



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.

Rain, Faith, Hope and Love

With Hurricane Michael approaching the Southeast, residents in areas that have already been inundated with rain are bracing for more rain.

We all know that rain is good. We need rain. But, we also know there is such a thing as too much rain.

I suppose that rain is like most things in life. Moderation, they say, is the key. Eat and drink, but don't eat and drink too much. Have a little dessert, but have *a little* dessert. Don't overdo it.

The same thing could even be said about faith. Extreme faith can be too much faith. Too much faith, one could argue, leads to closed-mindedness, bigotry, self-righteousness and even violence.

So have faith, but don't overdo it. Always respect the freedom of those who have different faiths and even those who have no faith.

What about hope? Have you ever known anyone who hoped too much? They hoped so much that they literally lost touch with reality.

So hope, but don't overdo it. Be real with hope. Hope for the future, but don't live in the future.

What about love? Can we love too much? Can we overdo it with love?

One who has experienced the heartbreak of grief may quickly answer: “Yes.”

However, after thinking about it, I believe most would answer: “No!” Because although loving another will inevitably bring some pain, never loving another, and never being loved by another, is unthinkable. Overdoing love may lead to heartache, but restricting love leads to something much worse.

Garth Brooks once sang, “I could have missed the pain, but I'd have had to miss the dance.” In other words, the only way to miss pain in life is to miss love in life. But to miss love in life is to never really live.

So love. Love freely, unconditionally and unreservedly. Overdo it. Never limit love and never moderate love. Never love “a little.” Love until you think you can't love anymore. Love until you realize that you can never love too much. Love until it becomes clear that love never fades, and love never fails.

May those affected by Hurricane Michael and those who are still recovering from Hurricane Florence know our love as we overdo it by supporting the Week of Compassion Offering.

And now rain, faith, hope and love abide, these four; and the greatest of these is love.

Jarrett

Worship and Education Opportunities

October 7

**“I’ve Got Some Bad News, and
I’ve Got Some Good News”**

Mark 10:17-31

Elders

Ruth Carson and Steve Parke

Deacons

Janet LaForce (Foreman), Darlene Brees, Diane Fagan, Jimmy Hudlow, Brad Kidder Jr., Kim Kidder, Barbara Lynch, Nick Oliver

Prepare Communion

Rebecca Parke

Greeters

Brad Kidder Jr. and Kim Kidder

Worship Leader

Ruth Carson

Dianna’s Notes

Disciples Bells meet at 9:00 am to rehearse
“How Can I Keep from Singing?”.

WorshipMusic

October 14 Disciples Bells
October 21 Jubilation Bells and
 Children’s Chimes

There will be no Children’s Choir or Chancel
Choir rehearsals on **Wednesday, October 31**.

FCC Book Club

Monday, October 15, at 10:00 am in the Parlor, will be the next **FCC Book Club Meeting**. To participate, read the book, *Sisters First*, by Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush. We will discuss it at this October meeting.

Light a Candle for Children

The theme for Light a Candle for Children is “Realizing our Vision for our Children”. This vigil started September 24 and will end on October 21, which is children's Sabbath.

♦ For October 8-14: 1 John 3:18-23.

Before your prayers, please read that week’s lesson, and remember to lift up children in your prayers.

John Mundy

Pastor’s Cabinet and Ministry Teams Meet Sunday, October 14

All Ministry Teams are encouraged to meet this Sunday evening. The Cabinet meeting begins at 6:00 pm with Ministry Teams meeting at 6:45 pm.

Regional Assembly: November 2-4, 2018

The Regional Assembly of the Great River Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be held at Kings Highway Christian Church in Shreveport, Louisiana. If you would like to go as a voting delegate from our church, please contact the office as soon as possible. There are currently four delegate spots open. The Assembly’s theme this year is: “We Are Message Bearers.”

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

DWF Group 3

DWF Group 3 will meet **Tuesday, October 9**, at 6:00 pm in the Parlor. Bring a brown bag dinner.

Please bring a package of diapers **or** baby wipes to be donated to the parents of foster children. Also, please bring a pair of your personal scissors to cut some fabric for a project.

Elizabeth Vaughn

Automated External Defibrillator Class

John Mundy has graciously agreed to lead a training session on the use of the church's new AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on **October 10, at 6:00 pm**. A light dinner of beans and cornbread will be served at 5:30 pm. Call **Ginger Hamm(462-8112)** by **October 9** if you plan on eating with us.

Potluck Luncheon

Membership is hosting a pot luck luncheon, **Sunday, October 14**, after late worship. Zena Marshall will be showing a video of the mission trip in July to Thoreau, New Mexico.

If your last name begins:

- A – E Salad**
- F – K Meat**
- L – P Vegetable**
- Q – Z Dessert**

Proceeds from this meal will go to Ainsley's Angels to help cover expenses for George, Trish, and Seth's trip to Washington DC for the Marine Corps Marathon.



All are welcome. Come and bring a friend. **Linda Creekmore, Membership Chair**

Board Meeting

There will be a board meeting on Sunday, **October 21, at 6:00 pm**.

Men's Supper

Monday, October 15, 6:30 pm

Harold will be serving his famous pizza.

Guest Speaker

Sebastian County Sheriff Hobe Runion

Thanksgiving Meal / Honoring Our Veterans

Membership will be hosting our Thanksgiving meal on **November 11**. Since this is Veterans Day, we will also be honoring our active military and our veterans. David Trent is updating the video from 2013, so if you are active military, a veteran, relative of a veteran, or close friend of a veteran, please submit a photo to be included in the updated video. If you submitted a photo in 2013, there is no need to resubmit the photo. The photo needs to be scanned or in digital format. You can also loan David the photo for scanning which will be returned. Please have all photos to David no later than **NOVEMBER 1**.

Linda Creekmore, Membership Chair



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS

Announcements

Poor People’s Campaign Meeting in Little Rock Monday, October 15

The church van will leave our church at 2:30 pm to take members to attend a Poor People’s Campaign Hearing in Little Rock at the Rufus K. Young Christian Church. The Rev. Dr. William Barber will be the keynote speaker.

RSVP today to lift up the voices of the poor, directly impacted, and faith leaders, to demand that our nation's elected officials take action to fight systemic racism, poverty, the war economy and militarism, ecological devastation, and our nation's distorted moral narrative of Christian nationalism.

Monday, October 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Rufus K. Young Christian Church
2100 Main Street Little Rock, AR 72206

Click here to reserve your seat:

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/ar-poor-peoples-hearing/>

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

In Memory of:

- **Juanita Robinson, Dianna’s grandmother, and Tim House, Dianna’s cousin** by Sue Sullivan
- **Tim House, Dianna’s cousin,** by John & Margot Mundy
- **Roy Worthy** by John & Margot Mundy
- **Virginia Miska, Jesse Bailey’s mother.** by John & Margot Mundy

Ordination ceremony for
Rev. Soniyah “Sonna” B. Key
Associate Minister Intern
Sunday, January 20, 2019, 3:00 pm

Mission Express O Café

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

Church Calendar

Sunday, October 14

- Potluck after late worship
- 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 Jubilation Bells
- 5:45 pm Youth Snack Supper/Meeting
- 6:00 pm Cabinet
- 6:45pm Ministry Teams

Monday, October 15

- 10:00 am FCC Book Club
- 6:30 am Men’s Supper

Tuesday, October 16

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 17

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

For the Record –October 7

Operating Receipts.....	\$ 10,942.88
Endowment.....	360.00
Reconciliation Offering ..	645.00
To Date.....	1,002.13
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs.....	31,413.55

**Please update Sue Sullivan’s
phone number to 479-459-6980.**

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