



First Church of Christ

206 West Church Street

P.O. Box 301

Lynn, Indiana 47355

Sunday Worship and Study Times

Sunday School 9:30AM

Sunday AM Worship 10:30AM

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!**



Facts and Figures:

11-08-15	General Fund	\$ 2723.20
11-08-15	Missions	\$ 680.80
11-15-15	General Fund	\$ 2069.80
11-15-15	Missions	\$ 517.45



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Do We Know How to Celebrate?

Even though we sometimes voice complaints to several of those who begin marketing their Christmas-themed wares several days or weeks prior to our annual national celebration of Thanksgiving Day, at least two facts probably minimize, or possibly eliminate the impact of our critique. First, many of us, no doubt, begin shopping and purchasing those same items as soon as we find the “best deal.” Second, regardless of the commercialization of the Christmas celebration by many retail businesses, the birth of Jesus does warrant a certain amount of our attention and celebration. Without the incarnation of God into our reality, our salvation and restoration with Him for all of eternity cannot happen... so, even though His birth does not complete our eternal salvation, it is still a “big deal!”

Of course, while it is very proper to have an annual reminder (i.e., Thanksgiving Day) to live each day with a thankful attitude for the daily blessings we receive from our Creator, our Savior, our Heavenly Father,... have we prayerfully prepared our hearts to also properly celebrate the birth of Jesus during the 2015

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Christmas season?... or will we just “go through the motions” of doing what we did last year?... and the year before that?... and the year before that?... etc. I do realize that some of us, at least, take time to seriously consider the ways in which we spend our time during the Christmas season each year... to consider, not only how our worship honors God in our daily walk with Him, but also whether our celebrations can and do affect others... especially our family and friends.

For many years, I have struggled, to a certain degree, with trying to understand the “proper” Biblical-based approach to celebrate the birth of Jesus in this American culture. On the one hand, it may sometimes appear that the Scriptures describe the events and attitudes surrounding the birth of Jesus in a way that is completely opposed to many of our Christmas traditions. On the other hand, if we try to adopt those Biblical ideas and attitudes without including our long-held traditions, others may consider us to be anti-Christmas like “Scrooge.” So, the challenge for me has been “How can we, as a family, celebrate Christmas in a way that honors God and helps others to properly honor Him, as well?”

Even though I believe that I am progressing (albeit slowly, most of the time), I realize that what helps me with this challenge at this moment may not necessarily fit your walk with God right now. So, I will not offer my perspective as a “one-size fits all” solution for anyone else that may be challenged by this same struggle.

November 18 6:00pmMen’s Bible Study	Nov 22 Deadline for Shoeboxes
November 20 I.C.Y.C. - REFUGE 4:30pmMeet at FCC parking lot	Nov 26 Free Thanksgiving Day Dinner 11:00am - 2:00pm Babs & Co.
November 21 9:00 - 11:00am . . . Food Pantry Open	Nov 29 <u>NO</u> CARRY-IN MEAL

ELDERS:

MIKE ALKA.765-584-1474
JEFF BOYER. 765-744-1390

CHURCH STAFF:

Minister, Doug Nolen.765-576-1338
Youth Program Coord., Philip Williams. . .765-789-0834
Secretary, Robin Brumbaugh. 765-874-1826

EMAIL ADDRESS.fcclynn@gmail.com

...Conclusion

Although I wish that I had the space here to share it fully with you, I do not. However, please do not hesitate to contact me or ask me personally if you have been challenged by the same question and would like to know more about this possible answer that has recently encouraged me.

In the meantime, please plan to share together with us each Sunday morning in December for each part of the “Heaven and Nature Sing” Christmas celebration event.



Food Pantry

The next Food Pantry date is Saturday, November 21st from 9 - 11:00am. They anticipate to serve a higher number of families with this being the holidays. All food and/or money donations are greatly appreciated. With money donations they are able to buy fresh (perishable) food items, such as: bread, milk, eggs, etc.

Anyone who can help unload the truck the day before (Friday, November 20th), please come to the Lynn Friends Church at 4:30pm. We also need helpers to restock the shelves, so all will be ready for the next morning. Thank you for your service!

**Collecting Filled Shoeboxes
November 16 - 22
Operation Christmas Child**

First Church Christmas Card Exchange

It's time to get our Christmas cards prepared and brought to the church for our Christmas Card Exchange. Please remember that this exchange is for those who come on a regular basis and we can hand deliver their cards to them when they come to church on Sunday mornings. If there are those within our church family that you want to give a card to, but they haven't been here (such as our snowbirds!), please send those cards to them in the mail. This is just a hand delivery system when we see them here on Sunday mornings in the month of December. Deadline for all cards to be here at the church building will be December 6th. This will give us time to sort through and organize each family's stack of cards and have time to pass them out. Thanks! **List of names on table in foyer.**

Prayer Concerns

Health Concerns:

Charlie & Ruth Cole
Cecilia Crowe - Vicki Ratcliffe's niece
Family of Dave Moore - coworker of Tim Wilson
Granddaughter of Charlie & Ruth Cole
Jeff Koons
Antoinette Meyers' mother
Perry & Karen Meyers' grandchildren
Bob Stewart - back home!
Mary Thomas - Tillie Wilson's sister
Holden Traylor - nephew of Jerry & Regina Harris
Cindy Williams

Missions:

Hands of Compassion
Dr. Steve
Mission outreach in Asia

Assisted Living and/or Nursing Home:

Autumn Hills:	Helen Stewart
Crown Pointe: (Greenfield, IN)	Kathy Ratliff
Modoc Group Home:	Rochella Newland
Pine Knoll:	Karmen Kellams
Randolph Nursing Home:	Eula Newland Cynthia Mae Polley
Summers Pointe:	(cracked pelvis) Burnita Johnting Ruth Welch

In Deepest Sympathy....

Please remember the family of Leland Murray in their time of loss. Leland passed away in Florida on Tuesday, November 10, 2015

**An online guestbook may be signed at:
www.danielsfuneralhome.com**

First Church Presents!

Plan Now for...



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

***Combining Singing, Scripture Readings,
Worship Focus, and Dramatic Sketches***

Every Sunday Morning...

December 6, 13, 20, 27

"Praising & Celebrating the birth of Jesus!"

***NEED VOLUNTEERS**

**Please see Jim Norris or Philip Williams
TODAY! Let them know how you can help!**

Local Churches Help Support Thanksgiving Dinner

Barbara, owner of "Babs & Company" (local restaurant) has asked the Lynn area churches to once again help in her endeavor of offering a *Free* Thanksgiving Dinner to our community on November 26th. She will cook, prepare, and have this feast served at her establishment on Thanksgiving Day. Barbara is asking each church to donate a 20lb turkey, one large can of corn, and 30 servings of dessert. She and her crew will cook and prepare all the food, except desserts.

Dinner will be served from 11:00am - 2:00pm. If anyone is able to help serve and/or clean up, please let the church office know as soon as possible. *Thank You!*

More Holiday Mission/Ministry Projects at FCC

1. R.S. Elementary Christmas Break Backpacks
BackPacks sent home w/nutritional snacks
Items for backpacks due at the church by Dec. 4th
2. Secret Santa program at Randolph Southern
Youth group will shop for children in need
Tentative date is Sunday, Nov. 29th
3. Christmas caroling & deliver stockings
For our sick and shut-ins
Date to be announced later....

FCC Ladies Christmas Dinner

All ladies are invited to come and join us for our "Ladies Christmas Dinner" at the First Church of Christ on Saturday, December 5th at 6:00pm. Meal is being catered by Bousers Barn. Cost is \$11 per person. Please give money to Tammerrie by November 29th. Sign up sheet on bulletin board.