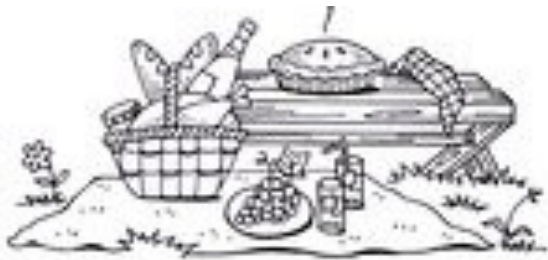


# The Lifeline

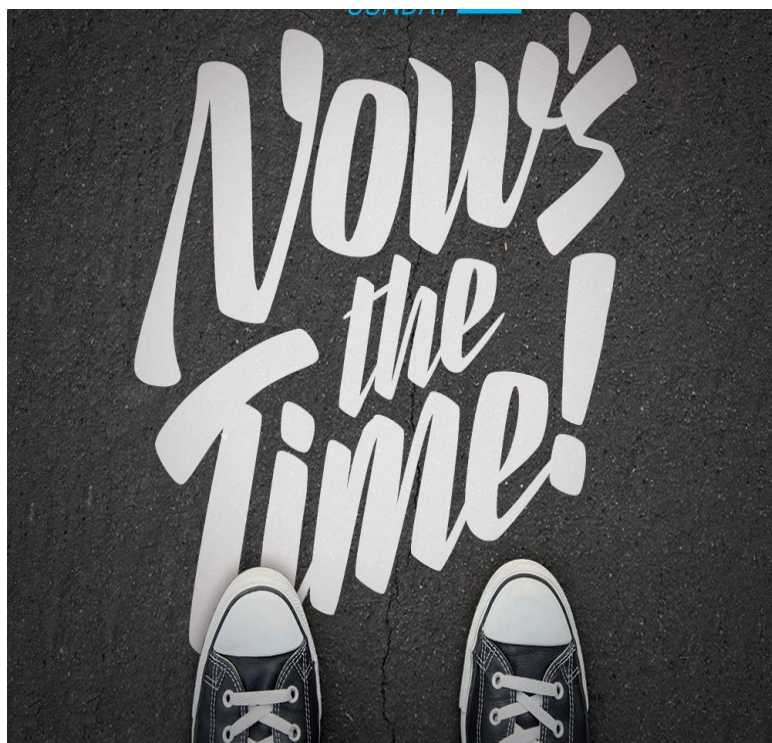
First Christian Church  
Knox, IN

August 2016



## Annual Church Picnic September 11, 2016 Sandy Acres Park

Hope you'll plan to join us.  
It's always a good time of food & fellowship!



We all know someone who used to  
go to church but now doesn't.  
Maybe it was some other church,  
maybe FCC.  
Maybe they are family members,  
neighbors, work associates, friends.

## September 18, 2016 is Back-to-Church Sunday

The theme for that Sunday will be  
"Now's the Time!"  
so *now is the time* to start inviting  
people so they can make plans to be  
here that Sunday and not elsewhere  
as has been their habit for a while.

### New Committee Structure

Christian Education  
(Meeting 1st Monday in  
even # months @ 6:30 p.m.)  
Dwayne Babiarz  
Chuck Bachelder  
Judy Bachelder  
Darla Cook  
Melanie Robertson

Missions  
(Meeting 3rd Monday in  
odd # months @ 7:00 p.m.)  
Chuck Bachelder  
Darla Cook  
Dan LaFountain  
Pauline Lawhorne  
Sharon Wallsmith

Outreach  
(Meeting 3rd Monday in  
odd # months @ 6:00 p.m.)  
Chuck Bachelder  
Darla Cook  
Dan & Tammy LaFountain  
Bob Robertson  
Michelle Snowdon

Property  
(Meeting as required)  
Dwayne Babiarz  
Dan LaFountain

***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.



## Letter of Intent to Retire

To: The Elders, Church Board, & Congregation of First Christian Church  
(Knox, Indiana)

November 1, 1993 was a memorable day. That was the day the longest section in the book of my life began to be written. That was the day I officially became the Minister of this Church.

My Philosophy of Ministry submitted along with my resume in 1993 stated: "The ministry is dedicated to others. It is service to others. It is the opportunity to help others find fulfilled lives in service to Christ." It also stated: "I prefer to see my role as a ministry 'with' rather than a ministry 'to'

or 'for'. Ministry 'with' includes the 'to', as it focuses on others, and the 'for', as it attempts to meet needs. Ministry 'with', however, goes one highly desired step farther: 'with' means cooperative effort and joint involvement."

I believe I have been faithful to my Philosophy and to my God in those areas. In my ministry "to" and "for" I strived to fulfill the usual expectations of a minister to preach and teach. Unexpected by some, I also cleared sidewalks of snow for the Church and some members, did handyman work, provided transportation, helped people move, and the like. And, on a more personal level I tried to be here and there, when needed and wanted, to advise, counsel, encourage, listen to, pray, sit with, and support.

Most importantly though is that my ministry here has been a ministry "with." We have worked together to grow and develop this Church. Our working together has resulted in a recent statement by a long-time member the gist of which was "There is an attitude here now that hasn't been here before."

Ministry is never without its challenges. Without elaborating, let me just say FCC Knox has not been an exception to that rule. But, also, FCC Knox has not been an exception to my belief that ministry is never without its blessings. As most of you know, I did not want to come to Knox, Indiana, but fortunately my Father in heaven knew best and brought me here anyway. And it is here that I and my family have been blessed well beyond the words "Thank you."

However, I believe it is now time to begin writing the close to this section of the book of my life. Therefore, I am now announcing my intent to retire as your Minister effective March 1, 2017.

I have chosen to make this announcement now to allow time ...

For the Elders to assemble a Pulpit Committee;

For that Committee and the Congregation to discuss and decide what they need and want in their next minister;

To advertise our Church's need through our Bible Colleges/Seminaries and other resources;

For the Pulpit Committee to receive and review applications and resumes;

For the Pulpit Committee and Elders to meet and interview selected ministry prospects;

For the Congregation to meet and choose its next Minister.

Having served on both sides of the pulpit, I know this whole process can take time and I want to allow adequate time for the Church to move forward steadily but unhurriedly because the choice of a Minister is one of the most important decisions congregations have to make.

There is a secondary reason for this announcement being this early. Although my current vision problems seem to be responding well to the injection treatments I have begun, there is the possibility that resolution may not be complete or of a recurrence of the problem. In either case it may be necessary for me to shed the ministry mantle sooner than intended. But if the Church is already in the process of finding my successor the feeling of a need to "rush things" will be lessened with each step already taken.

In closing, let me offer this benediction: "In the days ahead, may the peace of God comfort us, the love of God sustain us, and the wisdom of God direct us."

With hope and anticipation for our continued future together,  
Charles E. Bachelder

To paraphrase a song we sometimes sing: "How can we say thanks for all the things you have done for us? Things so undeserved, yet you gave 'cause of your love for us?" We have truly been blessed by you during these past weeks and months! Your prayers have given us strength & calm; your calls and cards have lifted our spirits; your carried-in meals have nourished and de-stressed us. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

*Chuck & Judy Bachelder*

## JULY

<u>Financial:</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions Fund</u>	<u>Bldg/Land Fund</u>	<u>C.O.M.E.</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
Opening Balance	\$ 7,616.85	\$ 756.01	\$ 3,195.65	\$ 64.56	\$ 665.36
Income	+ 5,086.00	+ 825.00	+ 15.00	+ 246.00	+ 37.00
Subtotal	\$ 12,879.97	\$ 1,581.01	\$ 3,210.65	\$ 310.56	\$ 702.36
Expenses	— 5,245.96	— 1,130.00	— 0.00	— 0.00	— 0.00
Closing Balance	\$ 7,634.01	\$ 451.01	\$ 3,210.65	\$ 310.56	\$ 702.36
<u>Attendance: (avg.)</u>	<u>Sunday School</u> 16		<u>Worship</u> 46		

## MISSION



## UPDATE

[Note: Since we only report on each mission semi-annually, some

of the information provided may seem like “old” news, but it

### Bella Vita – Pregnancy Resource Center

In the last update for Bella Vita it was mentioned that they would be hosting volunteer classes beginning in February and March of 2016. In April they were happy to announce that those volunteer classes were a success as they have seen their volunteers grow in number and in expertise. The volunteer classes are typically either two partial days or one full day. The cost to do a volunteer class is \$25.00; they provide lunch during the full day class. To find out when the next classes are, please contact them directly.

Also in the spring they began to give “sleep safe” classes, noting that the first six months of an infant’s life is the most critical to assure their safety while sleeping. As a reward and additional motivation to participate in the program, parents who completed the training earned a Pac N Play to take home and have available for their children. This program has now been taken over and all future classes will be given by Healthy Families.

Another class that they offer is “grief recovery.” It’s said that there are over 40 different losses that we can experience. Often our recovery from the loss is superficial and many times we never adequately deal with the grief for full recovery. The grief recovery classes are held at their facility on Lake St. each Friday at 2:00 p.m.

Bella Vita has also made some progress in terms of networking and outreach as they have teamed up with the Marshall-Starke Head Start program and the local W.I.C. office to share referrals for clients with each other. This collaboration of efforts is a win-win situation. It allows each of the programs to identify new candidates who may be eligible for their services thus providing recipients with a greater number of benefits for them and their children.

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, Tonya Combs, the executive director of Bella Vita came to FCC and offered an update on their mission to the congregation. Among the various ways that she reminded us that we could support them, the greatest request she made was for our prayers. With the help of Pastor Bill Dixon from the local Wesleyan church they developed a new prayer team. They have started to pray together on the first Saturday of each month. They ask in joining them that we are mindful of a couple specific prayer concerns: Prayers for the mothers that they have not reached yet who may be undecided about their pregnancy, and prayers for the parents who are currently in classes that they continue to grow as parents and find support through friends and family.

To find out more information about their programs or to volunteer call them @ 574-772-2877 or stop by the center @ 52 W Lake St. Knox, IN.

### International Disaster Emergency Service. Inc. (IDES)

IDES is an international disaster relief service of the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ. It is located in Noblesville, IN. First Christian Church contributes to it as part of our monthly missions donations.

In 2015 IDES partnered with other groups to help with 116 disaster projects in 25 nations, 45 hunger projects in 17 nations, 40 development and sustainability projects in 14 nations, 31 medical care projects on 13 nations, and 11 evangelism projects in 8 nations—39 nations in all. In 2015 their GAP (God Always Provides) food-packing program surpassed the previous year’s total by over 200,000 meals. Some of those meals went to a year-long feeding program in Haiti for two orphanages and two schools. Another shipment went to Afghanistan for displaced refugees.

A well project was completed this spring in Nakuru, Kenya. They were in need of clean water for the area. Stephen Muhota is the director of a ministry there with a vision of starting a church, orphanage, and school. Drought and looming famine conditions are impacting millions of God’s children on the continent of Africa. IDES has partnered with missionaries in Kenya, Mozambique, and Tanzania to begin long-term hunger relief efforts. They anticipate hunger requests to increase over the coming weeks. Gifts for this purpose will be used 100% for hunger and drought.

Food has been closely related to our relationship with God. Jesus describes Himself as the Bread of Life. Every man, woman, and child has been created to need food and to need God. It is a privilege to be used by God to help meet those two basic needs of mankind: food and faith.

## SEPTEMBER SERVING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Nursery</u> (under 3 years)
04	David & Sharon Wallsmith	David & Sharon Wallsmith	Sarah Schwandt
11	Ken & Carolyn Whiles	Wayne & Marilyn Alberding	
18	Chuck & Judy Bachelder	Dwayne Babiarz & Linda Berndt	Sarah Schwandt
25	Darla Cook	Bob & Nancy Fosnough	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>
04		Janan Brown	Joey Snowdon	Bob Robertson
11	For the month:	Judy Bachelder	Joey Snowdon	Ken Whiles
18	Michelle Snowdon	Sharon Wallsmith	Joey Snowdon	Keith Schwandt
25		Melanie Robertson	Joey Snowdon	Alex Jack

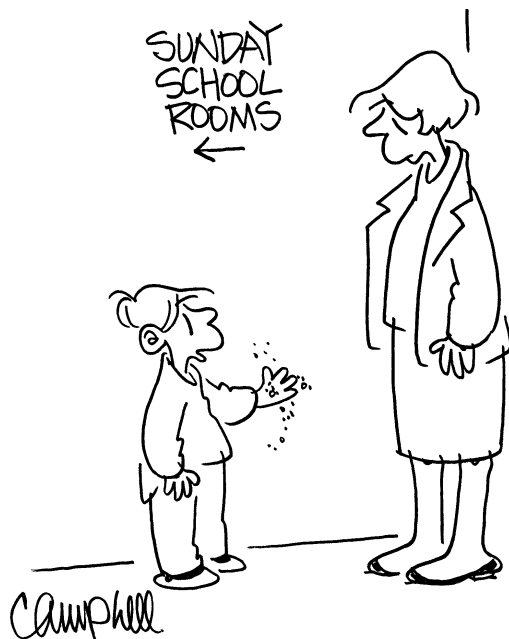
***"Serve the Lord with gladness" (Psalm 100:2)***

### ON THE LIGHTER (?) SIDE

#### Double duty

When the church custodian quit, the pastor asked the organist if she would be able to also clean the church sanctuary.

The organist replied, "Do you mean that now I have to mind my keys and pews?"



"Mrs. Moore expects us to gain a firm grasp of our Sunday school lessons. See? Rosin."

## Unique CREATIONS

Have you ever walked along the shore and noticed the footprints you make in the sand? A famous poem called "Footprints in the Sand" reminds us we are never alone.

Unscramble each word and write it inside the footprint. See what Psalm 119:133 (NRSV) says about our footsteps. (The bold letters are the first letters of the words.)


**Psalm 119:133, NIV**

Answer: "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me."