



Fort Smith Disciple

March 20, 2019
Volume 56, Number 38

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.

Prayer for Christchurch

Many people have asked me what we can do in the wake of the Christchurch terrorist attack on Muslims as they worshipped. I believe one thing we can do is to reach out to let the Muslim faith community here in Fort Smith know that we are grieving with them, and that we stand against White Nationalism, especially when it is tied to Christianity. Cards of solidarity can be sent to the following address:

Masjid Al Salam
8501 S 28th St.
Fort Smith, AR 72908

On Monday, I had the honor to pray the Invocation to open the legislative session of the Arkansas House of Representatives in Little Rock. The was my prayer:

Loving God,

As the Members of the people's House re-gather at a time when the world is even more aware of the seeds of hate that have sprouted around the globe, may they know more fully your love for all people.

For the kernels of hate seem to be growing as fast as the weeds of spring, strangling the hope of love blossoming.

In temples, in mosques and in churches throughout Arkansas, and in this house, we pray for peace;

But not a peace which allows us to close our eyes to the problems of this world;

We seek a peace that awakens within us a sense of holy urgency to affirm the dignity of all of your children.

We seek a courage to stand against the evils of White Nationalism and bigotry in all of its forms before it leads to more violence.

We seek a hopeful resolve that will convert the seeds of hate into flowers of love, confident that the weeds will never overtake them.

Amen.

Inspired from a prayer written by The Rev. Michelle Torigian Senior Pastor, St Paul UCC, Belleville Illinois

Jarrett

Worship and Education Opportunities

March 24

“Turn Yo Sef Roun Now”

Rev. Dr. Banks

Luke 13:1-9

Elders

Danny Lynch and Zena Marshall

Deacons

Brad Kidder (Foreman), Darlene Brees, Kim Kidder, Janet LaForce, Barbara Lynch, Nick Oliver, Tim Randolph, David Williamson

Prepare Communion

Kim Kidder

Greeters

Janet LaForce; Rebecca Parke

Worship Leader

Danny Lynch

Weekly Bible Study

Revelation as Drama weekly Bible Study continues this **Wednesday at 6:00 pm.**

Dianna's Notes

Music Schedule

March 24 Disciples Bells

March 31 Children's Choir
Jubilation Bells

Disciples Bells meet at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary to rehearse.

Evan Mino Resignation

Evan Mino has resigned as our church organist. His last Sunday with us will be March 31. We are grateful for his service and for the gifts he has shared with us during the last six years.

Young Adults Sunday School Class

Dr. Banks is teaching a Sunday School class for college-aged and 20-something young adults. The class will examine the scripture lesson on which the sermon is based.

Let's Tell Our Story

As we approach the new budget year in our church, we have adopted a new approach to presenting our monetary needs to the congregation. It is called a narrative budget. We are going to tell our story. We will still work off of a line item budget that the different ministries will present to the budget committee. But just dollars needed does not really tell where that money goes and what we do as a church. We have divided our needs into five (5) categories:

- ◆ Supporting the wider mission of the church
- ◆ Reaching out to serve our community
- ◆ Preparing for and conducting worship
- ◆ Educating our children, youth and adults
- ◆ Caring for our church family

Obviously our facilities, administration, utilities, insurance and related costs are woven into those five categories. When we have finished, we will present to the congregation a breakdown of the money needed to fund those five different categories.

Let us look at just one of the five categories for now: Reaching out to serve our community. We have members of this congregation who are actively serving and/or volunteering in some way to help these worthy causes: Hope Campus, Community Services Clearinghouse, The Call, Earthbound Angels, Baptist Health, Positive People of Fort Smith, Sack Lunch Program, the Literacy Council, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Bridges Learning Center, River Valley Special Needs Activity Center (RVSNAAC), Programs for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Mercy Hospital, Kiwanis, Ainsley's Angels, Citizens Climate Lobby, and a non-profit organization operating charitable hospitals in 26 countries world-wide (CURE). And this is just part of our story. I believe it is worth telling. Stay tuned.

Danny Lynch, Stewardship Chair

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

Youth Fellowship Mission Projects

March 18-22 is Spring Break for our youth. We plan to build four raised bed frames, work two days at Antioch food bank, hike at Lake Fort Smith and camp out at Dan and Zena's cabin.

Candy Donations

Baskets have been placed in the Narthex and in the Administration building for donations of candy to put in plastic eggs for the **Spring Festival Easter Egg Hunt on April 14**. **The wrapped candy should be small enough to fit inside the eggs.** Thanks to all who donate to this fun and unique event!

DWF Annual Meeting / Group 3 April Shower

The DWF annual meeting will be combined with Group 3's annual April shower on **Tuesday, April 9, at 6:00 pm in the Parlor**. All women in the church are invited. We are pleased to have Shelly Pollock, founder of Earthbound Angels as our speaker. We will be donating diapers, sizes 4 and 5, and baby wipes to that organization. There are tubs for your donations located in the narthex, by the office, and downstairs in the fellowship hall. We hope to see everyone there.

Elizabeth Vaughn

Mission Opportunities

Aunt Reba's Palm Sunday Celebration

On **April 14**, we will host a Spring Festival with games, an Easter egg hunt, a sensory Easter egg hunt, hot dogs, pop corn, and live music. We are inviting the Children's Emergency Shelter, the Boys Home and children from foster homes. We are excited that Central Presbyterian, St. John's Episcopal and maybe a few other churches are helping us this year. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact the church office or email Jarrett at jarrett@fccdoc.org.

VBS Reimagined Kid's Week—June 3-7

There is a one-week gap between the time the children get out of school and the summer feeding programs begin here in Fort Smith. Therefore, we are partnering with Central Presbyterian, St. John's Episcopal, St. Luke Lutheran and St. Bartholomew's Episcopal to host a Kid's Week **June 3-7** at Central Presbyterian for Kindergarten through 6th grades. We will feed the children breakfast at 8:30 am and lunch at Noon. In between, we will offer various VBS-like classes. Each church will be responsible for one day. If you are interested in helping, please email Jarrett or contact the church office and let us know which day is best for you. This will help us determine which day First Christian Church will lead the Bible Study, music, and crafts. We have cooks, but we will also need volunteers to clean up.

Partnering with Earthbound Angels

There is still much work to do at the house on N. 14th Street. If you would like to volunteer, contact Jarrett or the church office to find out when Shelly Pollock needs help.

Announcements

Concerns and Celebrations of the Community

- **Bill Crowder** is in ICU at Mercy

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

Handicapped Placards

Please note that "Handicapped" placards have been placed at each end of the shorter pew in the south-west quadrant of the sanctuary. This shorter pew was placed to accommodate wheelchairs on each side, and others needing special assistance. Please leave the pew open for those who need it and direct those who might not know it is available.

Varnadore Retirement

The Paris First Christian Church would like to invite FCC congregation to a retirement celebration for H. C. Varnadore on **Sunday, March 24, from 2:00-4:00 pm** with refreshments served.

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

In Memory of:

- **Carolyn Alexander** by David & Judy Trent, Zana Willey, David & Kristi Williamson
- **Imogene Price** by Zana Willey
- **Janice Rickman** by Zana Willey
- **Harold Stewart** by Zana Willey

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Church Calendar

Sunday, March 24

- 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

Monday, March 25

- 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Hope Campus

Tuesday, March 26

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch Bunch
Pink Flamingo, 2801 Old Greenwood Road

Wednesday, March 27

- 10:00 am Prime Time Bells
- 3:30 pm Butterfield Worship
- 4:15 pm Children's Music
- 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

For the Record – March 17

Operating Receipts	\$ 5,960.25
To Date	18,017.16
Endowment	340.00
To Date	740.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs	31,413.55

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.