



NEWS & EVENTS

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080

www.fccguthrie.org

Sharing Christ
Growing in Faith



First Christian Church of Guthrie



February 16, 2021

Updates from Pastor Ronnie



Lent is beginning! I don't know about you, but Lent is one of my favorite church seasons of the year. The 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday leading up to Easter has become a great time of refocusing and recentering for me. Lent is a journey meant to prepare us for Easter. We take these 40 days to examine our hearts and lives to eliminate those things that are keeping us from a closer relationship with God (in the church world we call those things "sins" or stumbling blocks). This is also a great season to consistently get in the Bible daily (I'd recommend reading through one of the gospels or checking out a Lent devotional on YouVersion).

May Lent be an amazing time for you to grow in faith this year!

P.S. I can't wait for this Sunday! We will be hosting Mt. Olive Fellowship Baptist Church. Their praise team will be leading our worship music and Pastor Lewis Robinson will be bringing the message. Be sure to be there in person or tune in online. See you Sunday!

#FCCAllIn

Sharing Christ
Growing in Faith

Our Office Staff is working from home this week, at least until the weather passes. If you need to contact us, we can be reached by email at fccguthrie@coxinet.net, Ronnie@coxinet.net or karenkallen@cox.net

#FCCPRAY FOR 1000!!!

We are setting a HUGE GOAL for our Lenten season and we will need everyone to be "All In" to make it happen! Between now and Easter we want to "Pray for 1,000" people. We want to "Love Our Neighbors" and pray for them. We want to pray for you. We want to pray for our nation. We want to pray for our schools, our city, our world, our healthcare, our leaders... we have so much to pray for and we believe in the power of prayer!

Over the next 7 weeks – by Easter — we believe that we can change things through the power of prayer and love on our neighbors. We want everyone to grab a FREE yard sign that says "Love Your Neighbor" and share that you are praying by posting our logo "Pray for 1,000" through Facebook, e-mail, text, share on a phone call, however you can! If you aren't getting out, we will deliver a yard sign to you! Just let Karen Allen (615-2240) know that you want one and a member of our Outreach and Connections team will get one to you.

We will be adding names to post-it notes on our front Sanctuary wall to visually see what it looks like to pray for 1,000 people/things by Easter. No need is too small! No need is too big! The only thing we ask, is that you don't share something that isn't yours to share. What do we mean by that? Some people don't want their personal needs shared, so we ask that you share on behalf of you and encourage others to share on behalf of them. We will post needs as they are shared and respect the privacy of others as we join this journey together.

We can't wait to see how God answers us and guides us in this Lenten season!

#FCCPrayfor1000

#FCCAllin

#FCCLoveYourNeighbor



FCC **KIDS & Youth** Ministries



Our love and sympathy go out to: John & Debi Shore in the death of John's cousin, Todd Shore; Paul & Karrie Pettyjohn & family in the death of Paul's brother, Jim Pettyjohn.

Preparing for surgery: Shana Bench (2/18), Sarah Anderson (2/19)

We pray for our church family: Judy Killebrew, Carol Barnes, Lawrence Coburn, Conna Dewart, Basil Belveal, Lesley Rodgers, Dennis Lynch, JoAnn LeGrande, Sarah Anderson, Dorothy Smith, Barbara Wilder, Ron Fields, Larry Stinchcomb, Joan Dreessen, Sherry Canning, Dorothy Herbert

We pray for our friends: Mark Babbit & family, Treva Seals, Carol VanDeventer, Mary Lear, Rhonda Loveland, Marc Prather, Mark Gellenbeck, Joan Faye Meacham, Susie Ellison, Harold and Mary Hembree, Paula Jean Nulick, Darrin Robb, Wes Black, Rosemary Standerfer, Mary Coffin, Rod Richardson, Keith Gordon, Brenda Piland, Valerie Cotton, James Stowe, Katheryn Webb Feken, Cathy Carter, Pam Billings, Janetta Hibbler, Kayla Thetford

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

3RD - 6TH GRADERS ARE GOING TO...

SKYZONE!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 16TH
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

Cost is \$20 per jumper for 2 hours of private access to all Skyzone has to offer, skyzone socks, PLUS pizza lunch.

We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 am and return for parent pickup at 12:30 pm in the church parking lot. We need one additional adult sponsor to join us for our morning of fun too!

A minimum of 12 kids must be signed up and paid by March 10th to lock in our reservation. Masks are required by the facility while not jumping or eating.

Text Natalie at 405-762-9330 to sign your kids up or to volunteer to join us as a sponsor!

YOUTH NEWS

I hope you were able to watch the Youth Sunday service on Sunday (2/14), but even more, I hope you were able to *worship* during the Youth Sunday service. The goal of putting together any service is that the person attending (or watching) can find an element in the service that allows them to worship God. The youth worked hard to put together a message based on their chosen scripture (1 John 4:18). They wanted to make it meaningful, creative and inspirational. With last minute weather changes, the service took on another level of creativity, but each person involved gave it their best! Check it out on our website or Facebook page... May you have a week filled with love and not fear. *Staci Carey, Youth Minister*



**Financial Update
(as of 2/14/2021)**

Year-to-Date Income	\$ 33,947
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$ 49,597
Year-to-Date Net Los	(\$ 15,650)

Grow Group Survey

These last several weeks Pastor Ronnie has walked our church family through our new church Mission (Sharing Christ, Growing in Faith), our new Vision ("We dream of being a welcoming church family that invites everyone into God's home."), and our Core Values (We are ALL IN for...The Bible, Children & Youth, Evangelism & Outreach, Connection, Worship, Generosity).

As part of these new aspects of our church, the Christian Education Team is forming Grow Groups. Grow Groups are like traditional Bible studies or small groups. We are calling these groups "Grow Groups," to incorporate our new Mission Statement, and acknowledge that everyone is constantly learning and growing no matter where they are in their Faith journey.

We need YOU to be a part of this process by helping us identify the best ways to implement these Grow Groups. The survey was emailed and text to our congregation on Sunday. If you did not receive the survey link, please contact the church office at fcccguthrie@coxinet.net and we will get a copy to you. Your response will be anonymous unless you provide your name and contact information in one of the blank response options on the survey.

Thank you for your help as we plan, dream and grow as a church family this year!

The Caregiver Group has changed their monthly meeting to Wed., Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Karen Allen at (405-615-2240).

****CALENDAR UPDATE!****



**FCC VBS is now
Monday, July 19th
through Friday, July 23rd**

Now signing up adult and youth volunteers!
Email nahardin@gmail.com or call the church office for more information.
Child sign-ups will open mid-June. All kids ages 4 years – 6th grade are welcome!

Don't forget to recycle your pop tabs! Bring full baggies to the church office.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Summertime is right around the corner and even though life still has some different obstacles, we are looking ahead because we know God is making a way. If God's way includes the youth serving others this summer, then here's what we are planning! An exciting week in Waco, TX organized by YouthWorks. On July 11 - 16 our group will have the opportunity to partner with a variety of social service organizations meeting on-going community issues. These include partners who come alongside education initiatives with children, those serving the homeless, and those with disabilities. In the evenings, we will get to explore downtown Waco, attend a local church service, and celebrate the week with new friends.

If you are interested in traveling with us, let Staci Carey know this week. The cost for this trip will be around \$350.00 (that includes: 14 meals, lodging, transportation, tools, activities). Exact costs and details will be available closer to trip. Fundraising options and scholarships for this opportunity are available!

How to Prepare for the FCC “ONLINE ONLY” Ash Wednesday Service

Locate the service at 6 p.m. on our Facebook page at First Christian Church of Guthrie or on our website homepage at www.fccguthrie.org

If you have an Ash Wednesday Kit (delivered on Saturday) you will need

- six sticks to make crosses in your resurrection garden
- hot glue or tape to hold the crosses together
- a decent-size rock to cover the “tomb”
- a little bit of water to water the garden
- a metal can and lighter to burn ashes in
- olive oil or some type of oil to rub the ashes on your hand or forehead

If you didn’t request an Ash Wednesday Kit here is what you will need

- string (kits had embroidery string but anything would work)
- a pan that can hold dirt – we used shallow potting dishes
- a small terracotta pot to use as the tomb (you can also use a small cup)
- potting soil
- grass seed
- rocks or sand for decoration
- six sticks to make crosses in your resurrection garden
- hot glue or tape to hold the crosses together
- a decent-sized rock to cover the “tomb”
- a little bit of water to water the garden
- some type of leaves that would burn to symbolize palm branches
- a metal can and lighter to burn ashes in



Ash Wednesday

Join us online Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. at www.fccguthrie.org or watch it on our facebook page at First Christian Church of Guthrie. The service will remain on those pages and can be viewed anytime after Wednesday evening.



Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Its official name is "Day of Ashes," so called because of the practice of rubbing ashes on one's forehead in the sign of the cross. There are 40 days leading up to Easter, reminding us of Jesus' 40 days in the desert. The Ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made from the Palm Leaves from last year's Palm Sunday celebration.

Welcome! We are glad you have taken time to join us for this time together to recognize the importance of beginning the Lenten Season with the recognition of Ash Wednesday. We hope the information you hear during our service deepens your understanding of the Lenten season and your journey through the next 40 days.

Song: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" by Michael Johnson

*Come thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
I'll praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of thy redeeming love*

*O to grace how great a debtor daily
I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above*

Opening Prayer – Karen Allen

Most Holy God,

Your Son came to save sinners; we come to this season of repentance confessing our unworthiness, asking for new and honest hearts, and the healing power of your forgiveness. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Who taught us to pray...

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Responsive Scripture Reading – Old Testament Passage

Psalm 51:1-17 by Baylor Wilhelm and Mekaila Carey

Song: "Create in Me A Clean Heart" by Michael Johnson

*Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me*

*Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me, the joy of Thy salvation
And renew a right spirit within me*

Interactive Stations

Introduction – Ronnie Fields

Scriptures – Read by Aiden and Bailey Hardin

2 Corinthian 3:18, Matthew 6:16, Isaiah 12:2

Commitment Bracelet – Natalie Hardin

Scriptures – Read by Taylor and Avery Schroder

Philippians 4:6-7, John 14:13-14, 1 Peter 5:7

"Pray for 1,000" – Karen Allen

Scriptures – Read by Kyndal Carey

John 19:41-42, Isaiah 53:9, Galatians 2:20

Resurrection Garden – Staci Carey

Scriptures – Read by Max Fields

Daniel 9:3, Ecclesiastes 3:20

Ashes and Oil – Rev. Ronnie Fields

Benediction – Rev. Ronnie Fields

Items for At-Home activities during the Lenten season:

- Easter Celebration Kit
 - Resurrection Cookies
 - Resurrection Reminder Rock
 - Easter Place Mats
- Lent Adventures Printed Kits (included in kits or print out online)

*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

