

FOOTPRINTS



Volume 7, Issue 10
October, 2021

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

WELCOME CHRIS CRAWFORD AS OUR NEW ELDER!

The congregational meeting has ended and we accomplished a few things as the church. Along with the typical items like the budget, reports, etc, we voted on Chris Crawford to be an elder and he was approved unanimously. He has been my fill-in preacher for a few years and has faithfully served in nursing home ministry by providing a monthly chapel service before the pandemic began. He is now going back to Magnolia Manor for the chapel service, but he is not allowed to bring anybody with him at the moment. Once he has permission, we will be working on sending somebody with him to help with the chapel service. If this is something you would like to do, please let him know.

Another opportunity we have involves the church calendar. We hit the reset button and cleared the calendar so we can have a chance for everyone to add to it. What event would you like to create?



LISTEN

2021

I LOVE our Church!
Earl Winfrey
Earl@fccgwd.org

I
JESUS
L
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D

Check us out online:

www.fccgwd.org

Facebook:

FirstChristianGWD

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474 Deadfall Road West
Greenwood SC 29649

Church Office:

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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

Like most people I know, I love a buffet! Just walking into the room where there is food from wall to wall is what I consider to be a little slice of heaven. Taking my plate and filling it with different types of food is fun because I get to create a party in my mouth. Physical food is good to eat and the buffet is the best way to offer as much food for a variety of people as they can handle. I decided to take this concept and use it for the spiritual food that keeps us healthy and active for the Lord. Here are several options for you to choose so you can pick one and stick with it for the year or change it up and use different ones as you go. You could go hardcore and try all of them at once but be careful and don't get a tummy ache if you do! Have fun and let me know if you would like to see anything else offered here.

Chronological

(Traditional reading plan for the year)

242. Ezekiel 13-15	259. Daniel 10-12
243. Ezekiel 16-17	260. Ezra 1-3
244. Ezekiel 18-20	261. Ezra 4-6; Psalm 137
245. Ezekiel 21-22	262. Haggai
246. Ezekiel 23-24	263. Zechariah 1-4
247. Ezekiel 25-27	264. Zechariah 5-9
248. Ezekiel 28-30	265. Zechariah 10-14
249. Ezekiel 31-33	266. Esther 1-5
250. Ezekiel 34-36	267. Esther 6-10
251. Ezekiel 37-39	268. Ezra 7-10
252. Ezekiel 40-42	269. Nehemiah 1-5
253. Ezekiel 43-45	270. Nehemiah 6-7
254. Ezekiel 46-48	271. Nehemiah 8-10
255. Joel	272. Nehemiah 11-13; Psalm 126
256. Daniel 1-3	273. Malachi
257. Daniel 4-6	
258. Daniel 7-9	

Gospel Harmony

(From R.C. Foster's Life of Christ class)

249. Mark 12:28-34	266. Mark 14:1, 2
250. Matt 22:41-46	267. Luke 22:1, 2
251. Mark 12:35-37	268. Matt 26:14-16
252. Luke 20:41-44	269. Mark 14:10, 11
253. Matt 23:1-39	270. Luke 22:3-6
254. Mark 12:38-40	271. Matt 26:17-19
255. Luke 20:45-47	272. Mark 14:12-16
256. Mark 12:41-44	273. Luke 22:7-13
257. Luke 21:1-4	274. Matt 26:20
258. John 12:20-50	275. Luke 22:14-16, Luke 22:24-30
259. Matt 24:1-51	276. John 13:1-20
260. Mark 13:1-37	277. Matt 26:21-25
261. Luke 21:5-36	278. Mark 14:17-21
262. Matt 25:1-13	279. Luke 22:21-23
263. Matt 25:14-30	280. John 13:21-30
264. Matt 25:31-46	281. Matt 26:31-35
265. Matt 26:1-5	

If you have ever walked next to a river, you probably noticed the rocks that are in the water. Have you ever wondered why those rocks look different than the rocks on the shore? Even though rocks have a hard surface, the constant flow of water wears down the surface until the rock begins to become smoother and even starts to shine. Some rocks take longer than others depending upon the material they are made of, but every rock eventually changes after coming into contact with the water.

Those who have come into contact with Jesus, the living water, can be affected the same way. The constant connection with Jesus can help us smooth out the rough edges of life, and the result will be the ability to shine for Jesus. Some people may take longer than others, but everyone changes if they remain in the living water long enough to allow the changes to occur.

Genres reading plan listed by the week

W	Gospels	Law	History	Psalms	Poetry	Prophecy	Epistles
33	John 5-6	Num 1-4	1 Chron 5-9	Ps 96-98	Prov 17-18	Daniel 7-12	1 Tim 1-3
34	John 7-9	Num 5-8	1 Chron 10-14	Ps 99-101	Prov 19	Hosea 1-7	1 Tim 4-6
35	John 10-12	Num 9-12	1 Chron 15-19	Ps 102-104	Prov 20-21	Hosea 8-14	2 Tim 1-2
36	John 13-15	Num 13-16	1 Chron 20-24	Ps 105-107	Prov 22	Joel	2 Tim 3-4

Mentoring Notes ("The Mentor Leader" - Tony Dungy)

7. The Means of the Mentor Leader (Part 1 of 2) (Maximizing the Team)

"The secret is to work less as individuals and more as a team. As a coach, I play not my eleven best, but my best eleven." - Knute Rockne

- To maximize team performance, the leaders must create the appropriate culture. A healthy culture values its people.

A. Creating a Culture: "The great law of culture is: Let each become all that he was created capable of being." - Thomas Carlyle

1. The culture you create permeates everything you touch
2. Make sure respect for everyone is built into the culture
3. Build your culture according to your goals for the church
 - a) Do you want mentoring as a whole church focus?
 - b) Do you want to minister to the whole family?
 - c) Do you want many hands to make light work?
 - d) Do you want the community to be part of you?
 - e) Do you want to reach the lost or reach Christians?
 - 1.) Both can be done successfully if you work at it
 - 2.) The lost become Christians at some point

B. Diversity Enhances Excellence:

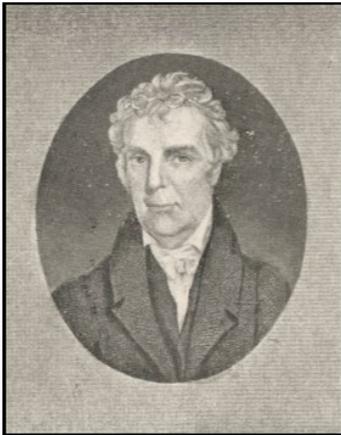
"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us." - 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

1. Look for the right pieces to enhance ministry
 - a) Mix of skill sets from a variety of people is ideal
 - b) Use what you already have before reaching outside
 - 1.) "Promote from within" is the concept
 - 2.) Outside help has its place when appropriate
2. Reach beyond boundaries and connect with others
 - a) Not necessarily about racial relations
 - b) More about spiritual giftedness, talents, and skills
 - c) Jesus surrounded Himself with diversity
3. Work to understand the people you lead

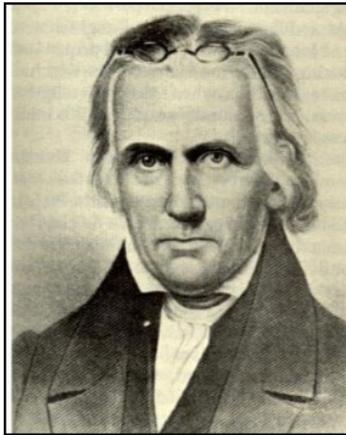
Who will be our Next Man Up?



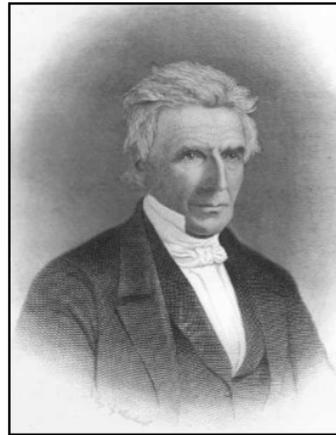
Mentoring today for a better tomorrow



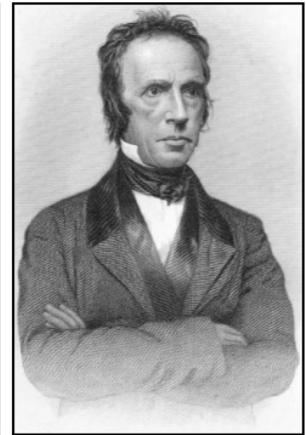
Barton Stone



Thomas Campbell



Alexander Campbell



Walter Scott

REFLECTIONS ON THE RESTORATION

"Growing Pains for the Movement"

(Taken from Earl's Restoration History class for the local church)

The Bad, the Ugly, and the OOGLY!!

(More points of tension)

United Christian Missionary Society:

1. Supported open membership in the mission field
2. Controlled International Convention against popular votes (1926 in Memphis was last year for conservatives' objections to open membership. NACC created in 1927 for conservatives)

Other dates and events solidifying division:

1. 1930's: state organizations begin disagreements that led to splits
2. 1940's and 1950's: Polarization at the local church level
3. 1944: International Convention president is the first to support open membership
4. 1955: Conservative churches "Independents" created "The Directory of the Ministry"
5. Restructure in 1968 accepted by the Disciples and they became an official denomination
 - A. All churches were listed in the yearbook unless they asked to be removed
 - B. Churches listed in the yearbook was considered property of the denomination
 - C. Denomination seizes properties
 - Church buildings were taken legally and incorporated in the denomination
 - Independents had to incorporate as their own church to avoid losing facilities
 - Historical landmarks and archives were taken by the denomination

CHRISTIAN SPEECH

Would Strangers Know You Are a Christian By the Way You Talk?

The real “test” of our faith is not in church on Sunday, the test occurs when we deal with the aggravating people and stressful situations of our daily lives. It’s when some idiot makes you miss the amber stoplight, it’s when the people we trust fail us, it’s when everyone blames us for their mistakes. What are your words? What do you want others to see in you?

Self-Control and Slow to Anger

Proverbs 13:3 Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Ecclesiastes 7:9 Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools.

Matthew 12:36-37 ³⁶ I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, ³⁷ for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

Galatians 5:22-23 ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Words Reflect our Faith

Proverbs 13:2 From the fruit of his mouth a man eats what is good, but the desire of the treacherous is for violence.

Proverbs 15:1-2 ¹ A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. ² The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Thoughtful and Restrained

Proverbs 21:23 Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble.

Ecclesiastes 5:2-3 ² Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore, let your words be few. ³ For a dream comes with much business, and a fool’s voice with many words.

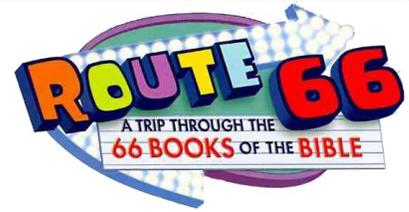
Kind and Forgiving

Matthew 6:14-15 ¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Ephesians 4:31-32 ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

The Gospels: Romans

(Several sources used each month, see Earl for details)



Who wrote the book?

Paul had never been to Rome when he wrote the letter to the Romans, though he had clearly expressed his desire to travel there in the near future (Acts 19:21; Romans 1:10–12). The apostle greeted twenty-six different people by name, personalizing a letter from a man who would have been a personal stranger to most of the recipients. No doubt they had heard of Paul and would have been honored by the letter, but Paul always took opportunities to personally connect with his audience so that the message of the gospel might be better received.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Romans from the Greek city of Corinth in AD 57, just three years after the 16-year-old Nero had ascended to the throne as Emperor of Rome. The political situation in the capital had not yet deteriorated for the Roman Christians, as Nero wouldn't begin his persecution of them until he made them scapegoats after the great Roman fire in AD 64. Therefore, Paul wrote to a church that was experiencing a time of relative peace, but a church that he felt needed a strong dose of basic gospel doctrine.

Writing from Corinth, Paul likely encountered a diverse array of people and practices—from gruff sailors and meticulous tradesmen to wealthy idolaters and enslaved Christians. The prominent Greek city was also a hotbed of sexual immorality and idol worship. So when Paul wrote in Romans about the sinfulness of humanity or the power of God's grace to miraculously and completely change lives, he knew that of which he spoke. It was played out before his eyes every day.

Why is Romans so important?

The letter to the Romans stands as the clearest and most systematic presentation of Christian doctrine in all the Scriptures. Paul began by discussing that which is most easily observable in the world—the sinfulness of all humanity. All people have been condemned due to our rebellion against God. However, God in His grace offers us justification by faith in His Son, Jesus. When we are justified by God, we receive redemption, or salvation, because Christ's blood covers our sin. But Paul made it clear that the believer's pursuit of God doesn't stop with salvation; it continues as each of us is sanctified—made holy—as we persist in following Him. Paul's treatment of these issues offers a logical and complete presentation of how a person can be saved from the penalty and power of his or her sin.

The primary theme running through Paul's letter to the Romans is the revelation of God's righteousness in His plan for salvation, what the Bible calls the gospel:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous man shall live by faith." (Romans 1:16–17) Paul showed how human beings lack God's righteousness because of our sin (1–3), receive God's righteousness when God justifies us by faith (4–5), demonstrate God's righteousness by being transformed from rebels to followers (6–8), confirm His righteousness when God saves the Jews (9–11), and apply His righteousness in practical ways throughout our lives (12–16).



This month's Church myth: "The Sinner's Prayer is in the Bible"

This church myth is a tricky one for several reasons. Historically, the churches we are identified with reject the "Sinner's Prayer" as being the plan of salvation, and that has brought us many criticisms from churches of all types. We have been accused of teaching salvation by works or denying the Bible when we don't use the prayer. The interesting part about that is the Sinner's Prayer is not in the Bible so when we reject it because we are trying to follow the Bible, we are accused of teaching something false. We teach accepting salvation through praying but it is not the Sinner's Prayer and it is not the only part of the plan of salvation. We are told to repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

The Sinner's Prayer is not in the Bible so this myth is easily busted but not so easily accepted as a myth. If it is not in the Bible, how was it created and why do many Christians use it today? To answer this question, we need to take a brief look at the Reformation Period of Church history.

While Luther was reforming the church in Germany, a contemporary of his was working on reforms in Switzerland. Ulrich Zwingli was born fifty-days after Luther to farmers who were well established in their farm. During his studies in universities, Zwingli picked up an attachment to humanism, and he later became a priest.

As a reformer, Zwingli had published sixty-seven articles of faith to define his views as a result of his own study and exploration of the scriptures. These articles later helped build the Reformed Church. Although Zwingli was a priest, he still held to some humanist ways of thinking, and this influenced some of his teachings. However, even with humanistic thinking, he still contributed to the reform efforts, and some of his teachings still exist today. The most popular contributions to modern Protestants include the idea of communion being a memorial service, observed four times a year, and the idea that salvation comes from Jesus alone, which is the foundation of what some denominations teach as the Sinner's Prayer plan of salvation.

This prayer replaced baptism which was considered the moment when God declares that we have been forgiven and He gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). Zwingli was the one who separated baptism from the plan of salvation when he claimed that all the "Doctors have been in error since the time of the Apostles" and that the Apostles never taught baptism as part of the plan of salvation. He suggested that a simple prayer was all that was needed to be saved so from that point forward, the Sinner's Prayer has been used by the majority of Christians. For more information on this subject, feel free to contact me so we can set a time to study.

SUPER SPECTACULAR SCRIPTURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Super
Spectacular
Scripture



Every month, there are a few items with points assigned and we will keep track of the progress as we go. This will be going for the whole year so there is plenty of time to catch up if you fall behind.

(Helpful Hint) Although I will be asking for a few items each month, there is no expiration date so feel free to look through past issues of the newsletter to get the items you have missed. This game is from January 2021 until November 2021 so the winner will be announced in the December newsletter.

Leaderboard:

1. Michaela (41 points)
2. Wil (40 points)
3. Michael (10 points)
4. ??? (Will it be you?)

I hope you are able to join in the fun!

Here are this month's items:

1. A verse where Jesus is being called a teacher (1 point per verse for a total of 10 points)
2. A teacher who is not named Jesus (5 points)

(Please provide the scripture reference when you give Earl the answers.)

"Pray for FCC"

For 2021, 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!

One Liners to Make You Laugh

Adam had no mother-in-law—that is why he lived in paradise.

Bible Trivia Question (Send answers to Earl)

Answer to last month's question:

There are 150 Psalms in the Bible (Not including those outside of the book of Psalms)

Winners: Michael Winfrey/Wil Winfrey/Michaela 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!

Honorable Mention: ???

This month's question:
What is the first line of Psalm 1?

Using Our Talents

"Well done, good and faithful servant!" Matthew 25:21

This passage contains two important points:

- God's call for faithfulness in the use of our talents to Him.
- A warning for those who do not use their talents.

I am continually amazed as I talk to women across America that so many don't realize that God can use ordinary people to spread the gospel to those around them.

As a young child growing up behind my mother's dress store, I had no idea that God could use me so much. It wasn't until many years later that God challenged me to take small steps to venture out into this world called "risks" and to be faithful to this calling.

We often think that our talents are going to come out full-grown. However, it is only as we cultivate them that they become mature. As a young seventh-grade girl, I took up playing a beautiful string instrument, the cello. Only after several years of hard practice was I able to play second chair in the Long Beach All City Honors Orchestra.

As with any talent, we must be willing to be used. Yes, there is a risk, but it's worth the insecurity to find out how far God can take us if we are willing. In today's parable we see that the first two servants were willing to take that risk. Their stewardship gave them a blessing of 100-percent return for their efforts, plus their master said, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

If you want to be successful in God's eyes, you must first be faithful with a few things; then God will cheerfully put you in charge of many things. Is there a talent that people keep telling you you are good at, but you just shrug it off as not being good enough? No one could be blessed by my talent, you think. This passage tells you to take the risk. Don't limit God, He is not to be put into a box. How many of you have a poem to be written, a song to be sung, a book to be authored? Listen to God today as He calls you to a life of adventure. Life is not boring when you have a purpose.

A warning to those who don't use their talents. Even though today's passage talks about faithfulness to use our talents for God, we can't leave this Scripture without looking briefly at God's warning in verses 24-30. This third servant was afraid. He wasn't willing to take a risk with his one talent. He went and buried it in the ground. How many of us are fearful and bury our talents? The warning of these few verses is that God holds us responsible for our lives and what we do with them.

We want to stand before God one day and hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant.!"

Thoughts for action:

- ◆ Ask God to reveal to you those special gifts that He wants you to develop
- ◆ Ask a friend to share with you her perspective of your special gifts or talents
- ◆ Develop a plan and a timetable to begin using these talents and gifts for the Lord
- ◆ Be a risk-taker

"put on the
Full
ARMOR
of
GOD,

so that
you can
take
your
stand
against the
devil's
schemes."

Ephesians 6:10

(see Ephesians
6:10-17)



First Christian Church of Greenwood SC
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS - OCTOBER 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Prayer - 9:30am Coffee - 9:45am S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am	Daily Scriptures are given for us in anticipation of the sermon	Pray for FCC reminder to pray for our church every Tuesday	Mission of the Month: Palmetto Girls Sing	Elders meet as needed. For questions, see Frank, Chris or Marvin	1 1 Peter 1:13-25	2 Eph 6:10-20
3	4 Isaiah 59:1-13	5 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Is 59:14-21	6 Isaiah 60	7 Isaiah 61	8 2 Cor 6	9 Eph 6:10-20
10	11 Ex 12:1-11	12 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Isaiah 52	13 Romans 10	14 1 Thes 5:1-11	15 1 Thes 5:12-28	16 Eph 6:10-20
17	18 Psalm 120	19 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Psalm 121	20 Psalm 122	21 Psalm 123	22 1 John 5	23 Eph 6:10-20
24	25 Isaiah 49:1-7	26 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Isaiah 49:8-26	27 Hosea 6	28 (Hebrews 4) Newsletter Submissions Due	29 Hebrews 5	30 Eph 6:10-20
31 <u>Youth Sun</u> 5th Sunday Sing and Ice Cream Social (6pm)		Weekly bulletin will have the most current information		All events subject to change if needed		