

February 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

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

2 Timothy 4:7-8

- Thanks to all who participated in our chili supper fellowship on January 27th.
- We look forward to Evangelist Dan Huff being with us to speak during our morning service on February 18 when he will deliver two messages. We will also have a carry-in dinner at noon.
- Please pray for those with special needs including Chuck Waterworth, Suzanne Scott, Shannon Allen, Barbara Hutchinson, and Clayton Moore.
- Live streaming of our Sunday morning worship is available on YouTube. To watch simply go to YouTube and search for “Nixa Church of Christ.” If you subscribe to our channel, you will get an email when our services are going live or view later if you prefer.
- Our website at www.nixachurchofchrist.org offers a variety of resources including audio messages from our visiting evangelists and last years weekend meeting. 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.

Run For the Prize

In the first century, nowhere in the world were there more gods and goddesses being worshipped than in Greece. Paul told them, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things." Acts 17:22-25

The Greeks worshipped their many gods, but also exalted their athletes. In Olympia competitions were held every four years, inspiring world competition that continues the pattern to this day. In Corinth, a city built on a narrow strip of land or "isthmus" between the Greek mainland and the Lower Peninsula, they hosted the Isthmian Games, held every two years. In his first letter to the Corinthians Paul addressed their continuing issues with idolatry and immoral behavior, but then he appealed to their athletic interest. He compared the life of a Christian to the running of a race. He wrote, "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown." 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Was Paul encouraging the Corinthian disciples to enter the Isthmian Games? There is nothing wrong with a Christian participating in athletic competition. But no, Paul was talking about a different kind of race, the race of life. He is saying the Christian life will have a reward in the end, a prize, an imperishable crown for those who may obtain it. The winner of these earthly competitions will only celebrate for a short while. In heaven the celebration will go on forever.

Athletes run races of various lengths from short sprints to longer tests of endurance. The longest run is called a marathon, which also has a Greek origin. Legend states that a messenger, Pheidippides, was sent from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens to announce that the Persians had been defeated. It is said that he ran the entire distance, about 22 miles, without stopping and burst into the assembly, exclaiming "we have won!" before collapsing and dying. The Christian life is often compared to a "marathon run" because they are both perhaps the ultimate tests of endurance.

Paul continued, "I run this way: not with uncertainty. I fight this way: not as one who beats the air. I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest I should be disqualified." 1 Corinthians 9:26-27 He told Timothy he "must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him. And if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules." 2 Timothy 2:3-5 We have a rule book, our bible. It tells us how to run our marathon the right way. Follow the rules, learn from the examples, and run for the prize.

Perhaps the writer of Hebrews said it best. "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 Jesus ran the race to perfection. The joy now set before Him is us; those who have accepted Him as their savior. He rejoices when we follow Him. His blood cleanses us when we fall short. He is our ultimate example; our Rock, our Living Water, our Bread of Life. Everything we need to run for the prize, a place of our own in God's glorious kingdom, forever.

David Young

Calendar Events

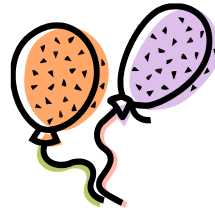
Birthdays in February:

Feb 8 - Della Dennis

Feb 9 - Tom Allen

Feb 12 - Suzanne Scott

Feb 15 - Jeff Allen



“Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition. For God is faithful and will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Mark your Calendar for February:

February 4 - Leaders Meeting 8:30am

February 4 - Baby shower for Shelby Carney 2:00pm

February 5 - Ladies Bible Class 6:30pm

February 14 - Valentine’s Day

February 18 - Dan Huff

February 18 - Carry-in Dinner at Noon

February 19 - President’s Day

Coming Soon in 2024:

March 17 - Doug Twaddell

March 31 - Wade Stanley

April 21 - Louis Garbi

May 19 - John Lee

June 23 - John Morris

Program Schedule for February 2024:

- Sunday Morning -

Date	Songs	Read	Announcements	Table	Speaker
4	D. Young	B. Young	D. Young	D. Carmichael	J. Bennett
11	Brownsberger	K. Farthing	D. Carmichael	C. Allen	M. Allen
18	M. Allen	D. Carmichael	M. Allen	A. Carter	D. Huff
25	J. Allen	C. Moore	J. Allen	J. Gooch	T. Dennis

Teacher for Adult Class in the Auditorium: C. Payne (2 Timothy)

- Wednesday Evening -

Date	Songs	Teacher
7	J. Allen	Brownsberger (Strategies for talking to people)
14	J. Bennett	J. Gooch (Why is baptism necessary?)
21	Mutual Edification -	D. Young (Theme: Love/Heart)
28	D. Young	J. Allen (Why not instrumental music in the worship service?)

Contact Information

Elders:

Michael Allen

Tom Allen

Tom Dennis

Deacons:

Jeff Allen

David Carmichael

David Young

Flowers for Ill or Bereaved:

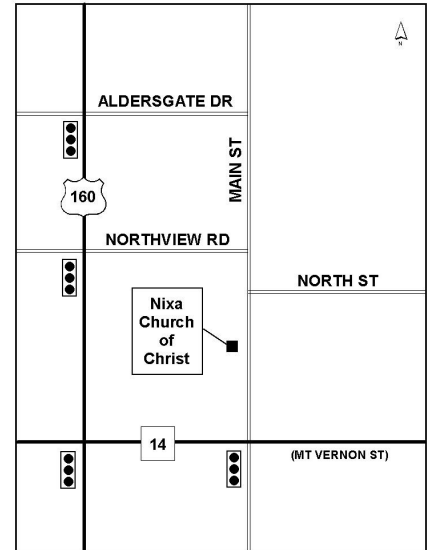
Lisa Allen

Food for Ill or Bereaved:

Karen Carmichael

Bulletin Information:

David and Pam Young

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Church of Christ

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Nixa, MO 65714

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