



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

Mary Beth Oliver

Organist

Barbara Brown

Secretary

Pam Shelby

Financial Secretary

Randy Alexander

Custodian

Patience Hudlow

Nursery Coordinator

Lesley Fleming

Nursery Attendant

Rev. Howard Marshall

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Randy Jay

Pastor Emeritus

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.

Great Cloud of Witnesses

This Sunday, I am pushing Josh France in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington DC.

Josh, 20, has been living with the difficult symptoms of Angelman Syndrome his entire life. He is unable to speak and has a hard time walking. He has attention deficits and an excessive hyperactivity. Each night, he has to take medicine to rest.

I can't wait for him to experience the large crowds that will line the entire 26.2 mile course who will be constantly cheering his name that will be printed on a flag attached to his chariot.

Last year, when I pushed Seth, who has cerebral palsy, I was reminded of the words of the writer to the Hebrews who wrote about the difficulty of life.

The hard truth is that life itself is difficult. Life is more difficult than others for some, but for all people, life is a struggle. Life has often been likened to a race that is sometimes hard to finish.

The writer of Hebrews in chapter 12 of his letter makes this assertion. He says that life, the struggle to exist and to survive, the struggle to be and to carry on, is much like a race.

The writer goes on to encourage the faithful to run this race with perseverance by remembering that they are surrounded by "a great cloud of witnesses." He is referring to the men and women of faith who had fought the good fight and ran and finished this race that we call "life." And he says that those who have gone on before us line the course of life to give encouragement, strength and hope to those of us who are running, walking, limping, or even crawling along in the current race of life.

This will be the theme of our worship on **All Saints' Sunday, November 3**. Together, those of us who are currently running the race of life will remember the faith of those members of our church family who victoriously finished this race we call "life" during this past year. We are also going to remember those whose family asked our church to provide their memorial or funeral service during the past year. They are: Naomi Hatley, Janice Rickman, Harold Stewart, Maxie Walker, Betty Cole, Larry Wilson, Dan Wald, Mary Jane Tyler and Larry Vaughn.

Please plan to be a part of this meaningful service as we give thanks to God for this great cloud of witnesses that keeps all of us faithfully moving forward.

Jarrett

Worship and Education Opportunities

October 27

“Who Did You Rob?”

Rev. Kaycee Young

Luke 10:25-35

Elders

Jack Jackson II and Linda Creekmore

Deacon

Vicki Warren

Prepare Communion

Janice Wade

Greeters

Connie Alexander, Terry Hales,

John Warren

Worship Leader

Jack Jackson II

Elder on Call

Kristi Williamson—479-459-3446

Lectionary Readings

For the week of October 27

Joel 2:23-32

Psalm 65

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

Wednesday Night Study

Bring some takeout to Disciples Hall at **5:30 pm**, and join us for the study from **6:00 pm to 6:50 pm** on Wednesday nights.

We began the study on the book *Shift: Three Big Moves for the 21st Century Church* by Mark Tidsworth. The book can be ordered here: <https://www.amazon.com/Shift-Three-Moves-Century-Church/dp/1517694337>.

There is a small group curriculum that accompanies this book that we will be using. There's at least one copy in our church's Library.

It is ten small group sessions with six daily “engagements” between each small group which are like little daily devotions. Please plan to be a part of this exciting study!

Dianna's Notes

Disciples Bells Quintet will meet Sunday in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am to rehearse “Praise to the Lord” for the Prelude. Wear blue long sleeve shirts and khakis.

Music Schedule

October 27	Disciples Bells Quintet
November 10	Children's Chimes and Jubilation Bells
November 17	Prime Time Bells
November 24	Disciples Bells

Fellowship and Service Opportunities

Helping Hands Ministry

Quite often people passing through town stop at the church office asking for help with food.

Membership Ministry is starting a program called “Helping Hands” to assist our staff to meet those needs. We need your help! “Helping Hands” boxes have been placed around the church to collect food items which are non-perishable, easy open and single serve. Any food item that is non-perishable and easy to prepare on the road would be appreciated. Thank you.

Membership Ministry

Items needed include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peanut butter crackers • Small jars peanut butter • Crackers • Beef jerky • Instant oatmeal • Pull-top vegetables | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pull-top fruit • Cookies • Pudding cups • Individual cereals • Packages (pouches) of Tuna or Chicken Salad |
|--|--|

Mission Opportunity November 1

On **Friday, November 1**, help is need to help Calvin Reed move into another apartment. A pick-up truck and/or trailer is needed. Please email Jarrett at jarrett@fccdoc.org if you can help on this day.

AR DW Service Project

Earthbound Angels has requested donations of Diapers size 5, Pull-ups sizes 2-3T and 4-5T, and finally flushable wipes. Please put your donations in the box in Disciples Hall or call **Margot Mundy (353-4174)** for pick up and delivery.

Youth Bake Sale

Attention all butchers, bakers, and candystick makers!

Youth Fellowship is seeking your help. The youth is hosting a bake sale to offset travel expenses for Fall Fandango November 15-17 and to help with youth food and activities. We are asking for volunteers to bake some treats and donate them for the fundraiser.

The sale will be **November 10 (notice change from date in last week’s newsletter)**. Please have your goods at the church in time for the youth to have for early worship. All items will be donations only. Thank you.

Announcements

Church Calendar

Sunday, October 27

- 7:30 am Elders' Meeting
- 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
- 5:00—7:00 pm
Youth Fellowship
- 6:00 pm Gather for Hymns at
Fort Smith Brewery
- 7:00 pm Sing Hymns

Tuesday, October 29

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch Bunch
(Cassie's Eggroll Express
2919 Towson Avenue)

Wednesday, October 30

- 10:00 am Prime Time Bells
- 4:15 pm Children's Chimes
- 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Study
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Youth Garden

We were able to take some turnip greens to Hope Campus from the youth garden.

John

For the Record – October 20

Operating Receipts.....	1,921.00
To Date.....	15,449.45
To Date.....	204.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs	29,118.21

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.

Fort Smith Disciple (USPS 206-080) published weekly by
First Christian Church, 3501 Rogers Ave., Fort Smith AR 72903-2961.

Periodical postage paid at Fort Smith, AR.

POSTMASTER: Please submit address changes to FORT SMITH DISCIPLE,
3501 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72903-2961