



**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.

## “Giving Unto Caesar/Giving Unto God”

<sup>20</sup>So they watched him and sent spies who pretended to be honest, in order to trap him by what he said, so as to hand him over to the jurisdiction and authority of the governor. <sup>21</sup>So they asked him, “Teacher, we know that you are right in what you say and teach, and you show deference to no one, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. <sup>22</sup>Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>23</sup>But he perceived their craftiness and said to them, <sup>24</sup>“Show me a denarius. Whose head and whose title does it bear?: They said, “The emperor’s.” <sup>25</sup>He said to them, “Then give to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>26</sup>And they were not able in the presence of the people to trap him by what he said, and being amazed by his answer, they became silent.

**Luke 20:20-26 NRSV**

**Sermon Focus: In the midst of Covid-19 and being instructed to shelter in place, it would be easy for us to forget our obligations and financial commitments to the on-going work of the church. This sermon serves as a reminder that it is a blessing to give to a God who gives to us first.**

**Ellis Robinson**

## Survey Results

In response to the recent survey concerning in-house worship services, a subcommittee of Elders has been formed to review our campus. The committee will work to develop a plan to maximize safety for return to in-person worship services. That committee will present their results for review when the Elders meet again **August 30**. Please pray for God's will to be revealed as this work is accomplished.

**Ruth Carson**

## Church Services

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**

### Last Week’s Answer and this Week’s Bible Question

King Hezekiah was a good king of Judah. He did what was right and ruled for 28 years. In the 14<sup>th</sup> year of his rule the Assyrian king Sennacherib laid waste to all the fortified cities of Judah and set his sights on Jerusalem where Hezekiah was. Hezekiah sought the counsel of Isaiah to know how to respond. Isaiah said that Sennacherib would not succeed although they were greatly outnumbered. Hezekiah prayed to the Lord. That night an angel of the Lord "breathed" on Sennacherib's army. The result was 185,000 dead soldiers. Sennacherib gathered up what was left of his army and went home. A short time later his two sons killed him. This is found in 2 Kings 18.

**Next week's question:**

Where is the only place in the Bible that tells of an infant crying? And who was that infant?

Danny Lynch

### Sunday School Opportunity

During the time that we are not meeting in-person, our online Sunday School will start at 9:00 am. All are invited! Please join us!!

For your smart phone or computer with a camera:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3116202099?pwd=RE9KNzJVbnBoRTRnRHA0d0l3Z0FIQT09>

Meeting ID: 311 620 2099

Passcode: cFQ2er

### Elder for August

Dan Marshall—479-806-3073

### Prayer Concerns

- **Bill Crowder** is recuperating from a fall that resulted in a broken shoulder and ankle and is in rehab at The Maples, 6456 Lynchs Prairie Cove, **Springdale, AR 72762**. Several workers have tested positive for Covid. The family has requested our prayers.
- **Gerhard Mensch** is being discharged from Mercy.

### For the Record – August 23

Operating Receipts.....	4,863.00
To Date .....	18,489.00
Endowment.....	25.00
To Date .....	920.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs.....	\$25,268.75

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

- **Marc Kendall** by David & Judy Trent