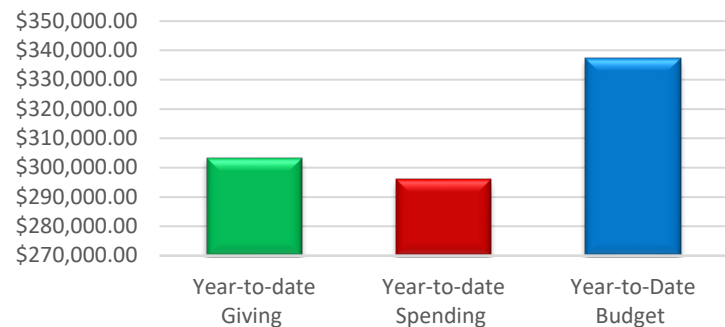


## FCC Financial Update



## 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:

**\$104,309**

12/19 Worship Attendance: 135 Average Attendance for December to date: 149



Ada Dilley  
1946 - 2021

## Year-End Gifts

As a reminder, all year-end gifts must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2021 to be credited on your 2021 giving statement. Giving statements will be mailed by January 31, 2022 for all total donations over \$25.

## Christmas Brunch & Carols

Join us this Sunday, Dec. 26 for Brunch at 10 a.m. and Carols & Worship at 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Hall (across from the Sanctuary). Bring a breakfast dish/side to share – the church will provide milk, juice, coffee and water. Casual attire is fine as well.



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.

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

Periodical Postage Paid at Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044



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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 22, 2021 Volume 57, No. 12

## Notes from Pastor Ronnie

Happy New Year! Well almost...probably more like "Merry Christmas!" as you are getting this newsletter right before Christmas. The start of a new year is a great time to begin new habits. So, as we think about starting better habits in 2022, I want to encourage you to begin a personal devotional time each day. It can be as long or as short as you need it to be, but start somewhere.

There are so many options, especially if you are using the YouVersion Bible App. It is a free app and there are literally hundreds of studies on there. You can simply type in something you are struggling with or need more of and you will find an abundance of options. For example, let's say you would like to experience more "joy." Maybe it's been a rough year or two? Type in "joy" in the search bar and choose one of those studies. Or if you want to go all out, you can join those of us who will be reading the bible in a year or we have created a "Daily Reading Plan" that features various studies. It's included in today's newsletter or you can pick up a copy on Sunday.

Being in God's word every day is one of the most important things you can do. My daily time in the word has brought me peace and joy, often when I needed it most. I cannot overstate how much you will gain and be blessed by spending time with God each day. In fact, I'll go so far as to say if you spend time daily with God, you will never regret it. Money back guaranteed!



*Merry Christmas from your church staff!*





### Kid's Worship - "The Best Gift Ever"

**Need to Know:** Jesus is the best gift ever

**Bible Story:** Jesus is Born

**Bible Reference:** Genesis 2-3, Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2, Luke 1:26-55, 2:1-20, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-11

On Sunday in Kid's Worship, we wrapped up our lessons about Jesus being the best gift ever! God promised to send Jesus to help save us from our sins. God kept his promise to do that. God sent Jesus to be born on earth, live with us, die on the cross and come back to life so that we can be friends with God forever. Jesus is the best gift ever because He fixes our friendship with God!

**This week:** Find moments during the rush of getting ready for Christmas celebrations this week to remind your children that Jesus really is the best gift ever.

**Pray with your family:** Hey God! Thank you for the fun we have celebrating that Jesus is the best gift ever! Thank you for sending Him to save us so that we can be with You forever. We love you! Amen.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to take a moment to express my sincere thanks for all those who serve in various ministry areas. Our Team Leaders work year-round to make sure our church is being effective in our core values and carrying out our mission of "Sharing Christ and Growing in Faith." Those ministry areas are: Christian Education (Desi Rice), Christian Outreach (Stacey Johnston and Krista Smith), Connections (Jana Frey), Property (Brandon Henning), Stewardship (Bobby and Susan Davison) and Worship (Debbie Hubbard). So many of the ministries and worship events function through one of these areas and I appreciate all the people who work on each of these teams.

Another group I want to give a "shout out" to is our meal ministry teams. This includes a group that brings dishes and helps serve bereavement meals as well as those who are taking meals to people recovering from hospital stays or surgery. It seems like the last couple months have been unusually busy and we always have people step up to help. Thanks to Peggy Momsen who has been my go-to person to head up the kitchen on bereavement meals! Also, thanks to so many of you who have brought dishes. Since July we have served 7 dinners that involved close to 275 family members for different funerals. I can assure you that these meals are so appreciated by the families and it serves as such a meaningful time for sharing of memories and closure. Many of the families express how they don't get together with a lot of their family members throughout the year and it is almost like a family reunion atmosphere when we serve these dinners.

Also, I truly appreciate all those who have made meals for those needing extra care after surgery or a hospital stay. Since October, we have taken meals to five different families and provided three to four meals for each one.

If you are looking for a new way to serve in 2022, I would encourage you to be a part of one of these ministries. Any of our ministry teams would love to have you serve. You can be behind-the-scenes, help strategize new ways to do things, give input on what you would like to see happen or be hands-on in carrying out activities and projects.

If you are interested in serving on the bereavement team there are several ways to participate. We always need people who can bring a side dish – salad, vegetable or dessert. Many people are able to do this before or after work and you can drop it off at your convenience. We also would love to expand the team of people who are able to help serve meals. Again, this can happen on your schedule – help set-up, serve or clean-up or do all three.

If you are interested in being a part of those who provide meals for families at home, it is also a great way to serve. Typically, we do meals every other day for a week, so three different people will take meals to a family. We try to provide a main course, a side dish or salad and a dessert. I send out detailed information about any dietary issues or needs so everyone is able to determine what would best fit, and I coordinate so we don't send the same meal over and over to the same family.

If you are interested in being a part of any of these, please call or text me at 405-615-2240 or call the church office at 405-282-4080. I try to rotate who I contact, so you aren't getting called every time. I send out a group text or e-mail and share the need and then if you are able to help, you reply and let us know. If it's not a good time, then you can wait until the next need comes around.

Again, thank you to everyone who is serving in the church and using their gifts and talents. I would ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do in 2022 to make a difference not only in our church but in whatever place God leads you.

God Bless and Merry Christmas!

Karen

### Let's Read the Bible Together!

As Ronnie mentioned in his article, one of our goals is to do more Bible Study together in 2022. As part of this, we have designed a reading plan that features short studies on the YouVersion App, where we can read as a group or you can read individually. The studies will somewhat follow his sermon series for each month, and offer an opportunity to do some life-application study along with reading scripture. If you need help downloading YouVersion or finding it on your computer, please reach out to Ronnie or Karen and we can get you set up.

This Sunday, we will have a reading plan for you to pick up that will show what we're reading together from January through Easter.

Here's a list of the studies:

- Jan. 1 – New Year, Same God (4-Day Plan)
- Jan. 5 — Created on purpose with Purpose (7-Day Plan)
- Jan. 12 — Live without Regret (5-Day Plan)
- Jan. 17 — New Year, New Hope (12-Day Plan)
- Jan. 29 — Love Thy Neighbour Hood (7-Day Plan)
- Feb. 5 — This is Why (7-Day Plan)
- Feb. 12 — Jesus' Church (video series, 10-Day Plan)
- Feb. 22 — Got Water — A Serving Devotional (5-Day Plan)
- Feb. 27 — Strength for Each Day (3-Day Plan)
- March 2 — Read Exodus
- April 11 — It Is Finished — An Easter Devotional (7-Day Plan)

Be sure to pick up your copy of the reading plan on Sunday or we can e-mail it you!

**Don't let it happen to you!**  
**Hire a helper today**  
 (and help our youth ministries!)

**For information or to hire a helper, contact Staci Carey at 405-831-5509**  
*\*\*Thank you for supporting*

*FCC Youth Ministries\*\**

**\*\*HOLIDAY HELPERS\*\*** is a youth fundraiser for mission trips and activities. To "hire" a helper, contact the church office or Staci Carey. Two helpers will be assigned to most jobs, \$10 donation per hour per person. Extra donations will be accepted for exceptional work.

# PRAYER REQUESTS

**We pray for our church family:** Ada Belle Elder, Barbara Ketch, Clara Price, Betsy Ball, Nick Bench, Linda Griffin, Dennis Lynch, Deanna Davenport, Carol Smith, Deanna Case, Kim Crick, Carl Biggs, Gary Weeks, Marilee Camerer, Sarah Schlueter, Sherry Canning, Gerald Whitfield, Keith Young, Jerry Yancey, Joan Dreessen

**We pray for our friends and family members:** Kirsten Shore, Dustin Myers, Albert Tooley, David Bradley, Larry Esmeyer, Jerri Brownlee, Tim Lear, Karen Aukwell, Jennifer Shirley, Jennifer Hand, Gay Shaffer, Ed & Katherine Walton, Midge Mixon, Allee Merrill, Marty Stamp, Bill Coburn, Karen Wallis, Bill Tooley, Ray Stewart, Trish Worster, Valerie Cotton, Bob Bennett, Michelle Minnich, Milton Lewis, Bradley Wilson, Emily Schwab, Joyce Brandes, Linda Hicks, Lee Pearce, Steve Ochs, Jerry Resch, Carol Garcia, Treva Seals, Joan Faye Meacham, Cathy Carter, Kayla Thetford

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

# Celebrate!

## January Birthdays!

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

## Save the Date!

Chili Cook-off – January 16  
Laity Sunday – January 30  
Chi Rho Camp (completed 6-8<sup>th</sup> grades) – June 6-10  
Discovery Camp (completed 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades) – June 17-19  
Junior Camp (completed 4-5<sup>th</sup> grades) – June 20-24  
CYF Conference (completed 9-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – June 20-24  
Mission: Guthrie (Mission Camp for all Jr. High & High School Youth) – July 11-15  
Vacation Bible School – June 13 - 16

## Bible Study Opportunities

We will be offering a couple of Bible Study opportunities beginning in January 2022! Be watching the newsletters and email for more details!

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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

## THANK YOU'S

To All My Church Family,  
Thank you for all the prayers and the blessings of food. Jim can make an awesome egg sandwich, THAT'S ALL, so extra special thanks to all that give. You are all in my prayers as well.

Thank you, Deanna Case

To the Church Staff & Family,  
Thank you for all your prayers and hugs through 2021. Wishing you all a Very, Merry Christmas & Healthy New Year.

God is so great. All my tests have come back negative and my physical therapy is going well.

Love, Sarah Anderson

To our Amazing Church Family,

Thank you for the prayers, texts, and calls during Nick's hospital stay and recovery. We especially want to thank Natalie Hardin, Peggy Momsen, Carissa Redman and Lesley Cotton for the delicious meals and to Ronnie and Karen for praying with our family the night before the surgery. The recovery process is a long one, but Nick is well on his way!

Love, Nick, Shana, Makenna & Gabby Bench

## 2022 Offering Envelopes

A limited number of 2022 pre-dated offering envelopes are available in the entryway. Please sign for the box # you take.



Mark your calendars and work on your recipes! Our annual Chili Cook Off will be held Jan. 16. Everyone is invited to participate and partake! 😊





# First Christian Church

402 E. Noble, Guthrie, OK 73044

# JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 Kendra: kendragmnew@gmail.com Michael: mrjohnson139@gmail.com					<sup>1</sup> 
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Back to School for GPS Teachers & Students	<b>4</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out	<b>7</b> Church Office Closed	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:30 a.m. – Youth to Braums 11:45 a.m. – Christian Ed Team Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 11:30 a.m. – Ministerial Alliance 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Meeting	<b>12</b> 6 p.m. – Elders Meeting 7 p.m. – Cabinet Meeting	<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out	<b>14</b> Church Office Closed	<b>15</b> Reception Hall & Sanctuary booked for private event
<b>16</b> DONUT SUNDAY  following worship Noon – Youth Meeting 12:30 p.m. – Undecorating Party!	<b>17</b> No School MLK, Jr. Parade @ 10 a.m.	<b>18</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out	<b>21</b> Church Office Closed	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Noon – Youth Meeting	<b>24</b> 11 a.m. – Staff Meeting Newsletter submission deadline	<b>25</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out 3:30 p.m. – Campfire Meeting	<b>26</b> 3:30 p.m. – Kidventure Resumes	<b>27</b> 8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out	<b>28</b> Church Office Closed	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> LAITY SUNDAY Noon – Youth Meeting	<b>31</b>					