



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
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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.

Church-Wide Retreat September 29, 2018

All are encouraged to attend this retreat in Disciples Hall to help us discern how and where Christ is calling First Christian Church to serve God in this new church year.

Snacks and lunch will be served. We will conclude the retreat with motivational speaker Jennifer Collings.

The retreat will begin at **9:00 am** and conclude at **2:00 pm**. Please begin praying for this retreat and considering how God may be calling you.

Jarrett

Finishing the Race, Keeping the Faith

Today, I officially registered to push Seth Allen in the Marine Corps Marathon on October 28 in Washington DC. This will be my first marathon since having surgery on my right knee in 2015. Some have told me that they are praying that I am able to continue training and run the marathon pain-free.

I began running marathons in 2007 with a group from the Oakmont Baptist Church of Greenville, North Carolina who proudly call themselves: "Oakmont Runners for Bo." Bo was the only son of Rev. Beth and Tommy Thompson. Bo, a high school track star, was tragically killed in a car accident shortly after I took up running. I ran my first marathon with the group wearing a shirt bearing Bo's name.

Running in Bo's memory has helped me to keep life in perspective. It has also influenced my prayer life. Having been given the gift of over 30 years on this earth longer than Bo (30 undeserved years), it is very difficult for me to pray for a pain-free knee.

Instead, I pray thanking God that I had the health and the ability to run 20 marathons and risk injury. Instead of praying that I may be able to run another race, I pray thanking God that I was ever able to run any race.

I am afraid that too much of our prayer life is about asking God for more things, instead of about thanking God for the things we have or had. More often than not, we pray for God to keep us safe and secure from all alarms, instead of praising God for the inexplicable gift of life where risk and injury are inherent.

Jarrett

Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social and Pie Auction

Everyone is invited to an "Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social and Pie Auction" on Sunday, **September 9, at 5:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the membership committee. We will have delicious homemade ice cream and cookies. The evening will be topped off with a "Pie Auction". Proceeds from the Pie Auction will go towards VBS and missions.



Sign-up sheets for ice cream, cookies or a pie for the auction will be in the narthex. You can also call the church office to volunteer to bring goodies.

Linda Creekmore, Membership Chair

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

Worship and Education Opportunities

Church Calendar

Sunday, September 9

- 8:30 am Worship (Chapel)
- 9:00 am Mission Café
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 3:30 pm Disciples Bells
- 5:00 pm Ice Cream Social
- 6:00 pm Cabinet
- 6:45 pm Ministry Teams

Tuesday, September 11

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 10:00 am Group 1 (Parlor)
- 1:00 pm Group 2 (Parlor)
- 6:00 pm Group 3

Wednesday, September 12

- 10:00 am Prime Time Bells
- 3:30 pm Butterfield Worship
- 4:15 pm Children’s Music
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

September 2

**“Finishing the Race, Keeping the Faith”
James 2:1-17**

Elders

Linda & Jim Creekmore

Deacons

Tim Randolph (Foreman), Jesse Bailey, Stephanie Bailey, Margot Mundy, Elizabeth Vaughn, John Warren, Vicki Warren, David Williamson

Prepare Communion

Stephanie Bailey

Greeters

John & Vicki Warren

Worship Leader

Linda Creekmore

Dianna’s Notes

Choir Schedule

September 9	3:30 pm	Disciples Bells
September 16	3:00 pm	Disciples Bells
	5:00 pm	Jubilation Bells

Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- **Juanita Robinson, Dianna Jackson’s grandmother**, is at Peachtree Hospice.

Please contact the church office with the name of any member of our congregation who has been sick or is hospitalized.

Cabinet & Ministry Teams

Sunday, September 9

6 pm: Cabinet

(in the Chapel, Administration Building)

6:45 pm: Ministries *(in various rooms)*

Chairs: please contact your people and let them know where /when your Ministry will meet.

Summertime and the Readin’ is Easy...

Close out your summer reading with the two new British mysteries now in our FCC library. *Moriarty* and *The House of Silk* are by Anthony Horowitz and were commissioned by the Conan Doyle Foundation so they are “anything but elementary.”

The first get-together of our FCC Book Club will meet on **Monday, September 17, at 10:00 am** in the Parlor. Cherry Rains will discuss the book *The Baby Thief* which examines the processes of fostering and adopting children.

Thank You

Thank you for the scholarship. It will go towards my tuition and textbooks. I appreciate having a church family that supports me and my college career. **Sara Bailey**

Thank you for awarding me with the scholarship. With your kind contribution I was able to buy my books and put it towards my tuition. I am so happy that my home church has supported my education thus far. **Blythe Taylor**

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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