

JANUARY SERVING SCHEDULE

- ELDERS
- Terry Trimble, Captain
 - Tom Thompson

- ELDER OF THE WEEK
- Blake Robinson 12/27 - 01/02
 - Tom Thompson 01/03 - 01/09
 - Bob Vanhooe 01/10 - 01/16
 - Jim Brown 01/17 - 01/23
 - Paul Corbin 01/24 - 01/30

- SERVING DEACONS/ ELDERS for January
- April Vanhooe
 - Paul Corbin
 - Gene Sturgill
 - Cathy Bartley

- GREETERS
- Gerald & Judy Deskins 01/03
 - John Paul & Joyce Runyon 01/10
 - Bonita Summers & Gail Smith 01/17
 - Paul & Karla Corbin 01/24
 - Jack & Wilma Deskins 01/31

2009 ATTENDANCE REPORT

December	6	13	20	27
Sunday School	38	36	0	30
Worship Total	89	125	55	67

2009 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Needed as of December 27th \$ 234,390.50

Received as of December 27th \$ 240,643.51



IRS
I see you've laid up your treasures in heaven. Is this some sort of tax dodge?

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"Our mission is to love God, to love others, and to lead others to Jesus Christ."

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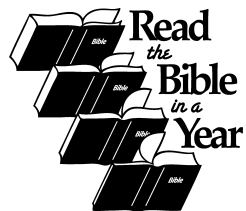
In one of his books Jeremy Rifkin says, "It is ironic that in a culture so committed to saving time we feel increasingly deprived of the very thing we value... Despite our alleged efficiency...we seem to have less time for ourselves and far less time for each other..."

We have quickened the pace of life only to become less patient. We have become more organized but less spontaneous, less joyful. We are better prepared to act on the future but less able to enjoy the present and reflect on the past... Today we have surrounded ourselves with time-saving technological gadgetry, only to be overwhelmed by plans that cannot be carried out, appointments that cannot be honored, schedules that cannot be fulfilled, and deadlines that cannot be met." Do Rifkin's words ring true for you? They do for me! Responding to the danger of this situation James Smith notes that "When we add too many things to our lives, something has to be eliminated. Unfortunately, busy people often rid themselves of the most important ones: relationships, spiritual practices and self care (for example, eating right and exercising)." I have a feeling that one of the very best resolutions we could make for the New Year ahead is to slow down. I really do want to encourage you to examine your priorities here at the beginning of 2010 and determine what changes you need to make in your life so that these priorities remain your priority. I challenge you to make a concerted effort this year to slow down so that God might become more real and meaningful to you. I challenge you to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." What will it take for you to make this a reality? I don't know all of the answers but I do know that slowing down will be part of it. The world will continue to scream "Hurry up!" at us but if you'll listen carefully you will hear another voice, the voice of God, calmly saying "Slow down." Which voice will you heed in 2010?

Dr. Chuck Summers

Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year

January 1 marks my second anniversary as your pastor. Please know that I am very grateful for these two years and enter my third year with you with a lot of excitement and anticipation. I look forward to seeing where God leads us and to what He will accomplish through us. It truly is a joy to serve you and I want to thank you again for giving me the privilege of being your pastor. –Chuck



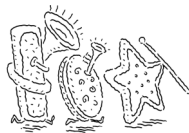
There are two disciplines or practices that are absolutely critical for spiritual survival—prayer and attention to God’s Word. Each day God’s children should spend time in His presence offering him adoration and thanksgiving, confessing their sins, and lifting up petitions for themselves and others. Likewise, each day

God’s children should turn to the Scriptures and seek God’s guidance there. Some regular reading plan should be utilized. One such time-tested plan is to read the whole Bible through in the course of a year. If this is something you would like to do we have a daily reading schedule available for your convenience. These may be found on the table in the narthex. Whatever plan you choose to keep you focused on God’s Word, the main thing is to stick with it. If you’re too busy to read the Bible, you’re just too busy!

During December Melanie Martin moved her membership to our church. We have been blessed to have Melanie as our choir director the past two years and are now doubly blessed by her decision to become an “official” member of our church.



Welcome Our New Member



Cookie Brigade the Cookie Brigade will be delivering homemade cookies and brownies on Monday, January 4. Those responsible for the month of January need to have their baked goods at the church by 10:00 a.m. Last month’s baked goods were given to the folks serving the Regional Flu Center. A big thanks goes to all those who help support this ministry!

On Monday, January 11, our church will be hosting a group of seminary students studying in our region. We would like to provide them with a home-cooked meal at noon. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Chuck at your earliest convenience.



On Wednesday evening, January 13, during Vespers we will begin a new study on the Book of Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiastes is part of the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament and contains many beautiful and familiar passages. It also contains a number of unexpected twists and turns. I hope you will plan to join us for this informative and helpful study. You will be surprised by just how contemporary the ancient Book of Ecclesiastes is.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The past year was a very difficult one economically for our country and the world. Throughout 2009 I heard reports of churches and religious organizations struggling financially. For that reason it gives me great pleasure to share with you that we not only met but exceeded our budget requirements for 2009 at the First Christian Church. You are certainly to be commended for your faithfulness in giving. Having said that, please note that like last year we have had to increase the budget again for 2010. Our new weekly requirement will be \$4664.81, an increase of \$157.31 per week. Please keep this increase in mind as you plan your giving for the New Year.



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