

The Lifeline

First Christian Church
Knox, IN

February 2017

Attention Ladies! Women's Fellowship

Next meeting—

Date & Time: March 7th @ 12:30 p.m. (CT)

Location: Pauline Lawhorne's 4355 E. 150 N., Knox

Light lunch followed by "Coloring the Scriptures"
(Bring colored pencils if you have them.)



The best-selling book *The Shack* by William Young which we read in our Wednesday Bible Study a while back is now a movie.

The Shack

March 3rd — 6:55 p.m.

March 4th — 3:20 or 6:55 p.m.

Cinemark @ Valparaiso

Tickets available online @ www.theshack.movie

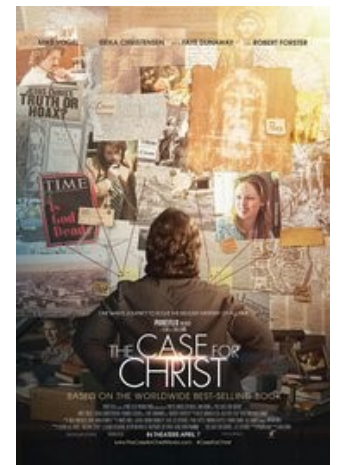
(I suggest you read or reread this interesting book before we see the movie.)

Investigative reporter Lee Strobel, an avowed atheist, set out to disprove Christianity but instead became a Christian.

The result of his investigation into Christ was published as the bestselling book *The Case for Christ* in 1998.

Now the movie seeks to capture the journey that Lee personally made to move from atheist to an world-renown defender of Christ.

The Case for Christ April 7th



“I know Whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able To keep that which I’ve committed Unto Him against that day.”

First Christian Church (Knox, Indiana) exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ.

To do this we will reach out with the Good News of salvation, encourage spiritual growth through Bible study, prayer, and the application of God’s Word to our lives, and provide opportunities for worship and service.



Pastor Search Update:

The Pastor Search Committee thanks all of you who responded to the congregational survey. They have complied the results and have developed a pastor profile.

Advertisements are now ready to be released to Bible colleges and seminaries. Information packets are being put together to provide to those who express interest in our church so that they can have information about us in order to make an informed decision.

Please, don't forget to continue to pray for the Search Committee because their work is not yet finished. Also pray for that the advertisements will catch the attention of the man God has in mind to be our next minister.

A potpourri of these things from my reading ...

Gospel means *good news*. ... For Christians, of course, the good news is Jesus Christ, who died and rose again, taking the whole of God's wrath upon himself and setting us free. The gospel announces that on account of Christ's death and resurrection, we are justified by grace through faith: not by what we do, or even by who we are, but by what Christ has done and who he is. Our guilt has been atoned for and the deepest judgment satisfied, opening up the reconciliation of sinners with a holy God and life eternal. "For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!" (Rom. 5;10).

... the gift of Christ is unconditional. Like all true gifts, it arrives unbidden—a great and glorious surprise for those who don't deserve one. His affection cannot be leveraged or merited. It is a gift with no strings attached. Jesus simply gave—his attention, his power, his very self—and to the wrong people. (David Zahl, "Justify Yourself," *Christianity Today*, J/F 2017, 39-40)

Testimony means personal witness—stating what you can't but believe is true. Theology always involves testimony of some kind, since its subject cannot be a matter of disinterested inquiry. One is either passionately interested in God or it is not God that one is interested in. (David Heim, "Preface," *How My Mind Has Changed*. vii)

We are not doing discipleship very well. When I started looking into discipleship, I discovered that discipleship is just "Christian-ship"—becoming more like Jesus. So if we are not doing discipleship well, then we are not doing Christian well. (Preston Sprinkle, Discipleship: Reclaiming Our Neglected Mandate," *Outreach Magazine*, J/F 2017, 69)

The Bible, I have learned, welcomes doubters and wrestlers. Job asks questions; God does too. Abraham argues, as well as believes. Sarah waits, but in laughter. Moses obeys, but also insists. Psalmists believe, but they rage as well. There is celebration, but also lament. Amos judges, but also blesses. Peter follows, but doubts too. Paul persecutes, but also repents. All of this is incredibly rich vocabulary for the range of feelings, relationships, experiences, questions, doubts, and hopes experienced throughout human life. The authentication of the Bible's authority appears in its witness to what it means to be human and in its witness to the God who made us to be so. (Mark Labberton, "More Than a Plain Reading," *Christianity Today*, 66)



Returning to CNN on **Sunday March 5 at 8:00 p.m. (CT)**, utilizing the latest scientific techniques and archaeological research *Finding Jesus* explores fascinating new insights into the historical Jesus.

JANUARY					
Financial:	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions Fund</u>	<u>Bldg/Land Fund</u>	<u>C.O.M.E.</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
Opening Balance	\$ 4,358.92	\$ 667.01	\$ 1,473.65	\$ (109.27)	\$ 688.61
Income	+ <u>6,210.00</u>	+ <u>660.00</u>	+ <u>15.00</u>	+ <u>220.00</u>	+ <u>40.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 10,568.92	\$ 1,327.01	\$ 1,488.65	\$ 110.73	\$ 728.31
Expenses	— <u>5,811.00</u>	— <u>955.00</u>	— <u>0.00</u>	— <u>47.85</u>	— <u>29.70</u>
Closing Balance	\$ 4,757.92	\$ 372.01	\$ 1,488.65	\$ 62.88	\$ 698.61
Attendance: (avg.)	<u>Sunday School</u> 16		<u>Worship</u> 38		

MISSION



UPDATE

[Note: Since we only report on each mission semi-annually, some of the information provided may seem like “old” news, but it isn’t really.]

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES, INC. (IDES)

As the name indicates IDES is an international disaster relief service which is associated with the Christian Church and Churches of Christ. First Christian Church has for some time supported various special needs requests that IDES sent out on a situation-by-situation basis, but last year it was decided to include IDES in our regular monthly-supported missions as well.

In 2016 survivors of disasters received help in their times of need, hungry people were fed, sick children and adults were cared for, entire families in developing countries gained a better quality of life, and people from many nations and cultures believed and obeyed Jesus as a result of IDES ministries.

Immediately following Hurricane Matthew many IDES supporters helped to donate over \$100,000 in aid to several mission partners in Haiti. In Kenya IDES was blessed with the chance to provide emergency food in three different regions during the drought season.

IDES has worked with trusted mission partners in Thailand to meet some basic needs of Burmese refugees living along the Thai/Myanmar border. IDES has given more than \$250,000 in relief to these refugees over the past two years. Among those helped were more than 600 refugees in the city of Mae Sot, living not in an organized refugee camp but in the local landfill. In addition to this assistance, IDES continuously prays for God to show a more lasting solution to this desperate situation. They are now trying to procure property outside the dump for the younger children to come for instruction, medical care, and physical nutrition. The total cost for this property and school/medical building is about \$300,000. IDES is taking a step of faith that this will be accomplished in 2017.

BELLA VITA PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER



Who are we? We are a local non-profit organization who is a partner of Care Net. Care Net is a network of more than 1100 pregnancy resource centers. We affirm the value of life by providing practical, emotional, and spiritual support to the client.

All Service are free and confidential.

- Pregnancy tests - peer guided, self administered.
- Pregnancy options counseling - advocates help women examine all three options: parenting, adoption, and abortion.
- Peer counseling - trained advocates care for clients, and address physical, emotional, and spiritual concerns.
- Community referrals - for medical care, material assistance, licensed adoption agencies, and other community resources.
- Education - classes are offered on such topics as sexual abstinence, self esteem, healthy relationships, nutrition, newborn care and development, natural family planning, parenting, discipline, breastfeeding, and SIDS prevention.
- "Baby Bucks" program - clients are able to earn needed maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers, and baby furniture.
- Men's Issues support - trained male advocates assist men with pregnancy, relationship, parenting, and post-abortion concerns.

MARCH SERVING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Nursery</u> (under 3 years)
05	Bob & Melanie Robertson	Linda Berndt & Edith Gurrado	Sarah Schwandt
12	David & Sharon Wallsmith	Pauline Lawhorne & Jerry Reese	Amanda Watkins
19	Amanda Watkins	Bob & Melanie Robetson	Sarah Schwandt
26	Ken & Carolyn Whiles	Michelle & Joey Snowdon	Darla Cook

<u>Date</u>	<u>Children's Church</u> (3yrs. - 1st gr.)	<u>Junior Church</u> (2nd-5th gr.)	<u>Sound System</u>	<u>Meditations</u>
05		Janan Brown	Joey Snowdon	Ken Whiles
12	For the month:	Judy Bachelder	Joey Snowdon	Dan LaFountain
19	Sarah Schwandt	Sharon Wallsmith	Joey Snowdon	Bob Robertson
26		Dwayne Babiarz	Keith Schwandt	Keith Schwandt

"Serve the Lord with gladness" (Psalm 100:2)

ON THE LIGHTER (?) SIDE

There's more!

On the first Easter morning, three women found an empty tomb. The discovery left them trembling and afraid. They didn't know there was more — a resurrected Lord.

Later that day, the risen Jesus appeared. As happy as the disciples were about this miracle, they didn't yet know there was more — a gift of the Holy Spirit that would make their joy complete.

Early Christians in Corinth were so delighted by the gift of baptism that they could scarcely imagine there was more — the resurrection of the body to eternal life.

As great as Easter is, it's only the "first fruits" of what lies ahead. Celebrate the fact that Christ is risen, but remember that the best is yet to come!



"What did St. Patrick have against snakes?"

For everyone

Every day we should be thankful for God's love and for the gift of his Son, Jesus. Complete the maze below to help people from all directions hear about this good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read the words to John 3:16, NIV.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."