

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

AUGUST 16, 2026

FRIENDS OF FAITH,

We are so blessed that you have come today. This is Back to School Sunday and we will be praying a prayer of blessing on all our students and teachers returning to the classroom.

On Wednesday, we will begin our 30 day PRAYER CHAIN for our 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, SEPTEMBER 16-20, 2026. We are praying for three victories.

1st that our congregation of faithful followers will be revived. 2nd that the "friends of faith" who have drifted would return. And,



3rd that brand new seekers will be found and brought into our community of faith.

We are thrilled that EVANGELIST NATHAN KLINE will be preaching, THE JEWETTS will be singing, and we will have a FANTASTIC 30TH CELEBRATION with Dinner on the Grounds and Community Singing. Mark it on your calendar and join us.

NEXT FRIDAY 6p is our ANNUAL TEENQUEST BONFIRE! Middle School and High School students won't want to miss this great time. The bus will be running.

NEXT SUNDAY, we will have hotdogs, chips, & sodas for all our Sunday School. Let's pack the buses.

I'm looking forward to preaching my 4th message on THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT this morning. Tonight we will look at the "High Calling of God!" Onward!

WE PRESS ON

We press toward the mark of the High Calling of God!

PHILIPPIANS 3:14

PHILIPPIANS was written from Prison in Rome. The Apostle Paul had every reason to be concerned. His very life was on the line. Yet this book was written with confidence and joy. Paul interpreted his circumstance as an opportunity for the Gospel. He was witnessing to his guards. He was witnessing to his visitors. While Paul, the witness was bound, the truth Paul preached was free!

And Paul was determined that it would be focused. "THIS ONE THING I DO" he testified. Like a laser light, Paul's witness was concentrated and powerful. His goal was not comfort, possessions, retirement, or recognition. He wanted to know Christ. And He wanted to make Christ known.

1. FORGET THE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND

We are tempted to let our past define us. We are satisfied by our successes. "I have done enough" We are stymied by our failures. "I've failed too badly." But Paul said "forget those things." Our identity rests in Christ!

Paul obviously didn't mean that we should erase experiences from our memories. But he "counted all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ!" Phil 3:7. And so should we.

2. REACHING FORTH TO THE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE

This missionary that had suffered so much for the spread of the Gospel, was confident but never complacent. He was reaching! He was reaching for God's direction. He was reaching for God's will. He was reaching for God's purpose.

Our enemy disables us from "reaching forth" by deception, distraction, and tempting us to disobedience. But Paul's Passion was to reach! Reach forth! Keep going!

3. I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

Pastor Tim Keller made a fascinating discovery

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30th
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
September 16-20

FORGETTING the things that
are behind, and REACHING FORTH
to the things which are before, I
PRESS TOWARD
THE MARK of the
HIGH CALLING of GOD.
PHILIPPIANS 3:13,14

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

Welcome to FCC!

We trust you sense God's presence & that you feel very welcome here.

Please let us know how we may help you.

10:15 a.m.
ADULT BIBLE CLASS

5:30 p.m.
PRAYER GATHERING

11:00 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP

6:00 p.m.
PRAISE & PREACHING

– THE CRUSADER'S CREED –

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
 Maker of Heaven and Earth;

And 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, dead, and
 buried; descended into the grave, the third day He arose
 again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at
 the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He
 shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church,
 the inspired infallible Word of God
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and
 the life everlasting. AMEN.

Scripture of the Month

Each month we are encouraging God's people to memorize a passage of Scripture

PHILIPPIANS 3

*6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer
 and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests
 be made known to God;*

*7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all
 understanding, will guard your hearts and minds
 through Christ Jesus.*

FCC NEWSLINE

Important Announcements and Updates

■ **THANK YOU FOR COMING!** Thanks for checking in with Christy in the lobby. You may text (314) 607-1424 or e-mail: PastorRick@FCCStLouis.org, or fill out a contact card on our welcome table.

■ **JOIN US THIS THIS MORNING FOR THE ADULT BIBLE CLASS (ABC) WITH JOE EARLE** 10:15.a.m

■ **THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD** The Lord loves cheerful givers. You can not outgive God!. GIVE ONLINE WWW.FCCSTLOUIS.ORG or at FCCStLouisMO@gmail.com, or 2969 N Lindbergh, St. Ann, MO 63074.

AUGUST	YEAR TO DATE	2026 GOAL	ATT. 8/8
\$4,322	\$105,399	\$226,000	101



■ **THANK YOU DIANNE LYTLE BEVERLY, HAILEY DODSON, AND VICKIE JONES** for helping us gather and pack Back To School supplies for all our students.

■ **30th ANNIV. REVIVAL IS SEPTEMBER 16-20 WITH EVANGELIST NATHAN KLINE AND THE SINGING JEWETTS**

■ **OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26.** At that meeting we will nominate Deacons and Trustees for the coming term. Those who sign the Crusaders Covenant will receive ballots. It is exciting to see how God is working in and through FCC.

FCC PRAYER & PRAISE

Reports of Answered Prayers and Your Requests

■ BRO BILL BASSETT'S FAMILY at the passing of his mother.
 ■ RALPH BULLAR will have surgery soon.
 ■ DARLENE BULLAR
 ■ GILDA LOZANO
 ■ TRESSA is improving.
 ■ ART HASSINGER appreciates our prayers at the loss of Debbie.
 ■ CHARLOTTE COLONNA
 ■ JOE EARLE
 ■ KRIS MAUER
 ■ YVONNE MASON'S MOTHER
 ■ MARISSA EARLE GRISHAM is the happy mother of McCoy!
 ■ REMEMBER THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS in our church family.
 ■ DIANNE LYTLE BEVERLY
 ■ JOSIE'S FAMILY
 ■ ALEC KUSMANOFF
 ■ RALPH BULLAR
 ■ PRAY FOR TODAY'S SERVICES.
 ■ PRAY for our NATION,
 ■ RICK FEGER
 ■ SCOTT FEGER
 ■ RON FEGER
 ■ BENJAMIN EARLE

■ BROTHER GARY OLIVER'S SISTER NORMA
 ■ CHARLOTTE LOCKHART
 ■ CHRISTY DODSON
 ■ BLANCA ALMANZA
 ■ The recently bereaved families of STEPHEN GIBSON, BARBIE SHREVES, SHARON KLOPOTOSKI, MAGGIE SOHN'S SISTER, , PEGGY KING, MARY HOWSDEN, TAMMY LEWIS,
 ■ LEA KILLAM .
 ■ ADELINE GREAVES
 ■ JANE FEGER
 ■ YVONNE MASON
 ■ DIANNE's brother MARK LYTLE
 ■ DAISY GOODRICH
 ■ DIANNE BEVERLY.
 ■ JODY OLIVER
 ■ MIKE & BETTY JOBBINS
 ■ NORMA OLIVER
 ■ ED HENDRICKSON
 ■ SHARON NICKELSON
 ■ DONNA HURLBUT
 ■ SISTER BETTY OGLESBY
 ■ DEBBIE FULLER
 ■ KRIS CAMPBELL

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about the word we translate "PRESS." In Phliippians 3 the Apostle says he "persecuted" the church--literally he "pressed" the church. So before he was saved, Paul pursued Christians. After he was saved, Paul pursued Christ. His intensity did not disappear--its direction changed!

It turns out that salvation changes what you chase! Christians press to know Christ and to love Him without reservation and with passion. Our calling is an upward call. God has called us out of darkness, away from sin, to pursue perfect love, righteousness, and holiness.

For those who love Christ, there is no greater prize than seeing Him.

*"It will be worth it all when we see Jesus,
 Life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ;
 One glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase,
 So bravely run the race till we see Christ!"*