



First Christian Church
3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903

Office: (479) 783-1139

Office Hours:
8:30am –4:30pm
Monday-Thursday

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Jarrett Banks
Senior Minister
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jarrett@fccdoc.org

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.

“In God We Trust”

Oppressive heat, opioid drugs, gun violence, divisive politics and bad religion everywhere. Should we stress? Should we panic? Should we climb out on the ledge?

I guess it all depends on where we place our trust.

If we only trust Mother Nature, we might get burned.

If we only trust medical science, we may get an addiction.

If we only trust the goodness of humanity, we could get attacked.

If we only trust the government, we will always get disappointed.

If we only trust religion; well, we know what we will get.

However, if we put all our trust in the God who revealed God’s self through Jesus the Good Shepherd, we will never want.

If we trust God who stilled the storms and fed the multitudes, we will get a restored soul on green grass beside still waters.

If we trust the God who bent down to wash another’s feet, stooped down to touch a leper, crouched down to forgive an adulterer, knelt down to serve the poor, we will get taught the paths of righteousness.

If we trust the God who wept at Lazarus’ grave and then spoke words of life, we will get light and hope in the shadowy valley of death.

If we trust the God who welcomed all to the table, especially the tax collectors and sinners, we will get a gracious banquet of acceptance, forgiveness and wholeness.

If we trust the God who spoke from the cross: “Forgive them,” we will get to look across the table and see a friend that we once called an enemy.

If we trust the God who identified with humanity, who is acquainted with human suffering, then we will get a comfort and a peace beyond understanding.

If we trust the God who turned 180 gallons of water into delicious wine, we will get a cup that overflows.

If we trust the God who would welcome a prodigal child home with an extravagant party consisting of a fatted calf, a robe and a ring, we will get goodness and mercy and a place in the house of the Lord forever.

Jarrett

Fort Smith Is Hungry

Arkansas is #5 in the country for family food insufficiency. Let’s use our summer Service Project to combat local scarcity by donating to the **“SACK LUNCH PROGRAM”**. The wish list includes mayonnaise, mustard, peanut butter, jelly and canned tuna. Any package size is welcome and will be used this summer.

There is a box in Disciples Hall labeled to receive (with many thanks!!) your generous donation.

Margot

Seekers Class Begins Mayberry Bible Study

The Seekers Sunday School class, led by Danny Lynch, began a series of study curriculum titled *The Mayberry Bible Study*. The series began last Sunday and will run for 12 weeks. It is based on episodes of *The Andy Griffith Show* and will consist of viewing an episode, studying a relevant Scripture, and discussion. If you’re interested in joining us, we meet at 9:30 am in the Seekers classroom. Thanks.

Nick

Worship and Education Opportunities

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

Worship—July 22

“Take a Vacation”
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Elders

Dan Marshall and Shawn Moore

Deacons

Janet LaForce (Foreman), Jesse Bailey, Stephanie Bailey, Diane Fagan, Bob Harris, Greta Pryor, Tim Randolph

Prepare Communion

Rebecca Parke

Greeters

Tim Randolph and Diane Fagan

Worship Leader

Dan Marshall

Dianna’s Notes

Music Schedule

- July 22** Carl Warrington, Solo
- July 29** Evan Mino and Jack Jackson II
Horn Duet

“Book” Your Summer Reading!

Hide from the humidity with a local author: R. M. Snyder. She has given readers “The River Series” – We have the two books which start the series, loosely based on Fort Smith history. They are “Bordertown Gypsy” and “Lynchtown Wolf”. Just in time for the 200th Celebration! Visit rmsnyderthewriter.blogspot.com to read about her.

Margot Mundy

Thank You

I would just like to say thank you to all the wonderful people that have helped me with the youth Sunday school the past few years. Thank you Julie for getting me started and Michelle for keeping me going. Thank you Patience and Lesley for always being there. Thank you Marilyn and John for always putting our youth first. It has been such a pleasure working with all of you. Thank you Rachel for taking over the art class, Tim for running the movie class (and helping with everything else), and Kristi for stepping up when we needed a new drama teacher. I know the kids will have so much fun with you guys. And a huge thank you to the church for always making our family feel so loved!

Kira Moore and the Moore Boys

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Church Calendar

Sunday, July 22

- 8:45am Worship (Chapel)
- 9:00 am Mission Café
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, July 24

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, July 25

- 3:30 pm Butterfield

Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- **Gwen Long** is in Mercy Rehab, 5414.
 - **Donny Morrow** (Dewayne Pryor’s dad) is currently at Methodist Village under hospice care.
 - **Irvin Moyle**, 1001 Third Terrace, Barling, AR 72923
- Please contact the church office with the name of any member of our congregation who has been sick or is hospitalized.

Farewell Dinner

Join us at La Huerta on Rogers Avenue at **5:30 pm Thursday, July 19**, to say goodbye to Shawn, Kira, Cavan, and Connor Moore. They are relocating to Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Help Needed with Ainsley’s Angels in Arkansas’ One-Year Anniversary Dinner and 5k

On **August 10 and August 11**, we are commemorating one year of inclusion, advocacy and joy in Arkansas! August 10, 2017, is the date we received our first racing chariot in the state. We will celebrate this anniversary with dinner, live entertainment, door prizes, and a silent auction on Friday evening in Disciples Hall. Paper tickets for the dinner are available in the church office to sell or purchase.

The meal will be catered by Art’s Barbeque. Volunteers are needed to decorate Disciples Hall, serve the meal, and clean up. Desserts are also welcomed!

The next morning, we will have a 5k, downtown Fort Smith. Volunteers are needed to help with registration, work the water-stops and give out prizes. Athlete Riders will be coming from all over Arkansas to participate. We also are in need of sponsors for the 5k. It costs around \$2,000 to put on a certified 5k. Sponsor forms are available in the church office.

Please let Jarrett know as soon as possible if you are willing to help in anyway. If you are unable to volunteer, please buy a ticket for the dinner or consider registering for the 5k. Walkers are welcome!

For the Record—July 15

Operating Receipts...	\$ 3,721.00
To Date.....	17,627.51
Endowment.....	10.00
To Date.....	705.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs.....	31,413.55