

Capital Campaign Update



TO GIVE: For our Boiler Replacement and other Capital Expenditures

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



2021 Budget Drive

Our 2021 Stewardship Campaign is underway! We are doing things a little different this year. If you pledged in 2020, we are hoping you will keep your pledge the same for 2021, or if possible, increase it by 1%. If you haven't pledged in the past and would like to for 2021, you are encouraged to call the church office and speak to Shana. Letters were emailed/mailed to everyone. If you didn't receive yours, please let the church office know and we will get one sent to you right away.

We're All In For Jesus,
Bobby & Susan Davison
Stewardship Team Co-Chairs

Help Decorate the Sanctuary

The Worship Committee will meet in Choir Room, Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 9 a.m. to work on Christmas decorations.

The Worship Committee will decorate for Christmas after church on Nov. 22. We would appreciate any help from our congregation. Thank you!

*Darla Trench & Elise Ellis
Worship Team Co-Chairs*

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

The Tie That Binds is a monthly publication, mailed at the end of every month. Throughout the month we also issue an online publication of the weekly "News & Events." This publication can be found on our website at www.fccguthrie.org and on our Facebook page. It is also emailed to our database. If you would like to receive the emailed version, please contact us at fccguthrie@coxinet.net.

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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 3, 2020
Volume 56, No. 10



No Shave November is here! You may be asking yourself, "What is No Shave November?" It is a way to get men to focus on their health. We want everyone to get regular exams and bloodwork, but I know men are not always diligent in self-care.



The best care you can get is preventative. The sooner we find out about health issues the better. So, if you have gotten your regular checkup, then join me in celebrating by letting your beard grow out. It's a fun way to show we care about you!

To add an incentive I will donate \$5 per person who joins me up to \$200 to the building fund. Let's see those beards!

You are invited to a
Neighborhood Parking Lot Party
at First Christian Church
402 E. Noble Ave., Guthrie

Thankful Fest

**Sunday, November 8
Come & Go 5 – 7 p.m.**

Bring your lawn chairs,
blankets, family and friends!

Everyone receives a bag of canned goods

Free Food **Games** **Roast S'mores & Hotdogs** **Movie (at dusk)** **Fire Pits**



Children's Sunday

Children's Sunday is almost here! The children have been busy preparing for Nov. 8 and can't wait to share their message – "Tell Me Something Good!"

Cereal and Cartoon Night for 3rd - 6th graders

On Monday night, Nov. 23 from 7-9 p.m., bring your 3rd - 6th grader to the church for a *Cereal and Cartoon Night!* We'll wear our jammies, eat their choice of the variety of cereal provided, have a cereal-themed devotion, and then we'll watch some retro cartoons together in the Reception Hall for a night of fun! Kids are welcome to bring sleeping bags, pillows, and blankets to use while we watch the cartoons. Parent pickup is at 9 p.m.! It's going to be lots of fun! Have your kiddo bring a friend for a special extra prize! Please RSVP for this event by Thursday, Nov. 20 for your child and any friends they would like to invite so we have plenty of cereal for the kids! Email nahardin@gmail.com to RSVP or with any questions you may have.

YOUth Nights continue on Sundays, 5-7 p.m. We finished October by completing a series on Jonah called, "Start Strong, Finish Stronger." We read each chapter, explored a related lesson, watched videos, played games and discussed questions in a small group setting. Oh, and we enjoyed eating, cuz, we are teenagers :) If you or your youth missed a night and you would like a copy of the series, Staci would be happy to email you one! We kicked off November in the dark, somewhat literally, with the church still having minimal electricity - it works though when you focus on John 8:12, *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* Some fun fall-themed experiments and games helped us light up the dark rooms we were in. We will finish November exploring Daniel & his friends and focus on being thankful. It may have been an unexpected year and we continue to struggle through it, but we still have much to be thankful for!

**Special upcoming events:

Thankful Fest fire pit party – Nov. 8, 7-8 p.m.

Angel Tree shopping & wrapping – Dec. 13, 11:45 a.m. - 4 p.m. (no YOUth Nights)

Christmas Stockings Update

Our Christmas Stocking ministry for school-aged children is coming up soon! We will be handing out the stockings to adopt on Sunday, Nov. 22. We have already collected a lot of items to help fill them. November's theme is: hats and gloves! Help us fill up our giant stocking in the sanctuary with these items so we can prepare our Christmas Store for the students! The "stockings" that are handed out on Nov. 22 will give each person who adopts one, the age of the child and gender. We will be looking for people to adopt the stockings and purchase a toy and any other items you would like to add to the Christmas Store.

Is our church a "friendly church?" I always think it's funny when you see signs or hear people describe their church as a "friendly church." It makes me stop and think – would anyone advertise that their church is an unfriendly church? Would a church ever have a sign that says "We're comfortable with who's here?" or maybe "We welcome you, just don't sit in anyone's favorite pew."

Most churches strive to be welcoming, "friendly" and hospitable. In fact, that's really one of the Top 2 reasons we exist – to share Christ with others and secondly, to be constantly growing in our faith. Recently, we have been blessed to have many new families and individuals visiting with us in worship. With that comes a responsibility to be a "friendly church" but what does that really mean?

On a surface-level look, it means saying "hi" to new people when you notice them coming in or exiting the worship service. That can mean not gravitating to your usual group in the morning and making an effort to look around— even walk around a little – and see who you see that you may not know. A next-level look means walking into church every Sunday and seeing our church through the eyes of someone who has never been here before. Do we have good signage to offer directions? Is it obvious who our ushers and greeters are that can point people in the right direction? If there is a need for childcare, how safe would someone feel leaving their child and would they know how to navigate picking them up after worship. Finally, as you go through the worship service you will often hear Ronnie and I giving directions, which as a regular attender you have heard a hundred times but for a new person may be helpful – such as preparing for communion, who can take communion, when it's time to sit or stand.

It has been a learning curve as we have grown our online presence to be inclusive of that audience as well during worship. We are all learning as we go about things that we can say to help every aspect of our service be more welcoming. It has been refreshing to see between 5-8 new people joining us online every week and we continue to have visitors attending in-person as well.

Why am I sharing this with you now? As we wrap-up our final meetings of the Strategic Leadership Team work, we are narrowing in a few things that we will later present to the congregation as goals/visions for our church for the future. We have already had many discussions about how we grow and where we rank on the "friendliness" scale. The conversations have been meaningful and eye-opening. Our SLT Team has a mix of long-time attendees as well as newer members. It has been good to see what we look like to new people as well as what people value as our long-time make-up of FCC Guthrie – what makes us unique.

We look forward to sharing our findings and getting everyone included in our pathway to being a truly "friendly" church. In the next couple months, we will begin rolling out some ideas for how we can achieve goals to be more welcoming and hospitable but between now and then I'd challenge you to view our church through the eyes of a first-time guest. Even if you are worshipping online, begin to ask questions like "what would this worship service feel like if I were watching it for the first time online?" These are questions our staff talks about regularly. As we head into Thanksgiving and our Advent season, we pray for a time where more people will gravitate to church and with that comes a responsibility to help them navigate the familiar place we call "church."

So, I will leave you with this challenge to ponder "Are we a *friendly church?*" and what can each of us do to make sure we are doing our part to share Christ with all those who come through our doors or worship online?

Stay safe, stay warm and may God bless you!

Karen

Prayer Request



Hospitalized at this time: Ruth Underwood, Linda Cameron

Preparing for surgery: Jim Ross (shoulder surgery - 11/4), Dorothy Smith (broken elbow – date TBD)

We pray for our church family: Clara Ketch, Barbara Wilder, Mike Canning, Ron Fields, Nadine Stowe, Glennette Meredith, Sarah Anderson, Esther Waner, Larry Stinchcomb, Dennis Lynch, 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: Annetta Hailey, Lisa Conti, Joan Faye Meacham, Raymond Majors, Kelly Ewingto, Darrin Robb, Vonna Grosshart, Doris Ahrnsbrak, Inez Brack, Emmie McPeek, 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, Judy Ravenas, 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!

November Birthdays!

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 – Kenneth Griffin
Shirley Powell
Yvette Story | 8 – Sarah Anderson
Gabby Bench
Elise Ellis
Toby Wilder | 20 – Amy Haskins Kirk
23 – Brock Parker
25 – Wheeler Coburn
Wayne Elder |
| 3 – Jana Frey
John Gauldin
Cruz Tontz | 10 – Bill Cunningham
Rikki Metcalf | Kendra McNew
Sherry Porter |
| 4 – Barry Anderson
Tracy Lyons
Lauren Parker | 11 – Charlie Stowe
14 – Ryan Wiss
15 – Margaret McNeely | 27 – Jeff Cowan
28 – Vaughan Berkheiser
29 – Jeff Ball |
| 5 – Scott Thompson
Len Tontz | Conner Wiss
16 – Barbara Ketch
Judy Reeves | Kim Biggs
Nicole Hubbard
Desi Rice |
| 6 – Taylor Mays
7 – Chase Davison | 17 – Gavin Shults
18 – Devin Frey | 30 – Dane Canning
Lindsay Mays |

Connecting with Cookies

The Fall Break Cookie Bake was a success! Thanks to our baking and packaging crew: Jane Stewart, Pam Williams and Janie Carey. Thank you to all of our delivery drivers: Deanna Davenport, Desi Rice, Diann Owen, Livi Johnston, LaMoyne Hardin, Barbara and Ron Wilder and Peggy Momsen. Your efforts are always appreciated!!

Lesley Cotton and the Connections Team



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 – Dave & Pam Williams
3 – James & Kendra McNew
4 – Stan & Sheila Florence
9 – Rick & Susan Martin
11 – Terry & Jennifer Doll
14 – Ken & Becky Wilkerson
16 – Steve & Gretchen Hanna | 18 – Chris & Tammy Schroder
Ernesto & Jamie Pena
20 – Kyle & Kristi Blakemore
21 – Rodney & Jane Stewart
Dennis & Marie Lynch
25 – Melvin & Judy Scheihing
Robert & Diana Dewart
26 – Stan & Terry! Wiczorek |
|---|---|

TURKEY BINGO IS BACK!

Mark your calendars for Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m. for our annual Turkey Bingo! Turkey Bingo is back and it will be completely online this year. If you would like to join us we will have Bingo cards ready to check out on Sunday mornings in the next few weeks, or you can call the church office and request them if you are unable to make it and don't feel comfortable coming to the services yet. MORE INFO to come soon!!



THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who worked on Sunday to pile our limbs out back. Our church is the best from helping each other out to praying for all of us.

Thanks,
Dennis and Marie Lynch



NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 Matthew 21-22 Repeating Sunday Events: (unless otherwise indicated) 9 a.m. Worship Service <small>(masks required)</small> 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 5 p.m. – Youth Meeting <hr/> 11:30 a.m. – Outreach Team Mtg 11:30 a.m. – Children’s Sunday rehearsal 5 p.m. – “David” Bible Study	2 Matthew 23-24 6 p.m. – Strategic Leadership Team	3 Matthew 25-26 ELECTION DAY  8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	4 Matthew 27-28 3:30 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal	5 Mark 1-3 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	6 Mark 4-5	7 Mark 6-7	
8 Mark 8-9 Children’s Sunday (worship led by FCC Kids) 5-7 p.m. – Thankful Fest 	9 Mark 10-11	10 Mark 12-13 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts Meeting 6:30 p.m. – Stewardship Meeting	11 Mark 14 VETERAN’S DAY 3:30 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal 6 p.m. – Elders Meeting 7 p.m. – Cabinet Meeting	12 Mark 15-16 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	13 Luke 1	14 Luke 2-3	
15 Luke 4-5 DONUT SUNDAY “YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS IT” SUNDAY	16 Luke 6-7	17 Luke 8-9 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 9 a.m. – Worship Team Meeting to get ready for Christmas	18 Luke 10-11 3:30 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal	19 Luke 12-13 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	20 Luke 14-16	21 Luke 17-18	
22 Luke 19-20 Stocking Adoption Day 11:30 a.m. – Decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas! 6:30 p.m. – Turkey Bingo – online edition	23 Luke 21-22 7–9 p.m. – 3 rd -6 th grade “Cereal & Cartoon” Night	24 Luke 23-24 No Mother’s Day Out	25 Ephesians 1-3	26 Ephesians 4-6 THANKSGIVING No Mother’s Day Out 	27 Colossians 1-4; Philemon 1	28 Philippians 1-4	
29 Acts 1-3 No Youth Meeting	30 Acts 4-6	Notes:				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	