do you! God already has a Chris Tomlin writing and singing amazing songs that change hearts and lives. Just do you!

As I sit here typing this, God is reminding me that I need to "Just do me!" I am exactly where I need to be, doing what I am doing. God needs Michael Winfrey. God needs me to be the wife He wants me to be for Earl. God needs me to be the mom He wants me to be for Wil and Michaela. God needs me to teach little ones at preschool. He doesn't need me focusing on all the things I wish I could do but can't...or don't need to be doing anyway! In the words of Dr. Seuss,

**"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than you!"**

### "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!

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Of course, being focused is only part of the equation. We also have to be equipped with the necessary resources for evangelism to take place. And this is where we may be coming up short. For most people, evangelism is a corporate event such as a revival or a rally that involves a visiting preacher calling for people to respond. When a preacher comes to town, the people have a list of friends and relatives who need to be talked to so they either drag them to church or drag the preacher to their homes to make it happen.

Unfortunately, this is what happens when people don't take the time to read the conversion accounts in Acts. After Peter preached at Pentecost, and the people were meeting on a regular basis, there is the account of Philip with the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-40). In this account, the Eunuch is traveling home when Philip ends up beside the chariot. He asks what the Eunuch is reading, and then explains the scriptures to him. In verse 35, it says that Philip began where the Eunuch was reading and then preached the good news. The scene ends with a baptism, so Philip was successful.

The scene was not spectacular, but it was special. A simple one-on-one conversation that began with a passage of scripture was all that was needed. That is the important part to remember. Instead of trying to rehearse a memorized script of what to say when trying to reach people for Christ, we should simply begin where the people are and move them slowly but steadily towards the cross and ultimately to the baptistery. By starting where they are, you are able to catch them at the point where they are interested.

Imagine being in the produce section of a grocery store. An associate wants to show you the specials they have on milk, but that section is on the other side of the store. Would it make more sense for the associate to take you to the milk section for the conversation, or would it be better to talk to you about what is in the produce section first? I would think that the answer would be obvious, but it might not be. Way too often, we try to get people to move to a place where we are more comfortable than to start where the person is. For example, if a person is reading Genesis, why would they be interested in what Hebrews has to say? After all, the nation of Israel was not formally introduced yet, so why have a conversation about how the new covenant supersedes the old covenant when the old covenant wasn't even created yet?

Instead, it would be wise to talk about Genesis with the person who is reading Genesis, and the conversation will naturally flow into the New Testament. A professor once said that all of the Old Testament eventually ends up at Jesus because it sets up the Messiah. I am inclined to believe that professor since we see Messianic prophecies all over the pages. The Abrahamic Covenant moves the story to the Mosaic Covenant which ends up with the New Covenant that begins at the cross. The banishment from the Garden of Eden moves to the sacrificial system that points to the perfect sacrifice of Jesus. Our lost state was moved to a hope of the Messiah which turns into the reality of the church while we wait for heaven.

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Wisdom of Larry the Cable Guy:

A day without sunshine is like night.

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The natural flow of the conversation can be steered as long as you are not trying to force a script. This is evangelism at its most basic level. Conversations between friends about Jesus do not have to be awkward. In fact, it can be the most satisfying of conversations when you remove the pressure of trying to "Sell Jesus" to the masses. Just share your story and study the Bible. That really is all that you need to be successful with evangelism.

Here is one more thought before closing this article. There is a popular saying that has been around for centuries, and it goes like this: "Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words." The message of that saying is to live out the gospel, and people will learn about Jesus. That may be true to a certain point, but eventually, you will need to open your mouth to speak if you want people to hear you. If you want people to know you are a good person, all you have to do is live like one. But if you want them to know why you are a good person, you will need to share your story about how Jesus changed your life. So preach the gospel. Use words and actions to preach the gospel!

I love our church!  
Earl Winfrey

Freedom ~ by Sara Lantzer

I have a T-shirt which has the words "American Ideal" printed on it. Definitely a thrift store bargain, and also just as definitely a spoof on the popular TV reality show. But American Ideal is something I can actually claim to be, with or without the T-shirt.

Hundreds of years ago, certain people were not free to express certain things or to engage in certain activities. This led them to leave their home country and to seek a new country where they could live out what they could see in their minds as Ideal, though it didn't match their present reality. A few less hundred years later, descendants of these pioneering people declared in writing the Ideal their forebears were reaching after. This led them to stand up and fight for rights that their government neglected and ignored.

Today, I am living out the ideal those founding fathers focused on: freedom to be a Christian at home and on the street; freedom to provide for my own needs in a welcoming environment, regardless of my aristocracy or wealth or lack thereof; freedom to express creativity in my daily activities and pastimes; freedom to reach out to others and bring benefit into our lives. The American Ideal is to live the benefits my parents and grandparents of numerous generations planned and desired for their posterity.

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.

**Vacation Reviews (Used by permission)**

ACTUAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY "THOMAS COOK VACATIONS" FROM DISSATISFIED CUSTOMERS:

1. "On my holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don't like spicy food."
2. "We went on holiday to Spain and had a problem with the taxi drivers as they were all Spanish."
3. "We booked an excursion to a water park, but no-one told us we had to bring our own swimsuits and towels. We assumed it would be included in the price."
4. "The beach was too sandy. We had to clean everything when we returned to our room."
5. "We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as white but it was more yellow."
6. "It's lazy of the local shopkeepers in Puerto Vallarta to close in the afternoons. I often needed to buy things during 'siesta' time – this should be banned."
7. "No-one told us there would be fish in the water. The children were scared."
8. "Although the brochure said that there was a fully equipped kitchen, there was no egg-slicer in the drawers."
9. "I think it should be explained in the brochure that the local convenience store does not sell proper biscuits like custard creams or ginger nuts."
10. "The roads were uneven and bumpy, so we could not read the local guide book during the bus ride to the resort. Because of this, we were unaware of many things that would have made our holiday more fun."
11. "It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England. It took the Americans only three hours to get home. This seems unfair."
12. "I compared the size of our one-bedroom suite to our friends' three-bedroom and ours was significantly smaller."
13. "The brochure stated: 'No hairdressers at the resort.' We're trainee hairdressers and we think they knew and made us wait longer for service."
14. "When we were in Spain, there were too many Spanish people there. The receptionist spoke Spanish, the food was Spanish. No one told us that there would be so many foreigners."
15. "We had to line up outside to catch the boat and there was no air-conditioning."
16. "It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy or unruly guests before we travel."
17. "I was bitten by a mosquito. The brochure did not mention mosquitoes."

BE AWARE ...

THEY WALK AMONG US.....

and THEY VOTE!

**Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.**

Bible Trivia Question (Send answers to Earl)

Answer to last month's question:

**Julius was the centurion who looked after Paul (Acts 27:1, pg. 1075 in Freda's Bible)**

**Winners:** Steve Skinner/Wil Winfrey/Michaela Winfrey



**Honorable Mention:** Freda Austin, Michael Winfrey

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!

This month's question:  
**Where was Solomon anointed?**

### 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!



### WINFREYS HEADING TO THE NACC AND VACATION

Last year was great because we were able to add extra weeks to our NACC trip so we could drive across the country and build memories as a family. Thanks to the generosity of this church, I was able to take time off for that trip. This year is a similar situation as the NACC will be in Kansas City, MO. We will be adding a couple of weeks to the end of the NACC so we can travel, so we will be gone for the first 2 Sundays in July.

For July 2, we will have Kevin Huston from The Shack (USC Campus Ministry) and on July 9, Christopher Crawford will preach for us. Christopher was the Associate Minister for Christ Church 4Given, and now he leads a chapel service at Magnolia Manor.

*"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 - July 2017

| Sun   | Mon                  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|----------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Sunday:<br>Prayer - 9:30am<br>S.S. - 9:45am<br>Worship - 11am |                      | "Pray for FCC"<br>reminder to pray<br>for our church<br>every Tuesday   | Wed Bible Study<br>will return<br>August 2                 |   | Daily Scriptures<br>are given for us<br>in anticipation of<br>the sermon | 1<br>Rom 3:21-31   |
| Guest Preacher:<br>Kevin Huston<br>The Shack (USC)            | 3<br>Romans 4:1-12   | 4 Pray for FCC<br>Romans 4:13-25  | 5<br>Romans 5:1-11   | 6<br>Romans 5:12-21   | 7<br>Romans 6:1-14   | 8<br>Rom 6:15-23   |
| Guest Preacher:<br>Chris Crawford<br>(Local Preacher)         | 10<br>John 8:31-38   | 11 Pray for FCC<br>1 Cor 7:17-24  | 12<br>Ephesians 6:5-9                                      | 13<br>Col 3:22-25   | 14<br>Colossians 4:7-9   | 15<br>Philemon   |
|   | 17<br>John 8:12-30   | 18 Pray for FCC<br>John 8:31-47   | 19 (Jn 8:48-59)<br>Ladies' Lunch<br>@ Wendy's<br>(12:30pm) | 20<br>(Rev 12:7-17)<br>Worship with<br>Winfreys 3pm               | 21<br>Romans 8:1-17  | 22 (Rom 8:18-39)<br>Youth trip to<br>Greenville Zoo<br>(9am at church) |
|   | 24<br>1 Peter 2:1-12 | 25 Pray for FCC<br>Phil 3:1-11  | 26<br>Phil 3:12-21   | 27<br>(Phil 4:4-9)<br>Newsletter<br>Submissions due               | 28<br>1 Cor 10:1-13  | 29<br>Eph 5:1-21   |
| Fellowship Meal<br>After Worship                              | 31<br>Matt 6:25-34   | Circle of Joy is<br>open for all<br>women to attend<br>(Returns in Aug) | Mission of the<br>Month:<br>The Shack<br>Campus Ministry   | Worship with<br>Winfreys at the<br>Magnolia Manor<br>nursing home | Elders meet as<br>needed. For<br>questions, see<br>Frank or Marvin       |  |