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Christian Church

Pastor Kenyon-

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Church Secretary

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GREETINGS FROM PASTOR KENYON

Scam Alert!!! Mark 8:36

Well, as most of us already know, the church's computer was hacked a few weeks ago. Quite honestly, this irritates/frustrates me to no end! Seriously, hacking a church in order to perpetrate fraud by using a false identity to only enrich themselves thru illicit gain. Disgusting, disappointing and depressing; all at same time. Now, this really got me to thinking and Mark 8:36 quickly sprang to mind. Here Jesus tells his disciples, "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

Obviously, scammers scam because they live under the illusion that it really is possible to gain the whole world! You see, they believe they've discovered a shortcut in acquiring significant amounts of wealth or "stuff" without having to actually earn it thru hard work and honest means. They also perceive a serious lack of consequences if they should ever get caught and they're very good at justifying their fraudulent actions.

Unfortunately, for untold millions, when the choice between the serenity and contentment of what Jesus has to offer and the "happiness" of worldly possessions pops up, well, I don't need to tell you how the rest of that story plays out. However, for the sake of argument, let's just say it really is possible to gain the **WHOLE** world!

You fully and unequivocally embrace your possessions as superior to anything Christ has to offer. So, as you go through life you actually succeed in **EVERYYTHING** you put your hand too. By the end of your life, you really **DO** own it all! You make Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk look like paupers. You've managed to call all the shots and you never once missed a basket. Congratulations!

However, the ghostly whisper of Jesus's words begins to echo in the recesses of the mind. "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?" That's what Jesus is attempting to get folks to really think about here. You've managed to gain the *whole world*. But then you die, and you instantly realize it was *suicide*; eternal suicide! There you are, face to face with Jesus himself, and you quickly say, "I'll give you everything. I'll give you everything because I own it all. I'll give you everything — the whole world — in return for my soul."

So, what do you think Jesus will have to say about your offer? Well, I think he'll say something like this: "Dude, you're trying to buy your soul with the very possessions that destroyed your soul — the same possessions that you preferred over me? Folks, Christ-replacing, Christ-belittling idols have absolutely no currency in heaven." And then Jesus will turn his face away from you and you will be cast into outer darkness for all of eternity.

Sadly, for those who try to use their material gain to pay their soul's ransom, have failed to understand that it's already been paid in full. They simply chose not to be a part of it, to not be a part of God's family. They freely made the choice to go with an "alternative" treasure. Thankfully though, as Romans 6:23 tells us, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

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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...*

So, for all the scammers, cheaters, fraudsters, swindlers and defrauders that continue to put all their eggs in the wrong basket let us pray fervently for their hearts and eyes to be opened to the FREE gift of God's amazing gifts of redemption, grace and salvation.

On a side note, there's a really excellent Veggie Tales video called, "Madame Blueberry," on You Tube that covers this topic for kids. I'd highly suggest you share it with your kids or grandkids, or any other kind of kids you may know. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eR4ymou4D8o>.

Blessings, Pastor Kenyon

GOD HAS BLESSED US  
WITH ANOTHER  
MONTH ON THIS  
BEAUTIFUL EARTH, SO  
LET US BE GRATEFUL TO  
HIM AND BE HUMBLE  
TO EACH OTHER. HAPPY  
NEW MONTH!





## THE POWER OF PRAYER

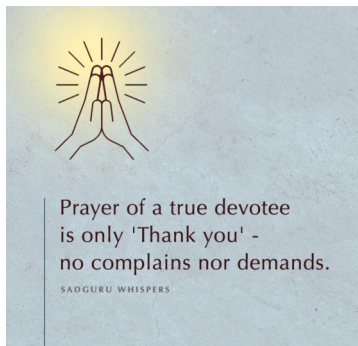


If you would like to add or edit a prayer need or praise on the list, please call the church office.

**JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS; AT NOON OR 6:30 P.M., AS WE COME TOGETHER FOR PRAYER.**

The greatest and best talent that God gives to any man or woman in the world is the talent of prayer.

ALEXANDER WHYTE



To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

Martin Luther

Frank Fuller, Bill Mentzer, Lori Ensminger, Dave Donovan, Jerry Chambers, Brenda Smith, Marsha Coffman, Karen Trester, Dorothy McGhee, Janie Henderson, Jaiden Emmons, Terri Nunnery, Otis Babcock, L.C. Hill, Helen Uitts, Ardith Harris, Jeremy Johnston, Jason & Elizabeth Stokes, Robert Fulton, LeRoy Jackson, Larry Robertson, Our Military– Annika H., Alex K., & Meaghan I.

The ministry, outreach and leadership of FCC Local Needs: Our Church Family including the shut-ins, 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, Israel– AT WAR; Pray for Rain for wildfires/ fire control in the US





## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### First Christian Church Board Meeting August 10, 2025

#### In Attendance:

Kenyon Kaehr  
David Donovan  
Edna Donovan  
Skylar Starke  
Steven Uitts  
Helen Uitts  
Tom Strickler

Duane McGraw  
Judy McGraw  
Tom Sayles  
Joe Riebel  
Sherrie Riebel  
John Scovill  
Cindy Scovill

Michelle Scovill  
Sharon Whitworth  
Craig Mentzer  
Denise Mentzer  
Heather Mentzer  
Bill Hobbs  
Susan Locke

John Scovill called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The minutes of the July 13, 2025, board meeting were reviewed. John asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. There being no corrections or additions, John called for a motion to approve the minutes. Judy McGraw made a motion to approve the minutes. Craig Mentzer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

John called for the financial reports. Susan Locke, in Traci Ridge's absence, reported that the quarterly property insurance premium was paid, and Ace Refrigeration was paid for the repair of the air conditioning units. We had total receipts of \$12,169.58 and disbursements of \$13,939.54. We have a balance of \$98,233.27 in the general fund. We have a total of \$129,228.81 in the checking account and a balance of \$51,851.26 in the CD, which gives us a total of \$181,080.07 in deposits at Community National Bank & Trust. We have \$50,063.83 in the building maintenance fund, which includes interest for July of \$158.96, and \$37,511.31 in the investment fund, which gives us a total of \$87,575.14 in deposits at Edward Jones. The total of our current assets is now \$268,655.21. John called for a motion to approve the financial report. Skylar Starke made the motion, Sherrie Riebel seconded, and the motion carried.

John then called for committee reports.

Worship Committee, Heather Mentzer: Heather had nothing new to report, except that her program about her Ecuador trip has been rescheduled for September 28.

Membership Committee, Skylar Starke: Skylar had nothing new to report.

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

Christian Education Committee, Donna Kaehr: Pastor Kenyon, reporting for Donna, said that the curriculum for this year's lesson plan is going to be from the book, Kids Guide to the Power of Words, by Tony Evans. The start date for Sparks has been pushed back to Wednesday, September 10.

*Continued on pg. 5.*



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

*Continued from pg. 4...*

Church Attendance, Helen Uitts: Helen reported that we had an average attendance of 29 in Sunday School and 78 in worship services for the month of July.

Mission & Outreach Committee, Sherrie Riebel: Proceeds for the August penny dinner will be donated to First Christian Church. Pulled pork will be served.

Property & Facilities, Bill Hobbs & Dave Donovan: Bill and Dave had nothing new to report. Bill did ask for those who are at the church at various times throughout the week to please check the outlet boxes in the pavilion for wasp nests, so they can be knocked down before they get too big. Tom Sayles reported that the east double doors are not latching properly. Bill will call Jim Valentine to come check the locking mechanism to see if it can be repaired or if it needs to be replaced. John and Pastor Kenyon reported that both of the dishwashers are having problems, in that it takes several tries to get them to start the wash cycle. Pastor Kenyon suggested contacting Flynn Appliance about replacements, since they will disconnect and haul off the old ones when they install and connect the new ones.

Church Clerk, Judy McGraw: Judy had two losses to report, Pauline Hawk and Glynda Powe.

John called for unfinished business. Sharon Whitworth asked about the removal of the concrete parking curbs. Pastor Kenyon said that no one had been located who was willing to remove them and the rebar holding them in place. Craig volunteered to remove them and haul them off.

There being no additional unfinished business, John then called for new business.

With no new business brought forward for discussion, John called for the pastor's report. Pastor Kenyon reported that he will be gone on September 28. In his absence, Heather will present her program on her trip to Ecuador and Matt Powe will present the sermon. Pastor Kenyon is considering some type of churchwide outdoor event in the fall, possibly a hot dog roast and outdoor drive-in movie. Details and a date will be announced later.

John then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Helen made the motion, Joe Riebel seconded, and the motion passed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Locke  
Board Secretary



**Elder**  
Tom Strickler

**Diaconates**  
Sherrie Riebel, Carrie Gant,  
David Gant, Dennis Kershner

**PowerPoint**  
09/07 - Travis Hermstein  
09/14 - Charmanne Sayles  
09/21 - Evan Powe  
09/28 - Bill Hobbs

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

**Greeter(s)**  
Susan Lock & Steve Uttis

★  
**Sparks**  
(K-5th)  
&  
**Embers**  
(2-5yr)

First Christian Church  
1608 Oregon Rd  
Iola

Always starts the  
Wednesday after  
Labor Day  
6-7pm

**September 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Ladies  
Lunch**

11:30 A.M. @ ROOKIES

**3RD MONDAY OF EACH  
MONTH**

This month we will be collecting  
pancake mix and syrup for  
our local

**FOOD  
pantry**



**Tithe & Offering**

TOTAL MONTHLY AMOUNT NEEDED: \$16,943.19

AUGUST COMBINED GIVING: \$20,000.18

**Budget met for the month 124%!!!!**

**thank you**  
for giving to the Lord



# September

| SUNDAY                                                                                          | MONDAY                                                                                                                  | TUESDAY                          | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                         | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                                                              | FRIDAY                                                                                                  | SATURDAY                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                 | <b>1</b><br><i>FH- Reserved</i><br>    | <b>2</b>                         | <b>3</b>                                                                                                          | <b>4</b><br>                                                                                        | <b>5</b><br><i>FH- Reserved</i>                                                                         | <b>6</b><br><i>FH- Reserved</i><br><br>Betty Cunningham |
| <b>7</b><br>    | <b>8</b><br><br>Duane & Judy McGraw    | <b>9</b>                         | <b>10</b><br><br>Donna Kaehr                                                                                      | <b>11</b><br><br> | <b>12</b>                                                                                               | <b>13</b>                                               |
| <b>14</b><br> | <b>15</b><br><i>FH- Reserved</i><br> | <b>16</b><br><i>FH- Reserved</i> | <b>17</b><br>Dorothy McGee<br> | <b>18</b><br>                                                                                     | <b>19</b>                                                                                               | <b>20</b>                                               |
| <b>21</b>                                                                                       | <b>22</b><br>                        | <b>23</b>                        | <b>24</b><br>                  | <b>25</b><br>                                                                                     | <b>26</b><br>Otis Babcock                                                                               | <b>27</b>                                               |
| <b>28</b><br> | <b>29</b>                                                                                                               | <b>30</b>                        |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                         |                                                         |
|                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                         |                                  | <u>Wednesdays</u><br><u>Prayer 12:00 &amp; 6:30 p.m.</u>                                                          |  = Choir Practice                                                                                 |  = Sparks & Embers | Happy Birthday<br>Happy Anniversary                     |