



First Christian Church
3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903

Office: (479) 783-1139

Office Hours:
9:00am-3:00pm
Monday-Thursday

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Ellis Robinson
Interim Pastor
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.

"Growing in Grace" 2 Peter 3:18

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Focus: From the moment we become Christians we are expected to grow in the faith. This takes a lifetime. The apostle Peter is a perfect example of becoming a mature Christian.

Ellis Robinson

Happy Anniversary to Ellis & Sabrina who will be celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary on July 1.

Church Services

Because of the continued rise in virus cases in our area we will not meet again in person until the first Sunday in August; providing new cases of covid-19 start to go down.

I am asking for volunteers from the members of the 2020-2021 general board to serve as chairperson of a ministry so we can complete our cabinet. We have three chairpersons so far (Worship, Property, and World Outreach/Community Outreach). The remaining ministries are Membership, Stewardship, and Christian Education. If you are eligible to serve, please consider volunteering to serve as the chair of one of those ministries. Please let me (Danny Lynch) or Barbara know so we can fill out our cabinet. I don't know when the first cabinet will meet, but it will be soon in the new church year. We need to try to get back to church meetings as we have known them as soon as we feel safe to do so.

The link below directs you to the worship service playlist. The health and livelihood of our congregation is important to us all. Stay safe, continue to check on each other, and remember that we are connected by our love for each other and our Savior Jesus Christ. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLg9HSmKC7yCsVx5D6B6yNvWX24RnO9Irl>

Danny Lynch

The office will be closed Monday, July 6, in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

FCC Family News and Highlights

Beginning this week, we will return to online-only worship services. Please continue to keep up with each other through phone calls and cards, and with these small windows into our lives.

Hardie & Ginger Jefferies – This duo has the most amazing arrangement. They trade cooking duties weekly, with Hardie cooking supper one week and Ginger the next. What a brilliant plan, especially for Ginger, who says Hardie is a better cook than she! During their time at home, both have finished projects that they have been wanting to complete for 20 years. Hardie just finished building and painting a radio-controlled model airplane, a 1/4 scale J-3 Cub. The plan was to test its flight capability at Flightmasters field in Barling, and by the time this newsletter comes out, he will have the answer. We’re wishing you smooth skies, Hardie. Ginger has finally finished a cross stitch table runner that matches napkins she made years ago. But the task that has meant the most to her has been her work on a grandmother’s memory book (given to her by Lula Hanson years ago) for her grandson who lives in Houston. In the book she has detailed her life story and experiences, included photos, and documented her family tree back to her 5th great-grandfather. How many times have we said we just don’t have time to do such a task?? Thanks, Ginger, for the inspiration to put our life story on paper.

Tim & Susan Randolph – The Randolphs will soon be able to start building their new home, but this time on higher ground! Living in a camper makes it tough to cook with the kids and grandkids, and Tim really misses having room for a recliner. When outside, Susan tends to 150 elderberry bushes; when inside, she works as a medical case manager for Tyson. One Thursday a month, Tim assembles sandwiches for the Community Rescue Mission, and his other days are spent taking care of grandkids, which really is his preferred task. When he retired from the FSPD, he had the intent to play golf at least once a week but has fallen short of that goal, playing only three times in the last seven years. So it is true, Tim, the best laid plans.....well, you know.

Rev. Randy & Julie Jay – The Jays have been staying home as much as possible and they say it’s just not easy. They do get out some mornings to take their dog for a walk, and Randy works once a month with Tim Randolph, making sandwiches for the Sack Lunch Program. They have had the opportunity to dust off their lawn chairs and sit in the outfield at the church league ball fields to watch son, Dustin, coach baseball. They have also been able to see their grandkids, which certainly makes quarantine much more bearable. Randy and Julie have an annual 4th of July trip planned to Lake Texoma, where they retreat to a cousin’s waterfront cabin with extended family. We are missing you two and your family and hope to see you soon.

Mickie Matthews – Her 3-day-a-week job merchandising books for Wal-Mart is something Mickie has been able to continue during the corona virus. Her days off work are sometimes spent doing jigsaw puzzles or paint-by-number kits, and playing with her 60-lb. Catahoula dog, Lucy. She is also enjoying her new recliner, purchased from a local furniture business. The first chair she tested was too expensive, the next chair she tried wasn’t really comfortable, but the last chair she sat in was just right, so she bought it! It is equipped with an electric footrest, a USB port for recharging an iPhone, iPad or Kindle, and a head rest that can be adjusted to allow just the right position for watching TV when reclined.

Did you know that Mickie joined FCC in 1972 as a transplant from Ohio? Armed with only a AAA map, she piled everything she owned into her Volkswagen Bug and drove to Arkansas to join friends who had moved to Fort Smith. Since that time, Mickie has proved to be one of many involved members of the congregation. We’re very glad you relocated south, Mickie.

Janet LaForce – Janet has been working in her yard, taking walks occasionally and waving to her across-the-street neighbors, Todd, April and Claire Birkhead. She has been a regular visitor to the church library and has been tackling the huge task of sorting family pictures and placing them in albums. When discussing a recent visit to the beauty salon, Janet reminisced that she and Kaye Birkhead would give each other a perm every three months, and she misses Kaye very much. Janet’s late husband, Melvin, and Bruce Birkhead used to make stained-glass items that they sold at War Eagle. It is enjoyable to hear stories of the long-time friendships made between our FCC congregation members. Janet says she misses seeing everyone and especially the hugs we all share.

For the Record – June 21 & 28

Operating Receipts	\$ 11,469.00
To Date.....	21,797.45
Endowment.....	65.00
Endowment to Date.....	160.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs	29,118.21

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

In Memory of **Jere Fisher** by Carolyn Heyroth; John & Vicki Warren