

# The Marshall Christian

LXI

NO. VII

July 2019



## Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

### July 7th

Elders:

Kathryn Jones  
Gwen Clemens

Deacons:

Carolyn Buck  
Brenda Coffman  
Georganne DeMoss  
Nancy Jackson  
Amber VanDyke

### July 14th & 21st

Elders:

Wayne McReynolds  
Lloyd Bentley

Deacons:

Ed Baker  
Mona Baker  
Tyler Clemens  
Alisa Smith  
Leroy Wise

### July 28th & August 4th

Elders:

Carol Schupp  
Roberta Reed

Deacons:

Vince Buck  
Linda Crews  
Gary Dowell  
Doug Harvey  
Julie Hoffelmeyer

### Outside Communion:

#### July 14th

Paul Crews  
Greg Schultz

#### July 28th

Gwen Clemens  
Wayne McReynolds

### July Children's' Sermon:

7th- Loy Hoskins

14th- Kris Milliron

21st- Jill Buck

28th- Julie Hoffelmeyer

“Baseball, Failure, and the Christian Life ” spond to the in-

justice? Galarraga

With summer here it is time once again for my annual baseball related article. David E. Prince gets credit for much of this one. Every person who has ever played the game of baseball has been a consistent failure. It's been almost 80 years since Ted Williams finished the 1941 season with a .406 batting average. His failure rate of 60 percent means that he failed less often than any batter since then.

The reality that baseball is a game of managed failure for every player, even the great ones, is one of the reasons it became the national pastime. It reflects the national character...a team endeavor that calls consistently for individual responsibility and personal sacrifice for the greater good. Once the batting order is set there's nowhere to hide; your turn at the plate is coming. The fact that the whole team is counting on you in that moment produces the possibility of personal success or humiliation. Baseball doesn't permit a game to be dominated by a star player whose teammates are along for the ride.

One of the reasons baseball has been so slow to embrace instant replay in the sport is that a game marked by chronic managed failure has no delusions of human perfection in its players or its umpires. When a baseball purist says, "Bad calls are a part of the game," he is saying something about the essence of the game.

Only real baseball fans understood the reaction of Detroit Tigers pitcher Armando Galarraga in 2010 when he was one out from throwing a perfect game (there have only been 23) and umpire Jim Joyce made one of the worst big moment calls in history. Joyce called the batter safe at first base. When the next batter was retired, Galarraga was saddled with the most disappointing one hitter in the history of the game. How did he re-

spond to the injustice? Galarraga said, "He's human. Nobody's perfect. Tell him not to worry about it." That moment was a beautiful view of what makes baseball unique.

No baseball player can survive and thrive without hope. When Hank Aaron was asked if he arrived at the ballpark every day knowing he would get two hits his reply was, "No. I do know that if I don't get 'em today, I'll get 'em tomorrow." Babe Ruth was fond of saying, "Every strike gets me closer to the next home run." Persistent, daily plodding in the face of chronic managed failure, driven by future hope sounds a lot like our daily Christian walk.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate" ([Romans 7:15](#)). But he went on to write, "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! ... There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" ([Romans 7:25a](#), [8:1](#)). The reality of his persistent failure and limitations did not paralyze him.

The very existence of another baseball season, another 162 games of managed failure is an echo of the promise James offers to all who have put their faith in Jesus Christ: "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness" ([James 1:2-3](#)). Each one of us has the tendency to compare the highlight reel of others' successes to our daily failures and lose heart. But baseball, for those of us who love it, provides a constant reminder that everyone (even the superstars) strikes out, but the game still goes on.

Roger Angell was right, "There is more Met than Yankee in all of us" and as much as a Braves fan hates to admit it, there is a glimmer of a greater glory that the Mets keep taking the field.

In God's Grip, Loy

### July Anniversaries & Birthdays

#### BIRTHDAYS

- 7- Jacque Dryer
- 8- Lucas Milliron
- 9- Cooper Halsey
- 11- Issam Amary  
Wayne McReynolds
- 12- Abby Shroder
- 14- Richard Mencl
- 15- Dan Brandt  
Helen Merchant
- 16- Harold Hemeyer  
Susan Wright
- 17- Wayne Buck  
Lindsay Sullivan
- 18- Sam Krog
- 19- Kelsea Payne
- 20- Ginger Reis
- 22- Norman Gibbins
- 28- Lynn Phillips
- 30- Bryanne Payne  
Marilyn Wood



#### ANNIVERSARIES

- 4- Kevin & Jacque Dryer
- 11- Leroy & Kay Wise
- 12- Jerry & Judy Frerking
- 14- Wayne & Carolyn Buck
- 18- Bert & Melissa Shannon  
Wayne & Vickie Wise
- 19 Aaron & Sarah Wright
- 23- Vince & Jill Buck
- 26- John & Trish Fletcher  
Spencer & Carla Fricke
- 27- Buddy & Karla Hannaford
- 30- Vic & Lin Hessel

#### EXCITING NEWS!!

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS KICKING OFF THIS FALL WITH TWO NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES. HELP US SPREAD THE WORD FOR OUR ALL NEW 3RD-6TH GRADE, AND INTER-GENERATIONAL (OLDER YOUTH & ADULT) CLASSES. WE HAVE ENGAGING TOPICS, SNACKS AND CELEBRATIONS IN STORE FOR EVERYONE. WE ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANTS AND TEACHERS FOR ALL CLASSES; CONTACT KRIS MILLIRON OR JILL BUCK FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



If you had your picture taken for the new Lifetouch Pictorial Directory, please stop by the office to pick up your complimentary book. This includes those who paid to have their pictures used from last publication. Unfortunately, there are no extra copies.



#### Love Offering for Prison Ministry

On July 21 Ben Suchman of Christian Prison Ministry will bring the message while Pastor Loy is at General Assembly. We will collect a special offering in both services for the Prison Ministry that day by placing checks or money in the red envelopes, inserted into your bulletins.

#### Summer Game Night



The Membership Committee will sponsor a game night in the fellowship hall on Tuesday, July 16. Bring your favorite board games or just show up ready to join in with others to play. Bring snacks to share if you'd like, and invite your friends to join us 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

#### Vacation Bible School Time!



**IT'S A FIESTA!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JULY 29-AUG. 1ST AT COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH; WE NEED YOU TO KICK THIS PARTY OFF!! WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES TO HELP BRING GOD'S WORD AND PLENTY OF FUN TO THE CHILDREN. SIGN-UP IN THE PARLOR TO JOIN US!! TO HELP. DINNER WILL NOT BE PROVIDED THIS YEAR FOR THOSE ATTENDING. HOWEVER, MORE SUBSTANTIAL SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED.**

#### Ice Cream Social

As the Marshall Municipal Band begins another season of their concerts on the courthouse lawn, we are putting together an ice cream social on our corner of the square on July 11. We'll begin serving at 6:45 and continue through the concert which will end at 8:00. Contact Carol Schupp if can help set up, serve, or clean up between 6:30 and 8:15.



## From the Youth Director

I'd like to add a Part Two to last month's newsletter article, in which I shared a few reasons why youth mission trips are worth the investment. I wrote the last article shortly before leaving on this year's mission trip; and was reminded of possibly one of the most vital lessons learned....comfort zones.

On mission trips, I intentionally set up situations in which the youth may become uncomfortable. They always have the choice, but the opportunity presents itself daily. This year, I wasn't sure our team was up for the challenge when they found themselves serving at Doorways. After a lengthy orientation and education at this residential facility for persons living with HIV/AIDS, the team was collectively in shock and fear. This was their first time hearing of this disease; think back to our own emotions and fears in the 1980's.

Our team started the day by doing cleaning chores and yardwork, working steadily, yet subtly avoiding the residents. Then something....changed. An introduction, a simple 'good morning', then an offer of assistance. Within a couple hours, it was a game of dominos and Uno, visiting, laughter, teasing, a shared meal, singing together. When we left, good-byes were shared with a smile, high five, handshake, even a hug.

I'll share just two quotes that the youth shared that night, following their experience at Doorways. I feel this sums up the worthiness of reaching outside ones' comfort zone: "I feel bad for feeling uncomfortable this morning, because I didn't realize how normal, how like us, they are." "He [resident] is who I would picture God would be if God were a person."

We stay inside our comfort zones out of fear. Change is scary, as is the

unknown. But taking a chance, reaching out, 'visiting the sick', loving our neighbor, welcoming the stranger -- these all are uncomfortable. Yet worth it, with God.

Grateful,

Kris Milliron

## Single Ladies Group...

Will be gathering for lunch together on July 11th at 11:30. The group will be eating at the new S & P Diner. It is located in the lower back building where S & P meats store sits on Eastwood. If you need directions, or ore information, call Roberta Reed at 886-7520.



## Upcoming Sermons

<b>June 30</b>	"The Suspense After the Whirlwind" ( <i>Independence Day Sunday</i> )	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
<b>July 7</b>	"Carry the Message with You"	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
<b>July 14</b>	"From the Mailbox"	Colossians 1:1-14
<b>July 21</b>	Pastor Loy at General Assembly – Ben Suchman of Christian Prison Ministry to preach	
<b>July 28</b>	"God's Tough Love"	Hosea 1:2-10

First Christian Church  
130 North Jefferson Avenue  
Marshall, MO 65340

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#### Church Website!

Stop by our website at [www.fccmarshallmo.org](http://www.fccmarshallmo.org) to check out upcoming events and activities, serving schedules, bulletins and newsletters, and information about our groups, ministries, staff, etc.

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Contact Information:

[firstccoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:firstccoffice@yahoo.com)

Phone: (660) 886-3338

Visit our

*We're on the Web!*  
[fccmarshallmo.org](http://fccmarshallmo.org)

#### Church Staff

**Senior Minister– Rev. Dr. Loy Hoskins**

**Music Director–Hope Richards**

**Youth Director– Kris Milliron**

**Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp,**

**Chris Layton**

**Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant**

**Office Admin.– Hope Richards**

**Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,**

**Judy Morris**