

# The Communicator

First Christian Church, Russellville, KY December 2019

website: [www.fccrussellville.com](http://www.fccrussellville.com) find us on facebook.



O Come Let Us Worship Together the Newborn King

As we prepare ourselves for our Lord's birthday, we are reminded of our need for a Savior. Each of us looks around and finds that the world is full of opportunities to ignore what God has done for us. Whether it is our employment, our school work or activities, our family life, or our recreation, we place our need for redemption on the back burner. In Mark 1:2-8 we read of John the Baptist "proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." We also read that "people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins." In verses two and three, Mark quotes the prophet Isaiah as follows:

*"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight'"*

During Advent, which begins on December 1st and ends Christmas Day, we confess our sins, we listen to the proclamation of a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Like the people of Judea and Jerusalem, we cry out for salvation. We want to be made whole.

During this Advent season, it is tempting to move ahead to Christmas and totally ignore our brokenness. December becomes all about the Joy of Christmas Day. Madison Avenue proclaims that this is the Holiday Season in an attempt to get consumers to forget about their problems and empty their pocketbooks on the latest toys for children and adults. As the Church, however, we proclaim a different message. We proclaim that we are preparing the way of the Lord and making his paths straight. We are reflecting on our lives so that we can present ourselves with REAL JOY on Christmas Day.

Christmas begins on Christmas Day and lasts for twelve days until Epiphany. As we awaken on Christmas morning, I pray that our hearts will be uplifted with the knowledge that once again we remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and how God split the heavens and broke into our existence in the form of a little baby. I pray that this will be a humbling recollection and bring us to an understanding of the true gift for which we are responsible. The GIFT OF LIFE, the gift of our salvation is too wonderful to hold within our own hearts. It is too wonderful to simply confine to the Christmas tree on Christmas morning. The GIFT we have been given is meant to be shared with others in community. That is precisely what worship is all about. Christianity is all about worshiping as a community. We are not meant to be solitary worshipers.

With that in mind, I hope to see all of you during this Advent season each Sunday as we sing praises to the Lord and remind ourselves of why Christmas is so important to our individual lives and the life of the church. Our Christmas Dinner is Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> following worship and our Christmas party will be December 11<sup>th</sup> at Ray and Paula Clark home.

Blessings

Pastor Bill

*Advent Services*

**Dec 01**      **1st Sunday of Advent at First Christian**  
                  **Speaker Rev. Wayne Sayre**

**Dec 08**      **2nd Sunday of Advent at First Presbyterian**  
                  **Speaker Pastor Bill Clement**

**Dec 15**      **3rd Sunday of Advent at UM Temple**  
                  **Cantata**

**Dec 22**      **4th Sunday of Advent at Trinity Episcopal**  
                  **Lessons and Carols**



**Lucy's Coat Closet**

**December 4,11,18**

**11am-1pm**

**Donations  
 Appreciated**

**Holiday Meal**

**Sunday, December 8th**

**Following services**

**Bring Salads and Desserts**



**Christmas Gathering**

**At the Clarks**

**Wednesday, December 11th**

**6:00 pm**

**Bring finger foods**

**deGraffenreid Christmas Concert**

**Sunday, December 8th**

**At United Methodist Temple**

**2:30 pm**

**First Christian Church**

201 West 7th Street

Russellville, KY 42276

Phone: 270-726-2586

Pastor: Bill Clement

Email:

billclement99@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sharon Fuller

fccsharon.fuller@gmail.com

Moderator: Shannon Gorrell

Moderator-Elect: Gayle Goley

Treasurer: Ellen Nealy

Secretary: Vicki Kemp

Accompanist: Shannon Gorrell

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Worship Service: 10:45 am

**Poinsettia orders due**

**December 12th**

**Veterans Program**

**at First Presbyterian**

*Serving in December 2019*

**Elders: Judy Suiter, Mildred Taylor**

**Deacons: Paige & Peyton Vanzant, Evelyn Driver**

**Greeters: Volunteers**

<b>Prayer Concerns:</b>			
Danny Anderson	Jean Gragg	Micky Hicks	Lana & Bud Lawson
Bob & Patricia Hedges	Donna Riley	Jean Kirkpatrick	Lauren Riley Stafford
Connie Brown	Ken Mercer	Sara Grayson	Donna Greer
Cindy & Paul	John Blandford	Lori McClure	Hunter Holloway
Charlie Cornelius	Charles Browning	George Whitson	Louise Colston
Neil Webb	Patricia Y. Bailey		