

December 2024



Nixa Church of Christ

News and Notes

Meeting Times:
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Location:
313 N Main St

Mailing Address:
PO Box 1521
Nixa, MO 65714

On the web at:
www.nixachurchofchrist.org
E-mail:
nixachurchofchrist@gmail.com

“and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said to the fathers, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you.’”

Acts 3:20-21

- Thanks to all who participated in the wedding shower for Lauren Allen and Joshua Sherman on November 10.
- Also thanks to those who provided food and preparation for our fellowship meal on November 17.
- We look forward to the wedding and celebration of love for Lauren and Josh on December 7 at 2:00pm. It will be held at the Southern Charm Estate, 11189 State Hwy K, Mt. Vernon, MO.
- We also look forward to John Lee being with us to speak during our morning service on December 15 when he will deliver two messages. We will also have a carry-in dinner at noon.
- Please pray for those with special needs including Mary Jane Johnson, Nancy Moore, Devin McCall, Clayton Moore, Shannon Allen, Chuck Waterworth, Barbara Hutchinson, and John Derhammer.
- We offer live streaming of our Sunday morning worship on YouTube or for later viewing. Our website at www.nixachurchofchrist.org offers a variety of resources including audio messages from our visiting evangelists. There are also links to VBR (Video Bible Reading), The Gospel Message, and our newsletters.
- If you know of someone who would like to be added to our mailing list or have change of address. please let us know by email at nixachurchofchrist@gmail.com or our mailing address, PO Box 1521, Nixa, MO 65714.

He Looked in the Liver

In Ezekiel 21:18, God commands the namesake prophet to build a signpost for the king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar. Following the directions on this signpost, Nebuchadnezzar and his armies would be able to bring God's judgement on the disobedient nations of Ammon and Judah.

Later in verse 21, we encounter a very curious phrase about the king himself. "For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of two ways, to use divination: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, **he looked in the liver.**" He 'looked in the liver'? What does that mean?

The phrase "looking in the liver" actually refers to an ancient method of performing a *divination*, or an attempt to predict the future through supernatural means. In this practice, a qualified priest would remove the liver from an animal such as a sheep or a chicken, and carefully inspect it using a special catalog. They would then use their observations to make a forecast about things to come.

As primitive and silly as it sounds, this is but one of many strange inventions humans have devised for prognostication throughout history. Of course, God condemns all of these practices in no uncertain terms. In Deuteronomy 18:10, we read "There shall not be found among you anyone that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, **or that useth divination**, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations, the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee."

Moses then continues in verse 15: "For the LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a **Prophet** from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; **unto him ye shall hearken.**" That is to say, instead of relying on all of these strange and wicked methods for guidance in our lives, we should rather listen to the Prophet that God will raise up. We now understand this passage to be a prophecy about Jesus Christ (Acts 3:20-22).

You probably won't find people literally looking in the liver in America today, but how many are doing it figuratively by heeding things like palm-reading, fortune-telling, horoscopes, or even ungodly books and counsel that contradict the teachings of the Bible?

Instead of looking in the liver, we should rather be looking in the Word of God for all matters pertaining to life and religion. As the psalmist wrote, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105). The Bible is really a book unlike any other; you can find all manner of practical and spiritual guidance within its pages. Even if your particular situation isn't exactly spelled out in the Scriptures, there are certainly great stories and principles that can help illuminate your path forward.

One of the most prevalent commands in the Bible is to not be anxious about the uncertain future. "Be careful for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." (Philippians 4:6). Let's rely on the Word of God for our direction, rather than appealing to the various 'divinations' of the world.

Josh Gooch

Calendar Events

Birthdays in December:

December 8 - Dave Deason

December 13 - Lisa Allen

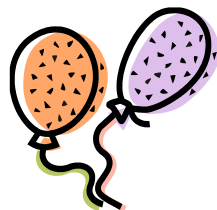
December 18 - Sandy Ingram

December 19 - Alesia Carter

December 23 - Debbie Krasser

December 24 - Charles Waterworth

“For I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound...I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:11-13



Anniversaries in December:

December 16 - Benny and Brenda Bogart

December 24 - Gale and Deanna Maples

Mark your Calendar for December:

December 1 - Leaders Meeting 8:30am

December 2 - Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm

December 7 - Lauren and Josh Wedding

December 15 - John Lee

December 15 - Carry In Dinner at noon

December 25 - Christmas Day

January 1 - New Year's Day

Coming Soon in 2025

January 19 - John Morris

February 16 - Dan Huff

March 16 - Tad Morris

Program Schedule for December 2024:

- Sunday Morning -

Date	Songs	Read	Announcements	Table	Speaker
1	T. Allen	A. Carter	D. Young	C. Payne	M. Allen
8	J. Bennett	G. McCleave	M. Allen	D. Young	C. Allen
15	Brownsberger	D. Gooch	D. Carmichael	A. Carter	J. Lee
22	M. Allen	C. Allen	M. Allen	J. Bennett	Brownsberger
29	D. Young	D. Carmichael	D. Young	Brownsberger	J. Gooch

Teacher for Adult Class in the Auditorium: J. Allen (James, 1 Peter)

- Wednesday Evening -

Date	Songs	Teacher
4	T. Allen	B. Lee (<i>Unsung Heroes from the book of Acts - Aquila & Priscilla</i>)
11	M. Allen	D. Young (<i>Unsung Heroes from the book of Acts - Timothy</i>)
18	J. Bennett	J. Allen (<i>Unsung Heroes from the book of Acts - Barnabas</i>)
25	Mutual Edification - D. Young (<i>Theme: Gifts from God</i>)	

Contact Information

Elders:

Michael Allen

Tom Allen

Deacons:

Jeff Allen

David Carmichael

David Young

Flowers for Ill or Bereaved:

Lisa Allen

Food for Ill or Bereaved:

Cheryl McCleave

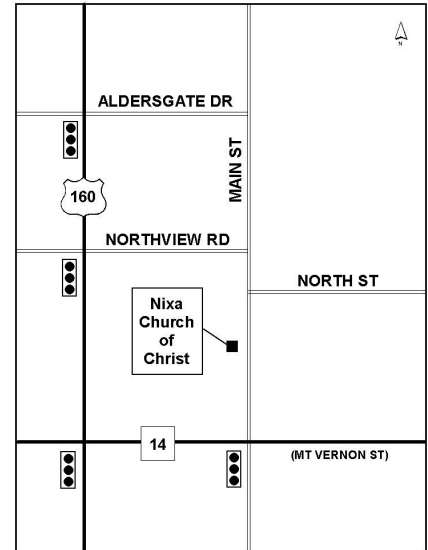
On the web at: www.nixachurchofchrist.org

E-mail: nixachurchofchrist@gmail.com

Follow us on: Facebook & X

Bulletin Information:

David and Pam Young



Church of Christ

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