



Fort Smith Disciple

June 20, 2018
Volume 55, Number 51

First Christian Church
3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903

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8:30am –4:30pm
Monday-Thursday

Church Staff

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Rev. Soniyah “Sonna” B. Key
Associate Minister Intern

Dianna Jackson
Director of Music Ministry

Evan Mino
Organist

Barbara Brown
Secretary

Pam Shelby
Financial Secretary

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.

Have You Seen the Ocean?

“Jesus said, ‘Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear?’” Mark 8:18

One of the best things about visiting my parents in the summer-time is their close proximity to North Carolina’s beautiful beaches. My heart hurts for those who say that they have never seen the ocean.

There are few things I love more than sitting in a beach chair under an umbrella in the summertime. I love the whole sensory experience of it: the sheer sight of the vastness of the ocean; the fresh smell of the salt air; the rhythmic sound of the waves breaking ashore; the way the cool sand feels on my bare feet, and the way the sea breeze feels on my skin.

However, I believe that my love for the beach comes from another place. It comes from a deeper, higher place. It comes from a place that transcends the physical senses. It comes from a miraculously mysterious place. It is hard to explain, but to put it in simple “preacher” words: the beach can be a downright spiritual experience. I believe we have the ability to see the ocean with something other than our eyes.

The beach can reveal the truth that all of life is a mysterious and abundant gift of an amazing grace, impossible to earn and in no way deserved. It reveals a love that is unconditional, unreserved and very large.

Consequently, as I sit in the beach chair, breathing in the gracious enormity of it all, understanding that all of it is pure grace, my heart begins to fill with immense gratitude. Then, a moment of clarity comes. As a recipient of this grace, if I am truly grateful for it, if I truly believe it is all unearned and undeserved, if I truly believe it is grace, then I will instinctively live to lovingly share grace with all people, unreservedly, abundantly, and amazingly. I will give as I have been given.

And if I do not share grace with others?

Then, although I have been to the beach countless times, maybe I have never truly seen the ocean.

Jarrett

Worship and Education Opportunities

Worship—June 24

**“Things Could Get Scary”
Mark 4:35-41**

Elders

Carl Warrington and Ruth Carson

Deacons

John Warren (Foreman), Tim Fleming, Ginger Hamm, Alan Maxey, Audrey Stewart, Harold Stewart, Vicki Warren, David Williamson

Prepare Communion

Vicki Warren

Greeters

Alan Maxey and David Williamson

Worship Leader

Carl Warrington

Dianna’s Notes

Music Schedule

June 24	Becki Struble and Friends
July 1	Evan Mino, Bell Solo
July 8	Bruce Birkhead, Solo

Teacher Needed

Kindergarten through 6th grade Sunday school is in need of a new teacher. You would only be required to teach one Sunday a month. If you are interested, please contact Kira Moore at orbitalgyri@yahoo.com or 479-926-4955. Thank you.

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

All Youth/Church Fun Night

Youth fellowship would like to invite all youth and all church members who are young at heart to join the youth on **June 22, at 6:00 pm** in Disciples Hall. We will enjoy pizza by Chef Harold. After dinner, we will break into two groups:

- Group 1: K through 5th grade will watch a magic show by the amazing Jack Jackson, Jr. After the magic act, they will enjoy popcorn and a movie, so bring a blanket to lay on to watch the movie. (Movie to be determined)
- Group 2: Grades 6th through all church members young at heart—We will load up in the church van and travel to the bowling alley. The church will pay for three (3) games for the youth. Bring money for snacks and drinks at the bowling alley.

This fun night out for all is sponsored by Youth fellowship. Follow us on Facebook, First Christian Church Youth Fellowship.

Disciples Women’s Donations

Disciples Women’s Groups recently voted to donate to the following local groups: Interfaith Preschool, Esther House (Next Step Day Room), Children’s Emergency Shelter and GetReal24 and regionally, to P.A.T.H. (Partners Against Trafficking Humans). These donations were mailed and hand-delivered this week. Thank you for your faithful giving to our Service Projects!



River Valley climate advocates travel to DC to ask Congress to put a price on carbon.

18 June 2018. Fort Smith, Arkansas. – With the impact of global warming in Arkansas growing more and more serious, 19 residents from around Arkansas, including Rev. Sonnyah “Sonna” B. Key and Robbie Wilson, both of Fort Smith, visited Capitol Hill to make the case with our senators and representatives that it’s time to enact a nation-wide, market-based solution to stop climate change.

On June 12th, members of the Arkansas Citizens’ Climate Lobby joined over a thousand other CCL advocates from across the nation in Washington, D.C., to meet with nearly every congressional office to press for carbon-pricing legislation that returns the revenue to households, a policy known as Carbon Fee & Dividend.

Before heading to the Hill, these local “citizen lobbyists” attended the 9th Annual Citizens’ Climate International Conference and Lobby Day, where they participated in seminars, panels, and discussions about climate change solutions that appeal to a wide range of ideological viewpoints.

Key and Wilson are the group co-leaders for the recently formed Fort Smith chapter of the Citizens’ Climate Lobby. Dr. Robert McAfee of Hackett, a climatologist and a founder of the Arkansas CCL, expressed gratitude for the new organization in the River Valley. “The region is the home of Arkansas’ 2nd largest city and boasts a long tradition of citizen involvement. With a CCL chapter in this region we are demonstrating to our Members of Congress that climate action is wanted all across the natural state.”

We are very appreciative of the support from First Christian Church. They have opened up space for us to conduct our monthly meetings, and many of our members are a part of the First Christian Church family. “In less than a year, Fort Smith CCL has grown into a vibrant and diverse group of local volunteers who are committed to building the political will for a livable world,” said Wilson. “We have had a fantastic, community-wide fundraiser, the River Walk Then Wine, and we have sent five of our members to D.C. to talk to our legislators in less than 9 months -- that's real progress.”

Building on the momentum of the bipartisan House Climate Solutions Caucus, which currently has 78 members equally divided between Republicans and Democrats, and the Republican Climate Resolution, the Arkansas CCL volunteers travelled to Washington to urge members of our Congressional delegation to support a market based policy that’s good for the climate AND the economy.

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Announcements

Church Board 2018-2019

Nominations for 2018-2019 Trustee, Elders, and Deacons for consideration, July 1 Congregational Meeting:

Trustee:

Mac Respass

Elders:

Jack Jackson, Jr.
 Danny Lynch
 Dan Marshall
 Regina Respass

Deacons

Brad Kidder, Jr.
 Kim Kidder
 Barbara Lynch
 Margot Mundy
 Nick Oliver
 LaBeth Riggs
 Steve Riggs
 Darlene Brees (filling **one-year** term to end June 30, 2019)
 Elizabeth Vaughn (filling **two-year** term to end June 30, 2020)

Church Calendar

Sunday, June 24

7:45 am Elders' Meeting
 8:30 am Worship (Chapel)
 9:00 am Mission Café
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
 2:00-4:00 pm
 Allen Shower

Monday, June 25

6:30 pm Men's Dinner

Tuesday, June 26

9:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, June 27

3:30 pm Butterfield Worship
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, June 28

6:00 pm Church Voting Board Meeting

Sunday, July 1

Following late worship
 Congregational Meeting

Allen Shower

Group 3 is hosting a Congratulatory Shower for **Wesley and Mercedeas Allen** who were married on May 10. Wesley is the son of George and Trish Allen. The Allen family is new to First Christian Church, so please join us in celebrating this young couple **Sunday, June 24**, from 2:00-4:00 pm. A money tree is being provided.



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.

For the Record—June 17

Operating Receipts	\$ 4,765.75
To Date	20,894.70
Endowment	160.00
To Date	450.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs	33,361.63

Fort Smith Disciple (USPS 206-080) published weekly by First Christian Church, 3501 Rogers Ave., Fort Smith AR 72903-2961.

Periodical postage paid at Fort Smith, AR.
 POSTMASTER: Please submit address changes to FORT SMITH DISCIPLE, 3501 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72903-2961