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GREETINGS FROM PASTOR KENYON

Making a Cultural Impact! 1 Kings 18

A few weeks ago, in Sunday School we watched a great video about the prophet Elijah and his confrontation with the false prophets of Baal. Now, I'd like to encourage everyone to go and read this story from 1 Kings 18 before you continue reading this article!

Great! I really hope you like that wonderful story as much as I do! One of my absolute favorites. So, towards the end of the video the host said something I found very interesting. He said, Elijah made a huge impact on his culture. Now, this got me to thinking! How can we as 21st century believer's follow in Elijah's footsteps and impact our own modern-day culture just as he did his? Well, I started doing some research and I came across an article from Dr. David Jeremiah, that I'd like to share with you that I believe will provide us some great insight on this topic.

He begins by saying we can learn four important lessons from Elijah and his run in with the Prophets of Baal. Now, the first thing he say we need to intimately understand is that all religions are NOT the same! You see, there's a false modern-day assertion that all religions are the same. I.e. "All religions lead to the same mountain top". Blatantly false! That's because Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, and no one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). There aren't many ways to heaven--there's only one way!

Secondly, activity and enthusiasm aren't always signs of spirituality. There's no doubt that the prophets of Baal displayed a lot of enthusiasm and activity on Mount Carmel. They were extremely sincere in their efforts to make it rain! However, how many of us are willing to admit that's it's possible to be sincerely wrong? The duel between Jehovah God and Baal on Mount Carmel proved that point in a very powerful and vivid manner.

Thirdly, faith can be misplaced. Faith isn't the important thing. Now, that may strike you as an odd or blasphemous statement, but faith isn't paramount. It's the object of faith that's the most important thing. The people who followed Baal surely had a sincere kind of faith. They had worshiped this god all of their lives. They believed in Baal. They had faith in Baal. But their faith was worthless because the object of their faith was worthless.

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To view the worship service, please go to our website:
iolafcc.org
 ~~~~~Simply click on "LIVE VIDEO" if you are tuning in on Sunday morning.



**GREETINGS FROM PASTOR KENYON**

*Continued from pg. 1...*

Clearly, faith doesn't get you into heaven unless it's faith in God and in His Son, Jesus Christ. This Bible lesson teaches us that only those who believe in Jehovah end up on the winning side. There is no other in which to place your faith.

Finally, the faith you live by better be good enough to die by! Folks, if your faith doesn't bring you hope and help you in or through your deepest moments of crisis or despair, it's not of much value to you, is it? You see, God built up the faith of Elijah in the quietness of a brook, the confines of a widow's home, and walking in the wilderness. So, when he needed his faith at the biggest moment of his life, when he drew a line in the sand and chose a side, his faith came through because he truly trusted in his God!

I fully believe that as modern-day believers our faith also needs to be just as deeply rooted as Elijah's was. The fact remains that the duel that day between Elijah and the prophets of Baal was really just an extension of the eternal battle between good and evil. That battle still rages today! We must always remain ready to answer God's call just as Elijah did.

So, in closing, which side are you going to be on? Are you going to live for God and be His follower? Or are you going to keep living for the other things that motivate you in your life? That's the challenge from this story to all of us, and I hope we will hear it very loudly and clearly!

Blessings, Pastor Kenyon

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

**F**ATHER, THANK YOU FOR  
**A**LWAYS BEING THERE FOR ME  
**T**EACHING ME SKILLS  
**H**AVING THE BIGGEST HEART  
**E**XPECTING NOTHING BUT GIVING EVERYTHING  
**R**EALLY, YOU ARE THE BEST





**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**First Christian Church Board Meeting  
May 17, 2026**

**In Attendance:**

David Donovan  
Edna Donovan  
Janet Rhoades  
Kenyon Kaehr  
Donna Kaehr  
Tom Sayles  
Matt Powe

Joe Riebel  
Sherrie Riebel  
Otis Babcock  
John Scovill  
Cindy Scovill  
Michelle Scovill  
Bill Hobbs

Steven Uitts  
Helen Uitts  
Craig Mentzer  
Denise Mentzer  
Tom Strickler  
Susan Locke

John Scovill called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The minutes of the April 12, 2026, board meeting were reviewed. John asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. There being no additions or corrections, John called for a motion to approve the minutes. Matt Powe made the motion, Joe Riebel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

John then called for the financial report. Due to Traci Ridge's absence and no special notes to report, the financial reports were reviewed by the board. The general fund had total receipts of \$16,872.16, disbursements of \$13,774.41, and a \$2,000.00 transfer to Edward Jones for the building maintenance fund, leaving an ending balance of \$112,269.58.

We had a total of \$151,602.77 in the checking account and \$55,636.53 in the CD at Community National Bank & Trust. We had \$69,704.09 in the building maintenance fund and \$44,177.67 in the investment fund at Edward Jones. At the end of April, we had total assets of \$321,121.06. John asked if there were any questions or discussion on the financial reports. There being none, John then asked for a motion to approve the financial reports. Craig Mentzer made the motion. Joe seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

John then called for committee reports.

Worship Committee, Heather Mentzer: no report available.

Membership Committee, Skylar Starke: no report available.

Memorial Committee, Denise Mentzer: Denise had nothing new to report.

Christian Education Committee, Donna Kaehr: Donna had nothing new to report.

*Continued on pg. 4...*



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

*Continued from pg. 3...*

Church Attendance, Helen Uitts: Helen reported that we had an average attendance of 31 in Sunday School and 75 in worship services in April.

Mission & Outreach Committee, Sherrie Riebel: Sherrie reminded everyone that there will not be a penny dinner in May due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Property & Facilities, Bill Hobbs & Dave Donovan: Dave and Bill had nothing new to report.

Church Clerk, Judy McGraw: Pastor Kenyon said that Judy had no changes to report.

John called for unfinished business. Pastor Kenyon reported on behalf of the Youth Minister Committee. He said that his son, Zane, put a copy of our youth pastor ad on another website that he found out about at a training meeting he attended in Nashville. Pastor Kenyon also mentioned that there are currently ten interns serving as youth pastors at a large church in Omaha, NE. The pastor there said that he would refer any likely prospects to Pastor Kenyon at the end of their internship.

There was no update available on the purchase of a new piano for the choir room.

There being no additional unfinished business, John called for new business. Traci left a note with Pastor Kenyon about using funds that were being donated for an awning at the church entrance for other building needs. There was some discussion of the initial planning of the new church building that included adding the awning and an addition to the building that included showers and sleeping space for church groups to use when traveling through the area at a later date. Given the expense of either project, neither will be forthcoming any time soon. It was decided to use those funds for other building needs.

There was some discussion of church attendance, and a question arose as to how many people were attending the online church service. Pastor Kenyon will check with Dan Damron to see if we can get those numbers on a monthly basis.

Donna Kaehr asked about sponsoring the first 100 swimmers at the pool again this year. She made the motion, Denise seconded, and the motion carried.

Edna Donovan asked if the church would be willing to sponsor the Allen County Relay for Life this year. In the past the church has donated \$300.00. Pastor Kenyon made a motion to donate \$500.00 this year. Sherrie seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

John announced a corn hole tournament in the park on May 30 at 11:00 a.m. Team registration is \$40.00. Half of the proceeds will be donated to the Allen County Relay for Life and half to the winning team.

*Continued on pg. 5...*



# JUNE

## NEWSLETTER



### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

*Continued from pg. 4...*

There being no additional new business, John called for the pastor's report. Pastor Kenyon said that he bought some bean bag chairs and a projector for the new youth area. He also had someone come look at the new area and provide input on installing carpeting. There will be two different kinds, one on the stairs and one in the room itself. They will install it as their scheduling permits, so it will not be right away.

John called for a motion to adjourn. Helen made the motion, Joe seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pastor Kenyon gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Locke  
Board Secretary

**Vacation Bible School**

Is in need of CLEAN & DRY Gallon jugs- *Can be milk or water!*

Need by: First part of July to build an Igloo.

**THANK YOU!**

**Dad** HANDSOME

**WISER** Honest

**FUNNY** ADORABLE

**STRONG** Kind

**MENTOR** Caring

**TEACHER** Generous

**DEVELOPER** DEVOTED

**GENIAL** Clever

**LOVING** with a crown icon

**WISER** with a star icon

**STRONG** with a lightning bolt icon

**MENTOR** with a mustache icon



**THE POWER OF PRAYER**

If you would like to add or edit a prayer need or praise on the list, please call the church office.



Join us on Wednesdays; at noon or 6:30 p.m., as we come together for prayer.

Our Church Family and Shut-Ins:

L.C. Hill, Janie Henderson, Bill Mentzer, Duane McGraw & Family of Lori Ensminger, First Responders, Police, Fire, etc... Unrest in our Nation, Quick end to Iranian Conflict; Also, our Military– Annika H., Alex K., & Meaghan I.

The ministry, outreach and leadership of FCC; Local Needs:

Meals on Wheels, Allen County Ministerial Alliance food pantry ~ Hope Unlimited domestic violence interventions ~ Pregnancy Resource Center finances and curriculum needs ~ Spiritual Awakening in our church and community

Global Needs:

~ Peace in Jerusalem and Israel that they may turn to their Messiah ~ Global Community and the need for God-fearing leaders ~ Christians persecuted throughout the world, Isreal–



Pray for, send cards to, or visit our church family, shut-ins. A list is available at the Welcome Center.



**NEW  
UPDATE**

**Elder**  
Tom Sayles

**Diaconates**  
Susan Locke, Melanie Hermstein,  
Travis Hermstein, Evan Powe

**Power Point**  
06/07- Bill Hobbs  
06/14- Travis Hermstein  
06/21- Charmanne Sayles  
06/28- Chris Sayles

**Nursery**  
**Volunteers**  
Gina Powe  
Charlah Green  
Cindy Hill

**Greeter**  
Carol Wilson



Women's Ministry  
Monthly Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
**2ND MONDAY OF  
EACH MONTH**

**REMEMBER!!!**

Save your UPC labels  
For our Missionary Fund

~Thank you!



**FCC**  
First Christian Church

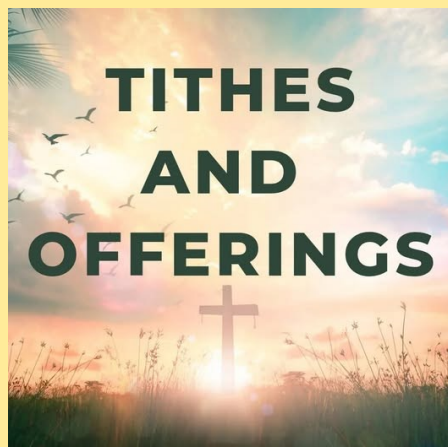
**Ladies  
Lunch**  
11:30 A.M. @ ROOKIES  
**3RD MONDAY OF EACH  
MONTH**

Total Monthly amount needed:

\$16,943.19

May combined giving: \$15,422.00
















**9% Shortfall for the  
month!!!**



**~Don't forget we're still  
growing and need water!**



# JUNE

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                          | MONDAY                                                                                                           | TUESDAY                                                                    | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                         | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                                                                     | FRIDAY                                                                                                 | SATURDAY                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1<br><i>FH- Reserved</i>                                                                                         | 2                                                                          | 3                                                                                                                                                                                 | 4<br><br>                 | 5                                                                                                      | 6                                   |
| 7                                                                                                                                                                                               | 8<br><br>Edward Donovan         | 9<br><i>FH- Reserved</i>                                                   | 10                                                                                                                                                                                | 11<br>Jeri Waters<br><br> | 12                                                                                                     | 13<br><i>FH- Reserved</i>           |
| 14<br><br><br>Suzan Emmons     | 15<br><i>FH- Reserved</i><br> | 16<br><i>FH- Reserved</i><br><i>Church Library-Reserved</i><br>Audrey Powe | 17                                                                                                                                                                                | 18<br><br>            | 19                                                                                                     | 20<br>Rick & Idris Dougherty        |
| 21<br><br><br>Terri Nunnery | 22                                                                                                               | 23                                                                         | 24<br><br> | 25                                                                                                                                                                                           | 26                                                                                                     | 27                                  |
| 28                                                                                                                                                                                              | 29                                                                                                               | 30<br>Steve Uitts<br>Judy McGraw<br>Glen & Betty Cunningham                |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                              |  = Choir Practice | Happy Birthday<br>Happy Anniversary |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |                                                                            | <b>Wednesdays</b><br><b>Prayer 12:00 &amp; 6:30 p.m.</b>                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                        |                                     |