

Capital Campaign Update



TO GIVE: For our Boiler Replacement and other Capital Expenditures

GO TO: www.fccguthrie.org • Click GIVE ONLINE • Designate – CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

MAIL a check to: First Christian Church • 402 E. Noble • Guthrie, OK 73044 • NOTE: Capital Campaign

**No gift is too small!
EVERY \$\$\$ Counts!**



As we prepare for the end of 2020 and look forward to a new year, please remember FCC in your year-end giving. All gifts to the church must be postmarked or hand-delivered by 12/31/2020 to be reported on your 2020 giving statement.

Flu Shots @ FCC: Monday, Nov. 30 10am-Noon
First come, first served. Limited supply.

Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship online Nov. 29 and Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m. Our service is available each Sunday and throughout the week via our website www.fccguthrie.org and our Facebook page – First Christian Church of Guthrie. In addition, we offer a DVD copy of the service in the box outside the Choir Room entrance (Northeast corner of the building), available by Tuesday of each week.

The Tie That Binds (USPS 577280) is published monthly by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). **POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to First Christian Church, 402 East Noble Avenue, Guthrie, OK 73044**

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402 East Noble Avenue
Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044
www.fccguthrie.org
(405) 282-4080
RONNIE FIELDS, Sr. Pastor
KAREN ALLEN, Associate Minister

The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church

We are a family of faith
sharing God's love by
reaching out, touching lives
and building relationships.

Disciples of Christ
Guthrie, Oklahoma

405-282-4080
www.fccguthrie.org



November 25, 2020
Volume 56, No. 11



Updates from the Pastor

ONLINE-ONLY Worship for 2 weeks



Happy Thanksgiving! Well COVID has finally caught up to us again. Due to the rising COVID numbers, the elders called a meeting on Monday to discuss our current policies. As a result of their discussion, they have decided to move to virtual worship November 29 and December 6. There will be no in-person worship on those days. I know this is upsetting but the Elders felt like this was the best call given the current circumstances. Hospitals are full (in some cases over full) and the numbers are much different than they were just a few weeks ago. And the numbers have not yet peaked. We are hoping that this 2-week break will allow us to meet in person for the rest of Advent. But we need to be prepared that if we are able to come back, there may be a mask requirement for worship. Please remember this is only temporary and we are doing our best to continue to shine the light of Christ in these times.

This is a wonderful time of the year as we celebrate thanksgiving and move into Advent-the time we prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus. I hope that you will focus on those things and not the unfortunate circumstances we find ourselves in. We have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate as we share Christ and grow in faith.

Grace and Peace,

Ronnie

We are looking forward to worshipping together at our candlelight Christmas Eve service. We will have one service at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24. Masks, hand sanitizer and social distancing will be required.





Kid's Worship Lesson: Grumblers versus Thankers

This past Sunday, we talked about Grumblers vs. Thankers. In the book of Exodus, when the Israelites reached the Red Sea they grumbled, focusing on the obstacle instead of remembering all of the good ways that God had already come through for them. Despite their grumbling, God parted the Red Sea and rescued His people, proving that every obstacle is an opportunity for God to do amazing things. This week, talk to your family about problems they may be facing. Pray with them, asking God to step in, and thanking Him for being bigger than any obstacle we face.

Pray with your family: Dear God, please help us develop a heart full of gratitude and joy. Please help us share this thankful heart with others we meet this week. Thank you for always being bigger than any obstacle we face. Amen.

Memory Verse: "Do everything without grumbling or arguing" Philippians 2:14

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Nights came to an end for the rest of 2020 with a exploration of the book of Daniel. Ask your youth what they remember about the incredible stories, lessons and leadership qualities we discussed, as well as, the ability to be thankful and give your best no matter what the situation is. Daniel always looked to God for the answers even when the questions were as confusing as a dream. Daniel and his friends were willing to put their lives in jeopardy to stay true to who they were and the God they followed. If you or your youth missed any of the lessons, let me know and I will send you the information! Youth Nights will resume on Jan. 10, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Advent Highlights for Jr High & High School students:

Dec. 13 - Angel Tree Shopping & Wrapping, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. (meet at FCC, bring \$5 for dinner, we will leave FCC at 4 p.m., go to Target to purchase items, grab dinner and come back to FCC to sort and wrap gifts, we will be done by 7.)

Dec. 20 - Christmas Party, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. (bring a re-gift item/something you already own that you think someone else would like to have ;)

If you have a Jr. High or High School student who is not currently participating in Youth activities or is not getting the information about FCC Youth please contact Staci Carey at 405-831-5509 or the church office at 405-282-4080. We would love to get them connected!



A "Reel Christmas"

Children's Christmas Musical

Presented by FCC Kids & Friends

Sunday, Dec. 6 6:30 p.m.

Limited seating, social distancing, hand sanitizer and masks required

We will livestream this musical event on our Facebook page and website

As the world continues to change daily in regards to COVID, social distancing and closures, we are all seeking to find the "calm in the storm." As I reflect on the Advent themes we commonly celebrate – Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Christ – I can only pause and think how appropriate these words are for a time like this.

I pray that as we enter the advent season next week that each of us will take time to really soak in the meaning of each week's theme. We all know 2020 has been the strangest, hardest and most challenging for many and yet, we continue to push through. In many regards, a lot of us skipped past Thanksgiving to rush to Christmas. As I think about the desire of so many to rush on to a season of joy and hope, peace and love, I can only think that it is what people are thirsty for in this moment. People are hungry for all those things that we, as individuals, strive to provide but only One true Savior can do all those things consistently.

As we approach Advent, we know things will be a little different. We will wear masks in places we never thought we would. We will gather in smaller groups and even cancel some very traditional parts of our holiday season with family and friends. We will evaluate how we can be "safe" this Christmas but still get the most out of this "most wonderful time of the year." We will be reminded, this is not always the "most wonderful time of the year" for everyone.

Whatever gift you give this season, I pray that you will give the gift of introducing someone to a church family and to Jesus. I pray that as people try to fill the void of hopelessness and unrest, we will each do our best to introduce the world to a Hope everlasting and a Peace that surpasses all understanding.

If nothing else in 2020, we have learned that you can worship and praise God wherever your "sanctuary" is and however it is decorated. I hope each of us will make worshipping a priority, so that those themes of Advent dwell richly in our hearts and minds.

A FEW THANK YOU NOTES...

I want to express my sincere gratitude to our Strategic Leadership Team that completed their work in November. The group of 14 people met for more than 20 hours during four months to vision, dream and determine our mission as a church. They did amazing work and the outlines of what comes next are intense and exciting.

With that being said, I want to thank our Board, Elders and Team Leaders who are now beginning to hear the "next steps" of how all the research and information will be carried out. It will take each of us doing a piece of the work to make the vision/mission of this church a success.

Also, I want to thank our team leaders who continue to be creative and mindful of our activities as we all try to be safe. I know it has put extra work and effort on each of you and your teams but I truly feel like our ministry activities have been top-notch and kept people active.

Finally, I want to thank our congregation for continuing to be active from home, in-person and at activities. Whether we do things online or host events outside/inside our building each of you continues to show that you are a vital part of this church family and are "All In!"

I am blessed to serve alongside you and in this season of Thanksgiving, I hope you always know that I am humbled and honored to serve this church family.

Blessing and Peace, *Karen*

Prayer Request



We pray for our church family: Linda Cameron (hospitalized-broken hip), Joann LeGrande (hospitalized – broken leg), Dennis Lynch (surgery 12/15), Nick Bench (surgery (12/7), Anita Plummer-Owen, Sarah Anderson, Dorothy Smith, Clara Ketch, Ruth Underwood, Barbara Wilder, Mike Canning, Ron Fields, Nadine Stowe, Glennette Meredith, Esther Waner, Larry Stinchcomb, Joan Dreessen, Karen Yancey, Basil Belveal, Sherry Canning, Lesley Rodgers, Debbie Considine, Mike Carey, Donna Wheatley, Dorothy Herbert

We pray for our friends and family members: Family of Daniel Reece Jr., Mickey Weathers, Jason Dodd, Mary Daymund, Lisa Conti, Annetta Hailey, Joan Faye Meacham, Kelly Ewingto, Darrin Robb, Inez Brack, Wes Black, Cindy Rice, Rosemary Standerfer, Ray Stewart, Pauline Belden, Sarah Schlueter, Mary Coffin, Jerry Williams, Deborah Dean, Brandi Carry, Rod Richardson, Keith Gordon, Marc Simmons, Brenda Piland, Valerie Cotton, James Stowe, Lucy Pridham, Katheryn Webb Feken, Kinsley Murri, Cathy Carter, Pam Billings, Janetta Hibbler, Stephanie Wagner Lowrance, Kayla Thetford

And our military all over the world: Bonnie Epperson, Jonah Friese, Garret Canning, T.J. Wilson, Brent Walton, Matt Byce, Cody Ingram

Celebrate!

December Birthdays!

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 – Betsy Ball | 11 – Carol Barnes | 21 – Tanner Ball |
| LaHonda Ball | 12 – Gracelyn Hubbard | Hollie Mitchell |
| Betty Hamilton | Lakyn Smith | 23 – Krista Smith |
| Tammy Severson | Jane Weeks | 24 – Kristen Benham |
| 3 – Harper Valentin | 14 – Callen Hardin | JoAnn LeGrande |
| 4 – Chalk Beeson | 15 – Dale Frey | 25 – Sophia Hood |
| Darl Doles | Easton Plagg | Deannie Young |
| Keith Young | 16 – Mekaila Carey | 27 – Tyler Davison |
| 5 – Robert Dewart | Neely Carey | Tommy Payne |
| 6 – Maxine Ball | Lori Payne | Denise Shoun |
| 7 – Frances Macrory | Alexis Severson | 29 – Cynthia Baker |
| Juanita Plagg | 18 – Kim Betchan | Sadie Ciardi |
| 9 – Lawrence Coburn | Alan Schroeder | 30 – Kyndal Carey |
| Abigail Johnston | 19 – Kendall Shults | |

Christmas Stocking Adoption – continues THIS SUNDAY!

Our Christmas Stocking ministry for school-aged children is happening now! The stockings tags are available from Stacey Johnston (405-637-5190) or by calling the church office. We will give each person who adopts one the age of the child and gender of a child to buy for. Suggested spending amount is \$20 per tag. Walmart gift cards are suggested for High School students. All items will be due back Dec. 6. Items must be dropped off at the church Mon. – Thurs. 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

We have already collected a lot of the hygiene items to help fill the stockings, but could still use more - body wash, toothbrushes, hats, gloves, etc. Help us fill up our giant stocking in the sanctuary with these items so we can prepare our Christmas Store for the students!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 – Justin & Lindsay Mays | 24 – Eldon & Shirley Waner |
| 6 – Ryan & Julie Wiss | 26 – Larry & Nancy Stinchcomb |
| 7 – Hank & Debbie Hubbard | 27 – Bob & Sharon Davis |
| 14 – Jim & Terri McNulty | 28 – Charlie & Maxine Ball |
| 17 – David & Ellie Ball | 29 – Andrew & Natalie Hardin |
| Kelly & Debbie Considine | 31 – Bill & Jessica McLain |
| 20 – Leroy & Carol Barnes | Nick & Shana Bench |



Pick up your Advent Calendar!

Pick up your family Advent calendar at the church Mon. – Thurs. 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.! This calendar begins Dec. 1 and is a simple way to help us prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior and King!

No Poinsettia Sales This Year

Due to the current situation and uncertainty from day to day, we will not be selling poinsettias this year. However, you are invited to make a donation to the Capital Campaign in honor or memory of a loved one this Advent season.



Betty Hamilton turns 95 years old on Dec. 1 and her family has invited us to celebrate with a “card party.” Send Betty a card at Golden Age Nursing Home. Her address is 419 E. Oklahoma Ave., Room #405, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Happy Birthday Betty!





DECEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Repeating Sunday Events:</u> (unless otherwise indicated) 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>**Kid's Worship for 5 yrs – 2nd grade every Sunday during worship</p> <p>**Kid's Worship Extra for 3rd-6th graders on the 2nd & 4th Sundays</p>	<p>Office: fccguthrie@coxinet.net Rev. Ronnie Fields: ronnie@coxinet.net Karen: Karenkallen@cox.net Shana: Shanabench@coxinet.net Natalie: nahardin@gmail.com Staci: carey.staci@yahoo.com Michelle: michelle.m.gill@live.com Sadie: sadieporter0@gmail.com Michael: mrjohnson139@gmail.com</p>	<p>1 Acts 7-8</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting</p>	<p>2 Acts 9-10</p> <p>3:30 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal 6 p.m. – Caregiver Group</p>	<p>3 Acts 11-13</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>4 Acts 14-16</p>	<p>5 Acts 17-19</p> <p>All Day Event – Girl Scout Christmas Party</p>
<p>6 Acts 20-22</p> <p>WORSHIP WILL BE ONLINE ONLY Christmas Stockings Due 11:30 a.m. – Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. – A "Reel Christmas" Children's Christmas Musical</p>	<p>7 Acts 23-25</p>	<p>8 Acts 26-28</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting 6 p.m. – Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>9 1 Timothy 1-6</p> <p>3:30 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal 6 p.m. – Elders Meeting 7 p.m. – Board Meeting</p>	<p>10 Titus 1-3</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>11 1 Peter 1-5</p> <p>Stocking Sorting </p>	<p>12 Hebrews 1-6</p> <p>11 a.m. – 6 p.m. – Christmas Stocking Shopping</p>
<p>13 Hebrews 7-10</p> <p>11:30 a.m. – Congregational Meeting Noon - 3 p.m. – Christmas Stocking Shopping 4 p.m. – Youth go Angel Tree Shopping</p>	<p>14 Hebrews 11-13</p> <p>11 a.m. – Staff Meeting 6 – 8 p.m. – Christmas Stocking Shopping</p>	<p>15 2 Timothy 1-4</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting</p> <p>Guthrie Jr High & High School Vocal Concerts in our Sanctuary</p>	<p>16 2 Peter; Jude</p>	<p>17 John 1-2</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>18 John 3-4</p>	<p>19 John 5-6</p>
<p>20 John 7-8</p> <p>6 p.m. – Youth Christmas Party</p>	<p>21 John 9-10</p> <p>Noon – Newsletter Deadline 6 p.m. – Office Staff Christmas Party</p> 	<p>22 John 11-12</p> <p>"The Tie That Binds" Newsletter mailed</p>	<p>23 John 13-15</p>	<p>24 John 16-18</p> <p>5 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 John 19-21</p> 	<p>26 1 John 1-5</p>
<p>27 2 John 1; 3 John 1</p> <p>NO Kid's Worship or Kid's Worship Extra</p>	<p>28 Revelations 1-5</p>	<p>29 Revelations 6-11</p>	<p>30 Revelations 12-18</p>	<p>31 Revelations 19-22</p> 	<p>Notes:</p>	

First Christian Church, Guthrie

Proposed Budget for 2021

	2020 Budget	Proposed 2021 Budget	Proposed Increase/ (Decrease)
Christian Education			
Children's Ministries	750.00	650.00	(100.00)
Christmas Program	250.00	250.00	0.00
Curriculum	500.00	500.00	0.00
Nursery Wages & Taxes	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Promotion Bibles	0.00	100.00	100.00
Vacation Bible School	250.00	250.00	0.00
Church Camps (\$100 per camper)	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00
Youth Ministries	250.00	250.00	0.00
Total Christian Education	6,200.00	6,200.00	0.00
Christian Outreach			
Community Involvement	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Central Camp & Conference	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
Disciples Mission Fund	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
God's Food Bank	200.00	200.00	0.00
Hands of Jesus Food Pantry	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Hope House	0.00	480.00	480.00
Lunch On Noble	200.00	200.00	0.00
Lunch on Us (L.O.U.'s)	200.00	0.00	(200.00)
Ministerial Alliance	100.00	100.00	0.00
Community Assistance	3,100.00	2,820.00	(280.00)
Mass Mailings	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Mission Sunday/Mission Work	1,350.00	1,350.00	0.00
School Support	3,500.00	2,000.00	(1,500.00)
United Way of Logan County	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00
Total Christian Outreach	19,350.00	19,350.00	0.00
Connections			
All-Church Events	100.00	200.00	100.00
All-Church Picnic	100.00	0.00	(100.00)
Mileage - Sr. Pastor	1,000.00	750.00	(250.00)
Mileage - Assoc. Minister	250.00	225.00	(25.00)
Newsletter Postage	500.00	475.00	(25.00)
SimpleChurch Database	1,000.00	1,400.00	400.00
Total Connections	2,950.00	3,050.00	100.00

	2020 Budget	Proposed 2021 Budget	Proposed Increase/ (Decrease)
Personnel			
Salaries & Payroll Taxes	243,514.50	241,774.50	(1,740.00)
Staff Christmas Bonuses	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Honorarium for Subs	200.00	0.00	(200.00)
Reimbursable Accounts			
Senior Pastor	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Associate Minister	750.00	750.00	0.00
	247,464.50	245,524.50	(1,940.00)
Property			
A/C & Boiler Repairs	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Capital Improvements	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Fire Detection Inspection	400.00	400.00	0.00
Gasoline	500.00	500.00	0.00
Insurance	24,000.00	24,000.00	0.00
Janitorial Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Lawn & Flower Care	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
Pest Control	1,650.00	1,650.00	0.00
Supplies, Repairs & Maintenance	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Utilities	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
Van Maintenance	800.00	800.00	0.00
Total Property	56,850.00	56,850.00	0.00
Stewardship			
Office Supplies	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
Stewardship Drive Mailing	200.00	0.00	(200.00)
Stewardship Appreciation Dinner	200.00	0.00	(200.00)
Fellowship Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Website	250.00	250.00	0.00
Marketing & Promotions	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Stewardship Promotion & Education	250.00	650.00	400.00
Total Stewardship	8,900.00	8,900.00	0.00
Worship			
Advent Candles & Bobeches	125.00	0.00	(125.00)
Christmas	150.00	0.00	(150.00)
Communion	400.00	400.00	0.00
Instrument Maintenance	300.00	300.00	0.00
Lent - Maundy Thursday	50.00	0.00	(50.00)
Lent - Palm Sunday	50.00	0.00	(50.00)
Literature - The Secret Place devotion	200.00	209.00	9.00
Livestream & Video Production	0.00	900.00	900.00
Music: Choir, Handbells, Instruments	250.00	250.00	0.00
Music & Video Copyright Licensing	850.00	850.00	0.00
Supplies	100.00	475.00	375.00
TextInChurch App	0.00	564.00	564.00
Total Worship	2,475.00	3,948.00	1,473.00
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	344,189.50	343,822.50	(367.00)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Dec. 13 following worship to approve the 2021 Operating Budget. Please contact Shana Bench, Church Administrator, if you have questions regarding the budget.