



**First Church of Christ**

206 West Church Street

P.O. Box 301

Lynn, Indiana 47355

**Sunday Worship and Study Times**

Bible School.....9:30 AM

Sunday AM Worship.....10:30AM

Evening Study & Youth Activities....6:00PM

***The Lynn Christian is:***

Published by First Church of Christ in Lynn,  
Indiana on a bi-weekly basis for the distinct

purpose of informing its members and friends of its ministry of  
“making disciples” to the glory and honor of Christ her Head!



**The Lynn Christian**

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No. 23

**Thank God for Christian Family**

Wow, the time is flying by; it seems just a few days ago autumn had begun and then in a flash, October is gone and in just a couple of weeks Thanksgiving will be here. I hope that information doesn't cause a panic for anyone as you are preparing for that celebration with family. There is so much to be thankful for. We appropriately give thanks with our voices for our daily bread we eat, whether at home, or in a restaurant, gathered together as a large family, or in private. Christ Himself gave us that example. On that day, when He miraculously fed over five thousand people beside the Sea of Galilee, Jesus gave a prayer of thanksgiving for the food: “*And He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them...and they all ate, and were satisfied...*” (Matt. 15:36, 37). It is only right for us to give thanks for the basic needs we have that are met by God, our food, shelter, and clothing, but I want to add to that list the thought that we need to be ever thankful for the blessing we have in the family of Christ.

In what is considered the first Spirit-inspired letter that Paul wrote, He began the letter to his graciously given new Christian family in Thessalonica with praise to God for them: “*We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers;*” (I Thes. 1:2). This thankfulness to God for his family connected through Christ continues in many of his other letters to churches and individuals that he wrote instruction to.

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***Facts and Figures:***

10-30-11	General Fund	\$2807.70
10-30-11	Maintenance	\$ 50.00
10-30-11	Missions	\$1203.30



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. . . Continued from previous page . . .

As Paul began his letter to those in Philippi, he quickly mentions, "I thank God in all my remembrance of you," (Phi. 1:3). To the body in Colossae he starts out in a similar way, "We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you," (Col. 1:3). Again when Paul writes his epistle to the church in Corinth, he gives praise to God for them, "I thank my God always concerning you, for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus," (I Cor. 1:4). Paul goes so far as to give thanks for his family in Christ that he had not even met yet. When he wrote to the Christians in Rome, he wanted to give thanks first for this: "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all..." (Rom. 1:8).

God also gives to us in our relationships special people that are a part of our lives in which we connect on a little deeper level. Paul specifically gives thanks to God for those close friends in the family of God. One of those for Paul was Timothy. Paul wrote to him shortly before his death and said, "I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience...as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day." (II Tim. 1:3). Philemon is another person that Paul makes specific mention of as thanking God for in his life. He writes in Phm. V-4, "I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,"

We travel this journey of life on this earth, and as seasons come and seasons go, we develop lasting relationships with Christian family, drawing some closer than others, but we can thank God for all of them. What a blessing God has given us in such family and friends in Him. It is a fitting thing to make sure that we give God special thanks for them in our lives. Even more, I urge you to not just be thankful for Christian family on this one day designated as "Thanksgiving Day" as it approaches, but to continually give praise and glory to God the Father for the blessing of this companionship everyday we live.

In His service,

Doug

### UPCOMING

November 09  
 4:30PM . . . . . First Care Ministry  
 6:30PM . . . . . Walk Through  
 7:15PM . . . . . Worship Ministry

November 12  
 10:00AM . . . . . Ladies Study  
 "Never Alone", Marilyn Meberg

November 13  
 4:30PM . . . . . Missions Ministry  
 6:00PM . . . . . Evening Study

November 16  
 6:30PM . . . . . Walk Through

November 17  
 7:00PM . . . . . Team Leader Meeting  
 w/Elders

### EVENTS:

November 18  
 7:00PM . . . . . First Care  
 "Celebration of Thanks"

November 20  
 6:00PM . . . . . Evening Study

November 21  
 7:00PM . . . . . Leadership Meeting

November 23  
 6:30PM . . . . . Walk Through

November 24 THANKSGIVING



### Elders

**Mike Alka** . . . . . **765-584-1474**

**Jeff Boyer** . . . . . **765-744-1390**

### Church Staff

**Marjorie Alberson** . . . . .  
**First Care Director**  
**Office: 765-874-2590**

**Robin Brumbaugh** . . . . .  
**Secretary**  
**Office: 765-874-1826**

**Doug Nolen** . . . . .  
**Minister**  
**Cell: 765-576-1338**

**Philip Williams** . . . . .  
**Youth Program Coordinator**  
**Cell: 765-576-1184**

## *Evening Study*

First Church is having adult Bible study and Youth activities on Sunday, November 13th and November 20th at 6:00PM. This will wrap up what we have been studying on Sunday evenings and we are preparing to start on the next adventure! More details will follow . . .

## *Team Leader Meeting*

Team Leader meeting w/Elders will be Thursday, November 17th at 7:00PM. If at all possible, please plan to be there. This is an opportunity for all Team Leaders to come together to share and communicate concerning your ministries.

## *“Celebration of Thanks”*

First Care has been getting ready for their annual Fall Program. The children have been practicing their songs each morning and I believe they are very anxious to sing for us! Program starts at 7:00PM on Friday, November 18th. Please come and be supportive of our First Care. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

## *Operation Christmas Child*

It is time once again to begin preparing boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Do not send any toy guns or anything connected with fighting, no toy soldiers, etc. Some suggestions might be: Chewing gum, Jacks, Small cars, Tooth brush, Hair barrettes, Ribbons, Dolls, Hard candy (double bagged in zip lock bag), Yo-Yo, Balls, Jump Rope, Washcloth, Tooth paste, Jewelry, Stuffed animal. Please place your check for \$7.00 on the top of your gifts, and put the lid on. Gift-filled shoe boxes (or plastic containers with snap-on lids) are due at the church no later than Sunday, November 20th. You can drop them off at any time till then.

## *Leadership Meeting*

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21st at 7:00PM. Devotions will be lead by Rex Ratcliffe, pages 212 through 226.

## *Journey to Christmas*



Starting November 27th at FCC we will begin a DVD reality series on Sunday evenings entitled “Journey to Christmas”. This is a four part series—4 episodes in 4 Sunday nights.

Travel to Israel with five people... a Messianic Jew, a First Nations woman (Native American), a poet, a Christian radio personality, and an agnostic lawyer... as they discover the first Christmas as it really happened and what it means for us now.

Begins Sunday, November 27th at 6:00PM and then for the next three Sundays after that leading up to Christmas. Please bring your children—we have a special treat for them during their Youth Activities each Sunday night— brand new VeggieTales film “The Little Drummer Boy” and others!

## *College Students*

Here at First Church we will be sending our college students Christmas boxes before finals. So, for the month of November we are collecting donated items for the care packages. Some suggested items may be: candy, post its, tape, laundry stain pens, toothbrushes, granola bars, hot chocolate packets, highlighters, etc. Please no smelly soap items. You can leave your donated items on the table in foyer marked “College Boxes”. We are still needing names & addresses of all college students too.

## Prayer Concerns

### Our Elders and the Leadership selection for 2012

### Our Youth and Leaders

### Home (Health Concerns):

Marietta Bryant (Martina Phenis' sister); Chris & Nicki Chambers; Nelson Collett; Connie Hartman (Doug's mom); Glen Morton

### Our Missionaries including: Hands of Compassion

### Those Serving in the Military

### Home (Cancer):

Trinity Buck— classmate of Olivia Thurston (3rd Grade)  
Pamela Cole— Charlie & Ruth Cole's daughter-in-law

### Assisted Living and/or Nursing home: Modoc Group Home:

Rochella Newland

### Randolph Nursing Home:

Virginia Frazier  
Eula Newland

### Summers Pointe:

Beulah Kirk  
Ruth Welch

**These names and concerns have been reported or updated to the church in the last month. If you have a prayer request that the church family needs to be aware of, please contact the church office.**

## Women's Ministry

Tammerrie is taking orders for the book "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" for the ladies Bible study starting in January. Cost of book is \$9 and is due when you order. Will meet once a month and study one chapter each month. Also, the ladies are having their Christmas Dinner at Carver's on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00PM. Hope to see you there— All ladies welcome!

## Servant Spotlight by Rebecca Glunt

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these... For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them" (Matthew 6:28-29, 32). These are some of the favorite verses of Janet Retter. Janet said that these are meaningful verses to her because she is a "worry wort". She states that God protects and takes care of you because He's the good shepherd. She has these verses in a picture on her wall at her house.

Born in Wilmington, Ohio she lived in Spring Valley, Ohio as a child. She has been at First Church of Christ in Lynn since 1951. Janet graduated from Lynn High School with the bulldogs as her mascot, as this was before the consolidation. She and her late husband, Frank had been married for 48 years till his passing in 2008. Frank and Janet had three children named Melissa, Scott and John who are 50, 48 and 45 years old, respectively. She has eight grandchildren, three boys and five girls.

As most of the church family is aware, Janet worked as the church secretary for 28 years. Janet began teaching 4 -5 year old children when she was a sophomore in high school. She led the Cherub choir which was a choir for 3-6 year olds for about four years. Janet also led the Praise Kids choir, which was seven to twelve year olds for around 15-20 years. They performed many concerts. She has also served by cooking for church functions and for funeral dinners and other social dinners. Janet has also helped with many youth dinners in the past. Teaching for VBS and preparing the refreshments is also another area in which Janet has served in the church. She has also enjoyed being a part of the adult choir off and on over the years and is currently participating in the Eaton Church of Christ Christmas Cantata this year. Janet has also enjoyed being a participant in the Bible Study Fellowship in Richmond, IN for the past two years.

Some things that you may not know about Janet is that she enjoys scrapbooking, quilting, crocheting, and knitting. This grandmother of eight is also on Facebook. While in high school, Janet enjoyed playing the clarinet and she was the first chair. Janet is also an avid fan of Cincinnati Reds baseball. She attends many games with Esther Williams.

As a self-described "worry wort", another favorite verse that Janet keeps in mind is noteworthy for all believers which is found in Psalms 46:10a, which states, "Be still, and know that I am God."