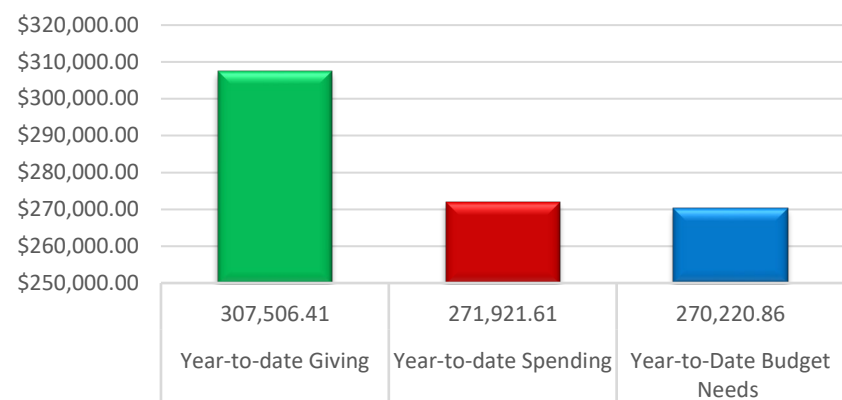


FCC Financial Update



10/22 Worship Attendance: 144
Average Attendance for September: 156

#FCCallin



First Christian Church
402 East Noble Avenue
Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044

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

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, Nov. 5 we will honor those who have passed away in our church family during the past year. It's called "All Saints Day" (which is actually on Nov. 1 but we recognize it on the first Sunday in November). This is a time to reflect on those who have shared their lives with us and the memories they leave behind. We will recognize six individuals this year and they include: Kyle White, Vicki Hopkins, Ada Belle Elder, George Dreessen, Phyllis Willbanks and JoAnn LeGrande. We will light candles in their memory. We hope you will make a special effort to be a part of the worship service.



The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080 www.fccguthrie.org

First Christian Church of Guthrie

Sharing Christ
Growing in Faith

October 24, 2023



Volume 59, No. 10

A Note from Pastor Ronnie

Are You Ready to Embrace the Power of Gratitude This November?

As we journey through the month of November, the season of Thanksgiving causes me to reflect on the many blessings in my life. I hope you will as well. Have you ever stopped to consider the profound impact that gratitude can have on you?

According to several studies I found, gratitude plays a pivotal role in enhancing our mental and physical health.

Regular gratitude journaling can lead to a 5% to 15% increase in optimism and a 25% improvement in sleep quality. A staggering 90% of American teens and adults reported that expressing gratitude made them feel "extremely happy" or "somewhat happy." Just a five-minute daily gratitude journal can boost long-term well-being by 10%.

Maybe this is why the Bible constantly reminds us to be thankful. Like in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

As we approach Thanksgiving, let's make a conscious effort to cultivate a heart of gratitude. Let's cherish the moments, big and small, and recognize the countless blessings that enrich our lives. After all, in the act of giving thanks, we not only uplift our spirits but also bring joy and hope to those around us.

Ronnie



COUNT ME IN!

Week #1 of our Stewardship Campaign focuses on how we can **SERVE** in our church, community, and worldwide. Commit to 5 acts of kindness this week! If you didn't get a chance to fill out your handprint on Sunday, stop by the tables next Sunday or call the church office and we can put your name on a handprint for you!

#FCCallin #CountMeInCampaign



Kid Min Minute

Keeping Up With Karen



-For On-The-Go Devotionals, memory verse videos, recaps of the lessons and great ways to continue the discipleship at home, be sure to be checking out the Kids @ FCC Facebook group!

-Congratulations to Jewel Jarnagin and Ember Tucker for memorizing October's Kid Min Memory verse! This Sunday is the last Sunday to have a chance to say this month's memory verse for a chance to pick out a very special prize! The verse for October is "I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:19.

-October 18th was our last fall Kidventure. We spent 7 weeks together learning all kinds of different games and learning that just like games have rules to follow to win, God wants us to use the Bible to follow Him! We had a great time with the kids! Special thanks to our snack preparers: Alice Allen, Karla Morris, Janie Carey, and Janna Pierson. Many thank you's to our adult volunteers Annette Keller, Deanna Davenport, Michelle Gill, LaMoyne Hardin, Paige O'Connell, Carissa Redman, Kelly Simpson, Amanda Shults, and to our youth volunteers, Abigail Simpson, Gavin Shults, Gracie Shults, Bethany Powell, Emalyn Redman and Aiden Hardin. Kidventure would not be the fun, hands-on learning environment that it is without the amazing help of these individuals. Thank you!!

-The holidays are just around the corner and we are starting to practice for the Christmas Program! 5-year-olds through 6th graders will meet each Wednesday after school to get ready to perform a very special Christmas program this year. The show is on Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. - mark your calendars!

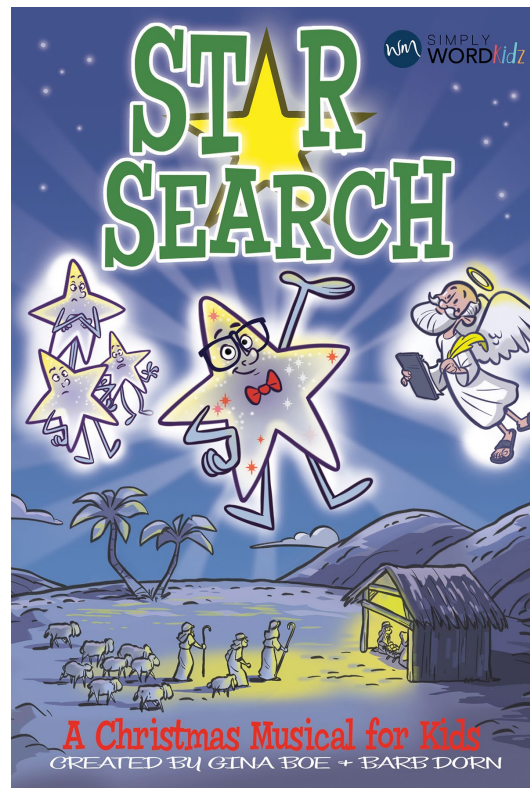
WHAT KID MIN IS LEARNING IN:

NOVEMBER



Racers, start your engines! In a race, you might need to navigate obstacles, pit stops, and tight turns in order to stay on the right track. As you're zooming through the track, there's so much to think about and it can be hard to stay focused on what's most important! In this four-week series, we'll learn some important stories from Joshua about how **obstacles are no problem for God** and **courage comes from knowing God's words**. No matter how long the race, **God can use someone like you because with God, there is victory!**

To find out more, scan this code!



FCC Annual Children's Christmas Musical

December 9
6:30 p.m.

Holiday Tasting Party to follow!

I hope if you were in church on Sunday you grabbed a "Count Me In!" magnet. We are so excited to kick off our Fall Stewardship Campaign. Ronnie's sermon hit the five points we will be focusing on but the bottom line is we want YOU to be an active part of FCC's ministries. Even if you feel like you can't do much because of time or limited physical ability, I promise you can do something! It takes all of us to make a difference.

This past year, so many new and exciting things have taken place and it only happens because people are following God's nudging and serving Him.

This past weekend was a prime example as we had a new ministry kick-off on Friday. A team of four people delivered cookies to our homebound or those who just needed a "bright spot" in their day. This ministry came to fruition because several people saw how much of a difference it made when they delivered cookies and called on people during Mission Sunday in July. A big thank you to Annette Keller, Bonita Johnston, Sharyl Padgett, Gene and Diann Owen for being willing to step up and lead this ministry.

Also on Sunday, the men gathered for breakfast and to hear Damon Devereaux speak about his walk of faith. The Men's breakfast was created by Wayne Elder and several men jumped on board to help cook and serve. We had more than 40 men attend! That's incredible!

There are a few other ministries that have been created or gained ground this past year as well. We have an online Bible Study that meets on Mondays (it is meeting on Tuesday this week). It is led by Stephanie Tucker and has been fantastic. The church Facebook page lists the link to join each week (typically posted on Sunday/Monday). Also, we have several age-appropriate groups meeting monthly. The 20-something group meets every other week and goes to restaurants, fun activities and are doing a book study (Messy Spirituality). Currently, Ronnie is leading this group. There is also a group for the 30's-50's somethings. They meet quarterly and Wayne Elder has been instrumental in getting that group rolling. The Retired Fellowship Group has become active again this year with dinner and a movie, Bingo with the Thunder, a trip to the Botanical Gardens, a visit to Ladybug Lane to pick flowers, and a visit to the Pioneer Woman. Karen Allen leads this group and is making plans for a Christmas lights trip in December. We also have seven active dinner groups with various leaders for each group. These groups meet from Jan.-March, May-July, Sept.-Nov. We will be reorganizing groups in December for the new year and hope you will join one. Some groups meet in restaurants, others meet in homes and one group meets at the church for a potluck. Also, new to FCC are 1st Sunday's Fellowship meal. The next one is Nov. 5. In worship, hopefully if you love singing you have helped "fill the choir loft" on the first Sunday of the month.

Those are just a few of the things that are new in 2023 and it's all because people have stepped up and wanted to be involved. I truly hope that in addition to making worship a priority, you will make getting involved in the life of the church and inviting others to join us a big priority for 2024 and you are saying "Count Me In!"

Also, I want to mention the importance of financial giving. We know that money is a difficult topic to discuss but Jesus called us to be faithful with our finances. As a church, we have been so blessed this past year with faithful giving and it has allowed us to do ministry in so many ways. I ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do financially as part of the church. We know that everyone is in different places with finances but hope that you will find a way to be a part of the ongoing ministries through financial gifts.

Last but not least, I will be out of the office Oct. 31 to Nov. 4 to attend the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis. I will be with 15 of our high school students and their advisers. Zach and his friend, Holden, will find out how they placed in the National AgriScience competition. I am so excited to see how they did and to also cheer on the Livestock Judging team that is competing from our high school.

Also, the FCC Branson trip is Nov. 6-9, so I will be on the road leading it the following week. We have 42 going on the trip!

Have a wonderful week and we'll see you Sunday!

Karen

YOUTH NEWS

GROW:

Scriptures: Moses Sees God's Glory: Exodus 33:7-23; Matthew 11:25-30; Main point: We can turn to God when we need rest.

ARE WE THERE YET? We've been learning about the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land. They had been wandering around in the desert for so long. They must have gotten so tired. They probably asked, "Are we there yet?" so many times, but the answer was still no!

Have you ever felt overwhelmed by something and felt like you needed a break? When I feel overwhelmed, one of the most helpful things for me to do is rest – and you thought naps were only for babies! What are some of your favorite ways to rest? No, fall break doesn't count 😊 Do you... Exercise. Sing. Take a nap. Watch a show or movie. Breathe. Read a book. Go for a walk. Write in a journal. Draw or paint... (And if you don't do any of these things, what would you most want to try?)

PRAYER: God, you always know what's best for us. That's why you invite us to slow down and rest. We know that true rest comes from you. Help us to pause to take care of ourselves and to make time to talk with you. Amen.

If you want to journey into this story, try these questions...

•SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS

- Where did Moses go to talk with God? The tent of meeting.
- How did the people know when Moses was with God? A cloud would cover the opening of the tent.
- After God said, "My presence will go with you and I will give you rest," what else did Moses ask God for? To see God's glory.
- Read Matthew 11:28. What do you think it means to be weary and burdened? Have you ever felt that way?

•APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- When might you need to rest? Why do we need to ask God for rest?
- Where can you go to spend quiet time with God?

WEEKLY YOUTH CHALLENGE: What can you do to cut down the distractions that keep you from resting and spending time with God?

GATHER:

Wednesday, 10/25 6-7:30 Youth Nights!

Sunday, 10/29 11:30 am – 1:30pm. GLOW games

Sunday, 11/5 Youth Extra (during church) 11:30-12:30 1st Sunday lunch & Birthday Bites

Wednesday, 11/8 Lunch delivery = Pizza!

6-7:30 Youth Nights!

All of this in one week! 😊



Teacher appreciation meal
@ Guthrie High School
(co-sponsored by First Southern Baptist Church)



Youth @ Corn Maze



Kid's
Worship
Extra
(3rd-6th graders)



Kidventure Wrap-up Games!



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 our 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.

LifeLine Screenings @ FCC
Wed., Oct. 25
Call 844-591-7101



Get a Screening Package For Only **\$139**



November Birthdays!

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 – Kenneth Griffin
Shirley Powell
Yvette Story | 8 – Sarah Anderson
Gabby Bench
Elise Ellis
Toby Wilder | 18 – Devin Frey |
| 3 – Jana Frey
John Gauldin
Cruz Tontz | 10 – Bill Cunningham
Rikki Gumerson | 20 – Amy Haskins Kirk |
| 4 – Barry Anderson
Tracy Lyons
Lauren Parker | 11 – Charlie Stowe
12 – Dylan Zellers | 21 – Jewel Jarnagin |
| 5 – Scott Thompson
Len Tontz | 14 – Ryan Wiss | 23 – Brock Parker |
| 6 – Taylor Mays | 15 – Margaret McNeely
Conner Wiss | 25 – Wheeler Coburn
Wayne Elder |
| 7 – Chase Davison | 16 – Barbara Ketch
Judy Reeves | 26 – Aubrey Timmons |
| | | 27 – Jeff Cowan |
| | | 29 – Jeff Ball
Kim Biggs
Desi Rice |
| | | 30 – Dane Canning
Lindsay Mays |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 – Dave & Pam Williams | 18 – Chris & Tammy Schroder |
| 3 – James & Kendra McNew | Ernesto & Jamie Pena |
| 9 – Rick & Susan Martin | 20 – Kyle & Kristi Blakemore |
| 11 – Terry & Jennifer Doll | 21 – Rodney & Jane Stewart
Dennis & Marie Lynch |
| 14 – Ken & Becky Wilkerson | 25 – Melvin & Judy Scheihing
Robert & Diana Dewart |
| 16 – Steve & Gretchen Hanna | 26 – Stan & Terryl Wieczorek |

Prayer Requests

We pray for our church family: Bill Bowles (surgery 10/24), Denise Shoun (surgery 10/30), Gene Owen (surgery 10/30), Annette Keller, Lydia Gates, Cathy Clark-Mitchell, Terri McNulty, Jake Carey, Sarah Anderson, Jennifer Bounds, Marie Lynch, Cynthia Baker, LaDonna McCune, Debi Shore, John Shore, Dennis Lynch, Steve Ochs, Denise Shoun, Carl Biggs

Our church family currently in the nursing home: Joan Dreessen, Mickley Eckley, Gerald Whitfield, Dorothy Smith

We pray for our friends and family members: Family of Michele Thompson, Gabby Roettger, Family of Connie Lunceford, Lupe Mendez, John Timmons, Linda Beedle, Charlotte Cascio, Derrald Kizzia, Bradley Butt, Clayton Carpenter, Teal Esmeyer, Hendrix Beutler, Tonya Stansbury, Dennis and Norma Kelley, Mike London, Sam Porter, James Stowe, Mike Bell, Jodie Flurry, JD Inda, Leland Dennis, Woody Green, Gary Kragh, Blake Alaniz, Carolyn Christie, Cindy Curtis, Tonya Dawn McCulloch, David Brown, Susie Ellison, Phil Young, Mary Wheeler, Penelope Ivey, Teresa May, Elsie Steinbeck, Ed & Katherine Walton

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"

BOWLING
Night

MONDAY
OCTOBER 30
6 P.M.

INVITE A FRIEND!

OCTOBER 29

Loose Change Sunday



**BENEFITTING
LOCAL
LAW
ENFORCEMENT**

Connections Team Updates

Happy Fall y'all! Our Connections Team has been rocking and rolling these past few months! We had a wonderful church picnic but missed many of you that were not able to attend. As always, the location was perfect as was the company! We have some exciting events coming soon!

Our **1st Sunday luncheon** will be here before we know it! (Where has October gone?) On Nov. 5, we will be having pizza, salad, and desserts! There is no cost for this 1st Sunday as we have received a grant to offset the cost.

Nov. 19 will be a fun day at FCC! **3rd Sunday donuts** will also be paired with our **Stewardship celebration breakfast!** We can't wait! Later that evening will be **Turkey Bingo** at 5 p.m. upstairs in the Reception Hall. We will be having walking tacos for dinner. Please look for the food sign-up coming soon! Also, if you would like to donate money towards purchasing prizes, we welcome that as well! Please drop those donations by the church office and let them know that's what the money is earmarked for. We also are in need of \$5 gift cards to your place of choice for this event. Feel free to get those to me or the church office as well.

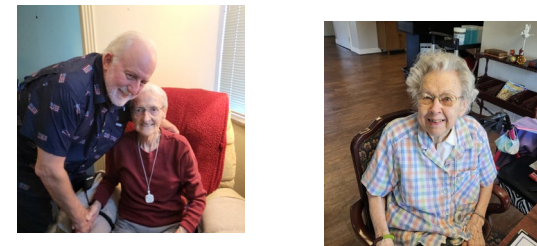
Bonita Johnston, Sharyl Padgett and Annette Keller have begun a new ministry which is a piggyback from our Mission Sunday! They have a group that will be meeting monthly to organize cookie drop-offs/special blessings for those who aren't able to attend church. If you are wanting to help with the **Cookie Ministry**, please reach out to one of them.

On Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon, we will be hosting a women's "**Christmas in the Country**" event again! This will be a different experience than the last one! If you would like to sign up, don't procrastinate as we can only take the first 30 women! Make sure to call the church office at 282-4080 and register once you know if you are able to attend. Please do not make a reservation if you are unable to attend as it prevents someone else from being able to come.

That's all for now! Not much going on as you can see! We will see you on Sunday! Have a great week!

Jana Frey

Connections Team Leader



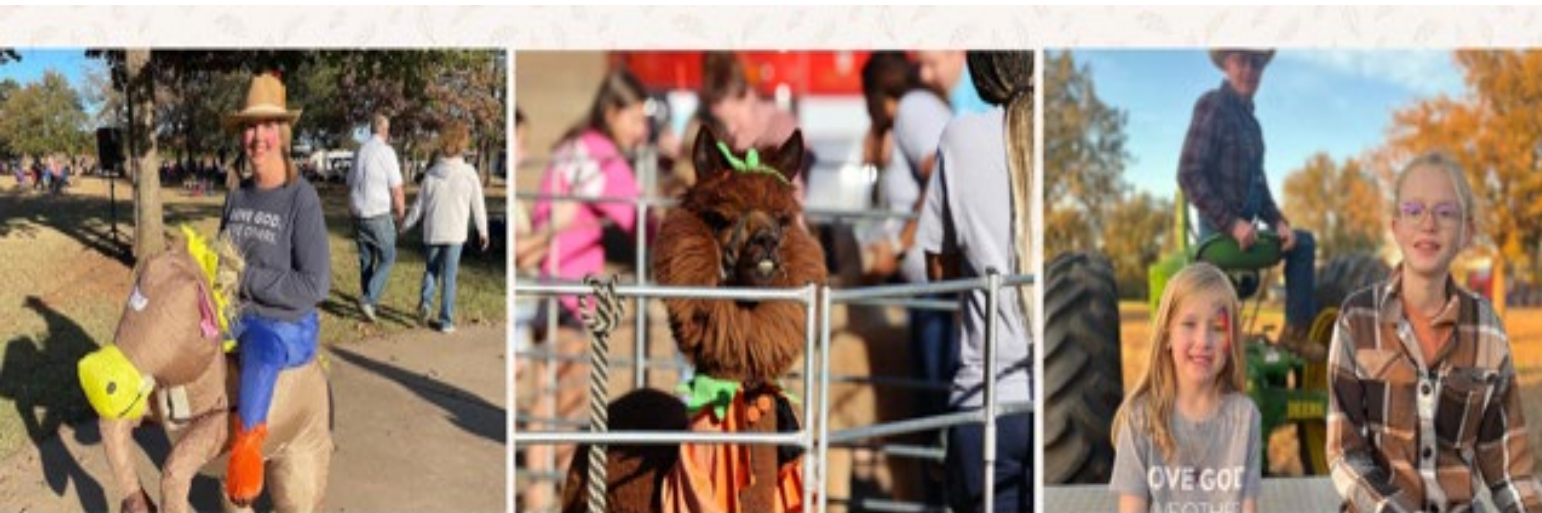
Cookie Delivery

NEW MINISTRY! We are excited about the passion of some of our Connection's Team members who launched a "Cookie Delivery" ministry for some of our homebound members and others who just needed an uplifting moment in their day. Bonita Johnston, Sharyl Padgett, Diann Owen, and Gene Owen, and Annette and John Keller helped bake cookies, delivered cookies, visited, and prayed with people in nearly a dozen homes on Friday. Their next delivery date is Friday, Nov. 17. If you would like to participate in this ministry by helping bake cookies, please call the church office and we will pass your name along to the team. The next round of cookies is needed on Nov. 16. Also, if you know someone who would enjoy a delivery please let us know and we will add them to November's delivery list. They do not have to be a member or attendee of the church! We would love to bless as many as possible!



Men's Breakfast

We had an amazing turnout for our Men's Breakfast with 40-plus in attendance! Logan County Sheriff Damon Devereaux shared a powerful testimony. Thanks to Wayne Elder for organizing the breakfast and to Kevin Frey, Andrew Hardin, Jerome Fogle, and Tim Hibner for cooking the biscuits and sausage gravy!



You are invited to join the fun!

Fall Fest

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 | 4:00PM - 7:00PM

Hay Rides | Petting Zoo | Inflatables | Live Music
Face Painting | FREE Fried Catfish, Chili, Hot Dogs | Family Fun

Location: 512 E Seward Rd, Guthrie



GUTHRIE MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE