

## Join us for worship on Sunday!

- Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
- Traditional Worship & Communion - 10:45 a.m.
- Contemporary Worship & Communion - 5:30 p.m.
- Or listen to our radio Broadcast on 1560 WPAD AM and 99.5 FM
- Check us out on [facebook](#)
- and our website [fccpaducah.org](http://fccpaducah.org)

### Support the PCM Pantry

We are collecting **tuna and/or saltine crackers** for the PCM Pantry during January.

## Recurring Monthly Fellowship and Outreach Opportunities

- 1st Monday & Tuesday** (Jan. 2 & 3) - **Blood Drive** from noon to 6PM - Fellowship Hall
- 1st Tuesday**, (Jan. 3) - **Cancer Support Group**, 7 PM in church parlor. Love and support for all that are affected by cancer in any way.
- 1st Wednesday**, (Jan 4) - **Super Senior Group (55+)** 11:30; Bob Evans Restaurant (meet at the restaurant)
- 2nd Wednesday**, (Jan 11) - **Dinner** prepared by WKCTC Students
- 2nd Saturday**, (Jan. 14) - **2nd Saturday Breakfast** from 8 AM to 10 AM in Fellowship Hall. Bring your friends and enjoy a great breakfast for a donation.
- 4th Sunday**, (Jan. 22) - **Jackson Oaks Service** 2 PM. Everyone is welcome to worship with the residents of Jackson Oaks.
- 4th Wednesday**, (Jan. 25) **Potluck** followed by monthly **Prayer Service** Bring your favorite dish to share with the group.

### Join us for the 2nd Wednesday Dinner

Plan now to join us on **January 11**, at 5:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The WKCTC Culinary Arts students and instructor, Patrick Fletcher, are planning a delicious meal to share with all your FCC friends (All for just \$5.) The menu will be announced in the bulletin and by e-mail. . The last day to sign up for the dinner is **Thursday, January 5th**. Call (443-8251) or e-mail [scopeland@fccpaducah.org](mailto:scopeland@fccpaducah.org) at the church office today to sign up!



### FCC Women "Retreating" in February

Plans are being finalized for the upcoming women's retreat to be held Friday through Sunday, February 24-26 at Kentucky Dam Village. All women are invited to attend. The cost for food and two nights lodging will be \$60 plus the cost of one meal at Patti's Restaurant in Grand Rivers on Saturday night. **A \$30 deposit to hold your room is required by January 15th.** Please see Mariann Lankton or Whitney Caywood for details or to make your reservation.

### Lenten Study Groups Forming in February

Knowing that we just completed the holidays and this is only January, we still ask you to remember that we will be forming Lenten Study groups in mid-February. These study groups will be using a curriculum that follows our upcoming Lenten Sermon Series based on the book by Adam Hamilton--**Twenty Four Hours that Changed the World.**

We need volunteer leaders to facilitate these groups. This would be a 7 week commitment and you can arrange it to fit your schedule. Each study session consists of a short video, a reading from the material, and a discussion time. If you are interested in leading a group or signing up for a study group please contact **Mariann Lankton.** (There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the study materials.)

### Building Hope Around the World

**Blankets+** is a special mission opportunity to assist people in need around the world.



Your contributions provide the means to transform lives and communities when they are faced with an emergency or simply struggling to put food on the table. For 65 years Church World Service, has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources needed to build the foundation for a more viable future including:

- Blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster
- Tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields
- Wells for families living in drought-prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens
- Literacy training and microcredit for women struggling to feed their families

Through the **Blankets+ Program** our congregation can provide urgently needed resources to those in need. The right tool at the right time can make a world of difference. **This special offering will be taken on Sunday, January 22. Please give generously!** (Make your check payable to First Christian Church with Blankets on the memo line.)

**Come, See, Discover. Discover the Disciples!**

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## Listening to God. . . By J. Gottman

I am not a diehard sports fan. Growing up I enjoyed watching pro football – specifically the San Francisco 49ers during the Joe Montana and Jerry Rice years. There was something mesmerizing about seeing a quarterback and receiver work together in such a fluid way. After that era, I took break from pro teams and my interest was elsewhere.

Then about 10 years ago another NFL team caught my attention – the Indianapolis Colts. Peyton Manning made a name for himself while at the University of Tennessee and having lived in Nashville while going to graduate school most everyone knew who he was because you either loved or hated UT orange in the Volunteer State. With all the hype around his talent I started watching the pros in Indy. It didn't hurt that Owensboro, Kentucky, because of her geography, happened to carry most of the games if they were televised. From the beginning I was hooked. It was amazing how effortlessly the Colts worked together as a team. Now most people know that the seemingly effortless play was because of some seriously hard work, much practice, repetition, and dedication.

For nearly a decade they (along with a few other teams) dominated the sport. This past year Manning was out for the whole season with a neck injury that may end his playing career. For the first time in a decade they have lost every single game until this past Sunday when they finally won one.

No one knows what the future will hold for the franchise but this much is true – every organization experiences the ebb and flow of good and disappointing times. There are stellar years of accomplishment when everything appears to go your way. Then there are the years where seemingly nothing works the way you plan it. In sports terminology the disappointing years are called “rebuilding years.”

Churches experience the same kinds of ups and downs. Anyone who reads and studies the scriptures can attest to the fluctuations of highs and lows that God's people experience. In studying First Christian's history there have been some monumentally good times and equally dismal times.

Even though this year has not been the best overall, it certainly has not been the worst. For example, we have maintained a steady worship attendance despite many deaths and many more who desperately wish to be in worship but physical challenges render them shut-in from much of the world. Our building is probably in the best shape it has been in since the mid 80s with the heat and air system being overhauled, new energy efficient doors installed, foundational leaks repaired, new playground equipment, new gutters, and our bell tower has been fixed. Additionally, new ministries have taken shape. The second Saturday Men's breakfast has been a tremendous success. We have boy and girl scouts meeting in our building. The bell choir has grown. And our McNabb food bag program continues to grow because of your generosity.

Who knows what 2012 will bring? I can tell you I am excited and optimistic. We will begin the New Year exploring and, I pray, living into a newly crafted and revised vision and mission statement that will challenge us to action in the coming years.

Blessings and Peace,  
J. Gottman



### Sermon Series God's Plan for First Christian A Vision and Mission Sermon Series

**January 8** – We Are. . .  
**January 15** – Our Vision . . .  
**January 22** – Seeking (Laity Sunday) – Deut. 6:5  
**January 29** – Supporting – Zechariah 7:8-10 & Micah 6:8  
**February 5** – Teaching (Scout Sunday) – Acts 2:42  
**February 12** – Sharing the Table – Mark 14:22-24 & 1 Co. 10:17  
**February 19** – Giving Back (Week of Compassion) – Mt. 25:24-40

### Attendance

Date	10:45 a.m.	5:30 p.m.	Total
11/27	139	0	139
12/04	112	31	143
12/11	113	41	154
12/18	116	43	159
12/25	83	0	83

Christmas Eve (estimate) 150

**Who will you invite to worship this Sunday?**

### Memorial Gifts

#### In memory of Ruth Craig

Bobbie & Jimmy Allen, Kelly & Mary Lee Nuckols, Dan & Claire Key, The Wadlington family, Sam & Jean Davis, The Fannie Jones CWF Group, The Patti Turok CWF Group, June Vander Molen, Richard & Joyce Huddleston

#### In memory of Martha Nell Simpson

Tina Shidal

#### In memory of Lee Stokes

Tina Shidal

#### In memory of Herbert Kays

Kelly & Mary Lee Nuckols

#### In memory of Bob Roseberry

Betty & WR Sanders, Bobbie & Jimmy Allen, The Patti Turok CWF Group, Glenda Montgomery

#### In memory of Gwen Handegan

Paul Wood

#### Lori Boatwright Smith

Glenda Montgomery

### Dedication Services



#### Solomon McKeel

November 27, 2011

Son of Scott & Julie McKeel



#### Finnian McCoid Wessels

December 18, 2011

Son of Greg & Kristan Wessels

### Children and Youth Group News

Youth Groups Begin again on **Sunday, January 8th** as we start a new year with study, fun and fellowship. The Middle School group meets at 4:30 p.m. and the High School group meets at 6:30 p.m.

**Ski Thing** is January 27th and 28th. Watch your e-mail for forms and more information. As always

friends are welcome to travel with our group but we must have forms on all that plan to attend so that we can be sure to have enough rooms for everyone.

A **youth retreat** is being planned for March 16-18, so please put this on your calendar now.

**Camp dates** for 2012 have been set and will be published soon. Get ready for a wonderful summer at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya on beautiful Kentucky Lake! Camp KBY has **openings** for a camp safety officer, a recreation equipment supervisor and cook aide. If you know someone that might like to apply, please contact West Area at 270-821-1332.

### Fellowship on the First New Years Day 9:30 a.m.

Please join us in **the parlor** (main floor) for breakfast food and beverages. Your hosts will be the Vision Committee. They will be available to answer any questions about the proposed vision statement and the work of their committee.

### Thank You Notes

**Dear FCC Congregation,**  
Thank you for the generous staff Christmas gifts and for all your good wishes.

In the coming year “may you be blessed with warmth in your home, love in your heart, peace in your soul and joy in your life.”

*The staff of First Christian, Paducah*

### From the Mailbag

Dear Friends,  
Thank you so much for the many wonderful cards, notes and other ways you've extended your caring for Bob and me. I appreciate it more than you can know. Please continue to remember me in your prayers for my strength as I continue to face obstacles and medical issues.

Gratefully,  
**Donna Roseberry**

Dear Church Family,  
I want to express my deepest thanks for all of the cards, Facebook posts, and hugs after the loss of my brother, Jack. I shared all of them with my parents, so that they could see how many and from how far, prayers were lifted. Thank you for keeping my family in your thoughts and prayers; we truly appreciate all the sympathy, and found solace in our grief.

Sincerely,  
**Gail Hayes Wagner**

Dear Friends at FCC Paducah,  
Thank you so much for the finals care package! It was great to have those munchies during a study break. It is nice to know that you are all supporting me even when I am far away. Thanks again and see you soon.  
**Cara Boyd**

FCC Members,  
I want to thank the Senior Sunday School class for the donation to the Hugs Project of West KY. During December we mailed out 1,215 packages to our troops. We are so grateful to share our Lord and Savior with our troops with this ministry. May God bless all of you and may you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.  
**Gayron & Donna Ferguson**

I am writing to thank FCC for the awesome Finals Week care package. The Subway, McDonalds and Starbucks gifts cards have already been put to good use with my college budget. The food and extra money was a great treat to receive. Thanks to the church and those who put the packages together for us college kids! It made my day.  
**Emily Murphy**