



# Fort Smith Disciple

November 28, 2018  
Volume 56, Number 22

**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.

Although my kids are both adults this Christmas, I can still remember how excited Lori and I were when we received the news that Lori was with child. We then spent at least the next eight months preparing for their births. Of course, we had to prepare. A child was going to be born that was going to change our lives and world.

Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. It is the season to prepare our hearts and our church for the good news of the birth of Christ. Of course, we have to prepare. Because we believe the birth of this child changes our lives and our world forever.

This week's newsletter is full of opportunities to help us with our Christmas preparations. I hope you will take advantage of every opportunity that you can.

**Jarrett**

**Ozark Bronze**  
**FREE Christmas Bell Concert**

**DASHING THROUGH THE DECADES**

**Dec 1 First Christian Fort Smith 3:00 Fayetteville:**  
**Dec 2 Fayetteville Library 3:00**  
**Dec 8 Primrose Retirement 11:00**  
**Dec 8 Gardens at Arkanshire 3:00**  
**Dec 15 Butterfield Trail Retirement 11:00**  
**Dec 15 North Hills Life Care & Rehab 3:00**  
**Dec 16 Rolling Hills Baptist Church 3:00**

## *Worship and Education Opportunities*

### *December 2*

**"It's the End of the World as We Know It"**

Luke 21:25-36

#### Elders

Ruth Carson and Nina Abernathy

#### Deacons

Connie Alexander (Foreman), Darlene Brees, Janet LaForce, Tim Randolph, LaBeth Riggs, Steve Riggs, Elizabeth Vaughn, David Williamson

#### Prepare Communion

LaBeth Riggs

#### Greeters

Tim Randolph and David Williamson

#### Homebound Communion

1. Dan Marshall, Janet LaForce
2. Ruth Carson, Diane Fagan

#### Worship Leader

Ruth Carson

### *Dianna's Notes*

#### Worship Music

**December 1, 3:00 pm**

**Ozark Bronze Bell Concert  
"Dashing Through the Decades"  
First Christian Church**

**December 2**

Prime Time Bells

**December 9**

Disciples Bells

**December 16**

Children's Chimes and  
Jubilation Bells

**December 23**

Bell Ensemble

**December 24**

Disciples Bells; Disciples Bells  
Quintet; Solo

**December 30**

Bruce Birkhead, Solo

### *Advent Worship*

<b>December 6</b>	6:00 pm	"Four Hands at Christmas" Concert (Evan and Teri)
<b>December 9</b>	10:45 am	Chrismon Service Hanging of the Greens
<b>December 15</b>		Youth (cookies and caroling)
<b>December 24</b>	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

### *"Four Hands at Christmas" Concert*

Everyone is invited to hear "Four Hands at Christmas", a piano and keyboard concert performance by Evan Mino and Teri Sparks. The concert will be held **December 6 at 6:00 pm**, First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, 3501 Rogers Avenue. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall. Transportation will be provided for anyone who would like to attend. If you need a ride, please call the church office or Linda Creekmore, 709-9980.

Cookies will be needed for the reception. Please let Linda or the office know if you can bring a dozen or more.

If you cannot make this concert, there is one on **Sunday, December 2, at 6:00 pm** at First Church of the Nazarene.

### *Poinsettias*

On **Sunday, December 9**, we will have poinsettias adorning our sanctuary. You can reserve one "*In Honor of...*" or "*In Memory of...*" with your payment of \$10.

Your cash / check reserves your poinsettia. Use the small brown envelopes in the pew pockets, or drop your check off in the church office. Please be sure to write out **for whom** and **from whom** the poinsettia is ordered. **December 3** is the last day to order.

## *Fellowship and Service Opportunities*

### **Help Us Reimagine Aunt Reba's Celebration Festival!**

Join us at **5:15 pm November 28** in the chapel as we reimagine the outreach possibilities of our Aunt Reba's Celebration Festival. Bring your ideas and your calendar, and we will find new ways to share the love of God through Christ with some of our most vulnerable neighbors.

### **Youth Fellowship Activities**

The youth fellowship wishes to invite all to join them on **December 8** at 8:00 am at Disciples Hall to travel to Birkhead Mountain for gathering of the greens.

This will be a fun trip for all and an excellent way to get to know and work with the youth of the church. Please plan to attend.

It's time again to break out your amazing cookie recipes and join the youth on **December 15 at 1:00 pm** to bake from scratch those yummy cookies, and we will have a small dinner of Harold and Audrey Stewart's pizza. After dinner, we will travel to area nursing homes, sing Christmas carols and hand out cookies.

We will need at least five people to come with their recipes and ingredients to bake the cookies. Please call John or the church office if you wish to help. This is a fun event for all and a time to help in a great cause.

### **Holiday in the Park**

Community Outreach is sponsoring **Holiday in the Park** the night of **December 5** from 5:30 pm-8:30 pm. If you would like to supply cookies, please call the church office.

### **Gathering the Greenery**

Please join us **Saturday, December 8**, to gather and prepare greens to adorn our sanctuary for the Advent season. If you are a gatherer, meet at **8:00 am** in the lower parking lot to travel to Birkhead Mountain to gather pine and cedar to build the sanctuary wreaths and window decorations. Dan & Zena will have breakfast ready at the mountain when the crew arrives! If you are a preparer (or not an early riser on Saturday!), join us in the Narthex at **1:00 pm** to build. Bring work gloves and hand-held clippers. If you are "in" for both activities that day, thank you! We will have a great morning and afternoon together.

### **Angel Tree**

We have an Angel Tree located in Disciples Hall. Please choose an angel by removing the ornament. Place gifts in bag with angel information securely attached. Do not wrap gifts (may add wrapping paper to bag). Thank you for making Christmas joy for these angels. The last day is **December 16**.

### **Friendship Class Party**

The Friendship Class Christmas party will be on **Friday, December 14, at 6:00 pm** in the home of Randy and Julie Jay. Their address is 3405 South 29<sup>th</sup> Circle. Please bring finger foods to share and a gift for "dirty Santa".

# Announcements

## Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- **Rachel** (daughter of Randy and Connie Alexander) & **Ryan Smith** in the loss of their unborn baby
- **Janice Rickman**, Greta Pryor’s mother

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

## Thanks

Thanks to Tangi Mendoza, with a little help from Rebecca Alexander, the kitchen in Disciples Hall is the cleanest it has ever been! Tangi cleaned above, below, around and through EVERYTHING, including the stove. Everything stainless steel has been polished until it sparkles and the floor thoroughly cleaned. This monumental endeavor took her 13 hours. Please let her know how much she is appreciated when you see her again, and let’s continue to keep the kitchen as clean as Tangi made it for us. She worked very, very hard.

**Kristi Williamson**

## Thank You FCC Church Family!!

Our recent Service Project “Undies Sunday” has been delivered to Spradling Elementary School. We collected 23 packs of undies, 5 packs of children’s socks as well as hygiene products. There were also donations delivered by several individuals. On the advice of the teachers and nurses in our congregation, the late donations were delivered to Trusty Elementary School.

During holiday travel, remember to donate all soap and shampoo available from the hotels or motels you use.

**Community Outreach Ministry  
DW Board combined Service Projects**

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 2

- First Sunday of Advent
- Homebound Communion
- 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

### Tuesday, December 4

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, December 5

- 10:00 am Prime Time Bells
- 11:30 am Lunch Bunch (TBA)
- 4:15 pm Children’s Music
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir
- 5:30—8:30 pm  
Holiday in the Park  
(Community Outreach)

### Thursday, December 6

- 6:00 pm “Four Hands at Christmas” concert  
Evan Mino and Teri Sparks  
Reception following

### Saturday, December 8

- 8:00 am Gather greens at Birkhead Mountain
- 1:00 pm Prepare greenery

## 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.

## For the Record –November 25

Operating Receipts.....	\$ 4,203.78
To Date.....	25,935.83
Endowment.....	90.00
To Date.....	505.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs.....	31,413.55

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