



Lifting Praise

Issue 2 | Vol: 09

January 14, 2026



Lifting Praise is the weekly newsletter designed to help you stay connected and informed about everything happening with the First Christian Church family.

Song of the Week

Katy Nichole - "Have Your Way"



STUCK IN YESTERDAY

Upward Look by Jon Forrest

She may have missed the point of New Year's Resolutions. With an eagerness to make some changes in the area of financial habits, the lady called her credit card company and said, "I'd like to pay off my Master Card. Do you take Visa?"

Old habits die hard. Many of them are conditioned from childhood. Have you ever noticed how often you find yourself uttering the same words you once criticized your parents for saying? You look in the mirror and see that same look your mother or father used to give you that made you cringe in anger. But there it is. You have become your parents.

Some of those old habits were developed in your early years of adulthood when you were going through hard times or when you were following your own ways. Sadly, the old habits, the old ways of doing things can become almost sacred to your life. You excuse them by saying, "That's just who I am!"

The old hymn, "Just As I Am," has often given us comfort to know that God accepts us in our current condition, You know, "tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt;" "fightings and fears within without;" "poor, wretched blind;" "oh, Lamb of God I come."

What we often forget is that the song ultimately tells us that God takes me just as I am, but the purpose is to change me into something completely different. He wants to give us "sight, riches, healing of the mind" or "welcome, pardon, cleanse relieve" or "to rid my soul of one dark blot."

God's desire is to become an agent of change and transformation in our lives. In the hymn, "Just as I am" the idea is that as bad off as we are, God will take us just as we are, but we are yielding our lives to him as we "come."

Isaiah 43:18-19 says it well, "*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*"

God wants us to not only leave the old things that once gave us comfort, but to "forget" them. He wants us open to and ready to embrace the new thing he wants to build in us. He wants to make us new; to blaze a trail in the wilderness where there once was no road and to turn the dried up desert of our lives into flowing thriving streams of refreshing water.

You may think, "I've gotta' be me! I've gotta' be me! The me that I see makes me what I am." That may be true for the moment, but God says, "I want to do a "new thing" in you. The entire message of Christ's coming was, "The Kingdom of God is at hand!" A brand new kingdom! A brand new world! A brand new life! And a brand new you and me! Surrender your old dried up, limited wasteland of a life to him, forget the past, and embrace the "new thing" he passionately desires to do in you and you will become a "you" that you never thought possible. You will become the dynamic child of the living God he wants you to be.

Sunday we will continue our series, "**A NEW YOU FOR A NEW YEAR**" with a message titled, "**God's Gonna Do A New Thing!**" based on Isaiah 43:16-21. You don't want to miss this message about personal revival and God's power to transform a dead and dying life into a truly vibrant one that impacts everyone around you for God. I'll see you then.



The New,
Jon



Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study – January 14

Tonight our Wednesday Night Adult study will conclude our series **“When God Raises Up a Leader.” A Study of the Judges of Israel with Samson (Part 4)** based on **Judges 16**. The title of this lesson is **“Your Hair Will Grow Back.”** We will see how that, even in our weakness and failure God can raise us up for his purpose when we renew our commitment to him. This very entertaining chapter of Scripture teaches us some powerful lessons about failure and restoration. We hope you will come and join this amazing study.

=====

WNS

5:30 - 6:05 - meal

6:15 - 7:15 – Bible study

Nursery - pre k

Elementary age children (K-5) Bible Bunch

“The Immortals Middle & High school ages

Adults Bible Study Lead by Pastor, Jon Forrest.

We have 4 outstanding cooking teams that will bring us simple, yet delicious meals that will be available from 5:30 to 6:05PM. We still encourage \$2 per person donations to offset the cost, but there is never a charge.

Menu: 1/14 – Hot dogs & chili dogs

1/21 – Nacho Wednesday



365 Bible Reading Plan

Read the entire Bible in one year!

This daily Bible reading plan will give you all the benefits of a steady diet of God's Word as you read through Scripture in a year. Regular Bible reading is one of the most important habits you can develop.

These will be available on the entry table for you to take home.



Board Meeting

Tuesday January 20th at 6:00PM

Congregational Meeting & Election

Board Members & Officers

Sunday January 25, 2026, after morning service

Nominees:

Elders: J.D. Hileman & Keith Risdon

Deacons: Clark Elswick, Gus Acosta, Gary Baker, Doug McGregor, Jerry Elliott, Andrew Forrest, Steve Fenstermaker

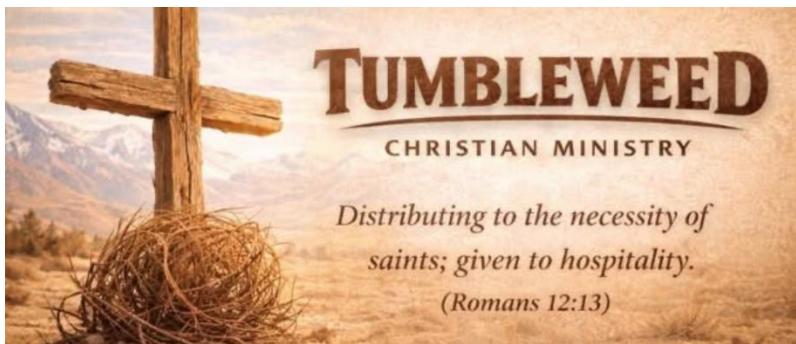
Trustee: Gary Baker (3 year term)

Treasurer: Keith Risdon



Assistant Treasurer: Tiffany Forrest

Voting for nominees takes place at the end of the Congregational Meeting for eligible voters. Thank you



Hi everyone!

We are thrilled to share some big news: our ministry is now called Tumbleweed Christian Ministry. This new name proudly affirms our identity as a Christian ministry at heart.

While our new name celebrates our Christian foundation, our hearts remain open to all as interfaith chaplains. You might wonder why we embrace this approach. As chaplains, we warmly

welcome and support the spiritual journeys of everyone, no matter their beliefs. When we have the opportunity to introduce someone to Jesus Christ, we count it as a true blessing and then trust the Holy Spirit to gently lead them forward.

May the Holy Spirit's guidance and support bring you abundant blessings!

Kathy and Roger Early, Chaplains, Tumbleweed

With the help of the Holy Spirit, we gladly share what we've learned from our faith, fellow believers, church communities, and trusted sources. We don't claim to be experts, but our desire is to offer hope and encouragement. We invite you to read the Bible and discover its wisdom as you continue your spiritual journey.



Guest Presentation this Sunday

First Christian Church has been hosting Students from Marshall Sixth Grade Academy this school year every Thursday during the lunch hour for LIFewise ACADEMY, which is a systematic study of the Bible. We have about 11 students currently participating.

Beginning this week, we will add students from James Bickley Elementary on Wednesdays, with the potential of adding another group from there on Fridays. This is a nation-wide (interdenominational)

Christian Education program designed to instruct children on the Bible and Biblical lessons during School Hours. There are more of these classes being held in other church facilities around Clovis and it is growing. This Sunday, local program director of LIFewise ACADEMY, Bryan Davis will make a 10-minute presentation of this work during our morning service. He will tell us how we can support this important work in our town and how we can financially help, as there is a cost for instructors and materials for this program.

Numbers & Health Updates

We are now live in 4 Clovis schools grades K-8th! Praise God and thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ROLLER WORLD



Needs Request

We need 40 more student sponsorships at just \$30/month for the spring semester.

Please consider sponsoring a LifeWise student so we can keep bringing the gospel to our public schools!

Donate to support LifeWise Academy Clovis safely and securely by clicking the link in the emailed newsletter. 100% of your donation goes to the spread of the gospel right here in Clovis! Or you can send them by mail.

Please make checks payable to

"LifeWise Clovis, NM"

Our mailing address is: PO BOX 35 Clovis, NM 88102



Communion at Home

If you find yourself homebound and in need of being served the Lord's Supper on Sundays, please contact the church with a request that someone come and serve you. If you just need communion supplies so you can participate during communion service online, please let us know and we can provide disposable communion cups like the ones we use at church.

Order of Service

A New You for a New Year God's Gonna Do A New Thing

Isaiah 43:16-21

Jon Forrest

January 18, 2026

Welcome

Video – Today

Call to Worship

Cry of My Heart

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-18 – Faith Elswick

Opening Prayer – Jim Hileman

Worship Medley

Goodness of God

Graves Into Gardens

Intercessory Prayer

Communion Song

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Communion Time

Special Music – Here I Am, Lord - PT

Morning Message – Jon Forrest

A New You for a New Year

God's Gonna Do A New Thing

Isaiah 43:16-21

Decision Time

Gentle Shepherd

Closing Prayer

Parting Chorus

Awesome God



MEMORY VERSE:

Isaiah 43:19 – See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.



Prayer Requests

ATTENTION: Please let us know if there are any changes, removals or updates before Friday every week.

Amber Anderson – Reoccurrence of cancer & other health issues. (Kendra Beevers)

Judy Armijo – Health concerns. (Margaret McCormick)

Jerry Bailey – Heart attack. (Dan Peck)

Kristen Baker - Possible cancer. (Bernice Baker)

Kendra Beevers – Health concerns.

Ann Ruth Black – In hospice care. (friends of the Wallace's)

Melanie Black – Taking care of mother. (friend of Wallace's)

Charles Boatman – Recovering from stroke. In physical therapy rehab in Alb.

Jamie & Debbie Bradley – Jamie has passed. Please pray for family and friends (Jim Hileman)

James Bruffett – Recovering at home. (Kristine Bruffett)

Christine Calcao – Breast cancer. (Rick & Melody Lewis' niece)

Lorenda Comer – Recovering from successful surgery at Covenant in Lubbock. (Sister of Debbie Hudson)

Gina Dorazio – Heart problems. (Rick & Melody Lewis)

Beverly Duncan – Hospitalized in Hobbs.

Weldon Embry – In a recovery center. (John Butts)

Steve Fenstermaker – Major abdominal surgery 12/17. Back in hospital had additional surgery Wednesday. He is at UMC in Lubbock.

Rick Fountain – Recovering from heart valve replacement & bypass surgery in Dallas, TX (Lori Turner)

Coleen Gutierrez & Dan Peck – Personal concerns.

Casey Henry – Recovering at home. (Jon Forrest)

Barbara Hill – Having serious heart problems. (Doug McGregor)

Josh Hutson – Personal concerns.

Kori Koren – MS, multiple falls & injuries. (Judy Baskett)

David Lawson Sr. – Serious health concerns. (Gena Wilkerson)

Bobby Light – Pray for family. (Yvonne Light)

Vida Linton – Personal concerns. (Dear friend of Jessie Strauch)

JoAnn Love - Very sick, hospitalized in Albuquerque. (Sharon Douglas)

Jon McCormick – Small vein disease in brain cavity. (Brenda Knoll)

Lori McGregor – Lupus. (Doug McGregor's daughter-in-law)

Roy McMinn – Pray for family and friends. (Dejon Porter's Uncle)

Tim Meeks – Has given up all treatments & on hospice. (Bobby Light)

Annabelle Mendez – Cancer. (Bobby Light)

Weston Miller – Having seizures. (Lori Turner)

Ignacio & Blanca Muñoz – Health concerns. (Brother of Joe Muñoz)

Melissa Muñoz – Struggling with cancer (Joe & Ida Munoz's daughter-in-law)

Debbie Murray – Throat cancer. Lost voice box and larynx & now having gall bladder removed. (Bill & Pam Wallace)

Marsha Neill – Leaking fluid from brain through nasal cavity. (Colleen Gutierrez)

Chris Pacheco – Serious cancer. Getting bad. (Margaret McCormick's Nephew)

Allan Potter – Prostate cancer. (Doug McGregor)

Lee Potter – Hospitalized & not doing well. (Colleen Gutierrez)

Kimberly Reed – Brain bleed. (Jim Hileman)

David Renteria & wife – He suffered a massive stroke and is paralyzed on one side. Now home in Ruidoso. (Doug McGregor)

Amie Robles – Very sick with arthritis. (Claire Taylor)

Heath & Samantha Rohr – Heath is deployed.

Tim Romero – Prayers for medical and mental condition. He is having a severe problem with memory issues & clinical depression. (Son of Ida & Joe Muñoz)

Wilma Sartain – Health concerns

Jody Stanbury – Lupus. (Joy Melton's daughter)

Nancy Steele – Health concerns.

Jessie Strauch – Health concerns. (Jon Forrest)

Dianna Thompson – Automobile accident and has broken arm and wrist. X-rays & treatment still to come.

Tim Underwood – Cancer.

Frank Vace - Cancer. (Brenda Knoll)

Jaden Waltz – Flown to Lubbock hospital. Prayers for Andrew Forrest and Family.

Michael Williams – Waiting for lungs. Staying in Dallas. (Dan Peck)

Janet Winter - Physical issues. (Jon Forrest)

Unspoken request

Persecuted Christians around the world.

Pray for Israel.

Please pray for our Home Bound

Billie Aucutt – Now home. (Jon Forrest)

Bill Gaedke – At daughter's home in Rio Rancho.

Treva Kline – Living at Wheatfields. (Jessie Strauch & Bernice Baker Sister)

Linda Newell – Resident at the Retirement Ranch. (Pat Newell's widow)

Maria Sandoval – Health Concerns room 210 at St. Anthony's

Fred Strauch – Numerous health issues. Now home. In hospice care. (Jessie Strauch)

Don Sweet – At Retirement Ranch. (uncle to Beverly Duncan)

Everett Steel – Home. (brother of Jessie Strauch and Bernice Baker)

Pat Weekley – At home.

Military Personnel & Families, First Responders & Our Nation

**Please let us know if there are any changes, removals
or updates before Friday every week.**

You can select the **"CONNECT WITH US"** tab in your APP
& go to "EMAIL/QUESTIONS/PRAYER CHANGES"
or call the church at 575-763-7113 or email at fcc@plateautel.net



Sunday Night ALIVE!

Sunday Nights at First Christian Church are now ALIVE! They are ALIVE with music; ALIVE with fellowship; ALIVE with the Word of God and ALIVE with the presence and leading of the Holy Spirit!

Come join in the ALIVE movement at 6:30 this and every Sunday Night! You'll be glad you did!
Generally, the service lasts about 45 minutes

Live and in Person!!

Sunday Morning Services

9:30 - Sunday School: all ages (on-site only)

(Staffed Nursery available for infants through Age 3)

10:30 - Teknon (on site only)

10:30AM - Morning Services

(Staffed Nursery available for infants through Age 3)



Additional Blessings of Streaming FCC Services

If you miss our morning Worship Services or want to see them again, they are all stored on the FCC YouTube Channel and on our website, www.fccclovis.com under the tab named Media and on your phone with the FCC app.

Our Wednesday Night Bible Studies are in person or on Facebook Live and can be viewed later on the FCC Facebook page once you have joined the church's Facebook page by liking it so you can see it live or go back and review it at a later date.

You can also download the app on your Roku tv,
Google Tv, Fire Tv and Apple tv!!

Just search for FCCCLOVIS

**Invite your family, friends, and neighbors,
to worship with us at one of these venues!**



Tithes and offerings to FCC can be given by clicking "Give" link on our website www.fccclovis.com and on the FCC app on your phone. There is also an offering box in the foyer for checks and cash (i.e. offering envelopes). Another way to give is to come by the church building and drop off tithes Monday - Thursday 9AM-2PM. We can also pick it up if you can't leave your home. Just give us a call at 575-763-7113.

Thank you for your generous heart! ♥



As fall arrives, so does head colds, flu, pneumonia & Covid.

A kind reminder:

Communion cups & Kleenex tissue are single use.

Help prevent cross infection, please discard cups & tissue in nearby trash receptacles.

A Reminder to Church Members

All current board reports are available.
in the hot file in the church lobby.

Newly posted are the 2025 990 IRS reports
& the updated church bylaws.



January

- 4 - Norma Blair
- 5 - Sarah Elswick Pritchett
- 7 - Stephen Fenstermaker
- 7 - Jim Tulett
- 8 - Gena Wilkerson
- 8 - Abraham Jenkins
- 8 - Alexander Wright
- 9 - Debbie Hudson
- 11 - Mary Elswick
- 20 - Peggy McGee
- 23 - Kathryn Hussey
- 25 - J. D. Hileman
- 25 - Isaac Loadwick
- 27 - Jared Wilkerson
- 28 - Thomas Elswick
- 28 - Bill Aucutt
- 30 - Phyllis Davidson

Please let us know if there are any birthdays or anniversaries we need to add or have missed. Thank you.

You can call the church at 575-763-7113 or email at fcc@plateautel.net

January

- 1 - Michael & Jennette Lovett
- 9 - Clark & Yvonne Elswick
- 12 - Andrew & Tiffany Forrest

January 2025

Adjusted Servant Ministry
This Week:
Scripture Reading: Faith Elswick
Opening Prayer: Jim Hileman
Welcome Ministry: Bill Wallace

Upcoming Events

January

Date: 1/20/26

Time: 6:00PM

Location: First Christian Church

Description: Board Meeting

Date: 1/25/26

Time: After morning services

Location: First Christian Church

Description: Annual Congregation Meeting

Lead Pastor

Jon Forrest

Elders

J.D. Hileman

Keith Risdon

Jeff Tackitt

Trustees

J.D. Hileman

Gary Bake

Joe Muñoz

Church Secretary

Hope Peña

Nursery Attendant

Sharon Douglas

Kimberly Wright

Associate Pastor

Joshua McVey

Deacons

Gua Acosta

Gary Baker

Jerry Elliott

Clark Elswick

Andrew Forrest

Doug McGregor

Treasure

Keith Risdon

Assistant Treasurer

Tiffany Forrest



First Christian Church

1700 N. Main, Clovis, NM 88101

Office hours are Monday-Thursday.

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM - 2:00PM

Friday – 9:00AM – 12:00PM

575-763-7113

fcc@plateautel.net

like us on Facebook & YouTube

Download the app!



SCAN ME

Sunday Morning

9:30AM - Sunday School for all ages

10:30Am - Teknon

Morning Worship: 10:30am

(Staffed Nursery available for infants through Age 3)

On Site and online @ Facebook Live, You Tube, FCCCLOVIS app

Sunday Evening

Sunday Night ALIVE

6:30PM - All ages

Wednesday

Wednesday Night Special

5:30 - 6:05 - meal

6:15 - 7:15 – Bible study

Nursery - pre k

Elementary age children (K-5) Bible Bunch

“The Immortals Middle & High school ages

Adults Bible Study Lead by Pastor, Jon Forrest

