

THE BEACON

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Pastor: Dr. Jeff Robinson
Director of Children's Ministries: Tammy Clark



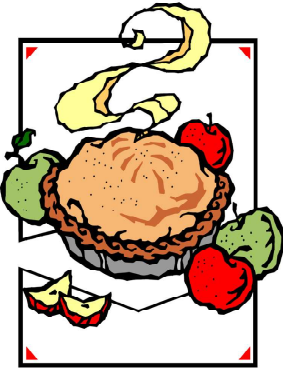
Elder Emeritus: Don Cabbage,
and John McKinley.

Elders: Don Andersen, Greg Barneburg, Scott Buerge,
Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones.

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Issue 17



Calling all pie bakers!!
The United Way
Oktoberfest is scheduled
for Saturday, October 14
and the Vernon County
Ministerial Alliance will again
be selling homemade pies to
help raise money during the
event. They are asking for
your help. Generally, fruit pies
seem to do better in the

warmer weather, so if you can, please bake those. Sign-up sheets will be at the Welcome Center and in adult Sunday School classes. **Pies need to be delivered to the VCMA booth at Oktoberfest on the lot at the corner of Washington and Walnut streets 8am-9:30am on Saturday, October 14. Or...you may bring the pies to the church on Friday, October 13 and Pastor Jeff will deliver them.**



Time to start collecting!

It is time to start collecting items for your Operation Christmas Child Shoebox.

For suggestions about items to include, you may go to www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/.

However, school supplies are on sale right now, and they are always a good choice to include in your shoebox. If you would like more information, please contact Charlotte Buerge.

The deadline for donations is Sunday, November 12. A box for donation of shoebox items is available in the West Foyer. **Right after church on Sunday, November 12, will be the Operation Christmas Child Pizza and Wrapping Party in the Fellowship Hall.**

First Christian Church will be distributing Thanksgiving Baskets this year on Saturday, November 20. If you know of someone who needs a basket, please contact Mindy Barneburg at 417-684-1370 or the church office at 667-3540 by the **deadline of Sunday, October 22.** Please include the recipient's name, phone number, address and number of people in their household.



The assembly of Thanksgiving Baskets will be Friday and Saturday, November 17 and 18 in the Fellowship Hall. Distribution will be Saturday, November 18 in the Fellowship Hall.



Hour of Prayer is moving! It is moving from the 3rd Wednesday of each month to the **2nd Wednesday of each month.** This change will happen in October.

So... Wednesday, October 11 at 6:30pm we will have the Hour of Prayer instead of Bible Study.

Community Outreach Food Pantry is collecting non-perishable food and dry goods. A box is in the parlor for your donation.

Suggested October products: Hamburger/Tuna Helper, canned veggies jelly, cereal, applesauce, soup, peanut butter, coffee.



Due to lack of attendance, Junior Church is discontinued for the foreseeable future. When we have enough children for this activity, it will be resumed.



Highlights from the Board

At the September 13, 2023 Board meeting, the following items were discussed.

Betty Morris, Financial Secretary reported that income was under budget for August. She handed out budget work sheets to all committee chairs with the request that they be turned in by next board meeting.

Pastor Jeff Robinson reported that the average attendance for June was 122, July was 116 and August was 111. He reported that **FCC will be hosting the short film "Where the River Divides" on October 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm.** Mike Schrage from GNPI and Dennis Othok, whose story is told in the film, will be here for a time of fellowship and discussion. This will be an area wide event with the public and other churches invited. Pastor Jeff announced that the **3rd Wednesday Prayer meeting will move to the 2nd Wednesday** so that more Board Members might attend.

The Board accepted the resignation of Patrick Corn from his dual position of Director of Worship and Director of Student Ministry.

Tammy Clark reported that Little Tree resumed on August 30 with 16 kids for their Welcome Back party. Angie Moore reported that SeekerGen students will attend FUSE at Rinehart Christian Church on October 22. They will utilize the Corn Maze.

Stage renovation has begun. One of the refrigerators in the main building kitchen has been replaced due to it leaking. The laying of concrete on the parking area between the Main Building and the Fellowship Hall has begun. Approval was given for the Vernon County Historical Society to use the FCC parking lot for their Deepwood Cemetary tour.

Board meetings happen the second Wednesday of each month (except July) at 7:45 PM in the Church Parlor. All are welcome to attend.

Ways to Give: Online at www.fcnevada.org/give; from your phone at www.fcnevada.org/give; or by check by mail or in the offering bucket.



If you need a ride to Sunday School or Church in our vans, please let us know by calling the church office at 667-3540 **BEFORE NOON on FRIDAY.**



The Big Serve, held on Saturday and Sunday, September 23-24, was a big success as approximately 45 volunteers completed 18 projects! Volunteers from First Christian Church helped homeowners with yard clean up and fed volunteers breakfast and lunch. Thank you Garry and Bobbi Dade, Martha Waltrip, Pauline Page and Martha's sister for the delicious breakfast and lunch. Thank you Steve Kastli, and Bill and Susie Platt for helping clean up yards. Thank you Kenny Butterfield for delivering water and lunch to workers. Thank you Becky Butterfield for good cookies and for driving Lynda Jones around to manage the work sites.

The Big Serve is a weekend of community service in Vernon County. The next Big Serve will be September 28-29, 2024.



FILM SCREENING

WHEN:

OCTOBER 18TH
7:00PM

WHERE:

FIRST CHRISTIAN
204 S WASHINGTON
NEVADA, MO

WHERE THE RIVER DIVIDES

CHRIST IN YOUTH presents
A production with GOOD NEWS PRODUCTIONS INTERNATIONAL "WHERE THE RIVER DIVIDES"
SAOULLO OCHIANGI BENJAMIN OKOTHANGI SHANDUKI DASTAPONDY CAROLINE MUMBI PROD BY VASKALYANS
WWW.GNPI.COM

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

DENNIS OKOTH



GNPI

Where The River Divides

with special guest, Dennis Othok

Wednesday, October 18, at 7:00 pm

in the Sanctuary of First Christian Church

We are thrilled to extend a heartfelt invitation to our upcoming showing of **Where the River Divides** on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary of First Christian Church located at 204 South Washington in Nevada, Missouri. **Where the River Divides** is the true story of Dennis Othok who had to choose between following Jesus and inheriting his father's legacy. After the screening, special guests Dennis Othok and Mike Schrage will lead a post-movie discussion.

When the son of a clan leader returns to his village following his baptism, he must choose whether to inherit his father's legacy, or fulfill his newfound purpose and risk his life. Based on the true story of Dennis Okoth, this gripping tale is set against the backdrop of the awe-inspiring Thimlich Ohinga. It is a compelling narrative that delves deep into themes of truth, faith, fear, family, sacrifices, betrayal, culture and responsibilities.

Set in a tight-knit village, **Where The River Divides** follows the compelling journey of a young man, the son of a respected clan leader. Upon his return to the village, following his baptism, he finds himself at a crossroads, torn between two divergent paths. On one hand, he stands to inherit his father's esteemed legacy, a role laden with expectations, traditions and responsibilities. On the other, he is faced with the allure of a newfound purpose that beckons him towards an uncertain destiny, one that demands great courage and could put his life at risk

For more information, please contact First Christian Church at 417-667-3540 or online at fcnevada.org. This event is free and open to the public at no charge.

