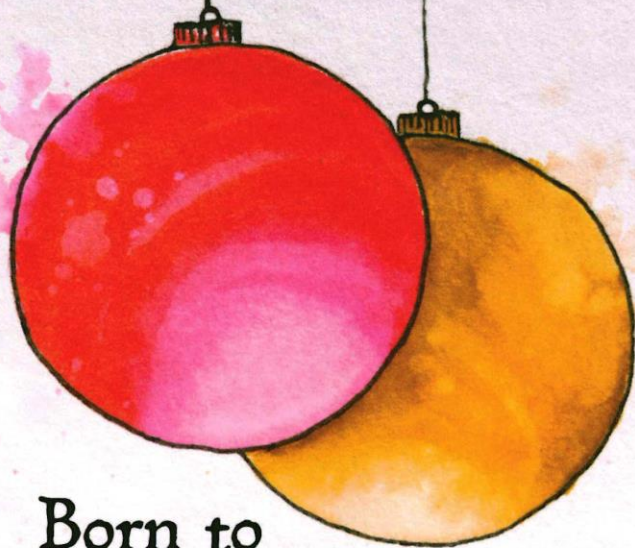


PEACE



Born to
set thy people
free



First Church

OF NEW KNOXVILLE

Rooted in Christ, Growing Together, Serving the World

**First Church recognizes Jesus Christ
as the head of the Church and as Savior and Lord.**

**We are a community of faith who engage Biblical truth
to provide an environment where people mature
as disciples of Christ.**

December 9, 2018
Second Sunday in Advent

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Pastor Joel Bucklin

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joel.bucklin@nktelco.net

Youth Pastor Tory Breitigan

231-557-0260

tory.breitigan@nktelco.net

In Worship Today

Rick Homan Family,

Advent Readers

Erik Hirschfeld, Music Director

Sharon Chaney, Musician

Jake Breitigan, Scripture

Shelby Rohrbaugh, Children's Chat

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

- **The Restrooms** are in the basement at the East end of the church and inside the main glass doors of the ministry building next door.
- **The Nursery for Young Children** is located 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.
- **Large Print bulletins** are available at the back of the sanctuary near the table.
- **Hearing Assistance Devices** – Please see the sound system technician on the South wall if you would like to use one.
- **WiFi Connection is available** for those who wish to use their device to connect to the Bible app or take notes. Connect via “FirstChurchWifi Guest”
- **The Bible App by YouVersion** -- Under the “More” tab in the Bible App you will find the Events feature. Each Sunday you can find the scripture, sermon key points and weekly questions.

Welcome to Worship at First Church

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

Prelude – The First Noel

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Peace) – Isaiah 9:6-7 & John 14:27

***Hymn No. 143** – Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Children's Chat & Greeting Time

Remembering Our Soldiers

***Hymn No. 123** – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Giving Back to God

Ministry: Building Technology & Improvements

Offertory Music: Every Valley by Beck

Offertory Hymn No. 623 – Gloria Patri

***Scripture Reading** – Luke 3:1-6 and Malachi 3:1-4

Message - Unparalleled Peace

***Hymn No. 133** – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

***Blessing, Dismissal & Postlude**

This Week at First church

Prepare The Way - The season of Advent serves two purposes. On the one hand, Advent, which means “arrival”, reminds us of the events surrounding Jesus birth more than 2,000 years ago. On the other hand, it points us to Jesus’ second advent. This is the day when Christ will return and establish the Kingdom of God in the new heavens and new earth. Taken as a whole, Advent teaches us about God’s love and the good news of a savior so that we will be ready when he returns. Our Advent sermon series will encourage us to prepare the way for Christ in our own hearts and prepare the way for Christ to have an impact in our communities and world. Like John the Baptist, we too can share the good news and point people to Christ.

You are invited to enjoy an afternoon of music! The Sharon Chaney Piano Studio Christmas Recital will be today at First Church of New Knoxville. There will be 21 young musicians performing all of your Christmas favorites. Music begins at 3:00 pm and will be followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.

The Children’s Christmas Program will be next Sunday, December 16 and will begin at 10:30 am. The children enjoy Sunday school all year and on this day will share with the congregation the love of Jesus and the celebration of His birth! There will be light refreshments between church and the start of the program.

The Giving Tree is up through Christmas Eve and will benefit Elizabeth New Life Pregnancy Center in Sidney. *Elizabeth New Life Center* provides positive solutions for the challenges of unexpected pregnancies. The ornaments on the tree for items such as diapers, baby wipes, formula and new baby clothing. *Gifts can be left under the tree in the heritage room.*

Parents of 4th to 6th grade students -The junior department will be practicing for the Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 12 from 6:00-7:15. Practice will be followed by pizza and a Christmas party! Please see Tina Paul or Annette Thompson with any questions.

Prayer Focus

Prayer during November, December and January – during our guided prayer session in November we spent time praying for our husbands, wives, marriages, children and extended families. We lifted up our church family and the churches in our surrounding communities. We also prayed for our local, state and federal leaders. We invite you to pray diligently for these as well over the next few months. There are bookmarks over by the new info center with specific scripture verses to use in your prayer time.

Individual Prayer Needs – Shannon Roediger in India, Todd Hegemier, David Jeanneret, Jeannie Zanboni, Brooklyn Karch, Norma Schroer, Ed Oberlander, Pastor Andrew Cammenga, Don Williams, Joann Feldwisch, Cameron Wilkerson, Don Prueter, Robert Schroer, Mike Geib, Shawn Spencer, Ted Lammers, Becky Quellhorst, Ned Niemeyer, Don Heidt, Mable Meckstroth, Scarlett Unrast, Michael Allen, Judy Hoelscher, Wavalene Opperman, Darell Rupert, Helen Wellman, Irma Hoelscher, Kathy Schrolucke, Thelma Arnett, Ruth Kuck, and Betty Kiefer. *(Please let us know if you would like to be added or removed from the prayer list – the office staff does not know to take you off unless you ask. Thank you)*

Life of the Church

Meeting Reminders – On Monday, December 10 Spiritual Council will meet at 6:30 pm in the conference room. The trustees will meet in the ministry center big room at 7:00 pm followed by the regular monthly consistory meeting at 7:30 pm.

Senior High Parents and Students-We have a new date for our senior high trip this summer. Our new dates will be July 10-15. We will have a brief parent meeting on December 19th at 8 pm to answer any questions and to fill you in on deposit details. You will be getting a letter in the mail this coming week to explain the date change.

Year End Gifts & Pledges - All financial gifts to be credited to 2018 giving statements must arrive to the church office by 12 p.m. December 31 or be postmarked December 31, 2018. *Thank you.*

We still have First Church cookbooks. They make great stocking stuffers and Christmas gifts. The cost per cookbook is \$15 or 2 cookbooks for \$25. Call or stop by the office to get yours.

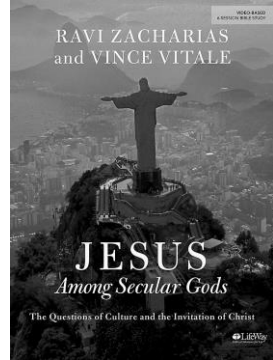
Grand Adults Fellowship which meets on Tuesday afternoons will meet on December 11 and then take a break for the winter.

New Bible Study in January - Jesus Among Secular Gods.

On Sunday mornings starting in January we will be offering a NEW bible study *Jesus Among Secular Gods* written by Ravi Zacharias and Vince Vitale. The rise of secular gods presents the most serious challenge to the absolute claims of Christ since the founding of Christianity itself.

We will be studying the secular prevailing worldviews such as atheism, scientism, pluralism and many more that are drastically different than what Jesus preached. This study will seek to help us as Christ-followers to engage and have meaningful conversations with people that believe in these secular worldviews. This study will be an 11-week bible study led by Jake Breitigan beginning January 27 on Sundays at 10:15 am.

Please sign up at the info table by January 6th so that we can order books for those who are interested! Everyone is welcome to join this study. Please talk to Jake Breitigan if you have any questions.



Facts & Figures from last Sunday

Total Sunday Collection - \$4,094.83	Worship Attendance – 173
The General Fund \$3,789.83	
Pledges- \$170.00	
Furnace Project Gifts.-\$135.00	
Online Giving for the week-\$3,180.00	
Sunday School Offering - \$27.67	

“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.firstchurchnkc.org & click on “Online Giving”

Sermon Questions for Deeper Study

1. What is the role of a spokesperson or messenger?
2. How did the prophets of the Old Testament prepare the way for Jesus' birth?
3. How would you answer the question posed in Malachi 3:2, which asks "Who can stand when he [the Lord] appears?" (see also Psalm 24:3-4)
4. How does John the Baptist's message prepare the way for the Lord?
5. How do you define peace? How does "repentance and forgiveness of sins" bring peace?
6. What obstacles prevent you from truly preparing the way for the Lord in your own life? How can you work to remove them?
7. How does Jesus' life, death, and resurrection purify us? What is our proper response to all that Christ has done for us?

This Week at First Church – December 9 - 16

TODAY

Advent 2

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study – Min. Ctr. youth room
9:00 am Worship Service
10:15 am Sunday School for children
10:15 am Confirmation Class – Min. Ctr. youth room
10:15 am Adult Sunday School led by Jay Elshoff – Heritage room
10:15 am Gospel Project Adult Sunday school led by Pastor Joel – Min. Ctr. big room
3:00 pm Sharon Chaney's Piano Student Christmas Recital - Sanctuary
4:30 pm Sr. High Youth Bible Study – Dave & Judy Bambauer's home

MON.

- 6:30 pm Spiritual Council Meeting
7:00 pm Trustees Meeting
7:30 pm Consistory Meeting

TUES.

- 2:00 pm Grand Adults Fellowship & Games – Min. Ctr. youth room

WED.

- 6:00 pm Jr. Department (4 – 6 Grade) Christmas Program practice
6:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High School Youth Group
7:00 pm Bell Choir practice (Note time change)
7:30 pm Vocal Choir practice

NEXT SUN.

Advent 3

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study – Min. Ctr. youth room
9:00 am Worship Service
10:15 am Refreshments in the heritage room
10:30 am Children's Christmas Program
4:30 pm Sr. High Youth Bible Study – Dave & Judy Bambauer's home