



Fort Smith Disciple

January 17, 2018
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First Christian Church
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8:30am –4:30pm
Monday-Thursday

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Randy Alexander
Custodian

Patience Hudlow
Nursery Coordinator

Lesley Fleming
Nursery Attendant

Mission Statement

The mission of First Christian Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas is to lift up Jesus the Christ by:

- Enabling spiritual growth and deepened commitment, both individually and corporately;
- Developing a church family/ community that is accepting and encouraging;
- Serving our community and the world through spiritual, physical, and emotional support; and,
- Reaching out in His name to the unchurched in our community.

Light It Up

Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream. He had a vision, not only of how things could be, or how things should be, but he had a vision of how, in the eyes of God, things actually are. Jesus himself talked about the inability of many to have such a vision. That's why he said, "I came into this world...so that those who do not see may see..." (John 9:39).

And why he said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). Because to see anything, light is needed. To see the truth, the truth of who God has created us to be, the truth of how God has created us to live, the truth of how God sees this world, light is needed.

And oh how we need this light right now.

So let us go now into our dark world following the example of Martin Luther King, Jr., giving our lives, shining our lights in such a way the whole world will see the truth of God.

Let us go into the world and light it up,

So the poor, wherever they are from, whatever their nationality is, will know that they are blessed.

Light it up,

So those who are mourning over their own lives and wondering if their lives matter will be comforted.

Light it up,

So the weak, those marginalized by systems and structures of racism and all kinds of bigotry will be empowered.

Light it up,

So that those who hunger and thirst for justice and equality and dignity will be satisfied.

Light it up,

So the pure in heart, the pure in the content of their character, not in the color their skin, will see God.

Light it up,

So that those who yearn for peace and freedom will know refuge as God's children in a beloved community.

Light it up,

Knowing that if you are persecuted for shining your light, yours is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Light it up,

Until the day comes when the eyes of all are finally fully open, and all know the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Jarrett

Worship and Education Opportunities

Worship—January 21

Mark 1:14-20
“Going Fishing”

Elders

Nina Abernathy and David Trent

Deacons

Jesse Bailey (Foreman), Connie Alexander, Floyd Hamm, Ginger Hamm, Jimmy Hudlow, Ben Maxey, Marilyn Maxey, Suzanne Underwood

Prepare Communion

Patience Hudlow

Greeters

Ben Maxey, Connie Alexander

Worship Leader

Nina Abernathy

Dianna's Notes

Disciples Bells meet at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary to rehearse “His Eye Is on the Sparrow”.

Community Celebration “Practicing the Golden Rule”

What IF...we practice compassion, hope, tolerance, and acceptance?

Thursday, February 15

7:00 pm

Reynolds Ballroom/Student Center at UAFS

“What IF...we practice?”

Hosted by

Interfaith Fellowship
& UAFS Cultural Network

Prayer Concerns

- ◆ **Niell Noel**, surgery January 26
- ◆ **Betty Marley** is at Ashton Manor Place, 318 Strozier Lane, Barling, AR 72923.

Disciples Men's Fellowship with Hisham Yasin and Nathaniel Clark Monday, January 22—6:30 pm

Hisham Yasin, leader of Fort Smith's Al Salam mosque whose story of forgiveness and grace recently went viral will be our guest speaker. Fort Smith's police chief Nathaniel Clark will also be joining us.

Soup and Sandwiches will be served at 6:30. Donations accepted. **All men and women** are invited to this event. If you have not been to one of our dinners before, please RSVP by calling the church office.

(Read more at: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/arkansas-mosque-pays-off-fines-for-man-who-helped-vandalize-their-building_us_5a4bddf1e4b06d1621bb4fe6 and <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/28/reader-center/mosque-vandal-arkansas.html>.)

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

Church Women United

Annual Business Meeting

Friday, January 19, 9:30 am

St. Scholastica Retreat Center

1301 S. Albert Pike

Please use the main entrance to the building on the east wing.

If you need a ride to the St. Scholastic property, meet at FCC parking lot at 9:00 am.

Potluck Meal, Sunday, January 21

The Membership Ministry will be heading up a potluck meal immediately after church on **Sunday, January 21**.

If your last name begins with:

- A-G, please bring a salad
- H-L, bring a dessert
- M-R, bring a meat dish
- S-Z, bring a vegetable dish.

These meals are always a good time, so we would like to have everyone there that can stay and eat and fellowship together.

Christian Education Ministry

2018 Youth Club Resumes January 17!

Youth Club (Pre-K—6th grades) resumes Wednesday, January 17, at 5:30 pm. We will be making items for Group 3 to include in their Valentine Love Bags for our homebound. They will be so excited to see your children's homemade love gifts for them! If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Marilyn at 452-6345 or topnana@cox.net.

Calling Youth Club Members!

Please bring one or two items each week to be placed in the food pantry at Creekmore Park. This is a chance for us to help those who are less fortunate than we are. You will be blessed! Thank you!!

Youth Club Could Use Your Help!

We have five Youth Club meetings that we need assistance with supper to serve about 20 folks. If you feel so led, and are able to provide a meal, please contact Elizabeth Vaughn (883-6655) or Marilyn Maxey (452-6345). We need meals on January 24, February 7, 21, and 28, and March 7. We eat at 5:30 pm each week and appreciate your consideration of our request.

Announcements

Church Calendar

Sunday, January 21

8:30 am Worship (Chapel)
 9:00 am Mission Café
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:25 am Opportunity for Prayer
 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
 Potluck Dinner
 4:30 pm Disciples Bells

Monday, January 22

6:30 pm Men's Supper

Tuesday, January 23

9:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 24

4:15 pm Children's Music
 5:30 pm Youth Club
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 25

10:00 pm Prime Time Bells

Pictorial Directory

The Membership Ministry will be working with Lifetouch to create a new church pictorial directory in the coming month. Pictures will be made on **Friday, February 9, and Saturday, February 10**. Please save these dates to have your picture made for this directory. We want everyone to be included in this new directory. There will be more information coming.

Lindsay Scholarship

It's time again for all college students to apply for scholarship money available through the Lindsay Scholarship fund.

Contact the church office for a form or print the scholarship form attached to this email.

Board Meeting Sunday, January 28 6:00 pm

All board members are encouraged to come.

Mission Express O Café

The café opens at **9:00 am each Sunday** morning. All the proceeds support the Mission trips. Setup **begins at 8:30 am Sunday**. Come join us for fellowship, a cup of coffee and doughnuts.

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