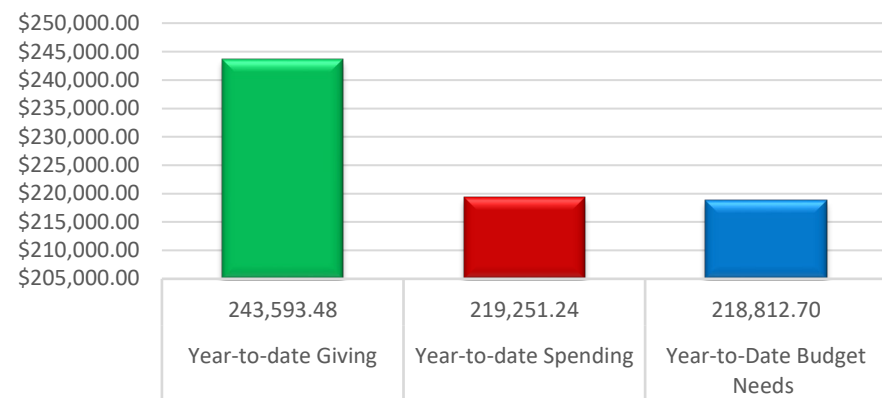


FCC Financial Update



8/27 Worship Attendance: 156
Average Attendance for August: 183

We Need You!

We are looking for a variety of talents to plug-in to our worship services! Do you enjoy singing, playing an instrument, acting, or reading out loud? We need you! Please contact Stacey Johnston through text (405.637.5190) or email (and5678dance@yahoo.com) to get involved! Individuals, duos, trios, groups...we have a place for you!

CONNECTIONS TEAM

What a great summer it's been! Thanks to everyone who was able to attend our fun events at FCC over the summer! We will be having our "First Sundays" luncheon this Sunday after church. The menu will be pulled pork sandwiches with sides and desserts. The cost is \$5 per person with a maximum of \$20 per family. The next **Connections Team meeting** will be Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 5:30 in the choir room. We would love to have you join us as we plan for our **Annual All-Church Picnic!** The picnic will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24. Fishing will begin at 4:30 and dinner will be served at 5:30. We will be serving hotdogs, chips and s'mores for desserts. It will be held at the same place as we've had it the last few years. Be watching for a map and more updates over the next few weeks. Enjoy your week!

Jana Frey-Connections Team Leader



The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080 www.fccguthrie.org

First Christian Church of Guthrie

Sharing Christ

Growing in Faith

August 29, 2023



Volume 59, No. 8

Hello and welcome back! Well I guess, welcome back to me. You didn't go anywhere. I just want to say thank you for the opportunity of a sabbatical. I recently met with several ministry colleagues who are pretty sure they will no longer be serving churches in 5 years. I was among the minority who anticipates staying in full time ministry for the foreseeable future. The last few years have really taken a toll on ministers. My time away was much needed. I was blessed with a wonderful time of rest, renewal and remembering. Thank you to the staff, elders, leaders and those who filled the pulpit to keep things going while I was away. I am very thankful to be part of such an amazing congregation. God is good!



Ronnie

A Message from Our Board Chair

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." 1 Peter 4:10

This scripture has been on my mind, and it led me to an article that paraphrased author and theologian John Stott and his example of how the church is many times like a bus. Many times, the pastor(s) do all the driving and the members are just passengers who only ring the bell when it's their turn to get off. In Ephesians 4:12, along with similar passages it states "Their (pastors) responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ." When it comes to Outreach in this church and community, we can easily become passive by relying on our pastors and staff to do all the driving. Mission Sunday was a reminder that "he has given each of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ." (Eph 4:7).

Ministry Fair
Sunday, Sept. 17
before & after
Worship

Visit our Ministry Team Booths
• Donuts • Snacks •
All we need is **YOU!**

On Sunday, Sept. 17, there will be a **Ministry Fair** and an opportunity for all of us to find a place where our gifts can be used. As much as I consider **everyone** to be a part of the Outreach team, I would encourage you to spend some time thinking over the many ways that you can be more than a passenger.

Wayne Elder,
Board Chair & Outreach Team Co-Chair



First Christian Church
402 East Noble Avenue
Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044

www.fccguthrie.org

(405) 282-4080

RONNIE FIELDS, Sr. Pastor

KAREN ALLEN, Associate Minister

Kid Min Minute



Parents and families! We're kicking off a brand new series in our children's ministry called **Blast Off!** It will help kids learn four spiritual habits that will help them grow in their faith. We're going to have a blast learning and growing together! If you're a grown-up and you've been following Jesus for a while, you've probably figured out a few ways to grow spiritually. The kids you're parenting, on the other hand, aren't grown-ups, so they might need a little help from you to figure out how, exactly, to grow spiritually. **So what should spiritual growth look like for a kid?** We like to think about it in terms of four spiritual habits. To help a kid grow spiritually, **teach them to spend time with God,**

spend time with others, use their gifts, and share their story. These are the 4 keys to discipleship that will help kids launch their faith. We will be learning more about these habits in the weeks to come.

Our nursery, Kid's Worship, and Kid's Worship Extra classes will all be learning the same principals, habits and Bible story each Sunday! The activities and applications of each Sunday's lesson may differ from week to week between classes but everyone will be working on the same memory verse, the same Bible stories, and very similar lessons so this should create a great opportunity for all of us to continue this discipleship and discussion at home, no matter what age of kid or how many kids you have at home!

Kids who were in attendance yesterday got a Week 1 - *Grow at Home* sheet. You can use these lesson summary sheets to keep the learning going throughout the week at home, in the car, around the dinner table or while you are together waiting for the next activity to get started! Whether you use the discussion questions, recite and discuss this week's Big Idea, or practice the memory verse for this series, even just opening up the conversation in this way will help reinforce these lessons for everyone.

Yesterday, we passed out a series devotional for the adults that coincides with the series the kids are doing. We hope you will carve out some time for yourself to connect with God on your own as well as when you disciple your children! If you didn't snag copies of these handouts during the worship service, there will be some printed out for you to pick up at the Kids Check-In station in the Entryway. They will also be posted weekly or as they update in the Kids @ FCC Facebook group, or send me an email at nahardin@gmail.com to get a digital copy sent to your inbox. We are excited for this new direction for our KidMin department and pray that these materials and lessons help each of us to build the faith foundations of our kids, at church and at home!

A graphic with a dark blue brick background. It features a central white box with a pink border containing the text "Kidventure Signups are open!". To the left, there are two blue speech bubbles: one says "Spots are limited! Sign up today!" and the other says "Adult volunteers needed!". To the right, there is a QR code with a blue arrow pointing to it and the text "Scan to sign-up!".

Spots are limited! Sign up today!

Adult volunteers needed!

Kidventure Signups are open!

Scan to sign-up!

Kidventure is for 5 year olds through 6th graders! We meet every Wednesday for 7 weeks; our first Kidventure for fall will be Wednesday September 6th and we will wrap up just before Fall Break on Wednesday, October 18th. Drop-off starts at 3:30 each Kidventure day and parent pickup is at 5pm. Kids must be pre-registered to come. Questions? Email Natalie at nahardin@gmail.com for more information!

Keeping Up With Karen



As we begin to roll into Fall, I can't help but be excited about a few things on the horizon. We have a few new things coming up and the return of a few things that we have done in years past.

1st Sundays (Sept. 3) — This is a new meal opportunity to gather with the church family and meet some new people. Sunday's meal is BBQ Pulled Pork and we'll have a couple ways for you to enjoy it — salad, nachos, baked potato — as well as some delicious sides including potato salad, chips, Hawaiian rolls, desserts and drinks. Everyone is invited to the after-church lunch and we hope you will mix and mingle with new people. There are children and youth tables as well so they can hang-out together. This is a quick after-church meal, and a \$5 per person donation is suggested but not required.

Retired Fellowship Flower Outing (Sept. 6) — honestly, "Retired Fellowship" is sort of loosely used here — if you want to go, no matter your age, feel free to sign up! We will be meeting at the church at 6:40 p.m. and headed to Lady Bug Lane to pick flowers. Cost is \$20 per person and you will go home with a vase of flowers. Sign-up today and feel free to pay ahead or bring money with you the day of the outing. We will be driving the bus and one vehicle.

Food for the Soul (Sept. 10, 3-6 p.m.) — this is the merge of a "cooking event" with an "outreach event." There is a sign-up sheet in today's newsletter. You can choose whatever freezer meals you would like to prepare for your family — serving sizes are 2, 4, 6, 8 — and pay according to the serving sizes and the meals you'd like to make for your family. You can choose all different meals or you can make multiples of one particular dish. Along with cooking for our families, I applied for a grant which is funding an "extra" meal that you can share with a friend, neighbor, co-worker, someone recovering from an illness, etc. There is no cost to prepare this meal but you will be able to take it home that day and give it away or freeze it for a time when you want to share it. On each of the meals we prepare will be a scripture tag and on the giveaway meals a place to write a note of encouragement. This event will be limited to 20 families, so sign up now so we can plan for meal cooking supplies! *By the way, you don't have to know how to cook to help make these meals!* It's a group effort!

Ministry Fair (Sept. 17) — Be sure to join us for donuts, fruit and drinks during our annual Ministry Fair. You can browse Ministry booths before worship from 9:45-10:15 a.m. and following worship and enjoy snacks along the way! Each of our ministry teams will have a booth and you can learn more about how to be a part of these exciting teams.

Pizza with the Pastor (Sept. 24) — We have had so many new faces at FCC and we are thrilled to get to know each and every one. Sunday, Sept. 24 after church Ronnie and I will host a short information session on the church. We will have free pizza, salad and drinks. Children are invited to attend as well. If you have a friend or family member who has been attending and you'd like to attend with them, please feel free to come. We will have a sign-up this Sunday in the entryway, so we'll know how to plan for food. This will be a time to learn more about how the church is organized, our beliefs and how to become a member if you're interested.

Karen

New Calendar Option!



To keep up with the ever-changing calendar at FCC, we have moved from a monthly printed paper copy to an online option thru out SimpleChurch database. If you would like to have access to this calendar, please call Shana in the office at 282-4080 or email her at shanabench@coxinet.net. We hope this digital calendar will help us stay better informed as a congregation.

FILL THE CHOIR LOFT THIS SUNDAY!

The start of something new! "Fill the Choir Loft" will kick off this Sunday! On the first Sunday of each month we will sing more familiar songs that do not require additional practice to be done well. As worship begins, an invitation will be extended for anyone who would like to sing in the choir to make their way to the front and "fill the choir loft". This is an exciting new opportunity for anyone who enjoys participating in a choir setting to use their talents in worship to fill the sanctuary with a joyful sound! All ages are welcome! *Come let us sing for joy to the Lord! -- Psalm 95:1*



#FCCallin



Retired Fellowship! It's time for another outing!

• Oct. 4 • 8:15 a.m. departure from FCC •

The Pioneer Woman Mercantile/Lunch/Lodge Tour



Our original trip to Pioneer Woman and the Lodge had to be postponed and has now been rescheduled to Wednesday, Oct. 4. We will leave the church at 8:15 a.m. and take the buses and van to go eat and then tour the ranch. Cost is whatever you would like to eat or buy. There is no charge for the ranch tour. Karen Allen will be getting in contact with those who signed up previously to see if you would like to go on Oct. 4. We have space available if you hadn't signed up previously. Call the church office at 405-282-4080 or sign-up on Sunday at the Welcome Center.



September Birthdays!

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2 – Jarrett McNulty | 14 – Grayden Beeson | 24 – Bella Benham |
| 3 – Ron Plagg | Jamie Johnston | Hadley Henning |
| 4 – Coy Betchan | Holly Kinkade | 25 – Josh Ball |
| 7 – Jim Case | Eli Plagg | Hank Hubbard |
| 8 – Kenzie Mays | 15 – Gary Weeks | 27 – Lesley Rodger |
| Jerry Yancey | 17 – Pat Ball | 28 – Levi Betchan |
| Tim Hibner | Andy Hacker | 29 – Ethan Cotton |
| 10 – Donovan Hardin | 18 – Bob Powell | Michelle Schroeder |
| Jordyn McNew | 19 – Linda Holtz | 30 – Charlie Ball |
| 12 – Justin Mays | 20 – Karen Allen | |
| Paisley Pena | Luke Lyons | |
| Jackie Ross | 22 – Esther Weir | |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 – Scott & Kim Biggs | 19 – Lloyd & Caroline Roettger |
| 2 – Robert & Michelle Gill | 22 – Jed & Carissa Redman |
| 7 – Jim & Deanna Case | 23 – John & Anita Riddle |
| 18 – Bob & Shirley Powell | 26 – Josh & Betsy Ball |

Prayer Requests

Preparing for surgery: Clara Price (9/21/23)

We pray for our church family: Jane Weeks, Cynthia Baker, LaDonna McCune, Sharyl Padgett, Hadley Timmons, Debi Shore, Carol Smith, Andrew Hardin, John Shore, KC Griffin, Joan Dreessen, Pat Ball, Dennis Lynch, Hank Hubbard, Steve Ochs, Mickey Eckley, Gerald Whitfield, Denise Shoun, Carl Biggs

We pray for our friends and family members: Jimmy Stowe, Victor Carey, Zane Carey, Sean Porterfield, Gordon Ingle, Marsha Bishop, Mike Bell, Jodie Flurry, JD Inda, Leland Dennis, Alan Wilson, Woody Green, Dennis Dawson, Gary Kragh, Blake Alaniz, Heather Swanson, Carolyn Christie, Cindy Curtis, Jacob Carey, Tonya Dawn McCulloch, David Brown, Susie Ellison, Phil Young, Mary Wheeler, Penelope Ivey and family, Teresa May, Elsie Steinbeck, James Stowe, Ed & Katherine Walton, Joyce Brandes

And 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

Young Adults (20-somethings)

POOL Party

September 4
6 p.m.

Home of Ronnie & Shana Fields
3486 Rustic Hollow, Guthrie

Hamburgers provided, BYODrinks :)
Eat, Swim, and Fellowship



RSVP to fccguthrie@coxinet.net

Loose change for **Pink Week**



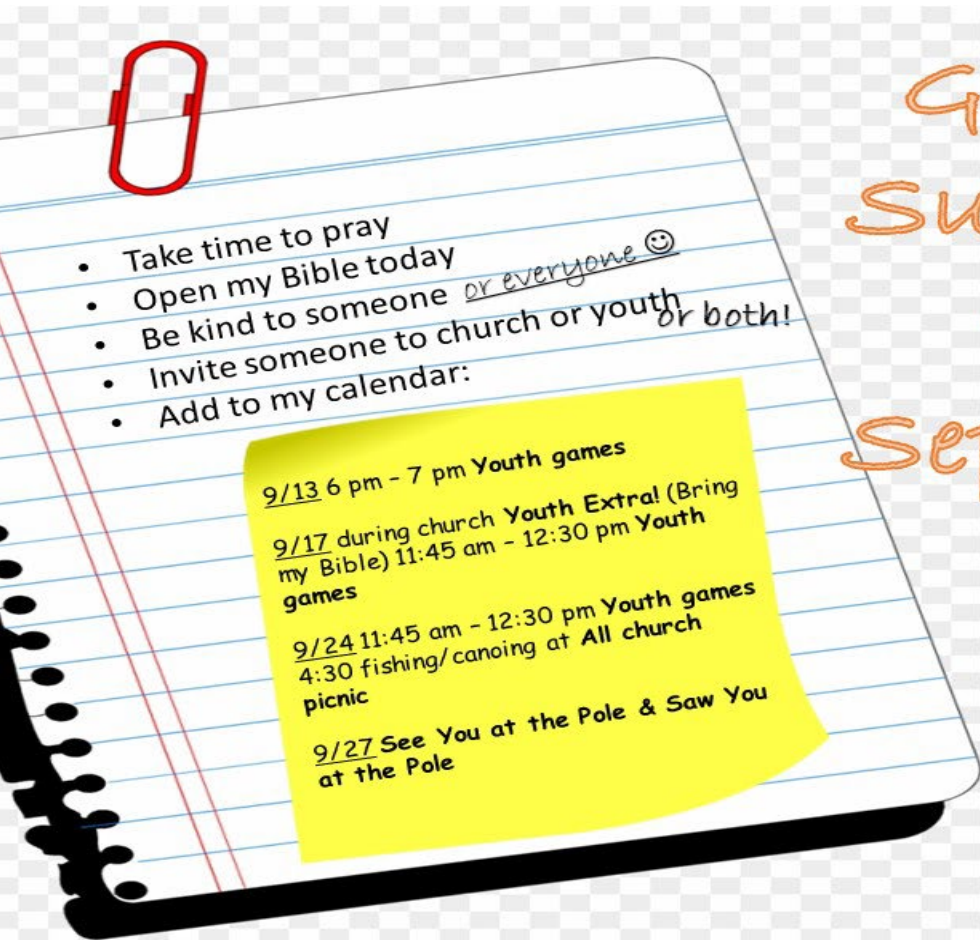
4th Sunday Change offering was a huge success! We collected \$265.71 for Pink Week and Dr. Dawn's Chiropractic is matching the donations. These funds will be used to make a "basket" for the Guthrie High School's silent auction during Pink Week. The basket auction means our 4th Sunday Change will actually go even further as they raise more funds with the items that are bid on at the Sept. 29 home football game. With the remaining funds, we will donate directly to Pink Week.

For those unfamiliar, Pink Week is hosted by the Guthrie High School Student Council and funds raised go toward supporting, encouraging and honoring those facing cancer diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

 **Feed the Bluejays!** 

22 years and still going strong! "Feed the Bluejays" team dinner began as a tradition 22 years ago with spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread and ice cream sandwiches. Janna Pierson and LaMoyné Hardin began the tradition and still cook the meal today. FCC always hosts the first one of the season and other churches follow with a meal the day before every football game. We appreciate the youth helping serving, the adults who help as well and most of all the players, coaches and the coach's families who share in this time together. The Bluejays beat Ponca City 40-0 on Friday. This week, they play at Woodward.

YOUTH NEWS



- Take time to pray
- Open my Bible today
- Be kind to someone *or everyone* 😊
- Invite someone to church or youth *or both!*
- Add to my calendar:

9/13 6 pm - 7 pm Youth games

9/17 during church Youth Extra! (Bring my Bible) 11:45 am - 12:30 pm Youth games

9/24 11:45 am - 12:30 pm Youth games
4:30 fishing/canoing at All church picnic

9/27 See You at the Pole & Saw You at the Pole

Goodbye
Summer...
Hello
September!

- Details...**
- 9/13 6 pm - 7 pm Youth games
 - 9/17 during church Youth Extra! (Bring your Bible) 11:45 am - 12:30 pm Youth games (downstairs)
 - 9/24 11:45 am - 12:30 pm Youth games (gym) 4:30 fishing/5:30 eating = All church picnic
 - 9/27 7:30 am See You at the Pole (GHS/GJHS) 6:30 pm Saw You at the Pole (Family Life Center)

fccYOUth





Sunday, Sept. 10
3 - 6 p.m.

All meals will come with a scripture and short devotion that can be read as a family at dinner time!

MEAL OPTIONS

Spaghetti Casserole

Price Total

2 Servings (\$7.00) 6 Servings (\$15.00)

4 Servings (\$10.00) 8 Servings (\$21.00)

Chicken Stuffing Casserole

2 Servings (\$10.00) 6 Servings (\$28.00)

4 Servings (\$20.00) 8 Servings (\$38.00)

Beef Enchiladas

2 Servings (\$13.00) 6 Servings (\$30.00)

4 Servings (\$22.00) 8 Servings (\$40.00)

Chicken Spaghetti

2 Servings (\$6.00) 6 Servings (\$14.00)

4 Servings (10.00) 8 Servings (\$28.00)

Meatloaf

2 Servings (\$8.00) 6 Servings (\$14.00)

4 Servings (\$10.50) 8 Servings (\$18.00)

Order Total: _____

Choose the meal you want to share with someone!
(no charge, check one)

Spaghetti Casserole

Chicken Spaghetti

Chicken Stuffing Casserole

Meatloaf

Beef Enchiladas

Number of Servings: _____

Make checks payable to First Christian Church.
Payment and registrations due by Sept. 3.



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Yes, I need a nursery _____ # of kids _____

Sept. 10
3-6 pm...ish

How it Works

1. Choose which meals your family will enjoy.
2. Choose how many servings you would like of each meal. (Serving sizes are based on adults).
3. Yes! You can mix and match or order more than one of some dishes and none of others – decide what works best for your family!
4. We purchase all the supplies and you just show up to cook!
5. On cooking day... we will divide and conquer in cooking stations.
6. NO you don't have to know how to cook to participate.
7. Can children come? If they are of an age to be helpful in the kitchen they are welcome but it will not be a time to play and they can't play elsewhere in the church.
8. Childcare is provided for those kindergarten and younger.
9. How long will it take? We will cook from 3-6ish (might finish earlier.)
10. SHARE A MEAL! Pick a meal that you will take home and share with a neighbor, friend, co-worker, someone who is sick, etc. You will NOT pay for this meal. We received a grant that is covering those meals. We will have special tag to attach to these for you to write a personal message.
11. Only 20 slots are available so sign-up now! (invite a friend to sign-up as well, this is open to anyone!)

The **Stewardship Team** will meet on Tuesday, Sept.12 at 6 p.m. We will be making plans for the Ministry Fair and brainstorm ideas for annual stewardship drive. Anyone who would like to join our committee or share ideas is welcome to join us.

We hope to see you there!

Bobby & Susan Davison and Nick & Paige O'Connell,
Stewardship Co-Chairs



1ST SUNDAYS!

Lunch & Fellowship

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3	4	5				
10	11	12				

\$5 per person / \$20 max per family

*Sit with others not in your family group
Talking points & ice breakers
at each table*

