



**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.

## “Mission Opportunity to Go Deep”

Last Sunday I talked about answering the call of Jesus to do some “deep, difficult, and dreadful work.” At the end of the sermon, I prayed that we would be open to such a call.

The next day, Elizabeth Vaughn put me in touch with Shelly Pollock, the founder and director of the non-profit Earthbound Angels. Their mission is “to enrich the lives of those we meet and to care for our community babies, children and teens.” Shelly will be our guest speaker at the Disciples Men’s Fellowship Supper on **February 18**.

Earthbound Angels was recently contacted by DHS who has assumed custody of an eight-year old boy due to his unsafe living environment. It is the goal of Earthbound Angels to restore the home to make it a safe, healthy environment for the child to thrive.

While I was at the house this morning, a student from UAFS, who is volunteering with Earthbound Angels, fell through the front porch. Luckily, she was not seriously injured. Several boards are rotting and others are missing. I have contacted Dan Marshall who is going to take the lead on repairing the porch.

A dumpster has been brought to the property so we can begin clean-up. We plan to do the bulk of the clean-up on Friday and Saturday afternoon. If you can help, please contact me. It is a very sensitive case, and must be handled as such, so please contact me before going to the house.

If you are unable to help with this project, Earthbound Angels is having an Open House at their new shop on March 2 and is looking for donations of cookies, brownies and cupcakes. Please let me know if you are interested in doing some baking for this event. **Jarrett**

## “The Blessing Box”

Thank you for your donations to the “Blessing Box”, formally called the “Poor Box.” Because of your generosity, we have been able to help a family with a small child relocate here. We were able to purchase a tank of gas on Sunday so the father could put in job applications as a mechanic. He found employment on Wednesday. We were also able to assist them with temporary housing before he receives his first paycheck.

A dollar or two donation each Sunday can go a long way. Let’s continue to make a difference in the lives others through this wonderful ministry. The box is located in the narthex.

## *Worship and Education Opportunities*

### *February 17*

**“The Real World”**  
**Rev. Dr. Jarrett Banks**  
**Luke 6:17-26**

#### Elders

Jack Jackson II and Linda Creekmore

#### 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

#### Worship Leader

Jack Jackson II

### *Dianna's Notes*

Jubilation Bells and Youth meet at 9:15 am to rehearse.

#### **Music Schedule**

**February 17** Jubilation Bells & Youth

**February 24** Disciples Bells

**No Disciples Bells and Youth Bells rehearsals on Sunday, February 24**

### *Revelation as Drama Weekly Bible Study*

Bring some take-out and sit around tables for an eight-week Bible study on the dramatic and hopeful book of Revelation. The fresh, exciting and relevant interpretation of Revelation will be explored by reading the book as a Dramatic Play with seven Acts with seven scenes per Act; based on the book *Revelation as Drama* by Dr. James Blevins.

### *Church Women United*

**Friday, March 1, 9:00 am**  
 World Day of Prayer  
 Ninth St. Baptist Church

### *Church Library*

We have such a great library located in the Administration Building next to the chapel. Come in and check out your books, leave the card on the desk, and when you return them, place the books on the desk.

## **Stewardship**

As we approach the 2019 stewardship and budgeting period, we will again make a line item document showing how much will be needed for utilities, salaries, etc. But before we begin, we will look at the 2018 spending and estimate how it impacted some of the most important missions of the Fort Smith Disciples of Christ.

Many congregations have discovered the “narrative budget” as a way of talking about the future needs of the church to carry out its mission and ministry. Rather than simply presenting a spreadsheet style budget that lists columns of numbers under the heading of different departments, the narrative budget tells a story. The story is the congregation’s story of mission and service and how the varying components of the budget contribute to that specific community of faith. It connects every aspect of the budget to ministry. It links every dollar to mission. Narrative budgets inspire, interpret, encourage, challenge, and inform donors why their gift matters.

#### OUTREACH MINISTRY

This would include both local and regional outreach and the use of church facilities.

#### WORSHIP MINISTRY

Church facilities, planning for Sunday worship, preparing sermons, conducting weddings and funerals and other special services; music, bulletins, communion supplies, seasonal decorations

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

For children, youth, and adults. This would include use of church facilities, education material, time and material from Music.

#### CARE FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pastoral care for persons who are ill, bereaved or facing other crises. Information provided by newsletters or church website; church family meals, and other events.

**Mac Respass, Stewardship Committee**

## Mission Opportunity



### Week of Compassion Offering Received February 17 and 24

#### Feeding Dreams

Imagine having a garden, but not being able to feed your family.

Imagine digging into the sand of a dry river bed in search of drinking water.

Imagine your child is diagnosed with stunted growth, a preventable early childhood condition with lifelong consequences.

These are the struggles of the people living in a small village in West Timor, Indonesia. On the bank of an impassable river in monsoon season, which transforms into scorched moonscape at rains' end, the small village of Oebaki is considered one of the poorest communities in the country. The prefix "Oe" means water, but drought has stolen this town's identity. Poverty abounds, and families struggle to feed their children.

Imagine life in Oebaki.

Now imagine the world the way God intends.

God imagines a world where all are fed, everyone has access to clean water, and all children grow up healthy. The author of Ephesians writes, "Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine..." (Ephesians 3:20). Your gifts to Week of Compassion help make this world look more like the world God imagines.

In Oebaki, your gifts help support well-trained savings and loan groups that allow families to buy resilient vegetable seeds for farming, yarn for weaving stunningly beautiful traditional fabric, and egg-laying chickens for a sustainable source of protein essential to prevent child stunting. These three enterprises also produce excess goods that families sell to generate income.

Those who once struggled during the dry season and drought can now maintain a diversified diet by eating stored root vegetables from the last harvest, supplemented with greens purchased at the market.

Nelci Tlonaen works hard in Oebaki with her husband and three children—two in elementary school and one entering high school. Despite the current drought, she feels confident that her family will persevere. "Even now, I can afford clothes and food for my children. I don't have any difficulty paying for their school."

That's what happens when we imagine the world as God intends.

Through your gifts to Week of Compassion, our imaginations, and far more, become reality for families in Oebaki and around the world. **Please give generously!**

## Fellowship and Service Opportunity

### Wedding Showers

Please come and celebrate with our newly married couple, **Georgia (Katie)** (Becki Struble's daughter and Lula Hanson's granddaughter) and **Darien Duncan**, **Sunday, February 17, 2:00 pm in the Parlor**. They are registered at Target and Amazon.

There will be a wedding shower for **Ashley Jackson** (Jack & Dianna Jackson's daughter) and **Erin Speicher** on **Sunday, February 24, at 2:00 pm at Beland Manor**, 1320 S. Albert Pike Ave. They are registered at [Zola.com](http://Zola.com).

## Announcements

### Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- ◆ **Brooxine Kidder**, Chapel Ridge, 4623 Rogers Ave., 72903, Room 102
- ◆ **David Williamson** had a stent placed last week after suffering a heart attack. He is doing very well.
- ◆ **Mary Nelle Hales** had hip surgery on Tuesday at Mercy Orthopedic Hospital. She will be there until Friday.
- ◆ **Joey Douglas**, Fianna Hills Nursing & Rehab, 8411 S. 28<sup>th</sup> St., Fort Smith, AR 72908

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

### Thank You

FCC Family,

Thank you all so much for the care you showed during my mom’s illness and at the time of her passing. We are so lucky to have been blessed with a church family who loves us deeply and prays alongside us. While many of you did not know my mom, you would have loved her, and she would have loved you. She knew she had a lot of wonderful souls praying for her, and she appreciated it so very much. Thank you for sharing your love with her!

**Dewayne & Greta Pryor**

### Thank You

Thank you so much for the academic scholarship. I can’t begin to explain how helpful it was in allowing me to purchase books (and a little help with rent). I can’t wait to come back and visit soon. **Carson Banks**

Thank you so much for the scholarship of \$500 for the Spring semester. This money will help me pay for my textbooks and school supplies. I am very grateful.

**Sara Banks**

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

- In Memory of **Betty Cole** by Steve & Rebecca Parke

### Church Calendar

#### Sunday, February 17

- Week of Compassion Offering
- 8:30 am Worship (Chapel)
- 9:00 am Mission Café
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 pm Wedding Shower for Katie & Darien Duncan (Parlor)
- 3:30 pm Disciples Bells
- 5:00 pm Jubilation Bells
- 5:45 pm Youth Snack/Meeting

#### Monday, February 18

- 6:30 pm Men’s Supper (Guest Speaker, Shelly Pollock, Earthbound Angels)

#### Tuesday, February 19

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 10:00 am Book Club (Chapel)
- 11:30 pm Lunch Bunch (Schlotzsky's)

#### Wednesday, February 20

- 10:00 am Prime Time Bells
- 4:15 pm Children’s Music
- 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

#### Friday February 22 -

#### Sunday February 24

Snoasis (grades 6-12), Camp Couchdale

### For the Record –February 10

Operating Receipts .....	\$ 6,343.00
To date .....	16,292.27
Endowment .....	165.00
To date .....	569.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs .....	31,413.55

### 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.

### 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.