

Capital Campaign Update

Our goal is \$200,000 by 2023. This will pay for the boiler replacement and help us replenish funds for future capital improvements.

Funds received to date: \$83,277

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!**

Payroll Protection Loan Forgiven

As you may recall, FCC applied for the PPP loan in April 2020, during a time of much uncertainty and closures. This loan was used to cover payroll and utility expenses during the period we were not able to meet in-person. As of March 2021, the loan was fully forgiven. We appreciate the support of the congregation during this process.

Your Stewardship Team

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 18 as our brothers and sisters in faith from Mt. Olive Friendship Baptist Church join us for worship. Pastor Lewis Robinson and the praise team will lead us in worship.

HAPPY EASTER

The Tie That Binds (USPS 577280) is published monthly by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
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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

FCC Financial Update

Income Year-to-Date \$67,743.10
Expenses Year-to-Date \$70,635.42
Year to Date Net Loss (\$ 2,892.32)

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of FCC Guthrie. If you would like more information about setting up *online giving*, please contact Shana in the church office at 282-4080. Online giving allows you the flexibility of giving weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or on a designated day each month. It is safe, secure and hassle-free!



The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080 www.fccguthrie.org

First Christian Church of Guthrie

**Sharing Christ
Growing in Faith**

March 31, 2021



Volume 57, No. 2

Updates from the Pastor

Greetings church! I wanted to bring you up-to-date on the Choir Room clean out. Over the past several months volunteers and staff have been working hard to make that room more multi-purpose in the interim and for the future. The choir room has gathered several decades worth of build-up and accumulation of music and worship supplies. In regards to the 10 filing cabinets full of music, we had Cheryl Tarter (a high school and church choir director with more than 40 years of experience who lives here in Guthrie) evaluate and sort the music – including anthems, cantatas, sheet music, children's music and handbell music into three categories: one to keep, one to donate to Guthrie High School music department, and one to offer to other choirs/musicians. After sorting and having staff and some of our current musicians look through different pieces, we have organized and categorized six filing cabinets of choir music – including Christmas and Easter specials, cantatas, children's music, ensemble pieces and handbell music. After visiting with the High School Music Director, music was delivered to their program and will be evaluated for their usage. We have a home school choir director within our congregation who came and gathered pieces for her organization and then we posted the available pieces for other choirs/organizations to come and look at and take as they wish. As part of this process, what we can share is that pieces that were gathering dust and had not been used in years in our church have been a huge blessing to churches with no music budget, few resources and looking for ways to improve their choirs. We continue to have choirs call us almost daily wanting to come and look and will keep that door open to meet with them until we feel like it has been well shared. Once the visits taper off, we will donate the music to library sales, if they wish to receive them. As for the Choir Room, it will still serve its purpose for music rehearsal when necessary but also become a valuable meeting space for our adult Sunday School class, who needed a quieter place to meet at ground level with the Sanctuary. It has also become a wonderful space for our flourishing Kid's Worship Extra group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. As we have gone through this process, it continues to reveal the importance of being faithful with our resources as well as meeting spaces, and most importantly it has helped us hold fast to our mission of "Sharing Christ and Growing in Faith."



He is Risen!

Join us for these special Easter services



Maundy Thursday Online Service – 6 p.m. on April 1 – a time of prayer, remembrance of the Last Supper, music and scripture. Follow the link on our Facebook/website.



Online Prayer Vigil – 6 p.m. on April 2 – a time of prayer and devotion, reflection, scripture, and music. Follow the link on our Facebook/website.



Easter Sunday Celebration – 10:30 a.m. on April 4 – Join us for worship and celebration! Special Easter activities for the children and a meaningful worship service for all!
In-person & online.



Kid's Worship

God Is Always Good, Even When Times Are Tough!

Bible Story: A Dark Friday (Matthew 26:36-68, 27:1-2, 11-56; Mark 14:32-65, 15:1-41; Luke 22:39-71, 23:1-49, John 17, 18, 19-1-37)

On Sunday in Kid's Worship, we continued our lesson series to learn that when we follow Jesus, we can become more like Him! We had a lot to cover! We talked about what happens when times get tough. We learned that when we follow Jesus, life may be tough, but God uses those difficult things we face in life to make us more like Him. We watched a video about Jesus' death and resurrection, discussed how tough that was for Jesus and for God, and that God even made that good. We may not understand how God makes it good, but when we follow Jesus, we see that Jesus trusted God's plan and we can trust Him too. We know that God is always good, even when times are tough.

This week: Think of some tough times in your life. Share those times with your kids. How were you feeling? Could you see God working to make your tough time good right then or was it after the tough time had passed? After some time to reflect, was it easier to see how God made it good? How did you rely on God during the tough time?

Memory Verse to work on: "Your word to me, your servant, is like pure gold; I treasure what you say." Psalm 119:140

Pray with your family: Jesus, thank you for following God's plan to die for my sins even though it was tough. Help me remember that God is always good, even when times are tough! Amen.

FCC YOUTH FAN NIGHTS

GRAB YOUR CHURCH SHIRT AND HELP US SHOW OUR YOUTH WE ARE "ALL IN" SUPPORT OF THEM! TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT, WE ARE PICKING LOCAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES TO ATTEND. HERE ARE A FEW SPORTING EVENTS HAPPENING IN GUTHRIE THIS MONTH AND THE FCC STUDENTS PARTICIPATING...

- Jr High baseball: April 1st, 5:30 p.m. Blake Doles, Owen Wilder, Brayden Pena, Clayton Carpenter**
- High School baseball: April 26th, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m. Ty Biggs, Chase Doles, Hank Hinkle, Carson Ireton, Carson Wilder, Niko Pena**
- Jr High soccer: April 8th, 5:30 p.m. (Girls), 7 p.m. (Boys) Zach Allen, Max Fields, Abigail Johnston**
- High School tennis: April 19th, 3:45 p.m. Makenna Bench**
- High School soccer: April 20th, 5:30 p.m. (Girls), 7 p.m. (Boys) Audrey Evers, Alex Allen**

If we missed your child's name or school event in Guthrie, please let us know - Staci Carey 405-831-5509

Easter is coming!

In just a few days we will celebrate the culmination of the Lenten Season with a most joyous worship service and celebration of the remembrance of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior!

Holy Week – the period of time from Palm Sunday through Saturday and ending with our Sunday celebration, is always a wonderful time of reflection. It's a difficult time in some ways as we remember the events surrounding all that happened to Jesus in that final week. As I retell the story and reread the story every year, new pieces of it come alive and often times I find myself associating with different people and different parts of it depending on where I am in life.

So often we get to Easter and then may feel this letdown as to "what's next?" It's easy after building up to such a significant day to feel that way but I hope as Christians we always find a way to realize that it was after Easter that the real work began for those sharing the Good News. Can you imagine what they thought or felt after realizing all they had seen and heard was true!

This year, I absolutely can't wait for the Sunday after Easter. Why? We have a special "**Baptism Sunday**" planned. For the past two Sundays and Wednesdays, Ronnie and I, along with Staci Carey (our Youth Minister) and Natalie Hardin (our Children's Minister) have been meeting with children (4th-6th grade) and youth (7th-12th graders) who are interested in learning more about their faith and possibly making a confession of faith and being baptized. We have had 7 older youth attending and 21 in our younger class! It has been such a blessing! We know not all are ready but so many are eager for these next steps and we will celebrate with many of them on April 11. We also have an adult being baptized that day and want anyone who might be interested to contact Ronnie or me about this unique worship service.

Many of these children and youth have grown up in the church, but some of them are new to our congregation and have been invited by friends and neighbors. I can't think of any greater gift to give a friend than inviting them to church and ultimately seeing them be baptized.

As we think about worship the next few weeks, with Easter, Baptism Sunday and all those that follow, I hope you will be mindful of who you can invite to worship with us. We have had so many visitors lately and we are thrilled! If you worship in-person be sure and let your friends and family know that you are saving them a seat to join you some Sunday. If you worship online, be active and share the link to the service, comment online and tag a friend. Worship is for everyone!

We look forward to seeing you Sunday as we "Share Christ and Grow in Faith."

God Bless,
Karen



Jr. High & High School Pastor's Class



4th – 6th grade Pastor's Class



Prayer Request



We pray for our church family: Brittney Jarnagin, Ruth Underwood, Carol Barnes, Lawrence Coburn, Conna Dewart, Basil Belveal, Dennis Lynch, JoAnn LeGrande, Ron Fields, Larry Stinchcomb, Joan Dreessen, Sherry Canning, Dorothy Herbert

We pray for our friends: Dawson Morgan, Jerry Resch, Jessica Selman, Jay Beuchaw, JoAnn Courtney, Hazel Carroll, Carol Garcia, Wes Weir, Anna Simmons, Dennis Stokes, Oliver Wolfington, Chuck Kyle, Scott Quick, Kimberly, Treva Seals, Rhonda Loveland, Mark Prather, Joan Faye Meacham, Susie Ellison, Harold and Mary Hembree, Darrin Robb, Wes Black, Rosemary Standerfer, Mary Coffin, Rod Richardson, Brenda Piland, Valerie Cotton, James Stowe, Katheryn Webb Feken, Cathy Carter, Pam Billings, Janetta Hibbler, Kayla Thetford

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

What a year it has been!

It's hard to believe it's only been a year (seems like 5 years) since Covid hit and the world suddenly changed. Because of the pandemic we had to modify the way we did ministry, but we never stopped sharing Christ or growing in faith.

All of our worship services are now livestreamed. In fact, we offered an online worship opportunity each and every week regardless of covid, bad weather or power outages. We did countless events to help keep everyone as connected as we could. Things like: Bingo, Tacos, Donuts, Yard Signs, Contests, online games, take home projects, and Nutcrackers and Gnomes. We provided ministry to others through funerals and weddings. We provided growth opportunities with Bible studies, Children and Youth Ministry with Sundays, Wednesdays, Summer activities and a Christmas program. We had guests and people who have joined our church through all this. We had several baptisms! Woohoo! We managed to do outreach by cleaning up limbs, donating to local ministries and individuals, Thankfulfest, participated in several community events, and continued to allow outside groups and ministries to use our facilities.

Through it all we continued to fulfill our mission of "Sharing Christ and Growing in Faith" as well as living out our vision of being a welcoming church family that invites everyone into God's home! Thank you to volunteers and staff who made this last year so much better. You are appreciated! But we are just getting started! Continue to invite your friends, family, neighbors, and everyone you meet to all that is happening at FCC Guthrie. It's going to be a great year!

FCC receives 3 grants!

We recently received notification that our Children's Ministry received 3 grants from the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation. These grants will benefit our Vacation Bible School, Kidventure Ministry and a new Child Check-in system to help with security for our children's programming and nursery. We appreciate the support of the Foundation and look forward to growing these ministries during 2021.

Nursery Coordinator Hired

We are excited to announce we have a new Nursery Coordinator, Kendra McNew! Kendra will be overseeing our nursery ministry for our youngest age group of kids on Sunday mornings and as needed for various church activities throughout the week. She has a love for our church, for kids, and for learning! We are thrilled to have her as part of the staff and can't wait to get started. If your church activity has nursery needs or if you would like to get more information about working or volunteering for nursery, please contact Kendra at 405-609-4177 or the church office at 405-282-4080.

We also would like to thank Sadie Porter for her several years of working in this role. We wish you the best of luck in your new position and we are grateful for the work you have done as Nursery Coordinator!

April Birthdays of the Month

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 – Taylor Schroder
Lesley Cotton | 12 – Cade Carey
Nancy Powell | 24 – Alice Allen
Ben Gallo |
| 2 – Crystal Vassar
Andrea Stevens | 13 – Bob Davis | Dorothy Herbert |
| 3 – Debi Shore | 15 – Nate Ames | 27 – Ali Gallo
Melanie Ball |
| 4 – Delma Ward | 16 – LaDonna McCune | 28 – Austin Reece
Carol Doles |
| 6 – Ella Gill | 17 – Alex Allen | Peyton Hayes |
| 8 – Ruth Underwood | 19 – Leroy Barnes | 29 – Conna Dewart |
| 9 – Gary Hixon
Brenan Cotton | 20 – Brody Hinkle
Sharlene Biggs | 30 – Dawn Hacker
Clara Price |
| 10 – Jane Stewart | 21 – Jim Ross
Hannah Ross | Abigail Ball |
| 11 – Skyler Gill | 23 – Diane Biggs
Brandon Henning | Star Turner |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 – Paul & Christie Fincher | 8 – John & Jean Scott Gaudin | 22 – Randy & Elise Ellis |
| 6 – Stacy & Donna Russell | 13 – Josh & Krista Smith | 28 – Jason & Sherri McCollough |



**LifeLine is coming to FCC
on Friday, April 23**

Don't let heart disease and stroke get in your way of the life you love. Call toll free 1-888-653-6441, or text the word, "circle" to 797979 to schedule your health screening.

A package of 5 vital screenings is offered for only \$149.

We're Hiring!

Our Mother's Day Out program is hiring summer teachers and subs. Must be 18 years of age or older and pass a background check. Our summer work hours are Tues/Thurs. 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. We will open our summer session on June 1 and end August 12. If you are interested, please call Michelle Gill, MDO Director, at 405-282-4080 or email her at michelle.m.gill@live.com. Join our great team and work with the cutest kiddos in town!



First Christian Church

402 E. Noble, Guthrie, OK 73044

APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Repeating Sunday Events: (unless otherwise indicated) 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 5 p.m. – Youth Meeting</p> <p>**Kid's Worship for 5 yrs – 2nd grade every Sunday during worship **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 1 Samuel 21-24</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 6 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Service - Online</p> <p> Youth Mission Trip Deposit Due!</p>	<p>2 1 Samuel 25-27</p> <p><i>Good Friday</i> </p> <p>6 p.m. – Online Prayer Vigil</p>	<p>3 1 Samuel 28-31</p>
<p>4 2 Samuel 1-3</p> <p>HAPPY EASTER!</p> <p></p> <p>No Youth Meeting</p>	<p>5 2 Samuel 4-6</p>	<p>6 2 Samuel 7-10</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire</p>	<p>7 2 Samuel 11-13</p>	<p>8 2 Samuel 14-15</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>9 2 Samuel 16-18</p>	<p>10 2 Samuel 19-21</p>
<p>11 2 Samuel 22-24</p> <p></p> <p>2 p.m. – Outreach Meeting (Zoom)</p>	<p>12 1 Kings 1-2</p>	<p>13 1 Kings 3-5</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts</p>	<p>14 1 Kings 6-7</p> <p>6 p.m. – Elders Meeting 7 p.m. – Board Meeting</p>	<p>15 1 Kings 8-9</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 6 p.m. - 89er Bed Race</p>	<p>16 1 Kings 10-11</p>	<p>17 1 Kings 12-14</p> <p>89er Day Celebration! </p> <p> 89ers Day YOUTH FOOD BOOTH</p>
<p>18 1 Kings 15-17</p> <p>DONUT SUNDAY Mt. Olive Friendship Baptist Church will join us for worship</p> <p>11:45 a.m. – Christian Ed. Team Meeting 3 p.m. – Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p>19 1 Kings 18-20</p>	<p>20 1 Kings 21-22</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts</p>	<p>21 2 Kings 1-4</p>	<p>22 2 Kings 5-8</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>23 2 Kings 9-11</p> <p></p>	<p>24 2 Kings 12-14</p>
<p>25 2 Kings 15-17</p>	<p>26 2 Kings 18-19</p> <p>11 .m. – Staff Meeting</p> <p>Newsletter submission deadline</p>	<p>27 2 Kings 20-22</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts</p> <p>Newsletter mailed</p>	<p>28 2 Kings 23-25</p>	<p>29 Isaiah 1-4</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>30 Isaiah 5-7</p>	