



# The Marshall Christian

LXII

NO. II

February 2020

## Elder/Deacon Serving Schedule

### February 2

Elders:

Jean Dowell  
Wayne McReynolds

Deacons:

Tyler Clemens  
Gary Dowell  
Missie Kreisel  
Amber VanDyke  
Leroy Wise

### February 9 & 16

Elders:

Lloyd Bentley  
Tiffany Thornton

Deacons:

Jill Buck  
Vince Buck  
Ginger McGraw  
John McGraw  
Vickie Wise

### February 23 & March 1

Elders:

Dan Brandt  
Lloyd Bentley (23)  
Buddy Hannaford (1)

Deacons:

Cindy Brandt  
Julie Hoffmeyer  
Becky McRoberts  
Hope Richards  
Melisa Shannon

### Outside Communion:

#### February 9

Roberta Reed  
Kay Wise

#### February 23

Dan Brandt  
Buddy Hannaford

## Moving Forward...

The Search Committee wants your help. As we move forward to find a new minister, we would like to know the opinions of our fellow Church members. In this newsletter we have included a survey concerning the future of our Church. The information gathered will become part of our Church profile, which will be important to any prospective new minister. The committee would greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey and returning it to the Church by the end of February. You can mail it back or drop it off at the Church office. We will also have the survey available at both Sunday services throughout the month. You can simply fill it out and drop it in the offering plate. Only one survey per person is needed.

We thank you for your help in this important step into the future of our Church.

Sincerely,

Greg Schultz  
Search Committee Chair

We will again be using the call messaging system if there is a need to cancel worship services or other events or gatherings due to bad weather or dangerous road conditions. We will also be putting messages out through KMMO radio, 102.9 FM.



The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a dinner of soups and sandwiches on February 9<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30 service. Please bring a dessert or side dish to share if attending.

## Upcoming Ministers February

2- Jim West  
9- Jim West  
16- Arlene Johnson  
23- Willie Harlow

## “Book News”

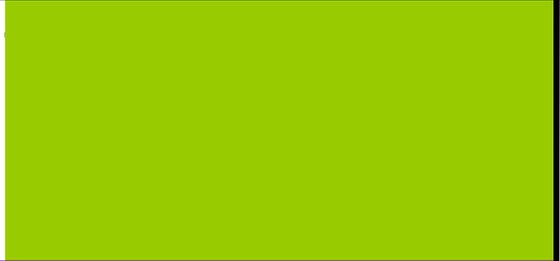
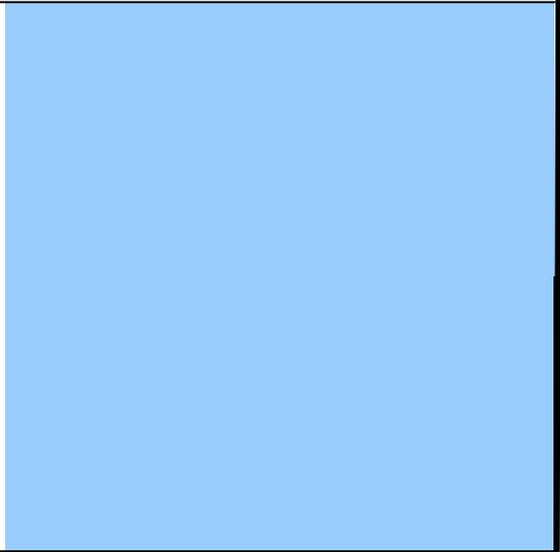
In an enthralling historical novel from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to real life Alice Network in France during World War II and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

Visit our church library to check out the book—  
“The Alice Network” by Kate Quinn in the Fiction Section Green Genre Label— F



### February Birthdays

- 3– Greg Schultz  
Shirley Schultz
- 4– Sidney Ehrhardt
- 7- Dorothy LaRue
- 8– Chloe Venable
- 10– Jarid Wise
- 11– Barb Utlaut
- 14– Bailey Ann Merchant  
Michelle Porter  
Taylor Scarff
- 15– Trish Fletcher  
Bennett Kueker
- 16– Mona Baker  
Jordan Bishop
- 18– Mary Anderson
- 19– Grace Miles
- 21– Sue Bailey  
Roger Payne
- 22– Alexandra VanDyke
- 23– Maggie Hoffelmeyer  
Jillian Pointer  
Melisa Shannon
- 25– Garrett Green
- 26– Kirby Rugen
- 27– Zach Crews
- 28– Eric Arnett  
Loretta Green



The Single Ladies enjoyed a very good lunch at Mazzio's on January 9, with 11 present. Everyone caught up on each persons holidays and the families that were able to be with each other. The next luncheon will be on February 6 at the Golf House Café, time will be 11:30 AM. Anyone interested in joining the group is welcome, the more the merrier! Hope to see everyone there, weather permitting.

Roberta Reed

If you have any questions, please call Roberta at 886-7520

## "I Love You Thiiiiisssss Much!"

I see it all the time, little kids stretching their arms out as far as they can, and declaring loudly in the sweetest voices you will ever hear, that they love their Mommy or Daddy that much. It always touches my heart, and yes, brings a little tear to my eye. Why? Because it is so simple, so honest, and so easily given. What happens in our lives to make us quit declaring our love to each other? Or making it hard to express how we feel about someone? And do we ever consider the consequences that come with "pulling back love"?

I am blessed to be around children of all ages every day of the week. I see the interactions with their parents, grandparents, and even siblings. I pay attention to those who get hugs and kisses goodbyes, and those who are dropped at the door with not so much as a "Goodbye". As you can guess, the children who are doted on are more productive and self-assured than those who seem to get less attention. Maybe the world is easier for them. Maybe they know that no matter what, at the end of the day they will be loved. Maybe those hugs and kisses, those few words spoken gently to them before they start their day, makes all the difference. Wait, maybe?? Let's change that to...definitely.

I am not saying that there are children who aren't just as eager, just as successful, and as productive even though their home life may not be as "mushy" or

"open" about feelings. But I will tell you this...they notice too. They watch, sometimes side-glancing at their friends being embraced. Other times they are brave, and they will look directly at them, perhaps wishing they would have gotten a hug or two before they were left. It is hard to watch pain and loneliness cover their faces. But what can you do? I tell you what you do...you fill a void. You immediately ask how their day was. Compliment them on something that is sincere. Tell them how glad you are to see them. Share a piece of candy. Smile or wink at them. And by gosh, if they look like they could use a hug...offer them one! They will be honest with you if they don't want one. Respect that...but keep on filling their void in other ways.

Maybe I am sensitive to this because I have felt pretty empty myself. I have a large void that I struggled to fill because I never had the love of a Father. I was always a bit lost, a bit hurt, and a bit empty because I didn't know what it felt like to have a big strong Dad who could make everything right in the world. "Little girl" me always felt cheated. I wanted to know what it felt like to be loved so unconditionally by a father. When I allowed myself to get over the anger and bitterness of it all...I found unconditional love.

I was a teenager, and the last thing I wanted to do was go into Church on yet another Sunday morning. With a heavy sigh, I remember thinking that I should go in with an open heart, and quit

dreading what was inevitable. So, I walked in. Now listen, I am too old to remember exact scripture, exact words or exactly how this flood of emotion came over me. But, I remember listening to the preacher and thinking he was talking directly to me. He talked about God, and His love for us, no matter what we had done, who we were, or where we were from. He said we were all God's children. ALL God's children! Wait, that meant me too! I know it sounds silly, but a light went off. All the love I was looking for, all the love I thought I was never going to have...had been with me all along. My void...was gone.

Over the next year's of my life I am sure I made God proud many times. I am also sure I tested His patience, and He gave me several eye rolls. But never, ever...has He quit loving me. I realize today that He was a great teacher of unconditional love, because when I became a parent to my two daughters, I was able to love them as He has loved me. When I married Brad, I was able to love him...as God has loved me. And yes, I learned to give out hugs, compliments, candy...and maybe fill a little bit of a void, because God showed me love. And Wow!! What a powerful effect love has on us!

Love itself isn't hard. We all love someone. So let's SHARE our love with those around us. And, share God's love with those who think there is no love to find. Let them know...He loves them "thiiiiisssss much!"

Learning and Leaning,  
Hope



First Christian Church  
130 North Jefferson Avenue  
Marshall, MO 65340

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**Visit our  
Church Website!**

Stop by our website at [www.fccmarshallmo.org](http://www.fccmarshallmo.org) to check out upcoming events and activities, serving schedules, bulletins and newsletters, and information about our groups, ministries, staff, etc.

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Contact Information:  
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**Phone: (660) 886-3338**

*We're on the Web!*  
**[fccmarshallmo.org](http://fccmarshallmo.org)**

**Church Staff**

**Office Admin. –Hope Richards**  
**Youth Director– Kris Milliron**  
**Custodians– Ron & Carol Schupp,**  
**Chris Layton**  
**Financial Secretary– Ken Bryant**  
**Music Director- Hope Richards**  
**Pianists– Donna Smith, Kay Wise,**  
**Judy Morris**

