

# First Church

OF NEW KNOXVILLE

*Matthew 5:44-45*

*But I say to you,*

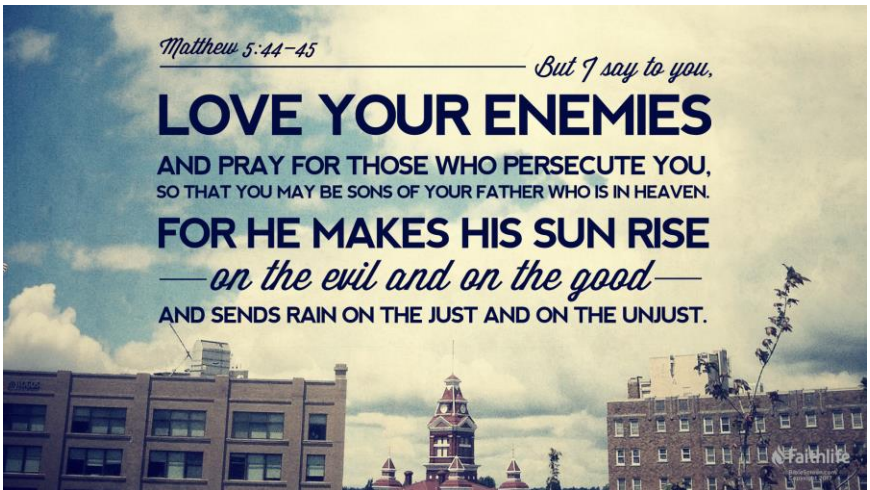
**LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**

AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU,  
SO THAT YOU MAY BE SONS OF YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

**FOR HE MAKES HIS SUN RISE**

*— on the evil and on the good —*

AND SENDS RAIN ON THE JUST AND ON THE UNJUST.



October 15, 2017

Rooted in Christ, Growing Together, Serving the World



# *First Church*

OF NEW KNOXVILLE

**A Community of Faith who engage Biblical truth  
to provide an environment where people mature  
as disciples of Christ.**

**To accomplish our mission First Church will:**

*Encounter our Creator.*

*Embrace Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to become His disciples.*

*Empower lives through God's living Word, the Bible.*

*Engage with the Holy Spirit to provide guidance and direction.*

*Encourage others to know Christ and strengthen their relationship with God.*

*Enrich the body of Christ by going forth and supporting fellow disciples.*

**First Church recognizes Jesus Christ as the head of the Church  
and as Savior and Lord. We are an independent,  
non-denominational congregation.**

## **First Church of New Knoxville**

**PO Box 339; 200 W. Bremen St. New Knoxville, OH**

Office: 419-753-2446; Youth Pastor: 231-557-0260;

Pastor: 256-698-8813

[www.firstchurchnk.org](http://www.firstchurchnk.org)

[www.facebook.com/firstchurchnk](http://www.facebook.com/firstchurchnk)

Office Email: [firstchurchnk@nktelco.net](mailto:firstchurchnk@nktelco.net)

Joel Bucklin, Senior Pastor

Tory Breitigan, Youth Pastor

Erik Hirschfeld, Director of Music

[joel.bucklin@nktelco.net](mailto:joel.bucklin@nktelco.net)

[tory.breitigan@nktelco.net](mailto:tory.breitigan@nktelco.net)

## ***If you are a Guest or Visitor today, we are glad you're here!***

**The Restrooms** are located in the basement at the East end of the church. They are inside the main glass doors of the ministry building next door.

**The Nursery for Young Children** is in the basement. You can go down any set of stairs near the entrances to reach the nursery.

**Children's Activity Bags** are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Inside are activities and fun things for your kids to do. Please feel free to have your child use one during service and return it to the table before you leave.

**Large Print bulletins** are available at the back of the sanctuary near the table.

**Hearing Assistance Devices** – there are 8 units available for those who need them. Please see the sound system operator on the South wall if you would like to use one during the service.

### **Welcome to Worship at First Church**

*The \* invites those who are able to stand.*

#### **Prelude**

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Sharon Chaney

#### **Welcome & Announcements**

Jack Schrolucke

#### **\*Preparation for Worship** from Matthew 5:43-48

Jack Schrolucke

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**\*Hymn No. 457** – I Will Sing of the Mercies

## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

*Nora Jo Nielsen  
Daughter of Dan & Jess Nielsen*

*Words of Institution*

*Scriptural Promises*

*Profession of Faith – The Apostles Creed*

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy universal Christian church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

*Vow of the Parents & Congregation*

*Congregational Promise*

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, as we receive Nora  
into Christ's church.

I charge you to nurture and love her and to  
assist her to be Christ's faithful disciple.

**All: With joy and thanksgiving, we now welcome  
you into Christ's church, for we are all one  
in Christ. We promise to love, encourage,  
and support you and to help you know and  
follow Christ.**

*Baptism*

*Prayer*

**Children's Chat**

Maria Lammers

*(While the children come forward, please take time to greet your neighbor.)*

**Remembering our Soldiers**

Jay Elshoff

**Giving Back to God**

Today's offering is for the Radio Ministry

Music: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying – Medema

First Church Choir; Adam Rohrbaugh, Soloist

**\*Presenting Our Gifts - Give Thanks**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"**

**Let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"**

**Let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us.**

**Give thanks!**

**Scripture Reading—Genesis 18:16-33**

Maria Lammers

<sup>16</sup> *When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. <sup>17</sup> Then the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?" <sup>18</sup> Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. <sup>19</sup> For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."*

<sup>20</sup> *Then the Lord said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous <sup>21</sup> that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."*

<sup>22</sup> *The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"*

<sup>26</sup> *The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."*

<sup>27</sup> *Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, <sup>28</sup> what if the number of the*

*righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?"*

*"If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it."*

<sup>29</sup> *Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?"*

*He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it."*

<sup>30</sup> *Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?"*

*He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."*

<sup>31</sup> *Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?"*

*He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it."*

<sup>32</sup> *Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?"*

*He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."*

<sup>33</sup> *When the Lord had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.*

**Morning Message**

Pastor Joel Bucklin

## **The Prayer for Sodom**

**\*Hymn No. 455 – Come All Christians**

**\*Blessing & Dismissal**

Pastor Joel Bucklin

**\*Postlude**

Sharon Chaney

## **What is Happening at First Church?**

**The White Rose on the Altar** is in honor of Miss Nora Nielsen who will be receiving the sacrament of baptism today. She is the daughter of Dan & Jess Nielsen. Grandparents are John & Deb Katterheinrich and Doug & Jan Nielsen. Great grandparents are Bob & Pat Snyder and Jack Nielsen.

**Congratulations to Tory Russell & Jake Breitigan** who were united in Christian marriage here at First Church on Saturday, October 14, 2017. *Congratulations!*

**The Blue Jug** is on the steps to support hurricane victims. Donations will assist the Salvation Army who is already on the ground providing aid in affected areas. *You can also text "FirstChurchNK \$25" to 73256. (Change the dollar amount to whatever you want to give; it doesn't have to be \$25).*

**Meeting Reminders:** The trustees will meet on Monday, October 16 at 7:00 pm in the ministry center followed by consistory at 7:30 pm

**Third Quarter Giving Statements** have gone out in the mail. Please review yours for accuracy. *Thank you* to all who have blessed First Church with your tithes and offerings. If you have not done so, we prayerfully ask that you consider a pledge to the general fund of the church. The generosity of the congregation allows First Church to minister both within and outside of its doors.

**We will be receiving new members on Sunday, October 29** during the morning service. If you would like to join the church or want more information please see Pastor Joel.

**Confirmation Mentors-** We will be having our first mentor meeting on Sunday, October 29 at 8 am in the ministry center. If you are a mentor for a 7th or 8th grade student this year, please plan on attending the meeting.

**Nursery Volunteers are needed for the remainder of the year** – The nursery is a vital part of a growing, active church. The signup sheet is on the front pew. Can you sign up for one Sunday a year?

**First Church will be having its first annual Trunk ‘R’ Treat** event in the parking lot on Thursday, October 26 from 6 to 7:30 pm. *We need you!* If you’re not handing out candy at your own home, fill your trunk with candy and park in our lot to greet the kids on their community trick or treat route. We will have prizes for the best decorated vehicle. We will have apple cider, cookies and candy for the entire family!!

## Youth & Sunday School News

**Sunday School Department News** - We are excited for a new year and gaining additional children this Fall in the Nursery Department (3 & 4 year olds). With the addition of more kids we are searching for a teacher in our department. As of now no one has expressed any interest. We are asking for volunteers to sign up for several weeks or even a month. Volunteers can include men, women or any high school students. If you are interested on being put on a sub list that would be great too. Please contact any Nursery Dept. teacher with questions. Any help would be appreciated so we can provide a safe and fun environment for the kids to learn. *Thanks, Nursery Dept. Teachers: Diane Piehl, Barb Niemeyer, Shelby Rohrbaugh & Amy Weadock*

**High School Bible Study**- The students decided they wanted to do a pop culture based bible study this year. Each month we will be watching a movie and then pulling themes from those movies that relate to our faith. Our first movie will be *Remember the Titans*. We will be talking about things like sportsmanship and being a follower of Christ on and off the court, race and justice, high school pressures, etc. All high school students are welcome! Bible study will be every Sunday at 6:30 pm starting on October 29 at Tory's house! Bring friends.

**Youth Group Updates** -Tory will be out of the office starting on Wednesday, October 11 through October 22 for her wedding and honeymoon. We will still be having youth group while she is gone. Deb Katterheinrich and Amy Weadock will be leading youth group on October 11 and Shelby Rohrbaugh and Tina Paul will be leading on October 18. Youth group will start at 6:30 pm for Junior High and 7:45 pm for High School students! Thank you to Deb, Amy, Shelby and Tina for your willingness to step in and lead our students!

**Summer 2018 Youth Mission Trip** – This trip is for students who have completed grades 8-12 at the end of the current school year. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, November 1 at 7:30 pm for interested students and their parents. We will be talking about the mission trip this summer and discussing fundraising.

## **Weekly Study Groups for All Ages**

**The Gospel Project for Adults** is led by Pastor Joel. This class will run throughout the entire Sunday school year and meets in the ministry center. We will cover the same topics and scriptures as the kids are in Sunday school each week. **There is childcare available in the nursery for ages 3 and under during the Sunday school hour.**

**The Gathering** meets in the basement social room at 6:30 pm every Wednesday. Join us for Scripture based discussion and how we apply it to life. During Pastor Joel's Fall Sermon Series we will be discussing the weekly questions in the sermon series booklet as our topic each week.

**Attention Seniors! Men, women, couples and friends.** Join us on Tuesday afternoons for "Grand Adults" from 2 - 4 pm in the ministry center youth room for cards, games, movies and snacks. If you can't drive let us know and we will arrange transportation, call Becky Huston at 419-753-2230.



## Life of the Church

**Prayer Needs** –Nick Wirwille serving in the Middle East, Harold Lunsford, Jane Novean, Doug Hoelscher, Connie Rische, Zachary Dillon, Rita Henschen, Betty Henschen, Kathleen Elshoff, Jim Reinhart, Barb Howe, Michael Allen, Don Pruetter, Judy Hoelscher, Wavalene Opperman, Payton Drummond, Darell Rupert, Helen Wellman, Irma Hoelscher, Kathy Schrolucke, Renee Clark, Thelma Arnett, Ruth Kuck, and Betty Kiefer . *(Please let us know if you would like added or removed from the prayer list – the office staff does not know to take you off unless you ask. Thank you)*

**Dear First Church,** we would like to thank our church family for coming to our wedding ceremony on Saturday. It was a perfect day and made it even more special that we could share it with all of you! Thank you again for all the love and support you show us. We are so blessed to be a part of such an awesome church! *Love, Jake & Tory Breitigan*

**Dear First Church,** Thank you so much for the card and gift on Pastor Appreciation Sunday. It is an honor and privilege to serve you as pastor. My family and I are so grateful for your kindness and graciousness toward us over the past year. We look forward to our continued ministry together making an impact for God's Kingdom in New Knoxville and beyond. *Pastor Joel and family.*

**Dear Church,** Thank you so much for the sweet gift that you gave me for pastor appreciation month. It is a joy and an honor to serve at First Church and to serve with you all. *Thank you again, Tory Breitigan*

**Dear First Church,** Thank you for the beautiful rose for our 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We have enjoyed it very much this week. *Don & Carol Heidt*

**“My First Church” provides our members with 24/7 access to their membership information & giving records.** All members who create a secure log in have access to their own personal information and only connected members may access their data or the membership directory. Our system is called Access ACS and is available through our website or the Church Life mobile app.



**Once you create a log in you can:** Submit changes to your personal information, view your giving history, set up online giving (one time or recurring), register for events & volunteer for activities, view an up to date church directory and download the Church Life Mobile App. **How do I sign up?** Go to our website [www.firstchurchnk.org](http://www.firstchurchnk.org) & click on “Online Giving”

## **This Week at First Church – Oct. 15 - 22**

### **TODAY**

#### **Nora Jo Nielsen Baptism**

8:00 am Men's Morning Bible Study – Min. Ctr. Youth Room  
9:00 am Family Worship Service  
10:15 am Adult Sunday School  
10:15 am Youth Sunday School  
10:15 am 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

### **MON.**

7:00 pm Trustees Meeting  
7:30 pm Consistory

### **TUES.**

9:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study – Min. Ctr. Youth Rm.  
2:00 pm Grand Adults Fellowship - Min. Ctr. Youth Rm.

### **WED.**

6:30 pm Jr. High Youth Group  
7:45 pm Sr. High Youth Group  
6:30 pm The Gathering Bible Study – Social Room  
6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice  
7:30 pm Vocal Choir Practice

### **FRI.**

Church Office Closed on Fridays

### **NEXT SUN.**

8:00 am Men's Morning Bible Study – Min. Ctr. Youth Room  
9:00 am Family Worship Service  
10:15 am Adult Sunday School  
10:15 am Youth Sunday School  
10:15 am 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

### **Attendance Last Sunday – 242**

### **Sunday Collection from October 8 - \$2,775.00**

Gideons - \$1,550.00  
General Fund – \$875.00  
Pledges - \$350.00

**Total Online Gifts - \$300.00**



## Annual Pork Chop Dinner

Sunday, October 22nd, 2017  
New Knoxville American Legion  
11:00am

1 Pork Chop Meal - \$8.00

2 Pork Chop Meal - \$12.00

- Meals include baked potato, applesauce, and a roll.
- Eat in or Carry out

\* Pre-sale tickets are available from any junior high student.



It's that time of year again! Grab an empty shoebox and reach out to needy children in desperate situations around the world.

The shoe box you fill may be the only Christmas present many of the children will receive. Christian literature is also added to each shoe box by Samaritan's Purse sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ!

**Everyone is encouraged to take part in this project and fill a shoe box. Extra brochures are at the entrances and on the heritage room table.**

***The \$9.00 for each shoe box to cover shipping costs will be paid by the Sunday school department.***

**The shoe boxes can be brought in throughout November with the deadline being Sunday, November 19 by 4:00 p.m.**

If you have any questions concerning Operation Christmas Child, please contact a Sunday school teacher.

“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”

-1 CHRONICLES 29:14

