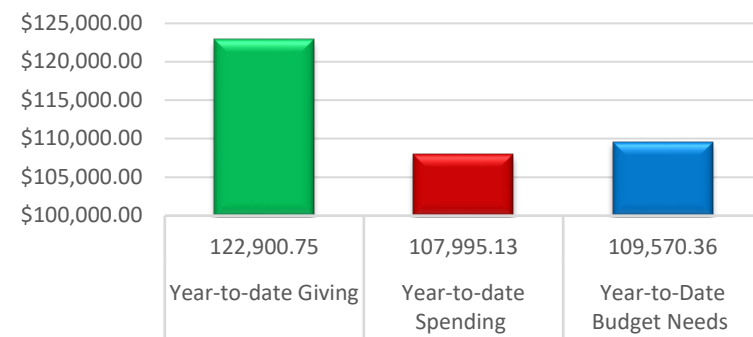
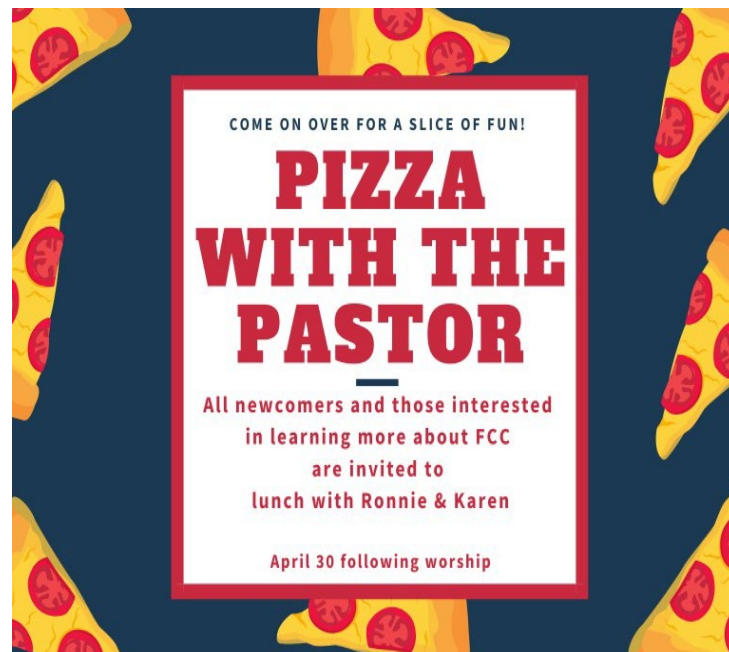


FCC Financial Update



4/23 Worship Attendance: 267
Average Attendance for April: 242



The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080 www.fccguthrie.org

First Christian Church of Guthrie

Sharing Christ
Growing in Faith

April 25, 2023



Volume 59, No. 4

Baptism Sunday

Wow!! What an incredible Sunday! We had 13 baptisms! Baptized during the service were: Hadley Timmons, Kennedy Hacker, Scott Turner, Neely Carey, Hadley Henning, Avery Schroeder, Lakyn Redman, Katherine Stinchcomb, Hunter, Kayden Torres and Paisley Pena! In a private ceremony following worship, Khloe Torres and Jerry Caughman were baptized! Colin Simpson also made his Confession of Faith.

What an amazing morning for all of these individuals. Thank you to Larry Nagel for sharing your testimony as part of our worship service. We also celebrated exceeding our Capital Campaign Goal of \$200,000 by having "Dessert First!" following worship with a sundae bar!

Thank you to everyone who came to be a part of the special day and celebrate with us in so many ways!



You can find more pictures on our Facebook page – *First Christian Church of Guthrie*

NOTES FROM RONNIE

Well this is my last newsletter article before I go on Sabbatical May 8 to August 7. Hopefully you have seen the various posts and fliers we have put out regarding my time away. I will be checking in with Karen from time to time to keep tabs. We are also planning to let you know where I am and what I am doing. I would ask that you keep my family and I in prayer during the next few months. Please pray for refreshment, revitalization, and renewal. (How about that alliteration?) We have pulpit supply planned and the Elders are ready to step in. You are in excellent hands!

Pizza with the Pastor

This Sunday, April 30 after worship we will have an opportunity for all our new and newer folks to visit with Ronnie, ask questions, hear about the church, and learn how to become more involved. Pizza is provided!

Doubt Service

On Wednesday, April 26 at 6 p.m. we will have a Doubt Night Worship in the sanctuary. The service will last around 30 minutes as we sing, pray, and share our doubts. It will be helpful for all who want to grow in their faith as well as all who have doubts. I hope to see you there!



First Christian Church
402 East Noble Avenue
Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044

www.fccguthrie.org
(405) 282-4080
RONNIE FIELDS, Sr. Pastor
KAREN ALLEN, Associate Minister

Keeping Up With Karen



We've been preparing for several months and the time is almost here! Time for Sabbatical! What is a Sabbatical? It is a period of paid leave granted by the church for the Pastor to renew and refresh. Per his contract, Ronnie is eligible for a Sabbatical every five years. During this time he will spend time focused on spiritual renewal, study and connecting with his family. All of these are things that sometimes get pushed aside when caring for the needs of a congregation the size of FCC Guthrie.

How can you be supportive?

Prayer! Pray for Ronnie, his family and for our church. Pray that he will find a sense of renewal and at the same time the church will continue to thrive in his absence.

Be present! So often when a pastor takes a sabbatical, congregates may feel like it's a good time to "skip" church as well. Please know that your presence is noticed! For example, on Easter we had 360 people in attendance, which was amazing! The week after, we had 135 in worship. This past Sunday, we had 267. I can assure you as a staff member when attendance fluctuates by 100-plus on any given Sunday, it is felt not just by the staff but by those who are in attendance.

Actively seek ways to be involved! While Sunday morning attendance is important, so is being available to serve and be a part of activities that are going on. The staff will be working normal hours (and extra hours) but often times for events we need more hands and extra donations. Be aware of things listed in the "News and Events" that need volunteers or things that are mentioned on Sunday morning. For example, because I will be doing a lot of the worship service, I will be unavailable to teach Kid's Worship Extra with Staci. There are also some Sundays she needs to be in worship (Graduation, Promotion Sunday, etc.), so we need volunteers to help with that 3rd-6th grade class. Specific dates we need help are May 14 (2 volunteers needed), June 25 (1 needed), July 9 (1 needed), July 23 (1 needed). For Kid's Worship we need help on June 25 and July 9 when Natalie is unavailable.

That is just one example of help we will need. All ministries will continue as they usually do so VBS, meal ministry, Bible studies, Mission Sunday, Dinner Groups, funeral dinners, etc. will all continue as usual. So, be ready to jump in when needed and you can always call the church office to see if there are any pending needs.

Do's and Don'ts

- Do – be present and active
- Don't – "go on vacation" from church. We recognize that Summer is a vacation time and know you will be gone from time to time, but if you're in town – come join us!
- Do – Keep Giving! We have been on a great trend financially and have been doing more and more ministries! Let's keep the momentum going!
- Don't – keep concerns to yourself. If something doesn't feel right or isn't going right, we need to know! The worst scenario is to let a problem/concern go until Ronnie returns and then dump things on him when he returns. It would so quickly undo any of the "renewal" he received.
- Do – INVITE! Just because the Pastor is gone, Evangelism doesn't stop. The church is not one person. People need to know the love of Christ through all of us. Our message is always relevant.
- Don't – Call Ronnie thinking that "one phone call or text" won't hurt. We have a very capable staff and are happy to help and if we can't answer your question or help, we will find someone who can. We have tons of resources available.
- Do – Be positive! Giving your Pastor a sabbatical is a sign of a very healthy church. It means we want our Pastor to not lose his passion for serving and even more exciting it shows that we are truly the Body of Christ and our church functions in his absence. The church is EVERYBODY sharing Christ and growing in faith!

Please don't hesitate to call, text, e-mail, stop me to chat! I am available and excited to see what God has in store for us the next three months!

Blessings!

Karen

PROMOTION SUNDAY
MAY 21ST

Join us for this special worship service to celebrate our 6th grade students promoting to youth group, our 2nd graders promoting to Kid's Worship Extra, and our Kindergarteners who will be promoting to 1st grade will receive a special Bible!

Join Us for:
Graduation Sunday
May 21st
9:30 am Family Breakfast
(RSVP by May 17th)
10:30 am Worship
(senior recognition & youth promotion)

hosted by fccYOUTH
First Christian Church, Guthrie

FCC YOUTH

fccYOUTH has been busy with our spring scripture series: *Good Vibes Only: Challenging Clichés...* We will wrap up the series this Sunday with Pizza at 11:30 a.m!

FCC YOUTH
promotion party!

Students in 7th - 12th grade are invited to help us kick-off summer youth as we say, "Hello!" to our new Youth students (entering 7th grade) & say, "Good-bye" to our new graduates (entering life after high school)
May 21st 5 pm - 7 pm
the Carey Field
(meet at FCC at 4:45 for a ride to the field)

So what's next? Summer ☺ OK so not quite but we are preparing and you won't want to miss out! We don't meet regularly in the summer enroll in the Remind text, watch the newsletter for the latest information!

Mark your calendar for: May 4 = lunch delivery... May 21 Senior Recognition & Promotion Sunday & Promotion Party... May 24 games...

Summer need to know info: 2023 Mission trip = July 17 -21 sign-up by June 11 There is no cost. Contact Staci Carey for details. VBS June 12 – 15 volunteers needed. Contact Natalie Hardin for details.

Fundraisers: Kiwanis Concession = M, T, Th, F evening shifts available in May. Contact Karen Allen or Staci Carey for details. June 24 = Rummage Sale. Items accepted June 22 & 23.

Single & Widowed Ladies

GARDEN & TEA PARTY

May 6 2 p.m.

*Bring your favorite coffee/tea mug or cup & saucer

*Salads, Pie, Tea & Coffee will be served; Devotion & Games

RSVP to 405-282-4080 by May 3
 First Christian Church, 402 E. Noble Ave.
 Party will be held in the Choir Room, enter at ramp near church buses

FREE EVENT

MAY Birthdays of the Month

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1 – Jaxon McNew
Emerson White | 9 – Derek Shoun
Haden Wiss
Olivia Jones | 21 – Marie Lynch |
| 2 – Elmina Lynch | 10 – Johnny Hudson
Evan Plagg
Ethan Bandy | 22 – Shana Fields |
| 3 – Barbara Smith
Kelly Simpson
Kaitlyn Wood | 14 – Kevin Carey | 24 – Tom Hudson |
| 4 – Andrew Hardin
Jamie Hudson | 15 – Kevin Frey | 26 – Tom Holtz |
| 6 – Carver McLain
David Hood | 16 – Briggs Caughman | 27 – Mike Simpson |
| 7 – Clayton Carey | 17 – Bailey Hardin | 28 – Kim Hinkle
Bobbie French
Susan Savory |
| | 18 – John Cox | 30 – Josh Gill
Adelyn Stevens
Ronnie Fields |
| | 19 – Blakely Smith | 31 – Blake Doles |

Help **Central Oklahoma Camp** get ready for summer! They are having a camp work day on May 13th! Scan the code to sign up and make plans to join us.



This Sunday is **LOOSE CHANGE SUNDAY** benefitting our partner school – Central Elementary! Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week and we want to show the Central Staff some love with gifts and goodies!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 17 – Justin & Andrea Stevens | 21 – Gregg & Rikki Gumerson |
| 19 – Jamie & Stacey Johnston | 23 – Sam & Sherry Porter |
| 20 – Jake & Shannon Doles | 24 – Trace & Calee Lyons |
| | 31 – Dale & Corky Storm |

Prayer Requests

Our love and sympathy go out to: Elmina Lynch & family in the death of her sister, Glorias Barber

Hospitalized: John Shore

We pray for our church family: Cathy Clark-Mitchell, Pat Ball, Velma Cox, Dennis Lynch, Mike Canning, Hank Hubbard, Patsy Crick, Anne Frey, Clara Ketch, KC Griffin, Kameron Hopper, Margaret McNeely, Dennis Ochs, Kim Crick, Steve Ochs, Mickey Eckley, Gerald Whitfield, Denise Shoun, Carl Biggs, Joan Dreesen

We pray for our friends and family members: Penelope Ivey and family, Corbly Estlack, Wayne Corless, J.D. Inda, Teresa May, Elsie Steinbeck, Johnny Harman, Tim Taylor, Stanley Lear, Renee Leathers, Rocky Wilson, Jacob Carey, Jim Harman, Kathleen Morris, Charlotte Cascio, Eddie Tomlinson, Phil Pingel, Pearl Speer, Barry Resecker, Larry Nagel, James Stowe, Karen Nemecek, Ed & Katherine Walton, Marty Stamp, Bradley Wilson, Joyce Brandes, Treva Seals

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

Camp Work Day

May 13th
 8:30am - 3:00pm
 Lunch Provided

Help us get camp ready for summer! Sign up today by scanning the QR code!

MOTHER'S DAY OUT IS HIRING!

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH MDO IS HIRING TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES!

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
 8:15 A.M. - 3 P.M.

PAY IS \$10/HOUR

BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIRED




CALL MICHELLE AT 282-4080 FOR MORE INFORMATION



First Christian Church

402 E. Noble, Guthrie, OK 73044

MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Repeating Sunday Events: (unless otherwise indicated)</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>**Kid's Worship for 4 yrs – 2nd grade every Sunday during worship</p> <p>**Kid's Worship Extra for 3rd-6th graders on the 2nd & 4th Sundays</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6 p.m. – Ronnie's Dinner Group @ Stacy's Place</p> <p>6 p.m. – Karen's Dinner Group @ Pepperoni Grill</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p> <p>6 p.m. – Girl Scouts Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. – Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6 p.m. – Wilkerson's Dinner Group @ FCC Parlor</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>6</p> <p>2 p.m. – Widows & Singles Tea Party in Choir Room</p> 
<p>7</p> <p>11:30 a.m. – Lunch & Learn</p> <p>11:30 a.m. – Christian Education Team Meeting</p> <p>Ronnie Fields will preach</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Ronnie's Sabbatical Begins</p> <p>6 p.m. – Young Adults Outing @ Hidalgo's</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p> <p>11:30 a.m. – Ministerial Alliance</p> <p>6 p.m. – Girl Scouts Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. – Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6 p.m. – Elders Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Camp Work Day</p>
<p>14</p>  <p>Karen Allen will preach</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p> <p>6:30 p.m. – Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7 p.m. – Baccalaureate @ Community Church</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>  <p>7:30 p.m. – GHS Graduation @ Lazy E Arena</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>DONUT SUNDAY</p> <p>Graduation & Promotion Sunday</p> <p>Reception Hall reserved for private event</p> <p>Karen Allen will preach</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11 a.m. – Staff Meeting & Lunch</p> <p>Newsletter articles due to church office by NOON</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p> <p>5:30 p.m. – Connections Team Meeting</p> <p>6 p.m. – Girl Scouts Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. – Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6 p.m. – Owen's Dinner Group @ FCC Choir Room</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Out</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>PENTECOST SUNDAY</p> <p>"Change the World" Loose Change Sunday</p> <p>Gary Weeks will preach</p> <p>No Kid's Worship / Kid's Worship Extra</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day – Church Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p> <p>NO Mother's Day Out</p> <p>6:30 p.m. – Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Office: fccguthrie@coxinet.net</p> <p>Rev. Ronnie Fields: ronnie@coxinet.net</p> <p>Karen: Karenallen@cox.net</p> <p>Shana: Shanabench@coxinet.net</p> <p>Natalie: nahardin@gmail.com</p> <p>Staci: carey.staci@yahoo.com</p> <p>Michelle: michelle.m.gill@live.com</p> <p>Sadie: sadieporter0@gmail.com</p> <p>Michael: mrjohnson139@gmail.com</p>		

FCC Baptism Shirts for sale!

So many have asked how they can get one of our awesome "Baptism" shirts. Lucky you, they are now available for pre-order for just \$10! Add \$1 and you can get YOUR baptism year on the sleeve!

We will take pre-orders thru Sunday, May 14 and hope to have the shirts by early June. Place your order, including shirt size and baptism year, in the offering plate or bring it by the church office. Cash or check – sorry, no online orders.



BRANSON 2023

FCC's 10th Trip to Branson!

"Sightseeing and Shows (and a little shopping)"

Nov. 6-9 (Monday-Thursday)

4 days, 3 nights

- Branson Towers, Branson, Mo. (Continental Breakfast Daily, opens 6:30 a.m.; and nightly ice cream social!)
- Price includes: 6 Shows, 3 dinners, lunch at Lamberts, all breakfasts and transportation included
- Village Tours and Travel Bus line
- Cost is \$810/person (2 guests/room), \$1010/person (single room), \$740/person (triple occupancy room).
- NOTE: "Trip Insurance" is available for \$19.95 per person (Non-Refundable). Trip insurance allows for cancellation up to 72 business hours prior to group's arrival. Any change after 72 hours are non-refundable.

DEADLINE for RESERVATION AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

1st Payment: \$200 Due – July 9 • 2nd Payment: \$200 Due – Aug. 13 • 3rd Payment: \$200 Due – Sept. 17 •

Final Payment Due: Oct. 1

Call Karen Allen @ 282-4080 with questions.



June 12- 15th

Now signing up VBS volunteers

Updated Volunteer needs:

- Kid Vid station leader
- Game station leader
- Also seeking enthusiastic crew leaders to guide each group through the week

Email Natalie at nahardin@gmail.com if you can help!

Do you have limited availability but still want to help? No problem! We can work with almost any volunteer's schedule. Email Natalie to make those arrangements!



FCC Guthrie
fccYOUth

89ers Day
Food Booth
\$_____ raised

Thank YOU...

Robert & Diana Dewart for your donation & always allowing us to take over your space! James Carey & Baylor Wilhelm for your donations and cooking skills! Kelly Simpson for your donation & help! Emalyn & Carissa Redman, Ally & Alicia Carey, Abigail Simpson, Devin Frey, Lily & Kyla Rechlin, Taylor Mays, Blake Doles and Kyndal Carey for all of your hard work!

To our church family for your support!

CELEBRATE PENTECOST SUNDAY



Sunday, May 28 is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost marks the end of the Easter season for Christians and commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. The Church of God, which began on Pentecost which we read about in Acts 2 is given the mission of preaching the Good News of the Kingdom of God. We encourage you to wear red, orange and/or yellow on Pentecost.