



**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.

## God Remembers

Being forgotten by a loved one or forgetting a loved one is what makes Alzheimer’s such a terrifying disease. However, as tragic as forgetting a loved one or being forgotten by a loved one is, the prospect of being forgotten by God is even more tragic.

I believe this is what makes this passage in the 49<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah so hopeful.

“But Zion said, ‘The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me.’”

The suffering of the Israelites in exile was so intense, that despite all that God had done for them, they believed that God had forgotten them. Like the Israelites, when we encounter suffering in this world, when we lose a loved one, or when we experience dreadful diseases like Alzheimer’s, we may be tempted to believe that God has forgotten us. With Zion, we may want to cry out: “The Lord has forsaken me. The Lord has forgotten me.”

But there is good news. In verse 15-16, we read God’s response:

“Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands...”

We pray that we will never forget our loved ones and that our loved ones will never forget us. However, even if we do forget or if we are forgotten, the good news is that our God never forgets.

This Saturday, as we walk to end Alzheimer’s on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, we will walk to remember our loved ones like Tije Musset who have been diagnosed with this dreaded disease. However, the good news is: This Saturday and forever, our God remembers them.

This is good news, because our remembering is shallow and fading. However, God’s remembering is deep and unfading. God’s memory endures forever. God responds to our fear of forgetting with the assurance that we will never be forgotten by God, because we are literally in the very hands of God.

**Jarrett**

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

### ***October 21***

**“Accepting a Topsy-Turvy Gospel”**  
**Mark 10:35-45**

#### **Elders**

Steve Parke and Linda Creekmore

#### **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**

Steve Parke

### ***Dianna’s Notes***

Jubilation Bells and Children’s Chimes meet at 9:10 am to rehearse “Train up a Child”.

#### **Worship Music**

October 21 Jubilation Bells and Children’s Chimes

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

### ***All Saints’ Sunday – November 4***

Our church continues to give thanks to God for the many gifts and contributions of those who have gone before us, and we continue to pray for their loved ones in their grief.

Consequently, we are planning a Service of Memory on All Saints’ **Sunday, November 4**, to honor the memory of the members of our church who have died during the past year.

During the service, a candle will be lit and a bell will toll as their names are read before a congregational Litany of Thanksgiving.

Please help us include all of our members and those who were connected with First Christian Church who have died since our last All Saints’ service November 5, 2017 by calling the church office to confirm the name of your loved one will be read during this service.

### **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 15-21: Jeremiah 29: 11-14.

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

### **Regional Assembly: November 2-4**

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*

## **Youth Fellowship—October 20**

Youth Fellowship has been invited to Floyd and Ginger Hamm's home in Greenwood **Saturday, October 20**. We will meet at 2:00 pm at the church.

This will be a afternoon of fun, fellowship , games, fishing, and a hotdog roast. If you plan on fishing please bring your pole. We invite all youth and those young at heart, so come join us.

## **Board Meeting**

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

## **Undie Sundays**

Local schools need boys and girls size 6-16 underwear. Please donate during the next few Sundays! Containers are in the Administration Building, Narthex, and Fellowship Hall.

**DWF and Community Outreach**

## **Dear Church Family,**

For those who may not know, Tije was diagnosed in March, 2017 at 59 years old, with Early-onset Alzheimer's. This has affected our family very deeply.

On **Saturday, October 20**, UAFS will be hosting the Walk to End Alzheimer's. It would mean so much to us if our church family joined us at this event.

Registration is from 9:00-10:00 am; welcoming ceremony is from 10:00-10:30 am; then the walk around the campus starts at 10:30. Donations are accepted as well: Alzheimer's Association, Arkansas Chapter.

Let's all meet at the Bell Tower on October 20 and walk to end Alzheimer's.

**Tije & Glenda Musset**

## **Church Women United**

### **World Community Day**

Friday, November 3, 2018  
First United Methodist Church  
200 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St.  
Fort Smith, AR

### **Guest Speaker: Sonna B. Key**

*9:30 am Refreshments/Registration  
10:00 am Program*

## **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

**The following thank-you notes have been received.**

Thank you SO VERY much for ALL your support, hard work, and fellowship toward inclusion in Arkansas! Your support helped our First Annual ArkAngel 5k to be a huge success. We appreciate you greatly! **Jarrett**

In the year that we have been part of this church, you have celebrated the happiest moments with us and walked closely alongside us during difficult times. We are grateful to you all! It means so much to us that you generously made a way for Seth to get to DC when the news about George's job left us uncertain we could make the trip. This was a gesture that says you believe in him with us and agree that including him matters. We could not be more touched by that. Thank you all so much!  
**Trish Allen**

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 21**

- 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 Church Board Meeting

**Monday, October 22**

- 9:00 am-12:45 pm  
Hope Campus Project

**Tuesday, October 23**

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, October 24**

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

**For the Record –October 14**

Operating Receipts.....	\$ 4,582.25
To Date .....	15,525.13
Endowment.....	335.00
To Date .....	695.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs.....	31,413.55

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