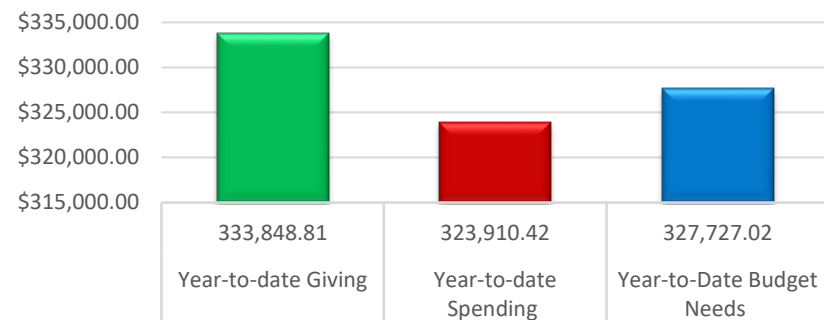


## FCC Financial Update



## Capital Campaign

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

**Funds received to date:**

**\$187,434**

12/18 Worship Attendance: 148    Average Attendance for December: 165

### End of Year Gifts

As a reminder – all year-end gifts must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2022 to be credited on your 2022 giving statement. Giving statements will be mailed by January 31, 2023 for all total donations over \$25.

### 2023 Offering Envelopes

As we had only a handful of donors take the pre-numbered envelopes in 2022, there will not be box sets for 2023. If you would like a box of “generic” envelopes to keep at home, please contact Shana in the office. There are also envelopes in the pew pocket each Sunday.



First Christian Church  
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, Guthrie

405-282-4080    www.fccguthrie.org

First Christian Church of Guthrie

Sharing Christ  
Growing in Faith

December 20, 2022    Volume 58, No. 12



I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I really hope in the midst of the hustle and bustle you are finding time to be still and be thankful for God entering our world over 2000 years ago. Take a moment to reflect on God's love for you, that God loved you so much, He left heaven, to come here. He showed us a better way to live AND provided a way that we can spend eternity with Him. Truly the best gift of all is love.

I also want to mention our upcoming sermon series “UnStuck”, starting January 8. Do you find yourself stuck? There are lots of ways to be stuck, and we will touch on some of them revolving around physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects. As you set new goals and patterns this new year, I pray that you would prioritize your spiritual life. Find time to be with God each day and make being involved in the community that is church a priority as well.

Grace and Peace, *Ronnie*



# The past 9 days at FCC...

# Keeping Up With Karen



## Christmas is coming!!!

I remember back a couple years ago when we would say a phrase every year as we prepared for Easter. We would say “Easter is coming” and a cheer would be the response. I think we could easily do the same as we anticipate the celebration of Christ’s birth this weekend.

I pray that you have taken time to soak in the advent message week by week with a focus on Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Have you pondered these questions:

- Where do I need to better see Hope in your life?
- Where do I need to find Peace?
- How have I tried to trade happiness for true Joy?
- Who needs to know the Love of Christ in my life?

I hope you are making plans to join us for the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service and the 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day service. Many have asked what to expect on Christmas Day – it will be a shortened service and a very relaxed atmosphere. We know many may be just finishing opening presents with children or enroute to Christmas celebrations and so whether it’s pajamas or more Christmas-y attire, it’s not about what you wear but rather Who we are celebrating and worshipping!

The following Sunday, on New Year’s Day, we will be having a brunch at 9:45 a.m. followed by another casual worship service. You are invited to bring a dish to share for the brunch and then join us for carols, prayer, communion and a short message. I can tell you it will be a short message because as is tradition, I will be doing the sermon the Sunday after Christmas. Ronnie seems to have created his own “holiday” and calls it “National Associate Minister Preaches Day.” Haha! Honestly, I am excited to get to start the New Year with our church family. I can’t think of a better way to refocus and rejuvenate than beginning it with worship. I will be doing a bit of a hands-on exercise as we think about what we want to accomplish in the next year. I hope that by thinking about goals or priorities we can shape 2023 into being a great year!

Finally, as we close out the year, I would be remiss if I didn’t extend huge “thank you’s” to everyone who has been a part of our 2022 ministries. We have so many serving in roles as elders, board officers, team leaders, team members, teaching, serving on Sundays as ushers and greeters, in our children’s ministries, our bereavement team, our meal ministries, behind the scenes, and so much more! I know if I tried to list all the names of those who have served in some capacity it would take pages and pages. My hope for 2023 would be that each person who is serving finds someone to mentor or ask them to serve alongside you. I would truly say one of our strengths in 2022 was expanding our ministries and narrowing in on our mission and vision as we “Share Christ and Grow in Faith.”

We have been incredibly blessed with so many new families in 2022 and I hope that if you see someone on Sunday that you don’t recognize that you will make it a goal to introduce yourself and find out more about them. One of our goals is always to be a welcoming and inviting place that people feel comfortable joining us in ministry. If you have a ministry you are passionate about, invite someone new to learn more about it!

God has opened so many doors and I pray that in 2023 He will continue to find us faithful and growing our ministry. I hope that is your prayer as well.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Karen*

Reindeer Games in Kid’s Worship Extra



FCC Choir Christmas Cantata



Stockings for Students



Coffee Bar for Central Elementary Staff



30-50s Adult Party



Grinch Party



Staff Party



Young Adult Party



Youth Party & Live Nativity

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**





The 3rd - 6th grader GRINCHmas party last night was so much fun! We played all kinds of games and celebrated Christmas, Grinch style! Thank you to Tammy Schroder and Shana Bench for helping with this event, it was one to remember! We had 26 kids in attendance and filled all of our two hours together with lots of laughs and activities! Congratulations to our Costume Contest winners: Colin Simpson (Grinch), Lakyn Redman and Sophia Rangel (WhoVille Character – Cindy Lou Who), and Hadley Timmons (Most Creative).

In more holiday news, a reminder that we have a few changes for the upcoming Christmas Day and New Year's Day services. We do still have our nursery open for our 0 -3 year olds, but we will not have Kid's Worship or Kid's Worship Extra on these Sundays. Both of these Sunday services will not be our usual format and have been put together to be enjoyed as a family. Remember that Christmas Day service is our "come as you are" service – I'm really hoping to see some sweet Christmas or any other kind of jammies on our FCC kids that morning! For our Christmas Eve service, we will also have our nursery open for 0-3 year olds.

As we reflect on 2022 and all that we have accomplished, participated in, helped with, taught, decorated, volunteered for, or financially supported, I want to extend the biggest thank you to each of you. Our amazing volunteers are always willing to help the Children's department with whatever we ask! It is wonderful to have so many volunteers of all different ages and skills contributing their time and talents for our FCC Kids! The difference each one of you makes to help form these first faith foundational steps in our kids is substantial. You all are amazing and I can't wait to see what unfolds in 2023! Ms. Natalie, Children's Minister



Life Line Screening goes beyond regular checkups to look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up



- All 4 Screenings for \$149**
- Carotid Artery Disease:** An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.
  - Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD):** An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.<sup>1</sup>
  - Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA):** An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a life-threatening medical emergency.
  - Atrial Fibrillation:** A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.<sup>2</sup>

We will be in your neighborhood soon Sat., January 7, 2023  
First Christian Church (DOC), 402 E Noble Ave  
Guthrie, OK 73044

Get your special Community Circle pricing!  
Three ways to register and receive the special discount:  
Call toll-free: 1-800-679-5191  
Online: [LLSA.SOCIAL/HC](https://www.llsa.org/social/hc)  
Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607

Getting Screened is Simple!  
Painless, non-invasive, keep your clothes on.



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/peripheral-artery-disease/about-peripheral-artery-disease-pad>  
No single screening can detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.  
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/atrial-fibrillation>  
Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

**Christmas @ FCC**

- ★ Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service @ 5 p.m. (nursery provided)
- ★ Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m. – Come as you are!
- ★ Jan. 1 – New Year's Day Brunch & Carols @ 9:45 a.m.



Are you ready? It's almost time! For Christmas!!!! Which means it's almost time for the chili cookoff! Our annual chili cookoff will be January 8 following church. Be watching for sign-ups soon!

Also, we will have an "undecorating" event that day as well! Last year went so smoothly we will do again this year! Our next Connections meeting is Feb. 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the choir room. See you then!

Jana Frey  
Connection Team Leader



# January Birthdays!

- |   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 – Daelon Rice<br>Herb Reeve                       | 11 – Virgil Rodgers<br>Greg Ireton              | 22 – Sheryl Reeve<br>Hadley Timmons |
| 2 – Darla Trench                                    | 12 – Abigail Simpson                            | 23 – Riley Dods<br>Karen Ochs       |
| 3 – Paul Ketch                                      | 13 – Lloyd Roettger<br>Jaycee Zellers           | 24 – Logan Hand                     |
| 4 – Rick Martin<br>Wendy Anderson<br>Dakota Hubbard | 14 – Andi Mays<br>Pam Smith                     | 25 – Kenny Walter<br>Jake Doles     |
| 5 – Aspen Mitchell<br>DJ Ketch<br>Clara Ketch       | 15 – Tara Yancey<br>Megan Reece<br>Robin Kemper | 26 – Carl Biggs                     |
| 7 – Brad Hand                                       | 17 – Jaci Wiss                                  | 27 – Ryan Biggs                     |
| 8 – Samantha Gerhards                               | 21 – Bo Hayes<br>Courtney Turner                | 28 – Morgan Hanna<br>Gregg Gumerson |
| 10 – Janice Hand<br>Teryl Wiczorek<br>Dorothy Smith |   | 30 – Waylon Ball                    |
|   |   | 31 – Brandon Tontz                  |

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- |                          |                         |                           |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 17 – Bill & Paula Bowles | 22 – Jeff & Jacki Cowan | 24 – Paul & Barbara Ketch |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|

## Prayer Requests

**We pray for our church family:** Susan Davison (surgery 12/22), Nicole Hubbard Linker, Esther Weir, Margaret McNeely, Stacey Johnston, Deanna Case, Dennis Ochs, Kameron Hopper, Patsy Crick, Kim Crick, Dennis Lynch, Velma Cox, Steve Ochs, Mickey Eckley, George Dressen, Gerald Whitfield, Denise Shoun, Carl Biggs, Joan Dressen

**We pray for our friends and family members:** Jim Harman, Kathleen Morris, Charlotte Cascio, Jean Moses, Wes Weir, Wayne Simmons, Bill Seals, Eddie Tomlinson, Rae Lynn Lovelace, Phil Pingel, Pearl Speer, Shelly Jordan, Barry Resecker, Shane and Renee Leathers, Larry Nagel, James Stowe, Karen Nemecek, Karen Aukwell, Ed & Katherine Walton, Marty Stamp, Bradley Wilson, Joyce Brandes, Treva Seals






**Our military all over the world:** Sonny Crick, Court Machtolff, Bonnie Epperson, Jonah Friese, Garret Canning, T.J. Wilson, Matt Byce, Braxton Canning



# First Christian Church

402 E. Noble, Guthrie, OK 73044

# JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  9:45 a.m. – Potluck Brunch 10:30 a.m. – Carols & Worship (No Sunday School, KW, or Youth)	2 No School (resumes Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	3 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting 6 p.m. – Girl Scout Leaders Meeting	4	5 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	6 Church Office Closed	7 
8  11:30 a.m. – Chili Cook-off and Undecorating Party	9	10 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 11:30 a.m. – Ministerial Alliance Meeting 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Meeting	11 6 p.m. – Elders Meeting	12 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	13 Church Office Closed	14 Parlor reserved for private event
15  11:30 a.m. – Outreach Team Meeting	16 No School 6 p.m. – Young Adults Gathering at Ted’s on Danforth	17 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting	18 3:30 p.m. – Kidventure resumes 	19 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	20 Church Office Closed	21
22 11:30 a.m. – Worship Team Meeting	23 11 a.m. – Staff Meeting Noon – Newsletter Deadline 5:30 p.m. – Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	24 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Meeting	25 3:30 p.m. – Kidventure	26 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 11:30 a.m. – FCC Leadership & Staff Retreat	30	31 8:30 a.m. – Mother’s Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting		Repeating Sunday Events: (unless otherwise indicated) 10:30 a.m. Worship Service **Kid’s Worship for 4 yrs – 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade every Sunday during worship **Kid’s Worship Extra for 3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> graders on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays	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 Michael: mrjohnson139@gmail.com	