



CONNECTING POINT

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

Are You On The Road This Summer?



Every one of us should be on the road to becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus.

In **Matthew 28:18-20**, Jesus said, “All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to **observe all that I have commanded you**. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Two things are obvious from what Jesus commanded us to do:

- 1) **MAKE DISCIPLES.**
- 2) **TEACH THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU.**

That makes the task of **making disciples** pretty clear cut. While none of us will ever arrive at becoming completely Christlike until we get to Heaven, we should all be making progress every day.

There are some signs along the road to becoming a fully devoted follower of JESUS that can help us track our progress and measure the level of our maturity.

RELATIONSHIP → A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

It all begins with a personal relationship with Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Romans 10:9-10

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.”

John 14:6

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

BAPTISM → BEING BAPTIZED

Baptism is the outward declaration of an inward reality. It pictures what Jesus did for us, dying for our sins. Baptism pictures His death, burial and resurrection.

Jesus commanded that everyone who wants to be His disciple be baptized.

Matthew 28:19

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:41

“So those who received his word were baptized ...”

Romans 6:4-5

“We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

WORSHIP → WORSHIPING WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

One of the signs of a developing disciple is living out your faith on a daily basis and consistent participation in the weekly corporate worship services with other believers. The bottom line is: if you’re a fully devoted follower of JESUS, you live your faith during the week and on the weekend you go to church.

Luke 9:23

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

Hebrews 10:23-25

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP: GIVING & SERVING

We believe every fully devoted follower of JESUS CHRIST will be enthusiastically and consistently committed to a local church body. Anyone can attend, but membership is more. Being a member means you have caught the vision of what we’re trying to do and are committed to helping that vision become reality.

We believe every disciple of JESUS should be serving somewhere in God’s church. The truth is: you’ll never be genuinely happy until you are. Find out what your gifts are and find a place to serve and see what happens.

We also believe every disciple of JESUS should follow the biblical practice of tithing (giving at least one-tenth of one’s income) to support the ministry and work of the local church. As we begin to grow in our walk with the Lord, we will learn and love to give more than that, as the Lord blesses us.

Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

1 Peter 4:10

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace ...”

Galatians 6:9-10

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP: GETTING CONNECTED

Life is better connected. Nothing great happens apart from a relationship and spiritual growth can’t take place in isolation. We were made for fellowship with God and with each other. That’s why we encourage everyone to get involved in a Sunday school class or small group where you can build relationships with other believers, study God’s Word together, pray and basically do life together.

Acts 2:42-47 (paraphrased)

“And they devoted themselves to the apostle’s teaching and the fellowship ... and all who believed were together and had all things in common ... and day by day they were breaking bread in their homes ... with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people.”

REPRODUCING

REPRODUCING: MAKING DISCIPLES

None of us will ever arrive at becoming completely Christlike until we get to Heaven, but if we’re making the kind of progress we ought to be making, the time will come when we join the ranks of those who are *making disciples*. Part of the progress that comes in our walk with the Lord is when we get to the point where we can say to others, *“follow me as I follow Christ,”* and we begin helping others get on the road to becoming a fully devoted follower of JESUS CHRIST. Everything we do should help us become more fully devoted to Christ and help others become fully devoted followers of Christ, too!

So, where are you on that road today? Wherever you are, I want to challenge you to keep moving toward the next level ... and take someone else with you.

Blessings,

Pastor David






1 Thessalonians: Standing Firm

In a world that constantly pressures us to compromise, conform, and lose heart, how do we hold on to what matters most? Join us as we dive into Paul's powerful letter to the Thessalonians — a young, persecuted church that refused to back down. Written to believers facing real trials and real doubts, 1 Thessalonians is a timeless call to faith, hope, and love that endures. Together, we'll discover what it means to live with purpose, love one another deeply, and fix our eyes on the return of Jesus Christ. Whether you're struggling to stand or simply looking to grow deeper in your faith, this series is for you. Don't miss 1 Thessalonians: Standing Firm — because the world needs a church that won't be moved.

REVELATION
AN OVERVIEW BY DAVID HALL



An Adult Study Series
“After These Things I Saw”
The Book of Revelation
Tuesday Mornings @10:30 a.m.

First Church of Christ
Cherokee, Iowa

Revelation is a message of hope and faith, a message that many Christians caught in devastating circumstances need to hear.



When Trouble Comes

Read [James 1:2-4](#) (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



Reflect

Can you think of difficult things that you have gone through that you look back on now and can see how it was used by God to mature you and grow your faith in Him?

Some people are led to believe that when they become Christians, all their problems will disappear. But when we go back to the Bible, we see that the Bible does not teach this at all. Quite the opposite, in fact! In the above verses, James said that we should consider it all joy when we meet various kinds of trials in life. He says it is *when* not *if* we encounter troubles. Jesus affirmed this when He said that in this world, you will have trouble ([John 16:33](#)). Peter also told us not to be surprised or think it strange when fiery ordeals come to test us. ([1 Peter 4:12](#)).

As believers in Jesus Christ, we should expect all different kinds of trouble and James tells us what we should do when trials come our way. He said that we should “count it all joy.” But how in the world can we consider our problems joy? Depending on what you are going through, you may find what James said offensive. You might be thinking, “Really, I am supposed to count it all joy that someone I love has cancer?” Or “I am supposed to be glad that I lost my job and don’t know how to provide for my family?” And if you feel that way initially, I understand. But stay with me.

James went on to explain the reason why we can rejoice when trials come our way—they have the potential to be beneficial to us. He said that trials test our faith and this testing produces steadfastness. To be steadfast means to stand firm and unwavering. Trials increase our faith and spiritual maturity. As Warren Wiersbe said, “Trials work for the believer, not against him.”

In [Romans 5:3-4](#), Paul explained more about how trials can benefit us: “we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.”

Paul also wrote: “For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal ([2 Corinthians 4:17-18](#)). What you are going through right now may not seem “light” or “momentary” and no one is trying to minimize the pain and suffering that God’s people often must go through.

Imagine putting our earthly troubles on one side of a scale and the “eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison” that awaits us on the other side of the scale. The scale will tip drastically in favor of eternal glory. Our problems will seem light and temporary by comparison.

And as we endure our troubles and wait for that eternal glory, God is using the trials of life to perfect us and make us complete. This is a life-long process called sanctification. God uses everything that comes our way to mold us and shape us and make us more like Him. We won’t be perfect until Jesus returns but we will make progress every day.

Friends, the troubles we face in this life, no matter how difficult and painful, are opportunities for spiritual growth. We can trust that God is using these hardships to work on us. He is strengthening and maturing our faith, He is teaching us to stand firm, and He is making us more like Him. If you are in the midst of trial and trouble, I encourage you to trust God and trust His process. When trouble comes, count it all joy because He’s making you stronger.

Respond

Lord, trials are hard and painful. But I know that through my troubles, you are working in my life and strengthening me. Plus, I know that You will never leave me. Help me to never waste a trial so that I can continue to become more and more like You. Amen.

Reveal

Write a short, honest social post about a time of personal hardship and how God used it to strengthen you. End with a gentle invitation: “If you’ve ever wondered where God is in suffering, I’d love to talk.”



CAMPS FOR ALL AGES!

The 2026 church camp season is quickly approaching! If you want to go to Camp Nebowa this summer - **and we would love for you to go** - there are camps for all ages, including adults. First Church of Christ is offering to pay half of your camp fees in 2026. You simply register online for the camp session of your choice at www.nebowa.com and enter the discount code "cherokee50" on the checkout page.

Dates	Grades	Fees
June 4-7	Women's Retreat	\$140
June 11-13	3rd & 4th	\$140
June 14-18	5th & 6th	\$180
June 19-20	1st & 2nd	\$100
June 21-26	7th-9th	\$215
	12th-College	
June 28-30	Freshman	\$100
July 5-9	5th & 6th	\$180
July 9-11	3rd & 4th	\$140
July 12-17	7th-9th	\$215
July 19-24	9th-12th	\$215
July 26-30	6th-8th Sports	\$215
July 26-30	9th-12th Sports	\$215
	Women's Crafty	
Sept. 11-13	Camp	\$80
Sept. 24-26	Man Camp	Donation

Register according to upcoming grade in the fall.



We collected 70 family size brownie mixes for Camp Nebowa.

Thank you for your generosity in meeting our goal!!

FCC SHUT-INS

The Gardens

(Enter Door Code – 1610) (Exit Door Code – 1379)
 Darlene Nelson (#108) 712-321-3424
 Delores Wheeler (#402) 712-229-5418

Heartland Care – Marcus (Door Code-2501)

Charlotte Barnes (#209) 712-229-3244
 Della Rupp (#201)
 Connie Johnson (#212 – Assisted Living)

Accura – Cherokee (Door Code-3917)

Randy Cox (#201A)
 Glenn Wallace (#211A) 919-815-0334

The Beck (Code *350)

Joanne Nelson (#106) 712-229-9202

Home

Bea Carver Claudia Schulke
 1123 W. Bluff St. 5503 Gordon Dr., Apt 208
 Cherokee Sioux City, IA 51106
 712-225-2656 claudiams@midco.net
 (She would appreciate a visit if you get to Sioux City.)
 Ruth Dean
 (if not at church)
 1025 N Roosevelt, Apt 13
 Cherokee, IA 51012
 712-225-6439

From the Church Secretary:

If you need an announcement on the screen or in the bulletin, please get the information to the office by close of business on Wednesday before the Sunday you want the announcement to run. And let me know how long you would like it to run.

I'm still in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays about 9 am and will be there until the day's work is done (1-3 hours typically). Occasionally, I will need to adjust that depending on my other activities this summer.

If you need something and I am not here, just leave a note on the desk. Thanks.

Julie

Let's Party

Birthdays

- 3rd—Jan Hanson
- 8th—Pam Cronin
- 11th—Karen Weinreich
- 15th—Braella Inman
- 18th—Larry Heschke
- 19th—Starlla Inman
- 24th—Ariel VanVoorst
- 26th—Braxton Bergendahl
- 28th—Dixie Draper



Anniversaries

- 15th—Kevin & Twyla Schmillen
- 30th—Phil & Erica Bell



If you have a June birthday (or anniversary), and I missed getting you on the list, please let me know and I will get our records updated. I apologize if I did miss someone. Thank you. *Julie*



MCS Birthday Party
June 13
The host is Kirk Nelson.



Elders

Mike Sparks	(712) 261-4730
Kirk Nelson	(712) 540-9591
Larry Heschke	(712) 221-7592
Barry Nelson	(712) 261-0592

Weekly / Monthly Activities

- Bible Study** - Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.
- Scout Troop 107** - Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
- Bible Buddies** - Are on break until September.
- Homemakers** - 2nd Thursday 9:30 a.m.
- Bondage No More** - Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Quilt Batts Meetings** -
3rd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.—June 16
- Quilt Batts Connections (Sewing Days)** -
First Weekend after the Tuesday Meeting—
June 19 & 20 (Friday @ 9 a.m. & Saturday all day)



FLAG DAY - JUNE 14TH

WORSHIP TEAM SCHEDULE

June 2026			
7	14	21	28
Children's Church	Children's Church	Children's Church	Children's Church
Polly Fishman	Dixie Draper	Angela Hall	Sholeen Sparks
Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School
Polly Fishman	Dixie Draper	Angela Hall	Sholeen Sparks
Shut-In Communion	Shut-In Communion	Shut-In Communion	Shut-In Communion
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Communion Coordinator	Communion Coordinator	Communion Coordinator	Communion Coordinator
Larry Heschke	Mike Sparks	Kirk Nelson	Barry Nelson
Communion Message	Communion Message	Communion Message	Communion Message
Mike Sparks	Guy Fishman	David Hall	Kirk Nelson
Worship Leader	Worship Leader	Worship Leader	Worship Leader
David Hall	David Hall	David Hall	Sharon Henkel
Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano
N/A	Eleanor Johnston	N/A	N/A
Singers	Singers	Singers	Singers
Angela Hall	Nancy Nelson		Nancy Nelson
	Larry Heschke		David Hall
PowerPoint	PowerPoint	PowerPoint	PowerPoint
Nancy Nelson	Braella Inman	Nancy Nelson	Braella Inman
Sound	Sound	Sound	Sound
Larry Heschke	Mike Sparks	Mike Sparks	Larry Heschke
Janitorial	Janitorial	Janitorial	Janitorial
Angela Hall	Angela Hall	Angela Hall	Angela Hall
David Hall	David Hall	David Hall	David Hall

BOARD OF ELDERS & DEACONS

MONTHLY MEETING

June 14, 2026

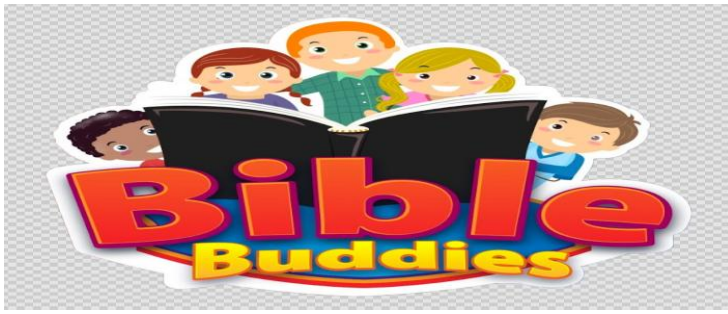
Following the Morning Worship Service

CHRISTIAN HOMEMAKERS

June 11, 2026

Meet at the Church at 9:30 and we will visit our Cherokee Shut Ins

Date	Offering	Attendance
5/3/26	\$843.00	On Campus: 68 Online: 26 Total: 94
5/10/26	\$22,080.00	On Campus: 81 Online: 19 Total: 100
5/17/26	\$986.00	On Campus: 47 Online: 25 Total: 72
5/24/26	\$NA	On Campus: 58 Online: 22 Total: 80
5/31/26	\$NA	On Campus: Online: Total:



Bible Buddies in on break until school starts in the fall.

Thank you to everyone who made this past year's program successful. We can't do it without you. Please plan now, to participate in the fall.

BIBLE BUDDIES Mission

Please continue to collect pull tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House. Bring them to the church anytime.

We collected 8.7 pounds in this past Bible Buddies season!

Thankyou!!

MISSIONS THE CHURCH SUPPORTS



JUNE 12-13, 2026 | SHELDON, IA

RISEFEST 26



Family-Friendly Christian Music Festival

Music • Camping • Speakers • Activities for All Ages



With speakers Rob Roozeboom, Trinity Queen, and Leah Church

And Sunnybrook Worship, Dordt Worship, and NWC Worship



Scan for more info and tickets

risefestiowa.com