First Church
OF NEW KNOXVILLE

Rooted in Christ, Growing in Christ, Serving Christ.

First Church recognizes Jesus Christ as the head of the Church and as Savior and Lord.

We are a community of faith who engage Biblical truth to provide an environment where people mature as disciples of Christ.

November 8, 2026

Pastor Joel Bucklin
256-698-8813
joel.bucklin@nktelco.net

Youth Pastor Tory Breitigan
231-557-0260
tory.breitigan@nktelco.net

Clinton Hirschfeld
Vocal & Bell Choir Director

In Worship Today:
Ricky Bowersock

Office Phone: 419-753-2446

Email: firstchurchnk@nktelco.net

Website: www.firstchurchnk.org

If you are a Guest or Visitor today, we are glad you're here!

- **The Restrooms** are in the basement at the East end of the church and inside the main glass doors of the Ministry Center next door.
- **The Nursery** is for infants to 4 years old & is located in the basement.
- **Large Print Bulletins & Bibles** are available at the info center near the back of the sanctuary.
- **Children's Activity Items** are available at the info center near the back of the sanctuary.
- **WiFi Connection is available** for those who wish to use their device to connect to the Bible app or take notes. Connect via "FirstChurchWifi Guest"
- **Our Worship Service** is broadcast Sundays on T-102 FM at 10:15am
- **YouTube Livestream** - We stream our service live via our YouTube page *@firstchurchofnewknoxville1014* at 9:00 am on Sundays.
- **Music** used with permission. CCLI License# 2403283
- **The * invites** those who are able, please rise.

Welcome to Worship at First Church

Announcements & Greeting Time

***Call to Worship** from Psalm 19:1-6

One: [1] The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
[2] Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
[3] They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
[4] Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
[5] It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
[6] It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.
[7] The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

All: [8] **The precepts of the Lord are right,**
giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.
[9] **The fear of the Lord is pure,**
enduring forever.
The decrees of the Lord are firm,
and all of them are righteous.
[10] **They are more precious than gold,**
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.

One: [11] By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
[12] But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.
[13] Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.
Then I will be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.

All: [14] **May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight,**
Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

Father let your kingdom come
Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart
(repeat)

Give us this day our daily bread
Forgive us forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned

Against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

Father let your kingdom come
Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart
(repeat)

Give us this day our daily bread
Forgive us forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned
Against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

It's yours it's yours
All yours all yours
The kingdom the power
The glory are yours
It's yours it's yours
All yours all yours
Forever and ever
The kingdom is yours
(repeat)

Father let your kingdom come
Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart
(repeat)

On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart

CCLI Song #7200544

God So Loved

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty.
Come to the well that never runs dry.
Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, come find His mercy.
Come to the table; He will satisfy.
Taste of His goodness, find what you're looking for.

For God so loved He world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us.
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.
Jesus is waiting there with open arms

For God so loved He world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us.
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

The power of hell forever defeated.
Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.
For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, praise Him for the wonders of His love.
(repeat)

For God so loved the world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save.

For God so loved He world that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us.
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.
The power of hell forever defeated.
Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.
For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.

Jesus is waiting.
God so loved the world.
CCLI Song # 7138599

Trust in God

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine
He's been my fourth man in the fire time after time
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood
And what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough

I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail
I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail

Perfect submission, all is at rest
I know the author of tomorrow has ordered my steps
So this is my story and this is my song
Praising my risen King and Savior all the day long

I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail
I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail

I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust Him
(4X)

That's why I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail
Oh, I trust in God, my Savior
The one who will never fail
He will never fail
CCLI Song #7206001

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Alaina Barbara Vogel
Daughter of Jonathan & Alisa Vogel

Words of Institution
Scriptural Promises
Profession of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal Christian church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Response of Faith
Congregational Promise

Pastor: Having heard their desire to baptize Alaina and raise her to know Christ, do you promise your love, support and care to them as they seek to be Christ's faithful disciples?

All: We promise to love, support, and care for you as you seek to know and follow Christ.

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Vow of the Parents
Baptism
Prayer

Children's Chat / Giving Back to God
Offering: Clint Mahan, Athletes in Action

***Scripture Reading** – Romans 3:1-8
(Page 967 in the pew Bible)

Message – God's Faithfulness and Human Excuses

Build My Life

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken
(repeat x2)

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

CCLI Song #7070345

***Benediction** & **Dismissal**

Announcements

Today's Offering is for Clint Mahan with Athletes in Action. His name is probably familiar to those of you who hosted Clint or one of the baseball or basketball player in the past. Clint has served with AIA for 16 years and is currently the International Football Coordinator within the global sports team of AIA. Athletes in Action is affiliated with Cru (formerly known as Campus Crusade for Christ). Sports not only open avenues to develop athletes spiritually, they open doors around the world to share Christ.

The Red Rose on the Altar is in honor of Michael & Lynn McCabe who will be celebrating 62 years of marriage on November 14.

The White Rose on the Altar is in honor of Alaina Barbara Vogel who is being baptized this morning. Alaina is the daughter of Jonathan & Alisa Vogel. She is the granddaughter of Bill & Lynda Katterheinrich and Daniel & Dorine Vogel.

Welcome Ricky Bowersock – First Church would like to welcome back guest worship leader, Ricky Bowersock. Ricky helped lead worship in March of 2025. He is a native of Lima, Ohio. He graduated from Anderson University - where he met Pastor Joel and Alie. He served as the Worship Pastor at Ovid Community Church in Pendleton, Indiana for 16 years, where he still resides with his wife Ashley and their daughter Maddi.

Prayer List – The family of Joann Kuck, Diana Kessen, Harrison Meyer, Paul Maurer, Gene Kuck, Cameron Wilkerson, Linda Niemeyer, Mary Schroer, Larry Longworth, Joyce Alexander, Tom Fledderjohann, Kevin Kruse, Dick Elsass, Noah Hoelscher, Robert Engel, Holly Brown, Diane Fledderjohann, Greg Metzger, Sandy Hoelscher, and Betty Kiefer.

Operation Christmas Child - One. More. Week. Just seven days remain to pick up a shoebox to pack so that your shoebox gifts are ready for next week, Celebration Sunday.

The shoeboxes from the Methodist Church will already be in the trailer and we will load ours right after next Sundays service. National collection week begins Monday, November for churches to send the shoeboxes on their way to a processing center so they are received before Thanksgiving. Processing starts right after Thanksgiving.

Volunteer opportunities are available at the processing centers. See Sharon Colson for info or search Operation Christmas Child/ volunteer. Please return your shoebox gifts anytime this week to the Heritage room or the church office.

Domestic Violence Awareness - To bring awareness as well as to honor domestic violence survivors and their children, the Auglaize County Crisis Center's Quilt of Hope is traveling amongst churches throughout Auglaize County. The quilt is here at First Church this morning. Stop by the heritage room and take a look. Each quilt square was designed by a survivor of domestic violence and/or their children to represent what hope means to them. Should any individual feel afraid at home and need to discuss safety options, please call the Auglaize County Crisis Center at (419) 738-5511 or 911 in an emergency.

Poinsettias - The church will purchase poinsettias to be delivered to some of our members and those in retirement communities to enjoy for the holidays. If you know of someone who may enjoy a poinsettia, please call the office at 419-753-2446.

Adult Sunday School Update – Stan Reineke's class will not be meeting today. They will resume next Sunday, November 15th.

A Heart of Thanksgiving –

This Thanksgiving, we invite you to take a moment to reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness in your life. Stop by our Thanksgiving Gratitude Board in the Heritage Room and write down one thing you would like to thank God for.

Whether big or small, every blessing is worth celebrating! Let's fill the board with reminders of God's goodness and give Him the praise and gratitude He deserves.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." – Psalm 107:1

Thanksgiving Service – Please join us November 18th at 6:30pm



Vocal Choir – We are pleased to announce that regular practices for Vocal Choir will be resuming!

- **Choir:** Practice on November 11 at 7:30pm.
- **Joint Choir –** will be singing for the Thanksgiving Service on November 18th.

We warmly invite you to consider joining this wonderful music group! Please see Clinton with any questions you may have.

Save the Date – December 13th will be our children's Christmas program. This program will be during the 9:00am worship service.

Decorating for Christmas – If you are available and love to decorate, please join us after the 9am worship service on Sunday, November 22nd to decorate the church for the beginning of the Christmas season. The first Sunday in Advent will be November 29th. Communion will be served that day.

Winter Giving Opportunities

Agape Food Drive | November 8–22
Join us in supporting Agape Ministries by collecting much-needed food items during our food drive, November 8–22. These items will be reserved to help families during the Christmas season. Whether you are able to donate one item or several, every contribution makes a difference. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Giving Tree | Beginning Next Sunday
We are excited to introduce a second giving opportunity this winter! FCNK will be partnering with the Family Life Center of Auglaize County for this year's Christmas Giving Tree. More details and opportunities to participate will be shared next Sunday. Stay tuned!

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Acts 20:35

In the next couple weeks, please stop by the Heritage Room, beside the Sanctuary, to see the giving trees.

This Week at First Church – November 8 to November 15

SUNDAY

8:00 am	Men's Prayer Group – MC Youth Room
8:00 am	Sunday Morning Prayer
9:00 am	Morning Worship – with the Lord's Supper
10:15 am	Adult Sunday School (Bible Recap) – Social Room
10:15 am	Sunday School for Pre-k through 6th Grade
10:15 am	Confirmation – Ministry Center
7:00 pm	Jr. & Sr. High Bible Study – Bambauer's House

MONDAY

7:00 pm	Spiritual Council

TUESDAY

9:00 am	Adult Bible Study – MC Youth Room
7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY **Happy Veterans Day!**

6:00 pm	Adult Bible Study *"Essentials of Faith"* – Heritage Room
6-7:15 pm	Awana
7-8:30 pm	Youth Group
7:30 pm	Vocal Choir Practice - Sanctuary

NEXT SUN. **OCC Celebration Sunday**

8:00 am	Men's Prayer Group – MC Youth Room
8:00 am	Sunday Morning Prayer
9:00 am	Morning Worship
10:15 am	Adult Sunday School (Bible Recap) – Social Room
10:15 am	Adult Sunday School (Grounded in Truth)– Youth Room
10:15 am	Sunday School for Pre-k through 6th Grade
10:15 am	Confirmation – Ministry Center
7:00 pm	Jr. & Sr. High Bible Study – Bambauer's House

Offering on October November 1st - $1,847.00 **Attendance**:190

Offering for Building Maintenance Fund - $1,347

General Operating Fund Gifts & Pledges - $500.00

Sunday School Offering for November 1, 2026 - $23.94

Sermon Notes
"God's Faithfulness and Human Excuses"
Romans 3:1-8

Big Idea: God is faithful and righteous despite human unfaithfulness.

Religious privilege is a _____ advantage (vv. 1-2)

- Religious heritage does give people an advantage
    - It does not guarantee salvation, but it is good.
    - With great privilege comes great _____
- Access to God's Word is a _____
    - To know what the law requires
    - To know who God is and what he has done

God's faithfulness does not _____ on human beings (vv. 3-4)

- Human unfaithfulness does not _____ God's faithfulness or his promises
- What is good and true is not based on _____ _____.

God is righteous when he _____ sin (vv. 5-6)

- He is a just judge (Psalm 51:4)
- He is not _____ for our unrighteousness
- His holiness and righteousness are displayed in his judgment

Quit Making _____ (vv. 7-8)

- Christians are not _____
    - God's sovereignty does not eliminate human responsibility

    - God's ability to use evil for good does not make evil acceptable.
- Christians should not pursue evil, sinful behaviors
    - Misguided to believe that it will somehow glorify God
    - Misguided to believe that it does not matter
- The ends do not _____ the means
    - Sin is not acceptable because God is glorified when he judges it
    - We must not do _____ so that _____ may result