



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

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.

When Life Kicks You, Let It Kick You Forward

It is hard to believe that it has been ten years since Kay Yow, North Carolina State women's basketball coach and U.S. women's basketball coach passed away after a courageous battle with breast cancer. I will never forget something she said when she was diagnosed.

Yow said, "I felt like I had zero control over getting cancer, but I have 100% control of how I will respond to getting cancer." She then said something that I believe is absolutely wonderful: "When life kicks you, let it kick you forward."

These words become even more magnificent when I think about our church that been kicked rather hard recently with the recent losses of Harold Stewart, Maxie Walker, and now, Betty Cole.

"When life kicks you, let it kick you forward." Old Testament professor, Walter Brueggemann, once put it this way, "In life, we can never go back to the 'good-old days', but with faith in Christ we can go forward with God into 'good-new days'". The Apostle Paul said it like this: "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

The good news is that even when the very life is one day kicked out of us, with faith in the God of restoration and resurrection, we will go forward. We will always go forward with our God into glorious "good-new days".

I am reminded of something I once heard a preacher say at a funeral service for someone who died with cancer. He said, "Cancer can do a lot to us, but there are a lot of things that cancer simply cannot do...It cannot cripple love...It cannot shatter hope...It cannot corrode faith...It cannot eat away peace...It cannot destroy confidence...It cannot kill friendship...It cannot shut out memories...It cannot silence courage...It cannot invade the soul...It cannot reduce eternal life...It cannot quench the Spirit...It cannot lessen the power of the resurrection."

"When life kicks you, let it kick you forward." That might be easier than we think.

Van Drivers Needed

If you are between the ages of 25 and 70 and are interested in driving the van on Sunday morning to pick up riders for church, please call the office.

Lindsay Scholarship Recipients Honored Sunday

Bill and Jette Lindsay had no children of their own and were concerned about our kids attending college and pursuing educational challenges beyond high school. Over twenty years ago they left their house to the church to establish a scholarship fund in their names. This year the trustees have accepted applications from nine of our church's family members, and the scholarship checks will be given to them (or family members) this Sunday as a part of our worship service. Recipients this year are: **Ryan Bailey, Sara Bailey, Carson Banks, Sara Banks, Grace Featherston, Blythe Taylor, Kourtney Williamson, Kaycee Young, Xiaolin Yang.**

Congratulations to you in your future educational pursuits. We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you the best, knowing that you are in our church's thoughts, best wishes, and prayers! See you Sunday.

Worship and Education Opportunities

February 3

“We Have Been Called”
Rev. Dr. Jarrett Banks
Jeremiah 1:4-10

Elders

Jack Jackson II and Nina Abernathy

Deacons

Vicki Warren (Foreman), Tim Fleming, Margot Mundy, LaBeth Riggs, Steve Riggs, Audrey Stewart, John Warren

Prepare Communion

Brad Kidder, Jr.

Greeters

Rebecca Parke and Farreol Hansen

Homebound Communion

1. Nina Abernathy, Tim Fleming.
2. Jack Jackson II, Margot Mundy

Worship Leader

Jack Jackson II

Dianna’s Notes

Prime Time Bells meet at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary to rehearse “Great Day”.

Music Schedule

- February 3 Prime Time Bells
- February 17 Jubilation Bells & Youth
- February 24 Disciples Bells

Church Growth Seminar Schedule

Wednesday, January 30

Following a church-wide supper from 5:30-6:15 pm, we will explore ways we can grow our congregation together in this New Year. This Wednesday, we are going to discuss Stewardship and Narrative Budgets.

Nursery will be available.

Please RSVP the church office if you plan to attend the Wednesday night supper.

Spaghetti Luncheon

“Share the Love” Spaghetti Lunch will be **Sunday, February 10**, after late worship. Everything is provided. A love offering will be taken to benefit the Youth.

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Announcements

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 3

- Homebound Communion
- 8:30 am Worship (Chapel)
- 9:00 am Mission Café
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 3:30 pm Disciples Bells
- 5:00 pm Jubilation Bells
- 5:45 pm Youth Snack/Meeting

Tuesday, February 5

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 10:00 am DWF Board Meeting (Chapel)

Wednesday, February 6

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

Thursday, February 7

- 11:30 am Lunch Bunch (TBA)

Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- ◆ The family of **Betty Cole** in her passing
Visitation: Tuesday, 5:00-7:00 pm.
Lewis Funeral Home
Graveside service: Wednesday at 10:00 am
Roselawn Cemetery, 5403 North O St.
- ◆ **Brooxine Kidder**, Chapel Ridge, 4623 Rogers Ave., 72903, Room 102

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

For the Record – January 20 and 27

Operating Receipts	\$ 7,022.95
To Date.....	22,281.76
Endowment.....	295.00
To Date.....	1,328.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs	31,413.55

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

- In Memory of **Harold Stewart, Naomi Hatley, and Maxie Walker** by Allen & Mary Nelle Hales.

Thank You

I wanted to express my appreciation to my church family for all the gifts to the church. My youngest was six months old when we joined. Hank Tyler baptized my husband and all three girls.

Much Love, Gerre and girls