



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

“Manger Maker”

⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. **Luke 2:7 NRSV**

Sermon Focus: As we begin the Advent season, let us not forget the reason for the season. This sermon series for the next five weeks are sermons focusing on the Christmas story. The King is Coming is about expectation and preparation as we prepare for his coming. God of the impossible is a reminder that nothing is too difficult for God. Manger Maker is a tribute to those who have small and seemingly unimportant jobs but have value to God. The God of Peace focuses on a world of unity that only Christ can bring. Forever Changed is what happens once we encounter the Christ Child. **Jesus is the reason for the Season.**

Ellis

Welcome Rev. Nick Koontz!

At Sunday’s congregational meeting, we received a unanimous vote to welcome Rev. Nick Koontz as our next Senior Minister. He will be joining us on **Sunday, January 17**. If you were not able to participate in the Zoom meetings over the weekend, you still have an opportunity to learn more about Rev. Koontz by watching his introduction video: <https://youtu.be/kwA4VBuVJiA>.

He is excited to join us, and I hope you all share in that excitement! If you would like to reach out to him on a more personal level, he can be reached at (806) 773-6647 or nkoontz93@gmail.com.

Greta Pryor, Search Committee

Preparing the Greens

Worship Ministry is preparing the sanctuary greenery on **Saturday, December 12, from 9:00** am until the job is finished. Anyone who is interested in helping is welcome to join us.

Nick, Worship Ministry Chairman

Christmas Offering

Christmas Special Day Offering will be received in our church on **December 13 and 20**. Our gifts for Christmas go to support the work of our region, The Great River Region. Some examples of that work are:

- ◆ Connecting congregations to each other
- ◆ Fostering faith development
- ◆ Gathering Disciples in camps, conferences and assemblies
- ◆ Nurturing the development of young pastors
- ◆ Assisting churches in calling new ministers
- ◆ Leading the church to address racism
- ◆ Inspiring leaders to be creative

Please give generously to the Christmas offering and help to support all of these and many other ministries of our region.

2020 Christmas Offering
REJOICE
A special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund

Christmas Eve Service 2020

With approval of the elders, two Christmas Eve services are scheduled for 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Each service will last approximately 45 minutes.

To comply with Covid-19 guidelines currently in place and since this service historically has higher attendance, it is necessary that you **call or email Barbara at the church office at 783-1139 or barbara@fccdoc.org** if you and/or other family members plan to attend. Please provide the number in your family attending and which service you prefer to attend, as there will be a limited number of seats available for each service, and seats will be filled as reservations are received. If the total number of seats reserved exceeds the number of seats available for either service, it may be necessary to move some reservations to the alternate service.

Please respond by **Thursday, December 17**, to reserve your seat(s). **Nick Oliver, Worship Ministry Chair**

SUMMER REWIND

During the previous summer months when Fort Smith FCCDOC only held on-line services, some of our members (both past and present) stepped up to provide worship music virtually. Upon request, we are adding some of the musical performances as separate videos.

This week, you can view a special offering created by multiple FCCDOC members both current and past [It's My Father's House](#)

As always, you can get to full services at fccdoc.org or directly at our YOUTUBE CHANNEL <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdYhuAKJlrFUhE9rVSOaUrQ>

Thank You for Sharing and Giving

Our church is constantly sharing and giving! Thank you for generously participating in the Angel Tree. All names were taken this Sunday! Please feel free to call me at 479-461-3830 if you have any questions. Also, please have the gifts wrapped (with the gift tag you chose) and bring to church this coming Sunday, December 13 or the church office December 14.

Again, thank you!

Blessings this holiday season,

Connie Alexander, Community Outreach

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

In Memory of **Bruce Birkhead** by Pat Moore

Dianna's Notes

December 13 3:00 pm

Disciples Bells rehearsal in the Sanctuary

For the Record – December 6

Operating Receipts	\$ 7,942.00
Endowment	100.00
Thanksgiving Offering	400.00
Christmas Offering	50.00
Monthly Budgeted	
Needs	25,268.75

Elder for December

Ruth Carson—479-629-3029

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