



**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  
252-414-9229  
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.

## Hurricane Florence

I want to thank all of you who have asked about my family in North Carolina. Fortunately, they live in the northeastern part of the state that was spared the devastation that was experienced in southeastern North Carolina. Our hearts break with the loss of property, but especially with the loss of life. With every storm, it is the most vulnerable among us, children and the elderly, who are affected the most.

**Week of Compassion** is partnering across our Disciples community and with ecumenical partners to respond in many ways to the tremendous need.

Christmount Conference Center has hosted over 90 evacuees.

Congregations in multiple states offered their buildings as shelter for evacuees.

Southwood Memorial Christian Church in Kinston, NC has been working with local emergency management to host a mobile medical center on their campus.

The Regional Office in North Carolina has been coordinating with congregations to preposition clean-up supplies and identify local resources.

Our ecumenical partner, Children’s Disaster Services, has been providing childcare in shelters, as requested in North and South Carolina.

Week of Compassion has also made available worship resources that we will use this Sunday in response to Hurricane Florence.

## Super Typhoon Mangkhut

As we monitor Hurricane Florence, we also pray for our siblings in the Pacific. Equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane, Super Typhoon Mangkhut has devastated the northern islands of the Philippines. Week of Compassion is in communication with our partners in the Philippines, and China and will respond as needed.

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**We can help.**

Please give generously to Week of Compassion as we support our congregations and families, as we work through our partners to provide immediate relief to those affected by these storms, and as we prepare to support communities through the long road of recovery. You may designate your gift for "Hurricane Relief," and 100% of your gift will go to help affected communities.

## ***Worship and Education Opportunities***

### ***September 23***

**"Servant of All"**  
**Mark 9:30-37**

#### **Elders**

Regina Respass and Dan Marshall

#### **Deacons**

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

#### **Prepare Communion**

Stephanie Bailey

#### **Greeters**

John & Vicki Warren

#### **Worship Leader**

Regina Respass

### ***Dianna's Notes***

<b>September 23</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Disciples Bells</b>
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Jubilation Bells</b>

### ***Youth Fellowship***

Youth Fellowship will meet **Sunday, September 23, at 5:45 pm until 7:00 pm**. There will be light snack/meal, devotional and an activity game.

There will be some meetings where we will go off campus. The church van will be available for rides to and from the church. We hope and pray that you will attend and also invite your friends.

Also, if you would like to volunteer to help with this ministry, please contact the office. **John Mundy**

### ***Church-Wide Retreat – September 29***

As we prepare for our upcoming Church-Wide Retreat on September 29, I believe the title that best describes what we are planning is "Church-Wide Revival." The theme is "Get a Life." We will be exploring ways we can tap into the life-giving, life-restoring, resurrecting power of God by using the gifts that God has given each of us for service. This will be a time for us to renew our commitments to being the body of Christ in our city, region and world. I hope every person affiliated with our church is planning to be participate.

### ***Elder Installation – September 30***

**There will be one worship service at 10:45 on Sunday, September 30.  
Our elders will be installed during the service.**

# Fellowship and Service Opportunities

## DELICIOUS COFFEE, TEA, AND CHOCOLATE THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

We will be soon be serving Fair Trade Coffee on Sunday morning during Mission Express O Café. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) partners with an organization called Equal Exchange to help small farmers around the world.

### *Fair Trade, small-scale farmers are better able to:*

- ◆ Support their families and stay on their land with better income and support from their co-operatives.
- ◆ Build their own businesses: As members of democratically run co-operatives, farmers gain control of their own livelihoods and make strides together in agriculture and quality control.
- ◆ Improve their communities: With Fair Trade premiums farming communities make investments in education, health programs, and social services.

### *Most Equal Exchange products are organic. This means that with their deep knowledge and hard work, coffee farmers are restoring and preserving our planet. Farmers are:*

- ◆ Protecting and improving forest cover and habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife through shade farming.
- ◆ Preserving local river water quality.
- ◆ Improving the soil and preventing erosion.
- ◆ Keeping toxic pesticides and chemical fertilizers out of the land and water.

### **EQUAL EXCHANGE'S MISSION**

is to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound, to foster mutually beneficial relationships between farmers and consumers and to demonstrate, through our success, the contribution of worker co-operatives and Fair Trade to a more equitable, democratic and sustainable world.

## Bowling Fun with Youth

Attention all who are young or young at heart! Our Youth Fellowship Group is going bowling on **Friday, September 28**. We will meet at the church at **7:30 pm**, then travel together to Bowling World for an evening of fun and fellowship. The church will pay for two games for the youth. Please bring money for snacks. The church van will be available for rides to and from the event. We would love for adults to join the youth for this evening of fellowship!

**John Mundy**

## An Opportunity for Service

We have a wonderful opportunity to prepare and serve lunch one Monday each month at Hope Campus, a local homeless shelter. The first opportunity for service will be **Monday, October 22**. The menu and food will be provided by the Campus Kitchen. The Hope Campus Chef will be there to lead us. We will work from 9:00 am to 12:45 pm. This time includes: doing the preparation, cooking, serving, eating lunch ourselves and cleaning up. For more information or to sign up, call/text **Ginger Jefferies at 414-2466**.

## Worship and Wonder

Katie Alexander has agreed to lead a worship time for children (pre-school through second grade) each Sunday during worship. The children will leave the sanctuary after the children's sermon and go over to the education building for music, crafts and Bible Study. They will return to the sanctuary during the last congregational hymn. If you are interested in helping Katie, please contact **Jimmy Hudlow, the Education Ministry Chairperson**.

# Announcements

## Hurricane Florence Disaster Response

Please pray for residents of the Carolinas as they prepare for Hurricane Florence. May we also pray for direction as we consider how to respond as a church with the Great River Region to this disaster.

## Thank You

Thank you so much for your loving cards and prayer of sympathy for our grandmother, Juanita Robinson. The visits from Jarrett, Sonna, and Zena; the Love Grub; the prayers we felt; the love from this loving church throughout this time of taking care of Grandmother were all very much appreciated. Jack and I are very blessed to have such a loving church family.

**Dianna & Jack Jackson**

## Welcome New Member

Marie has been adopted into our church family.

**Marie Niyonugabo**  
**201 North 39th Street**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72903**  
**Email mniyo414@gmail.com**

Please pray for her as she unites with us to serve our city, region and world.

**MEMORIALS:** We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts, given as a thoughtful expression of sympathy and of care...

In Memory of:

- **Juanita Robinson, Dianna Jackson's grandmother** by John & Margot Mundy; Cherry Rains

## Mission Express O Café

The café opens at **9am 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.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, September 23

8:30 am      Worship (Chapel)  
 9:00 am      Mission Café  
 9:30 am      Sunday School  
 10:45 am     Worship (Sanctuary)  
 3:00 pm      Disciples Bells  
 5:00 pm      Jubilation Bells  
 5:45 pm      Youth Snack Supper  
                  Youth Meeting

### Tuesday, September 25

9:00 am      Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, September 26

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

### Saturday, September 29

9:00 am-2:00 pm  
                  Church-wide Retreat  
                  Disciples Hall

## For the Record—September 16

Operating Receipts .....	\$ 3,325.22
To Date .....	18,768.29
Endowment .....	105.00
To Date .....	734.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs .....	31,431.55

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