

Love Christ. Love Others. Think Biblically!



ovember 2017 | Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church

October 31st, 2017

Change of Mind

Mark Your Calendar

11.3-5

Women's Thrive Conf.-Buchanan, MI

11.4

Men's Min. Council-7:30am 11.7

Deacon Meeting-6:30pm 11.8

Final Wed Night Live Classes 11.12-15

Life Action Ministry Revival 11.12

Church Wide Potluck-11:30am

11.19

Women's Mentoring Meeting-11:30am

Community Thanksgiving Service-6pm

11.21

Church Council Meeting-7pm

11.23

Free Thanksgiving Meal-11am-Noon

Church Office Closed

11.24

Church Office Closed

11.26

Special Business Meeting-

11:40am High School Hangout-6:30pm

11.28

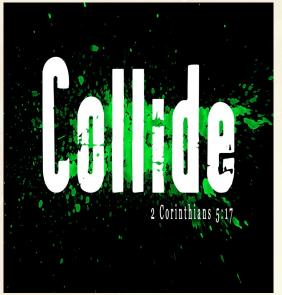
"God is not man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind." ~ Numbers 23:19

God doesn't change His mind. never needs to. Not only does He know perfectly the beginning from the end, but His will is perfect and so are all His actions. Why would He change One famous story in His mind? Scripture seems to indicate that He changed His mind when He brought the flood in Noah's day. But if you look deeper into that instance, what you discover is that God doesn't change His mind, but rather He grieves the sinful state of man. God never changes His mind because His mind is never wrong. It's not limited. There is nothing He doesn't know understand. What's funny is that most people never change their minds either. But in our case it is a flaw rather than a We often don't change our minds not because we see perfectly, but because we don't see from any perspective but our own. Our desires aren't perfect, but we keep pursuing them anyway like stubborn children. We don't change our minds not

because we're right, but because we can't imagine that we're wrong. I find it's a rare thing when someone truly changes their mind. That's one of the reasons I love the Men's Momentum event. Something about the experience changes guys minds. Before we left, one of the men who was going told me that he didn't really believe in God, but was willing to give it a shot. Before the weekend was over he shared with our group that not only did he believe in God, but he had accepted Christ as his savior. He had a radical change of mind. But that's what God wants to do with all of us. The word in the Bible for this is metanoia. It's what the book of Romans talks about when it says in chapter twelve to be transformed by the renewing of your mind. It's also what is meant by repentance. In a simple way it basically means we start agreeing with God. So, I would ask two questions. Is there anything you've been disagreeing with God What is keeping you from agreeing with God and doing what He How we answer those wants? questions has the power to change our lives. In Christ, Pastor Luke

COLLIDE YOUTH!

Fall Retreat is always our favorite event of the year. This year we had our biggest numbers ever (67 crazy students). In the midst of a huge rainstorm, and an unfinished building;



God
showed
up. At
least four
students
gave their
lives to
Jesus at
Fall
Retreat
and one
more in
my office

a few days afterwards. There were many others who rededicated their life to Jesus. Others were challenged in their faith to go deeper and let go of hurts, pain and anger.

The most powerful night was Saturday evening when our speaker, Steffan Nass, challenged us to forgive. There was a giant wooden cross in the back and kids were challenged to go to the cross and nail something onto it they were hanging onto. Amongst many tears students got up out of their seats and forgave. It was a beautiful night. One student nearly ran up to me and said, "Heather, I want to give my life to Jesus!" Right there, we prayed together as this young 6th grade girl gave her life to Jesus Christ.

Another young man came into my office a few days later and we talked about the gospel. He's an athlete so as I was talking God started putting these words in my mouth comparing the gospel to baseball. Through the comparison this young man understood the gospel and made the decision to make Jesus

Lord of his life. It was such a cool moment. Rejoice with me!

As the year comes to a close I'll be taking some time off. If you need me, you can always email me at <a href="https://needins.needins

Blessings, Heather Q.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

End of the Year Party- one BIG celebration, Wednesday, Nov. 8t. Filled with a pizza party, games and fun!

Before School Groups- Every week! - Monday 7:45am at the HS in Mr. Roberston's room, Tuesday 7:40 am at MCIS in the library, and Wednesdays 7:45am at MCJH in the Chorus room. Homeschool students are invited too!

El Salvador Youth Mission Trip-ONLINE Registration now open. Follow this link-bit.ly/ElSalvador201. Only 3 spots left!

November High School Hangout "Night of Thanks" - All HS students join us Nov. 26th from 6:30-8pm for a night of worship, prayer and fellowship!

Volunteer & Giving Information Date Nursery Kids Worship

11/5/17	Ronda Moffitt, Marcy & Rusty Smet & Katie Loving	Denise Bowker, Cimion Norwick, Terry, Steph and Kassidy Leonard, Mollie, Haley & Josh Johnson
11/12/17	Ronda Moffitt, Janet Rind, Emily Baldwin & Veronica Moffitt	Life Action Team will provide the staff this Sunday
11/19/17	Ronda Moffitt, Crystal Clark, Susan Potthast & Maddie Dunn	Denise Bowker, Joe, Brooke, Kaleb and Katy Loving, Joyce Thomas, & Sarah Kellett
11/26/17	Ronda Moffitt, Sharon Moffitt, Jan Crutcher & Bryce Moffitt	Denise, Kathy Norton, Nadine Coulter, Monica & Jacob Dennison, Mollie & Brian Rind

If you are unable to serve the day you are scheduled in the Nursery, please make arrangements in advance to switch with another person on the schedule. Please contact Ronda Moffitt, Nursery Coordinator, for all concerns on her Cell:(309) 371-3021. Thank you! Kids Club Worship—PLEASE come to the Fellowship Hall by 10:00am so you can help & prep. *Please continue to let me know if you are switching with somebody. I have it set up so there are two adults plus myself helping at a time. Please do not switch with a couple if you are an individual. Thank you so much for your service! ~Mollie. If you need to contact Mollie about Kids Club Worship, call -309-371-6962.

Finance Board Member of the Month for November - Myron Higgins Trustee of the Month for November— Aaron Struble

Prayer Team

November 5- Mary Lee Finch, Peggy Johnson & Ron Moffitt November 12- Jeanne Barber, Barb Bryant & Kurt Diesch November 19 – Deb & Dave VanderHeyden, Troy Riddell & Laurie Louck November 26 - Tina McCaw, Jason & Shelly Snyder & Vickie Korns

Weekly Attendance & Offering

DATE	10/1/17	10/8/17	10/15/17	10/22/17	10/29/17
8 AM	99	75	79	81	86
10:15AM	264	279	246	278	307
TOTAL	363	354	325	359	393

Date	10/1/17	10/8/17	10/15/17	10/22/17	10/29/17
General Fund Giving	\$9,140.25	\$13,086.33	\$8,627.50	\$10,594.05	\$8,678.10
Designated Giving	\$1,050.75	\$646.00	\$1,254.00	\$1,338.00	\$235.01
Total Giving	\$10,191.00	\$13,732.33	\$9,881.50	\$11,932.05	\$8,913.11

Kids Club Ministry

November Newsletter

Philippians 4:6, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Remember the rope dangling from the gym ceiling in PE class? It didn't look as hard as it was but boy



did I struggle getting to the top! strength, energy, and perseverance to pull myself exhausting! Every once in a while I deal with a situation or a person that reminds me of that rope. I find myself asking, 'Lord, why do I have to deal with this? I don't

have the time or energy to handle this right now. I'm at the end of my rope.' But God has shown me a thing or two about being thankful for the rope burn.

The first thing I've learned is that I ALWAYS talk to God more when I'm dealing with tough stuff. Why? Because if I'm at the end of my rope, I let go of what I think should happen, and grab fully onto God's rope. I am reminded in those times that I NEED God and I'm not supposed to be "climbing" alone. It's hard to hang onto God's plan in a difficult situation and it never feels good, but I've learned to thank him through the tears and frustration. Often times it sounds like this, 'I don't know why I'm going through this right now, but please show me what I need to learn and help me to trust you. Help me to remember that you're strong and steady and can handle the weight.

The second thing I've learned is that I grow stronger during those times in a way that I don't in my usual day-to-day. The act of hanging onto God's rope forces me to look up and to grow my spiritual muscles because I'm climbing toward his will and not my own. He also shows me more often than not, my own weaknesses and areas that fall short of his glory. It allows me to be humbled at God's grace and not angry or bitter because life is hard at that moment. So, I thank him for allowing me to be humbled and weakened so I can see his strength.

And lastly, as a mom who loves Jesus and has found purpose, and life in him, I can point my kids to Jesus when they're going through hard times. If I always swoop in to the rescue by throwing them my rope instead of God's, not only will we both fall, but they miss out on the journey of growing deeper in their faith. So, I thank God when I feel helpless as a mom and don't know what to do but grab my kid's hands and say, 'I don't know all the answers right now, but let's pray and thank God for the lessons that we're going to learn climbing his rope.' Thanks for reading! ~Mollie, Children's Pastor

Upcoming Events

November 8th - Kids Club PJ Reward Night: This is our last night of the session where kids



are invited to wear their PJ's or comfy clothes and recite their Bible Memory Verses for a trip to the Prize Table.

December 10th- Sunday School Christmas Special: The Pre-k-5th grade SS classes will be singing at the beginning of the 10:15am worship service. Kids are encouraged to wear their Christmas clothes and arrive at Sunday School by 9am ready to practice. Parents will not need to pick-up kids until after service.

17th-December

classes celebrating Christmas with a special treat, a fun craft, & fun games. Kids will go to their regular locations this Sunday. **Parents** are encouraged to recognize their

Kids Sunday Christmas Parties: The Pre-k through Jr. High



child's teachers with a kind note or small gift.

Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Think Tank **No Think Tank Meeting in November.

J.O.Y. Circle Christmas Party-



All ladies are invited to J.O.Y. Circle. We meet the 4th Tuesday of the month (except the months of Dec., Jan & Feb.). Our final meeting for 2017 will

be at 6pm on Nov. 28th in the Berean Room just off of Fellowship Hall. This will be our Christmas Party. Ladies are asked to bring a \$5 gift exchange and bring paper products for the food pantry.



No Better Together
Gathering in the month of
November.

Are you interested in Women's Mentoring?

The Women's Ministry at FBC exists to actively connect women to Christ and to each other. We weren't created to do this life alone! The Women's Mentorship Program will



be starting up again soon, and we invite you to prayerfully consider coming alongside another woman in the church to encourage her in her journey with the Lord, and grow in the love of our Savior

together. Why not consider being both a mentor to someone younger in the faith as well as being challenged by someone further down the road yourself? There will be an informational meeting November 19th after the 10:15am service in the Enon room where Peggy Johnson and Crystal Clark will be happy to answer any of your questions. You can look for Profile Forms on the women's ministry table in the foyer, and can turn completed forms into the church secretary window no later than December 3rd. The official mentoring season is January-August 2018, but we welcome all ladies to invest in one another's lives the entire year long.

Life Action Ministry Ladies' Luncheon Coming in November!



Mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 14th. The Life Action Team will be hosting a Ladies Luncheon for all women in our Fellowship Hall from 11:30am-1pm.

11:30am-1pm.
There will be music and a message from the Life Action Team. Cost is

FREE. Invite a friend. Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card or call the church office at 309-582-7812.

Other Ministry Opportunities

With Christmas coming up, we will collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is a great opportunity for our church to minister to children all over the world. Let's spread some Christmas cheer by filling boxes. You can pick up a box from the lobby and choose if you want to give to a boy or girl. The age groups are 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. They are requesting no toothpaste or candy be put in the boxes this year. Once you have filled your box please indicate who that box



is for along with a \$5 bill to help with shipping cost. Please don't wrap up the box, but instead put a rubber band around it. If you have any questions please see Lindsay Ricke or Jenny Dixon.

The Blessing Box

The Blessing Box ministry gives a quick help to anyone in need. People can drive up, open the door and pick out needed items. The Blessing Box is cared for by volunteers on a daily basis. Items that we try to keep stocked are proteins, soups, boxed dinners, rice, oatmeal, fruits, and vegetables. Other items that we try to keep stocked as supplied are baby items, bar soaps, deodorants, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper and feminine products. This ministry is in addition to the Mercer County Food Pantry. Items can be left in the pink "Blessing Box" in the church lobby.



Christmas Gifts for the Nursing Home Residents

It is now time to begin bringing gifts for the residents of Genesis Senior Living & Aledo Health and Rebab Care Center. Your unwrapped gift may be placed in the box

and Rehab Care Center. Your unwrapped gift may be placed in the box marked NURSING HOME GIFTS in the church lobby from Sunday, Nov. 12th until 10am on Thursday, Dec. 14th. Both nursing homes are so appreciative of the gifts! Gift suggestions include: Small fleece blankets, dressy scarves, lotion, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, aftershave, stamps, stationary, diabetic socks, slipper socks with grips, chocolate candy, Costume jewelry, cube box kleenex, Christmas wrapping paper, tape and tags. Please DO NOT give powder or open back slippers. Cathy Griswold is coordinating this effort and would love to have anyone interested in helping sort and pack the gifts come to the church lobby on Thursday, Dec. 14th at 10am. Any questions, call Cathy Griswold at 582-2838 or the church office at 582-7812. Thank you for your help with this project.





Christmas Poinsettia

We will once again place Poinsettias in the church "In Memory Of" or "In Honor Of" loved ones. Please contact the office at 582-7812 by Dec. 11th with the name of the person being remembered as well as your name. The cost for a Poinsettia is \$10.

Conference coming to FBC Aledo November 12th-15th

THIRST is a 4-day conference experience that our whole church can enjoy. From Sunday morning through Wednesday night, the Life Action team will bring powerful preaching,



refreshing worship, memorable testimonies, dynamic children's and youth programs, and passionate prayer right into our sanctuary. By carefully unpacking biblical texts related to loving God, loving people, understanding and receiving God's grace, turning from pride and sin, calling out for God's help, and seeking Him wholeheartedly, our team will partner with you in casting a vision of a revived, loving, and powerful Christian life.

The Thirst Schedule of Events

Sunday, November 12th—Worship Services at 9am, 10:15am & 6pm Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, November 13th-15th– Service at 6:30pm Tuesday, November 14th—Ladies Luncheon 11:30am-1:00pm in Fellowship Hall Thirst Events are for the whole family and a nursery is also available.

If you would like to invite a friend, neighbor or family member to the Thirst Revival, you can find invitation cards with all the Thirst Conference details in the church lobby.

Thirst Rival Prayer Vigil

There will be a 30 hour call to prayer to usher in the Life Action meetings starting at 6pm on Friday, November 10th and ending at 12am (midnight) on November 12th. Prayer partners for this most important time are needed. If you are interested there is a sign up board in the lobby. Each sign up session is for 30 minutes, You are more than welcome to sign up for more than one session



should you feel the Lord tugging at you to do so. There will also be one, one hour prayer sessions daily starting approximately two weeks prior to the arrival of the Life Action team and running through 10 November 2017. The goal for the one hour prayer session is to have teams of three people pray for an hour using prayer sheets provided by Life Action. The preference would be to have the team for the day pray at the Church, if that is not possible then at a location agreeable to the team members. Prayer

leading up to Ministry events is so vital for setting the stage for a move of God. Prayer destroys the plans of the enemy, dismantles walls and barriers designed by the devil to bring chaos, confusion and strife and ushers in the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit of the Most High God. I encourage each and everyone of you to help make a difference for the Kingdom of God and sign up for a prayer session that will help in ushering in a mighty move of God during the Live Action Team led revival. If you have questions, call Thirst Revival Prayer Coordinator, Dave VanderHeyden at 309-574-0813.

Mission & Building Committee News

LA Dream Center FBC Spring 2018 Mission Trip



DREAMCENTER

Adult mission trip details!

First Baptist Church is headed to Los Angeles, California April 9th-14th, 2018 where we will be serving the LA Dream Center. During this week we will be serving impoverished communities and ministering to those in need. If are interested in joining, we are asking for a \$100 deposit to secure your spot on the team. For more specific details on who the Dream Center serves you can visit their website at www.dreamcenter.org. Please see Jenny Dixon (309-373-0104-Jenny's cell phone) for more info or to join our team!

FBC Men's Car Ministry



A note from Barry Cooper about the Men's Car Ministry - On Thursday, November 2nd starting at 9am we will be working on the cars for the FBC car ministry until we run out of parts. We will be doing the work at Kurt Diesch's home - 1661 - 110th St., Joy, IL. All men are welcome to join us. If you have questions, call Barry at 309-313-3689.

From the FBC building committee: 10/28/17

Today the
committee met
with David
Bodeen, a civil
engineer, from the
firm of Pinnacle
Design



Consultants, in
Springfield, Mo. David, having been part of our church in his youth, has a keen interest in assisting us with our building project. We have provided him with previous concept drawings and he has received the site survey which was recently completed.

Dave will return to his office and assemble a team consisting of appropriate engineers to provide necessary structural, mechanical and physical site engineering cost estimates for us to consider. Additionally, Dave has highly recommended an architect who focuses on church building and construction. He will arrange a meeting with the architect for our committee to discuss concepts and for us to determine acceptance of services. We will be provided written estimates of all services to be provided. Once approved, we will begin work on concept drawings and construction plans and will make a formal presentation to the church body for consideration.

Some people have asked why we did not proceed with the previous concept provided through church building consultants. First, while the plans were very beneficial in assisting with the vision development for the committee, they did not provide sufficient solutions to the space requirements. Second, the administrative costs seemed to be quite high and we believed a more cost effective plan might be available. Third, the plans seemed to provide a most disruptive construction phase to negatively impact current worship and programming practices due to significant remodeling of the current building. We hope to reduce this impact through a better design plan, which also may reduce some of the construction cost.

We are looking forward to forging a new partnership with Dave and his team. Thanks for your support and keep those contributions coming!

Birthday

Josh Dixon

Jady Ewing

Brooke Cox Kathy Sponsler

Claude Moreland

November 3 November 5

Bryce Moffitt Jacki Olson November 6

November 8

November 23

November 24 November 25

November 26

November 28

November 29

November 30

Luke Dunn Treyten Hileman November 10 November 11 Sharon Baugher

Kate Norville Britni Ewing

Stew Klink Abel Castor November 12 November 15 Steve Struble

Laurie Moreland Tristin Lukaszewski Aaron Struble

November 16 November 17 Bill Loving Jacob Dennison

November 18 Matthew Griswold November 19

Mallory Doherty November 20 Myron Higgins November 21

Steve Nelson Gerry Kelly Curtis Franks

Maliayah Smith

Payton Devlin Seth Bowker Tvler Lukaszewski Lisa Finch

Seth Bowker Frannie Franks

Nicole Koester Corey Smith

Chris & Heather Kopp

Daryl & Mary Bewley

Anniversary

Perry & Drue Baugher

Bill & Marsha Loving

Dean & Lola Buttgen

Bill & Joyce McKinley Jason & Shelly Snyder



Dear FBC Family, This is far overdue and a simple card is probably, no, definitely, too little for what you have done for me. It was a true honor to serve you over the summer as the intern. So many times I was thanked by

> parents and church members, but it should have been the other way around. From the love offering that was a great blessing for me to spending time with students and families, I was truly blessed to be the youth intern. I learned so much and grew so much in my time there this summer. A few weeks ago, some of you may know, I was hired as a part-time youth pastor in Chillicothe, IL under Heather's sister Andrea. I have been there 3 weeks and the skills that were honed at FBC this summer are proving invaluable. Thank you doesn't do justice, but it seems all I can do at this point. In Christ,

> > Marty Rind

A special thank you to our church family for all the prayers and a special thank you to the individuals who provided meals for us while I was down. It is great to be a part of so great a family. God bless you all.

Ron McNall

Luke & Mollie would like to thank everyone for the cards and notes of encouragement we received from our church family.



A Word From Pastor Seth

Blessing Celebration, Harvest Fest or as we refer to it Thanksgiving is upon us. Just saying the words "Thanksgiving is upon us" might strike terror in your mind for all the running around, sched-



ule hoopla and the cooking. As you are breathing into a brown bag to catch your breath and before you jump into

the tradition again just try to add one thing. Sit down and write out your blessings. From your family, your health, the food, pie and a warm place to call home. Write out those blessings and let it truly be a time to Thank God.

I love this season of the year as we count our blessing and celebrate God's provisions. I'm also one of the weird ones that love the snow and cold.

God has once again provided the funds and most of the food for our annual "Free Community Thanksgiving Meal". We have most of the food being cooked by Mercer Market but we have added some menu items that we need your help with. We have a person willing to cook 10 pans of Corn Casserole and 6 bowls of Strawberry Fluff if we can supply the ingredients. Please Check out the ingredient list at the information window. All ingredients need to be in by Sunday, November 19th.

Last year we served 118 meals, 33 of those meals went to volunteers so 85 total meals went out to the community and nearly 70 of those meals were delivered to the doors of Aledo area people. All of Thanksgiving was done by a total of 57 volunteers. This is such a wonderful blessing to see so many willing to just serve others. We have many positions of service to get this meal out. We have coat checkers, greeters, drink servers, pie servers, pie cutters, delivery people and my favorite job is pie tester. We have many hands making this quick hour of service go so beautifully. Thank You to all who have served. Volunteers – Please get signed up at the office Window. ~Seth

Pastor Seth's New Sunday School Class

Beginning Sunday, November 19th at 9am Pastor Seth will begin a new Sunday School class. The Covenant ceremony study is open to all. The class takes place, downstairs in the Collide Youth Room "F." Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card.



First Baptist Church is sponsoring a Free Community Thanksgiving Meal At the Mercer County Senior Citizen Center-137 W. Main St. Aledo Thursday, Nov. 23rd 11am-Noon

All are welcome to eat with us! RSVP by Nov. 16th by calling the church office at 309-582-7812.

Thanksgiving Meal Volunteers and Food Providers

Pastor Seth needs people to volunteer to serve, clean up and deliver the meals, sign up by calling the church office at 309-582-7812.

We also need some specific canned and boxed food items to make Corn Casserole and strawberry fluff. Stop at the secretary's office window to see what is needed.

Mercer County Ministerial Association Presents A Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

Sunday, November 19th at 6pm
At First Baptist Church Aledo
Speaker-Pastor Tom Wright
Worship Leader-Jim Augustine
Offering goes to the Mercer County Veteran/
General Assistance fund.

calendar

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 800 NE 6th Avenue Aledo, IL 61231

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Email: fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net www.firstbaptistaledo.com

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PRAYER AND CONCERNS—IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PRAYER CHAIN PLEASE CALL: THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 309-582-7812

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Connie Freeman, Family of Alan (Bear) Benson, Darren Rind, Corrie & Tracey Andrews and family, Lance, Bridget & Jared Wedekind, Travis Mitchell, Kelsey DeSplinter, Ruth Ann Young, Shana Struble, The Morrey family, Linda Hamilton, Elden Cirks, Family of Don Welch, Family of Shawn Peterson, Helen Slater, Allison Adams, the Family of Jerry Morgan, Rosalee Sproston, Lisa Hammill, Noah Houston, Kathy Carlson, Bob Brinley, Gary Sheldon, Bev Balmer, Bob & Myrna Sell, Marge Pape, Missy Schell, Family of Donna Fisk, Bill McKinley, Steve Bowns, Kris Salmon, Gavin Swafford, Calvin Frye, Sheryl Robertson, Doris & Marc Dewey, Pastor Mark Harris, Lisa McWhorter, Marilyn Hessman, Mary Flint, Francie Jane Easley, Barbara McPhinney, Henry Leichty & Lauryn Russell

NURSING HOME

Bill McKinley, Marge Goding, Betty Weeks & Bob Sell

MISSIONARIES & MILITARY

Danika Higgins & Rigoberto Cruz

Brad Olson, Holly Mattson, Joe Elliott, Spencer Zielke, Jon Szalonek, Christopher Schultz, Eric Nelson, Tyler Mattson, Kyle Mandle, Charles Schultz, Terry Schaefer, Matt VanderHeyden & Tara Helmick

OTHER CONCERNS

The church & all decisions