

# Community Life

A Publication of: First Community Church  
P.O. Box 327  
Joplin, MO 64802  
(417) 781-1800  
Email: [fccjoplin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fccjoplin@sbcglobal.net)

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Joplin, Missouri 64804  
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Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Mailing Address:  
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## MINISTER'S MOMENT

*A fellow went to see a fortuneteller. "Let me see your crystal ball," he said. She showed it to him. "You've got two holes in it," he remarked in surprise.*

*"Yes," she replied. "I go bowling nights."*

Like a person seeking a fortuneteller, we often want someone to guarantee our future, as well. When asked to step out on faith, we are quick to ask, "Are you SURE this will work?" When presented with plans for change or growth, we raise the question, "PROVE that this will make a difference." We often act as if we expect others to pull out a crystal ball and GUARANTEE that everything will work out perfectly.

Unfortunately, there are very few guarantees in life when we serve God. The truth of the matter is that we do our best with what we have, and we trust God to honor our efforts. In the process, we may suffer setbacks and disappointments. We may become weary from the effort and consider giving up the work. At the same time, however, we discover new reservoirs of strength and hope in God's promises to always be with us, no matter what.

Instead of making guarantees, God makes promises. Our Lord promises guidance, inspiration, wisdom, compassion and love to all of us when we step out in faith. Instead of pulling out a cosmic crystal ball to assure us that our efforts of faith will be effective, God promises to honor and bless what we do. In a world where there are no guarantees regarding the future, the promises and blessings of God should be enough for us. Crystal balls? We don't need crystal balls. All we need are the promises of God. Amen. ~Russell



Cathy Gresham	9/3	Jessica Trimble	9/21
Joy O'Toole	9/7	Jenny Hocker	9/21
Amanda Mitchell	9/16	Philip Mitchell	9/22
Jenna Trimble	9/19	Becky Armstrong	9/23
Laurie Delano	9/20	Shirley Beck	9/29
Dawn Trujillo	9/20		



David & Shirley Beck	9/10	2017
David & Sheri Fuller	9/11	1981
Art & Judy Koller	9/22	1962
Robert & Andrea Cullers	9/27	2014
Bill & Gaye Pate	9/29	1978

*Please contact the church office and give us your birthday and anniversary dates. We don't want to miss anyone!*

**Serving in September**

**Elders**

Diane Storm  
Laurie Delano

**Deacons**

\*Sheri Fuller  
David Fuller  
Kathy Nangle  
Lynne Maguire

**Communion Stewards**

Kathy Nangle  
Dawn Trujillo

**Serving in October**

**Elders**

\*Jim Everitt  
Bill Harding

**Deacons**

\*Sharon Hacker  
Charles Venable  
Norma Venable  
Stephanie Everitt

**Communion Stewards**

Shawn Hull  
Suzanne Hull



Pastor's Bible Study will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall:

**Tuesday, September 5th**

**Tuesday, September 12th**

**Tuesday, September 19th**

Everyone is welcome to attend.

\*Folks are invited to bring food items to share as refreshments with one another.

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**Women's Section Meetings**

Section V- Wed., Sept. 13th at 1:00 p.m.

Section IV- Tues., Sept. 19th at 6:00 p.m.

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**PRO MUSICA**

**Thursday, Sept. 21st at 7:00 p.m.**

**at First Community Church**

Come for a dynamic performance by the Imani Winds celebrating Latin music for the woodwind quintet.

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**POTLUCK DINNER**

**Sunday, September 24th at 11:00 a.m.**

**in Fellowship Hall**

Members and guests are welcome

Section V will be hosting

\*Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

**WE NEED YOUR LAMPS!!!**

In September, we will be decorating the table on our worship chancel with lamps. They will symbolize the many ways that God in Christ brings light into our lives. Please help by lending us one of your lamps, especially one that has meaning for you. **Please bring your lamp to church no later than Sunday, September 3.** We will have a table in the Narthex where you can place them. Be sure to put your name somewhere on the lamp. Thank you for helping us proclaim God's good news of light and hope!

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**BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m.**

**downstairs in Fellowship Hall**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	4 <b>HAPPY Labor Day</b> Office Closed	5 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	6 Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	7	8	9
10 <b>HAPPY Grandparents DAY</b> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	11 <b>Patriot Day</b>	12 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.	13 Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	14	15	16 <b>MEN'S BREAKFAST</b> 9:00 a.m.
17 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fiber Folks 2-4	18	19 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	20 Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	21 <b>PRO MUSICA</b> AGELESS MUSIC FOR ALL AGES Concert 7:00 p.m.	22	23 <b>HELLO FALL</b>
24 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Family Dinner 11:00 a.m.	25	26	27 Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	28	29	30 Pastor's Book Sale 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall