

Life Together

May 2022 Edition: Monthly Newsletter of
First Christian Church Wayne City

Have you ever had someone tell you something that changed your whole day or even the course of your life? It may have been some encouraging words on a particular hard day or someone may have shared a story or life experience that you can relate to. Words can be powerful tools that can change our whole outlook on life for both better and worse.

The Bible tells us to encourage one another and build each other up. This means we should use our words to honor God by showing love to others. In order for us to encourage others, we must also have hope and be filled with encouragement. In John, the Bible tells us to take heart because Jesus has overcome the world. Since Jesus has conquered the world, we are able to find hope and peace in him. Our future is already known to him and we can take heart in this fact. Spreading words of encouragement does not have to be difficult. In fact, we have the opportunity to share encouraging words every time we interact with people. It may be a comment about their work or day, but other times it may even involve sharing the gospel. Some words of encouragement could be as simple as: "You're doing a great job with this!" "I know things have been rough lately, but you've grown so much." "I really appreciate all the effort you put into this." "I know this is hard, but you can do hard things."

Encouragement and putting our faith in God leads to finding renewed strength. This does not mean we will always feel strong or that we can always make others feel better with our words. In fact, oftentimes we may feel the opposite. However, it does mean that as we place our hope in the Lord, we know there is someone we can rely on who is rooting for us and encouraging us each step of the way, even in difficult times...

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." — Isaiah 40:31, NIV

Mark your calendars!

- 5.01 Leadership Meeting 3:00pm
WCHS Baccalaureate 6:00pm
- 5.04 Wed. Morning Fusion Group
Fusion Groups 6:00pm
- 5.06 Ladies of Grace 6:00pm
Meeting of the Men 6:30pm @ Ben C.
- 5.08 Mother's Day Breakfast 9:00
No Sunday School
- 5.11 Wed. Morning Fusion Group
Fusion Groups 6:00pm
- 5.15 Wayne City School Graduation
High School 2:00pm
Junior High School 5:00pm
- 5.18 Wed. Morning Fusion Group
Fusion Groups 6:00pm
- 5.22 Guest Speaker Ryan Reavill for
Morning Worship 10:30am
- 5.25 Wed. Morning Fusion Group
Fusion Groups 6:00pm
- 5.27 Fellowship Hall Rented for Wedding
- 5.28 Borah-Kunce Wedding
- 5.30 Memorial Day

Mother's Day Breakfast

May 8th—9:00am



May Birthdays

3rd Jayla Scott

Donna Talbert

13th Colleen Clayton

18th Meghan Wilkerson

24th Bennie Greenwalt

25th Brittany McCoy

31st Marcie Caldwell

No FaithBuilders

for May

The logo for FaithBuilders, featuring a large blue cross in the background. The word "Faith" is written in blue and "Builders" is written in white, both in a sans-serif font.



2022 Graduates

Chad Dickey—SEMO


Payton Sowa —Western Governors University

Jayden Owens —Frontier Community College

Allie Smith —Bluford Jr High

Jacey Smith —Wayne City Jr. High

Abby Young —Wayne City Jr. High





This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. (John 15:12-14)

Here, we find that our Lord recognized the tremendous sacrifice involved when a person is willing to give up their life for their friend. He describes it as an act of “great love.” Who better to be able to understand and define the very essence of self-sacrifice and love, but our Lord Himself? Think about what Christ has done for His people. He willingly humbled Himself and came to the earth, God in human flesh, giving up the glories of heaven to live among us. Then, during His life on earth, He set the ultimate example of service, teaching, feeding, praying for and healing those who were in need. Next, He was willing to be falsely accused, mocked, physically beaten, mistreated and convicted for a set of crimes that He did not commit. Finally, submitting to a horrible death of slow suffocation while hanging on a cross, all so that His people could receive forgiveness and deliverance from their sin and its results. This is what the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ brought about for us. And, now for the most amazing part of all this, He did this for us, not when we were friends with Him, but when we were His enemies...When we were opposed to Him, He still choose to love us and die for us on the cross. (Romans 5:10, Col 1:21)



HEAVEN – What does it mean to you?

We all have our own interpretation of Heaven. What it looks like. Who we will know in Heaven. The size of it. How awesome it is going to feel. The true peace and comfort we can only imagine.

In our Sunday School class, we have been studying Heaven. It is truly interesting to know more about Heaven. We can only learn and understand about Heaven from God's Word. The Bible provides for us the truth about Heaven. Apostle Paul even said himself in Philippians 1:21, "For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Do you know where it is in the Bible that Heaven is first mentioned? It is the first verse of Genesis. And it says, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And in this passage the word heaven is plural. Like there is more than one or something. But "heaven" or "heavens" are spoken of throughout Scripture, primarily as God's dwelling place. Also in the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:9-10, "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..."

But let's face it, so many of us still view heaven as a place with gates of pearl, streets paved with gold, and walls of precious jewels – which are all descriptions in Revelation 21.

We think of Heaven as the location of the throne of God and the angels of God, and the eternal dwelling place of the righteous dead in the afterlife. Of course, all our thoughts, our ideas, and concepts of heaven are given to us by Scripture.

Jesus' words in John 14:2, convince us that Heaven is a place of joy, rewards, and treasures: "My Father's house has many rooms (or mansions); if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

We must be prepared and we must know the way!

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven....Luke 6:23.

Randall Shively





From the desk of the Pastor.....

How **Bold** are **WE**?

Acts 4 has some great teaching about miraculous healing of the crippled beggar, Peter and John before the council and being asked to keep quiet about preaching about Jesus, and praying for boldness to preach, and lastly having all things in common and sharing all possessions!

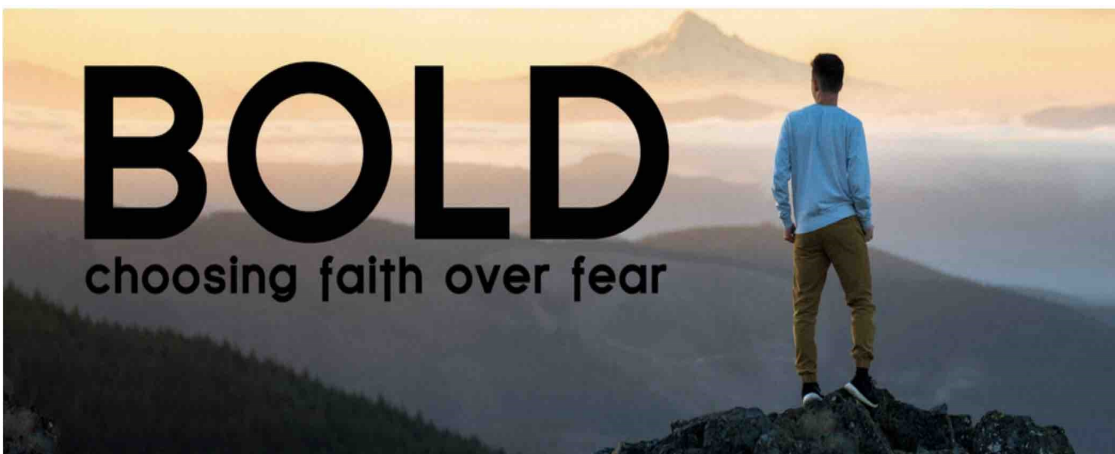
I challenge you to read the whole chapter at your convenience and see the power, unity, and strength the church in Acts were displaying! *Read how it can change us at FCC!*

I declare to you in 2022 that there is a complete Authority Master named Jesus Christ! Our culture or its selfishness will not rule God's church! Like the church in Acts we are at war with the world!

May we like Peter and John have the boldness to ask the question...? **“Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than Him?”**

Our response today and the future are.... “We **cannot stop** telling about everything we have seen and heard that God is doing!”

This world won't stop or control my preaching,



Pastor Steve