

September 2025

# *The Christian Letter*



**First Christian Church**  
**Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples for Christ**



## Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 Sunday School

10:00 Worship Service

**Pastor: Mike Moulden**

**Email: [mikemoulden@firstchristianwinchester.org](mailto:mikemoulden@firstchristianwinchester.org)**

**Office Hours: M,T,W,TH 9am-2pm**

# Pastor Mike's Message

I need to emphasize a foundational fact: God's goal is not to make sure you are happy. No matter how hard it is for you to believe this, it is time to do so. Life is not about your being comfortable and happy and successful and pain free. It is about becoming the man or woman God has called you to be. Unfortunately, we will rarely hear that message proclaimed today. All the more reason for me to say it again: Life is not about *you*! It is about *God*.

How can I say that with assurance? Because of Paul's response in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: *"So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

That is it! Paul got it, too. And he went with it for the rest of his days. When you and I boast of our strengths, we get the credit, and we keep going under our own head of steam. But when we boast in what God is doing in the midst of our brokenness, inability, and inadequacy, Christ comes to the front. His strength comes to our rescue. He is honored.

Do not miss that point. The very things we dread and run from in our lives are precisely what brought contentment to Paul. Look at the list: I am content when I lose. I am content when I am weak. I am content with insults. I am content when I am slandered. I am content in hardships. I am content with persecutions. I am content with difficulties and pressures that are so tight I can hardly turn around. Why? *"Because when I am weak, then I am strong."* Knowing that brought the apostle, on fire with the flaming oracles of heaven, to his knees. What a way to live your life—content in everything—knowing that divine strength comes when human weakness is evident.

Paul recommends an attitude of unselfish humility. Quite remarkably, you never read where Paul said to his Roman guard, while he was in prison: *"I need you to do me a favor. Next time you happen to be near one of the Emperor's assistants, urge him to get me out of this dump. I should not be here in the first place. I have been here for one year, seven months, four days, five hours, and nine minutes, and that is long enough."* Paul's attitude of unselfish humility prevented him from keeping meticulous records of the wrongs done to him in Rome, or anywhere else for that matter. He was in prison by divine appointment. He willingly submitted to his situation.

Christ modeled the great emptying-out principle that permeated Paul's remarkable life. If we want to learn contentment, developing an attitude of unselfish humility is the perfect place to begin. Start with your family or neighbors. Model it before your employees or clients. You will not believe the impact that sort of selfless mental attitude will have on the people. You will not have to raise flags or pass out tracts. Just demonstrate an attitude of unselfish humility. The results will amaze you.

Paul exhorts believers to have an attitude of joyful acceptance. Paul minced no words about how believers should relate to one another. *"Do everything without complaining and arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people."* (Philippians 2:14-15). He sought an attitude of joyful acceptance, free of petty disputes and bickering. He pled for authentic joy. Nothing is more contagious!



# First Christian Church Youth Ministry

## **September Youth Dates!**

Thursday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 630-730pm  
**High School Bible Study**

Tuesday, Sept 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23 and 30<sup>th</sup> 630-730 pm  
**Middle School Bible Study**

Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> 6pm-730pm  
**Youth Group for k-5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## FCC Jr. Church Topics

9/7 What does the bible say about....my feelings?

9/14 What does the bible say about....friends?

9/21 What does the bible say about..... parents/grown-ups?

9/28 What does the bible say about..... me?



Contact Jamie or Lauren with any questions! 540-327-4041

# SEPTEMBER

## Nursery Volunteers

7<sup>th</sup> Susan and Sarah D

14<sup>th</sup> **Need a volunteer**

21<sup>st</sup> Melany Y

28<sup>th</sup> **Need a volunteer**

If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, please contact Lauren. 540-327-4041.

FCC YOUTH

## K-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### MOVIE NIGHT!

What a great night of fellowship and watching "King of Kings"



September Greeter Schedule			
	Entry	Foyer	Outside
7	Terri	Diane	Donnie
14	Kathy Lee	Betty	Brad
21	Beverly	Franzi	Matt
28	Pat	Diana	Mark



The Outreach ministry would like to thank all those that support our monthly community ministries: Winchester Rescue Mission meal, laundry ministry, Milk & Honey food pantry, and LIFE meal. Be on the lookout in October for our Operation Christmas Child boxes! Our goal is to send 100 boxes to children around the world!



## Financial Report

2025 General Operating Budget.....\$218,115.00    Amount needed weekly.....\$4,194.52  
 August 1<sup>st</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>    Amount Received.....\$12,901.00    Expenditures.....\$19,339.85



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 Winchester, VA

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\*Church office: Melissa Bucher

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\*Newsletter: Mike Davis

Email: [bellgirl.davis@yahoo.com](mailto:bellgirl.davis@yahoo.com)

\*Youth Director: Jamie & Lauren Bucher

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Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/firstchristianwinchester>



## First Christian Church

75 Merrimans Lane  
Winchester, VA 22601-6203

A background image of a mountain landscape at sunrise or sunset. Sunbeams (crepuscular rays) are visible, shining down from the sky through the clouds onto the mountain ridges. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the mountains are silhouetted against the bright light.

*will Jesus*  
welcome you into heaven?