



**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.

### The Other Side of Dark Friday

<sup>1</sup> But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. <sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

**Luke 24:1-9 NRSV**

**Sermon Focus:** There is another side to every crisis that occurs in our lives as children of God. What may seem like the end of the world one day can turn into the best day of our lives on the next. Good Friday was that kind of day in the life of the Disciples of Christ! There is another side to every Dark Friday. **Rev. Ellis**

### Cabinet Meeting

There will be a Cabinet Meeting on **Sunday, October 18**, in Disciples Hall immediately following the morning's worship service. All ministry and constituent group chairs should be present.

**Danny Lynch, Board Chair**

### Light a Candle for Children

Light a Candle for Children Prayer Vigil began on **September 18** and ends on **October 16**. In a normal world I would bring in guest speakers to provide information on children's service organizations in our community. However, due to Covid pandemic, we will not for health safety reasons.

### Regional Assembly

The Regional Assembly is **November 6-8**. Five of our church members are allowed to act in a formal capacity as representatives of our church. If you would like to be one of those representatives, call Barbara at the church office and get on the list. Be one of the first five.

**Danny Lynch**

### Covid-19 Guidelines for Worship Services

Although we are not reprinting the sanctuary seating restriction guidelines in this week's newsletter, they are still in force. If you have misplaced the copy of the guidelines which were mailed to you they can be found online on the church website homepage or under the News tab by selecting Newsletters and clicking on 09-16-2020 or 09-23-2020. If you are unable to find the guidelines online, please contact the church office to obtain another copy. Please stay safe and wear your mask as recommended by the CDC.

### In-Person Worship Service on October 18 10:00 AM

We realize that some of our members have higher risk conditions making them more vulnerable to infection by this virus. We encourage everyone to evaluate their individual circumstances in order to safeguard their health before returning to in-person worship services. This virus is serious and can produce life-changing circumstances. We understand and will fully support your decision to not attend if you feel it is unsafe for your personal health safety. We will continue to provide each Sunday's worship service online for you. The link to the worship service playlist is . <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLg9HSmKC7yCsVx5D6B6yNvWX24RnO9Irl>

### Sunday School Class

Here is the new and revised Sunday School Link that should work for everyone!  
<https://meet.google.com/rih-fqzj-fxz>

David Pulliam will send out an email to everyone he has an email address for with this link, so you can put it in a recurring Sunday morning appointment. If you don't get that email and you have a gmail account, davidpulliam.fortsmith@gmail.com can send you an appointment in the Google Calendar that will keep this link for you! If you don't get the email and don't have a gmail account, you can either send David an email and ask for the link or copy and paste it into your own digital calendar!

### Thank You

Thank you to all church members who made casseroles or donated money for Hope Campus Homeless Shelter. They were so pleased to receive the casseroles. Betsey, the Chef, will be on maternity leave starting this week, and she said the casseroles will be such a help to the lady who is taking her place for several months.

Also a thank you to **Evelyn Warrington** who donated 22 beautiful hand-knitted hats to Hope Campus. Hope Campus was very grateful for the hats.

It is wonderful to be part of such a loving and giving Church.

**Ginger Jefferies**



### Prayer Concern

- **Debbie Foster** has been admitted to ICU. Covid test is negative, but she is experiencing difficulties related to her diabetes and kidneys, which plays in to her dementia. Her family asks that we keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

### For the Record – October 11

Operating Receipts.....	\$ 4,697.00
To Date .....	14,614.00
Endowment.....	75.00
To Date .....	395.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs.....	\$25,268.75

### Elder for October

**Hardie Jefferies—479-650-1755**

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