



Lifting Praise

Issue 26 | Vol: 09

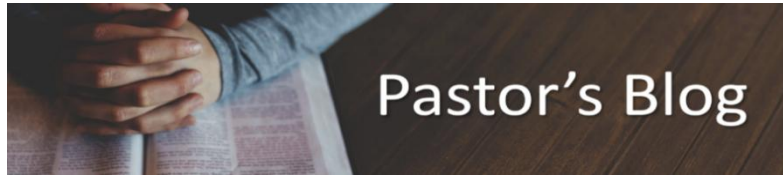
June 24, 2026



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

Consumed By Fire - Hill To Die On



ESTABLISHED, OR STUCK IN THE MUD?

The Upward Look, by Jon Forrest

D. L. Moody told a story of a man who was asked by his ten-year-old son, "Daddy, why don't you ever go to church with us?" The father replied, "I don't need to go to church, my faith is established." Later that day the man drove his horses out of the barn and hitched them to the buggy. As he and his son drove out of the yard, the horses became mired in a mud hole. The man tried in vain to extricate them, whereupon the boy observed "They're not going anywhere, Daddy. I believe they're established:"



What's the difference between established (grounded) and stuck in the mud? There are people who never go to church services and some who go to church every Sunday who are still stuck in the mud. Sometimes we have issues with our purpose.

Why do you stay away from worship services or why do you attend regularly? Do you stay away so you can worship God? Do you attend services for that reason? True worship is the issue of our relationship with God. Religious acts mean nothing without a sincere heart.

If you are truly giving God your heart in every situation then you will not be stuck in the mud. However, to keep your praise to yourself is to mire your life in the quicksand of self-centeredness.

God created us for the purpose of worship. As I said in my sermon last Sunday, He has placed within us a God shaped hole in every heart that is filled only through worship. Unfortunately, we often worship things that are the wrong shape? If you worship pleasure, you will be left empty. If you worship fame, you will only feel distant. If you worship material things you will feel poverty inside. God wants to fill you and keep you moving forward. To be truly established in Him you must place him above everything in your universe. If you refuse to worship him, you will only be established in the muck and mire of personal mud.

The Psalmist writes a song of worship through which his heart is elevated far above the heavens. In coming humbly before God, he empties himself and cries out for an audience with the Almighty God so that he can lift him up. As a result, the Lord hears his desperate cries and lifts him above the world's spiritual gravitational pull which would otherwise leave him in the mud.

"Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!" – Psalm 66:16-20

If you seek him and his presence, he will hear your cry and strengthen your life with his amazing love.

Sunday we will continue with our series, **BUT, GOD**, with a message from Genesis 31 titled, "**He Hears Your Cry!**" Do you ever wonder if God hears you? One line from our Psalm says, "**But God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.**" If you feel a desperate need for God's presence and for his attentive ear, come Sunday and see how God can respond to your cry.

Digging out of the muck,
Jon



Annual Baby Bottle Campaign has come to an end!
Please return all bottles to Pastor Jon. Thank you for participating!!

Mothers' Day through Fathers' Day

If you make out a check, please make to PRC not to the church.

Sign-up sheet available. Please print your name and number of bottles you are taking.

When you return the bottle/s fill out the date returned.

Return date: Sunday June 21st

Celebrate Recovery is gearing up for our 2nd BBQ, celebrating our nation's Independence Day as we celebrate independence from our HURTS, HABITS and HANGUPS. Every month we hand out Recovery Chips to congratulate milestones in lives of people who have surrendered their lives and their wills to Jesus Christ.

Our Memorial Day BBQ we celebrated with 20 men and women who received a chip or coin. We had three people who received a 17-year coin, as well as many other individuals from 30 days to over 10 years. Our own Ashley White received her 5-year coin celebrating recovery from addictions. The watermelon-eating contest was a HUGE success with Ms. Lily Racette winning for the youth (7 slices) and David Hernandez who won after eating 11-1/2 slices for the adults.

Pastor Jon offered communion for everyone thoroughly explaining the importance of the Lord's Supper and why we do it. It was a wonderful time of reflection and greatly received by the CR congregation.

On Tuesday, June 30th we are going to open again at 5pm in Praise & Worship, followed by Communion and the opportunity to hand out recovery chips/coins before we adjourn to the Fellowship Hall for a

summer feast of hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, desserts and other side dishes. There will be a water balloon fight for the kids, with over 700 water balloons in the parking lot. And for the adults we are going to have a chicken wing-eating contest.

This is a great time for the church family to meet our CR "Forever Family" and on behalf of our leadership team: Ashley White, Nicki Racette-Windle, Phil Landers, Jonathan and Davena Lindley, Kathryn Hussey, Stephen Lopez, Pastor Jon and myself, we invite everyone from First Christian to come out and join us on Tuesday.

Come and see our God is still changing lives through this ministry.

Bonetta J. Hutson



**Carry in Picnic Lunch
Sunday July 12th**

We will have lunch after morning service.
Please bring cold sandwiches, cool sides and desserts.
Church will provide Drinks & chips



Loss of FCC Resources

First Christian Church Food Pantry, hygiene kits, and other resources are available to all church members and community families. We need to keep track of items coming in and donations being shared. Items taken has reduced our ability to help essential services. Please contact: Jon Forrest 575.749.2534 or Dianna Thompson 575.693.2181 or FCC office as assistance is needed.

♥ Women's Council Summer Calendar 2026 ♥

June 21st – Father's Day Fiesta – Mexican Stack Up

July 11th – Scrumptious Tea Party 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Tea is Best When Shared with a Friend!

August 1st – Creating Bows for Daffodil Days!

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m., restaurant TBD

September 7th – Women's Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Details / updates / RSVPs will be announced – All events @ FCC unless noted.

All women attending FCC are welcome! (16 years and older)



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

Welcome

Video – God of the Valley

Call to Worship

God is Good

Scripture Reading: Psalm 66:16-20 – Jaden Waltz

Opening Prayer – John Butts

Praise Medley

Holy Ground

The Solid Rock

Intercessory Prayer Time

Communion Song

In The Garden

Communion Time

Special Music – God On The Mountain – Cheryl Forrest

Morning Message – Jon Forrest

BUT GOD!

He Has Seen Your Hardship

Genesis 31

Decision Time

You Are My All in All

Closing Prayer

Parting Chorus – Sing the Wonderous Love of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE

James 1:12 – Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.



Prayer Requests

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

Amber Anderson – Cancer moved into her brain. (Kendra Beevers)

Jerry Bailey – Heart attack. (Dan Peck)

Kendra Beevers – Health concerns.

Charles Boatman – Health concerns.

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

Carmen Cerny – Now home & under hospice care. (Bonetta Hutson)

Megan Curtis – Throat cancer at M.D. Anderson. (Judy Baskett's granddaughter)

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

Steve Fenstermaker – Began 6 months of chemo at the end of March.

Katrina Fulgham – Shoulder replacement. (Dejon Porter)

Tara Gagner – Recovering from major heart surgery. (Dan & Coleen's niece)

Coleen Gutierrez & Dan Peck – Personal concerns.

Carla Hammar – Kidney stone.

Wilma & Wayne Hammar – Wilma has aggressive breast cancer. (Carla Hammar)

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

Bonetta Hutson – Eye surgery Monday June 29th..

Josh Hutson – Personal concerns.

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

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

Rick Lewis – Struggling with health concerns. (Jon Forrest)

Bobby Light – Pray for family. (Yvonne Light)

Yvonne Light – Health concerns.

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

Jay McGregor – Health concerns.

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

Nicole Monopoly – Personal concerns.

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

Joe Muñoz – Health concerns.

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

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

Joyce Norman – Health. (Bonetta Hutson)

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

Ashley Pool – Health & lost son in an auto accident. (Rick & Melody Lewis)

Allan Potter – Prostate cancer. (Doug McGregor)

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

Kimberly Reed – Brain bleed. (Jim Hileman)

James Romero - James is now home fighting a pancreatitis infection and home health is vital to his recovery.

Unfortunately, he has not returned to work because of the weakness caused by this illness. (Joe & Ida Muñoz' son)

Tim Romero – Tim had a major stroke four years ago that left him paralyzed on the entire left side of his body. This has caused him daily struggles as he strives to live. He does have days of depression and does isolate himself because of problems in communicating with others. (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)

George Tafoya – Unexpectedly passed in his sleep. Pray for family & friends. (Brother of Liz McGregor)

Ashley Trujillo – Multiple seizures, at covenant in Lubbock. Pray for family. (Bonetta Hutson)

Diana Trujillo – Father passed away. (Bonetta Hutson)

Sherry Weekley-Butts – Rt Knee placement (John Butts).

Gena Wilkerson – Recovering from hand surgery.

Janet Winter - Physical issues. (Jon Forrest)

Ruthie Yarbrough – Physical therapy coming.

Unspoken request

=====

Youth traveling to Christian Camp

Unrest worldwide

Persecuted Christians around the world.

=====

Please pray for our Home Bound

Billie Aucutt – Now home. (Jon Forrest)

Rick Fountain – At home. (Mary Yoder-Cruz)

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

Casey Henry – Now residing at Farwell Care & Rehabilitation Ctr. (Jon Forrest)

Treva Kline – At Wheatfields rm. 109. (Jessie Strauch & Bernice Baker Sister)

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

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

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 Thursday at noon 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



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.fcccloviss.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.fcccloviss.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! ♥

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.



June

- 1 - Bonetta Hutson
- 5 - Clark Elswick
- 13 - Dianna Thompson
- 15 - Yvonne Elswick
- 25 - Brenda Knoll
- 27 - Carla Hammar
- 27 - Andrew Forrest
- 28 - Judy Baskett
- 28 - Drew Waltz
- 29 - Annette Tyler

July

- 2 - Janet Winter
- 7 - Doug McGregor
- 7 - Annie Tackitt
- 16 - Samuel Hussey
- 16 - Hope Peña
- 19 - LeeAnne Johnson
- 25 - Elsa Collins
- 25 - Dan Peck

June

- 2 - Wayne & Rebekah Allen
- 14 - Rick & Melody Lewis
- 16 - Charles & Dianna Boatman
- 22 - Joe & Heather Farley

July

- 1 - Heath & Samantha Rohr
- 30 - Bill & Billie Aucutt

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

June 2026

Adjusted Servant Ministry
This Week:
Scripture Reading: Jaden Waltz
Opening Prayer: John Butts
Welcome Ministry: Bill Wallace
Communion Prep: Alice Elliott

Upcoming Events

June

Date: 6/30/26
Time: 5:00PM
Location: First Christian Church
Description: Chip Recovery Night
=====

July

Date: 7/11/26
Time: 11:00Am – 1:00PM
Location: First Christian Church
Description: Women's Council Tea Party

Date: 7/12/26
Time: After morning service
Location: First Christian Church
Description: All Church Picnic

Date: 7/18/26
Time: 8:00Am – 1:00PM
Location: First Christian Church
Description: All Church Workday

Date: 7/20/26
Time: 6:00PM
Location: First Christian Church
Description: Board Meeting

Lead Pastor

Jon Forrest

Elders

J.D. Hileman

Keith Risdon

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

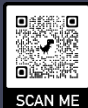
Office hours are Monday-Thursday.

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

575-763-7113

fcc@plateautel.net

like us on Facebook & YouTube
Download the app!



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 at Facebook Live,
You Tube, FCCCLOVIS app

Tuesday Nights

Celebrate Recovery

5:00 – 5:45 – Light Meal

6:00 – 7:30 – Groups Meet

Wednesday

Wednesday Night Special

Will be on summer break & resume in September

