

First Christian Church

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“Come Home To Tradition”

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH JOPLIN MESSENGER

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p.m.

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FROM THE PASTOR: “We Never Sin Alone”

We live in an age of this new “tolerance” which says, “What you do with your life is your business and what I do with my life is my business. You and I just mind our own business.” Is that really true? Can you sin without hurting others?

Remember the story of Achan’s sin in Joshua 7? Contrary to God’s order to the people of Israel after the fall of Jericho that all spoils were to be left except for the silver and gold that was to be put into the Temple treasury, Achan took some of the devoted things and hid them in the ground inside of his tent. When the Israelites went on to take the tiny town of Ai, which should have been easy compared to taking Jericho, they were soundly defeated. Thirty-six men lost their lives. The hearts of the people melted and became like water. Achan was eventually discovered to be the culprit and he and his family and all his possessions were destroyed. But his sin brought tremendous pain and loss to the community to the extent that God said, “Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep” (Joshua 7:11).

We never sin alone. The sin of one person can destroy a family, friendship, organization or church. The world has it all wrong when it conveys the message that there are no moral absolutes and we are to just live to ourselves and for ourselves. As Paul says concerning the church in 1 Corinthians 12:26a, “If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.” When we’re tempted to disobey God, we need to stop and ask ourselves, “How much is my sin, my disobedience going to cost others? And ultimately how is it going to dishonor the name of God and the cause of Christ?” The greatest damage we can do when we disobey God’s will for our lives is to push and keep people away from Christ and His church.

Thank God that, through His Spirit, He has given us the power and ability to defeat sin in our lives. James

4:7-10 says, “Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” Even though God allows others to suffer the consequences of our actions, still, there is no defeat in our lives that is permanent. In Christ, and through His shed blood on the cross and His righteousness, there is no failure that is final!
In Christ -
David

SUNDAY SERMON TITLES & SCRIPTURES:

Sunday, June 4 – “Truth From the Inside Out” –
Jonah 2

Sunday, June 11 – “God Reaches the
Unreachable” – Jonah 3

Sunday, June 18 – “Calling God’s Men”– Luke
8:40-56

Sunday, June 25 – “The Problem With the
World”– Jonah 4

SATURDAY, JUNE 10– “RELAY FOR LIFE”

AT CUNNINGHAM PARK
RELAY WALK is 4:00 – 10:00

P.M.

SURVIVOR DINNER – 5:00 P.M. - UNDER THE PAVILION

Our Church is once again sponsoring a team in the “Relay For Life.”

What Is Relay For Life? - Each year, more than 4 million people in over 20 countries raise funds and awareness to save lives from cancer through the Relay For Life movement.

Celebrate - During a Relay event, participants and survivors celebrate what they've overcome.

Remember - We remember people lost to the disease, and honor people who have fought or are fighting cancer.

Fight Back - The event inspires Relay participants to take action against a disease that has taken too much.

The survivor dinner is the same day as Relay (June 10) at 5pm under the pavilion at Cunningham Park. The survivor lap will follow the dinner

If you would like to attend the survivor dinner or be on our -

Relay team, contact Kelly Benson, 438-3349. She will also be selling Luminarias for \$5 in honor of, or in memory of loved ones affected by cancer and the Luminarias will be lighted and placed around the walking track. The event is very inspirational.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES:

Chase Coy graduated from Carl Junction
Harrison Davis graduated from Joplin High School
Emily Watson, BS in Nursing from University of Missouri

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TACO LUNCHEON AFTER



WORSHIP, SUNDAY, JUNE 11

All are invited to stay after worship on June 11 for a luncheon of: Tacos, refried beans and chips and salsa. This is our monthly fellowship luncheon to get to know each other better. Mark your calendar! You won't want to miss it!

(This was rescheduled from May 21)

COMMITTEE & BOARD MEETING- SUNDAY, JUNE 11

AFTER the Fellowship Luncheon we will have our monthly committees and board meeting.



FATHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY,



During worship we will honor all fathers with a candy bar. We will have a drawing and two lucky fathers will receive gift certificates to a local restaurant.

Invite all your family and friends and bring dad and celebrate his special day with your church family.

MEMORIAL FUND HAS BEEN OPENED IN KENNY LA NEAR'S MEMORY

If you would like to give in Kenny's memory, make your check out to First Christian Church and mark the check memo, "Kenny La Near Memorial."



THANK YOU NOTES:

We would like to thank Pastor David Johnson for his wonderful words and thoughtfulness during the loss of our dad, Kenny La Near. The funeral service was a great testament to his life. Thank you to Stephanie Watson-Bruto and Chris Greninger for their participation in the service. Thank you to the congregation for all the prayers, cards and condolences. A special thank you to Linda Ashby, Kathy Coy, Laurie Doyle, and Loren & Jan Smith for preparing the wonderful meal for our family. Everyone's love was very much appreciated.

We know Daddy would be very pleased and is smiling down on us. - Richard, Becky & Linda

I want to thank everyone for all the kind thoughts, cards, home visits, lovely dinner given from Kenny's Church and friends in memory of him. - Lois La Near

V.B.S. - COMING UP - SATURDAY, JULY 15 - ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!