

## Connections Team Update

What a great evening of Lucky Bingo! I believe each person was able to “win” something! Thanks to all who donated items for dinner, prizes or your time to set up and clean up. Of course, extra thanks to Karen who is the rockstar of all of our activities at church. Our next 1st Sunday meal will be on April 7. I hope you will make plans to join us at our next Connections Team meeting which is on April 15 at 5:30 in the choir room. Praying Holy Week is meaningful for each of you as we follow Jesus’ journey to the cross.

Blessings to each of you!  
Jana Frey - Connections Team Leader

3/24 Worship Attendance: 189  
Average Attendance for March: 184

#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

Our loose  
change offering  
for summer camp

totaled  
**\$216!**



Thank you to all  
who donated!



# The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080    www.fccguthrie.org

 First Christian Church of Guthrie

**Sharing Christ**  
**Growing in Faith**

**March 26, 2024**     **Volume 60, No. 3**

## Notes from Pastor Ronnie

### Prayer Vigil

Join us this Good Friday for a day of prayer at our church from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. It’s a come-and-go event, so feel free to drop by anytime that works for you. We’re setting up our sanctuary as a quiet place for everyone to reflect, pray, or just sit in peace for a while. Life can get really hectic, and this prayer vigil is a chance to take a break, think about what’s important, reflect on Jesus’ sacrifice, and feel more connected with God. Whether you’re looking for a moment of quiet or a longer time of reflection, the doors will be open. Let’s make this Good Friday meaningful together, taking some time out to pause and reflect in your own way.

### Meet Our Elders Sunday

Mark your calendars for April 7 because we're hosting a "Meet Our Elders" luncheon right after worship! It's the perfect chance to get to know our Elders over some fantastic food. We'll have a sandwich bar with all the fixings you can imagine, plus a selection of delicious desserts to sweeten the deal. Whether you're new to FCC or have been around for a while, this is a great opportunity to chat, share a meal, and connect with our elders. Don't miss out on the good company and even better eats. See you there!

### Voting delegates for Regional Assembly

Our Regional Assembly for Oklahoma Disciples is happening at First Christian Church in Stroud on April 20 from 10 a.m. to Noon. If you are planning to attend and would like to be one of our 3 voting delegates, please contact the church office.

Grace and Peace,

*Ronnie*

## Children’s Sermon in Worship

Heads up, everyone! We're trying something new with our Children's Sermon during worship. Starting after Easter, we'll be pausing the traditional Children's Sermon to introduce something new for the upcoming sermon series: "Questions Kids Ask." This will feature short videos of the curious, insightful questions our kids have about faith, life, and everything in between. Some of these questions will even be answered during the sermon! It's a fresh way to engage our younger members and enrich our services with their unique perspectives. We believe this change will bring something special to our worship, sparking conversation and reflection across all ages. Stay tuned for some thought-provoking questions and discussions ahead!

# Kid Min Minute

We are so excited to celebrate Easter with all of you this Sunday! Looking forward and past Holy Week and in to planning for April, don't forget about the opportunity for your child to attend Pastor's Class with Pastor Ronnie and crew! If your child is starting to ask those big faith questions or has expressed an interest in getting baptized, this is definitely a class they will want to take advantage of. We will be covering all of those big faith fundamentals and covering what baptism really means to us as followers of Christ. We will meet Sunday, April 7 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and again for the second part of the class on Sunday, April 14, also from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch is provided. This is a class that your child or youth won't want to miss out on! Please contact the church office or any of the staff to sign up your child up to take this class.

You'll want to mark your calendars for Baptism Sunday! We will be hosting baptisms on April 28 during the worship service. If you would like more information, please contact Ronnie, Karen, Natalie or Staci with your questions. This will be a special day for so many and we can't to celebrate with them.



From retro toys to fashion trends, we all love a good throwback. (Especially for grown-ups because it reminds us of being young again.) There are things that remind us of a moment in time, but other things feel timeless and like they're always in style. In this four-week series, kids will travel through the decades and see that the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels are always trending. As we hear from Jesus, we'll see it's always good to be humble, we can always forgive, Jesus is always fair, and love always needs action.

To find out more, scan this code!



# Keeping Up With Karen

As I thought through how to explain Palm Sunday to the children on Sunday for Children's Moment, I had so many thoughts about what it must have been like to be part of that moment in history. Trying to narrow down the Triumphal Entry story to a couple minutes that would make sense to children is challenging. The story is recorded in all four gospels and like most scriptures some of the gospel writers chose to put more emphasis on some things and not others.

John's account is more of a broad stroke of the scene with very little specific details (John 12:12-16), while the other three accounts give specifics about who was traveling with them; the instructions from Jesus about going to get a colt or donkey; how to handle it if someone asked what the donkey was for and whether or not people reacted to them taking the animal. The writers go on to describe the scene of people who were traveling for Passover and what they did when they saw Jesus. Some noted how the disciples put their cloaks down while others pointed out that the people waved palm branches as they passed by. (Matt. 25:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44).

I always enjoy comparing the gospels and how the different writers captured different vantage points of what was happening at the same event. I also find it interesting how some stories are left out, while others feel certain events were important enough to include. As most of you know, I enjoy writing. It makes me wonder if I had been there to witness Jesus coming in on a donkey and the crowd's response, what would I have reported? It's no secret that I'm a detail person. I would like to think I would have described it in a way that the reader felt like they were there, recording the sights, sounds and smells. I would have wanted to reflect the excitement of the moment and yet, let readers draw their own conclusion about where they might have been if they had witnessed this same scene.

Likewise, as we go through Holy Week, I find myself reflecting on what each day actually means in my spiritual life. I don't want to take lightly the events that led to the cross. I want to spend time imagining what the disciples felt like in the Upper Room as Jesus told them someone at the table was going to betray Him. I want to think about how I would have reacted as the bread and the cup were passed to me at the table, having heard the unsettling explanation of what it represented. I want to imagine how I would have felt denying Christ, who days earlier I had proclaimed as king; and let that soak in as to how often I put my trust in Him only to fall short with worry and doubt. I want to think about those moments at the foot of the cross, watching people heave insults at Him and seeing how He reacted — humbly, assured, and determined to trust in the Father's plan. Finally, as the week comes to a close and those three days linger on, I am reminded how God works even when we aren't watching. I want to understand that He always has my best interest at heart and even when I fall short, He is faithful.

Then, on Sunday, I want to walk into our sanctuary, praising God for His gift of His one and only Son and the assurance of hope that He brought into the world. It would be so easy to skip from Palm Sunday to Easter without reflecting on the events in between; we all like to celebrate! This week, I hope that as you journey to the cross and make your way to resurrection Sunday, you spend time reflecting on all that God has done and is doing in your life and take time to share how God has changed your life.

Easter is coming! I hope to see you Sunday.  
God Bless you,

*Karen*

# YOUTH NEWS



## April highlights . . .

**Youth Extra “Throwback series” April 7 & 21**  
**Youth Nights April 10 5:30 – 7 p.m.**  
**Youth “Road Trip” April 28 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

### **Pastor's Class: April 7 & 14 11:30 a.m. - 1p.m.**

Youth Sunday and Ronnie's sermon series covered “How Am I Saved?” Now, your JH or HS student might be asking questions about being baptized or might just be curious about what the next steps are in a faith journey. Pastor Ronnie will be holding a Pastor's Class to address questions or topics, like, "What do we believe as Disciples of Christ?", "What might be next in my faith journey?", or "What is baptism and who can get baptized?" This two-part class will tackle many of these big faith questions plus any your youth might want to discuss. If you have a student who would be interested in attending this class, call the church office to add them to the list.

*For those interested in being Baptized, Baptism Sunday will be on April 21!  
We hope that everyone can be there to witness this special day!*

### **Summer Camp Registration Due April 15**

We know it's early to start thinking about summer but as spring begins and the end of school approaches, things always get extra busy so now is a great time to make those plans! The youth will be participating in the FCC summer camp experience on July 8 -12. The registration and a \$25 deposit are due on April 15.

We already have 10 youth registered, now we need you!

Register at: <https://fccguthrie.org/2024-fcc-summer-camp-experience/>.

Final camp balance is due by June 9.

Check out [fccguthrie.org](https://fccguthrie.org) for more info or contact any of the FCC staff for more details and any specific questions.

**Fundraisers: 89er Food Booth April 20 9:30 a.m – 2 p.m. &  
Kiwanis Concession April 27 TBA**

watch Remind for the signup link or contact Staci to get on the schedule.

# April Birthdays of the Month

1 – Taylor Schroder Lesley Cotton	12 – Cade Carey Nancy Powell	24 – Alice Allen Ben Gallo Sarah Schlueter
2 – Andrea Stevens	13 – Bob Davis	27 – Ali Gallo Melanie Ball
3 – Debi Shore	15 – Nate Ames	28 – Austin Reece Carol Doles Peyton Hayes
6 – Ella Gill	16 – LaDonna McCune	29 – Conna Dewart
8 – Ruth Underwood	17 – Alex Allen	30 – Dawn Hacker Clara Price Abigail Ball
9 – Gary Hixon Brenan Cotton	20 – Brody Hinkle Sharlene Biggs	
10 – Jane Stewart	21 – Jim Ross Hannah Ross	
11 –Skyler Gill Cathy Clark-Mitchell	Jacob Frieze	
	23 – Diane Biggs Brandon Henning	

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

2 – Paul & Christie Fincher	28 – Jason & Sherri McCollough
8 – John & Jean Scott Gauldin	Gene & Diann Owen
22 – Randy & Elise Ellis	Brian & Danise Johnston

## Prayer Requests

**We pray for our church family:** Don Hardin, Tracy Lyons, Sarah Schlueter, KC Griffin, Rodney Stewart, Diane Biggs, Becky Wilkerson, Carson Ireton, Keith Young, John Riddle, Mike Carey, Bill Bowles, Gerald Whitfield, Jennifer Bounds, Gene Owen, Denise Shoun, Marie Lynch, Dennis Lynch, Steve Ochs

**We celebrate the birth of:** Whitley McCoy, born to Ty and Hannah McCoy

**Our church family currently in rehab/assisted living/nursing home:** Elmina Lynch, Cynthia Baker, Mickey Eckley, Dorothy Smith

**We pray for our friends and family members:** Lloyd Roettger, Gary Nelson, Danny Stowe, James Stowe, Dorothy Midcliff, Denise Stills, Randy Kellogg, Alice Shore, Rodney Tauer, Vickie & David Brown, Bud Nelson, Ed Hacker, James Liles, Camden Zehall, Mary Beth Gilliland, Mary Schaar, JD Inda, Tillie Hartman, Sharon Russell, Cathy Carter, Barb & Kara Sawyer, Renee Leathers, Crystal Grilley, John Timmons, Linda Beedle, Charlotte Cascio, Teal Esmeyer, Hendrix Beutler, Dennis and Norma Kelley, Mike London, Sam Porter, Mike Bell, Jodie Flury, Woody Green, Gary Kragh, Blake Alaniz, Tonya Dawn McCulloch, Susie Ellison, Mary Wheeler, Penelope Ivey, Teresa May, Elsie Steinbeck

**And our military all over the world:** Sonny Crick, Court Machtloff, Bonnie Epperson, Jonah Frieze, T.J. Wilson, Matt Byce, Braxton Canning, Nate Ames



ONLINE  
BIBLE STUDY

Join us on the You Version Bible App!

YouVersion Reading Plan - Lent and beyond

Date	YouVersion Plan	Length of Plan	Date	YouVersion Plan	Length of Plan
1-Mar	Peace is a Person	5 days	1-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
2-Mar	Peace is a Person	5 days	2-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
3-Mar	Peace is a Person	5 days	3-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
4-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	4-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
5-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	5-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
6-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	6-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
7-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	7-Apr	Living Worship	7 Days
8-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	8-Apr	Conquering Doubt	5 Days
9-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	9-Apr	Conquering Doubt	5 Days
10-Mar	How to Have Intentional Friendships	7 Days	10-Apr	Conquering Doubt	5 Days
11-Mar	Evangelize Don't Fossilize!	5 Days	11-Apr	Conquering Doubt	5 Days
12-Mar	Evangelize Don't Fossilize!	5 Days	12-Apr	Conquering Doubt	5 Days
13-Mar	Evangelize Don't Fossilize!	5 Days	15-Apr	Gratitude: Being Thankful Changes Everything	5 Days
14-Mar	Evangelize Don't Fossilize!	5 Days	16-Apr	Gratitude: Being Thankful Changes Everything	5 Days
15-Mar	Evangelize Don't Fossilize!	5 Days	17-Apr	Gratitude: Being Thankful Changes Everything	5 Days
16-Mar	Beyond Belief	5 Days	18-Apr	Gratitude: Being Thankful Changes Everything	5 Days
17-Mar	Beyond Belief	5 Days	19-Apr	Gratitude: Being Thankful Changes Everything	5 Days
18-Mar	Beyond Belief	5 Days	20-Apr	Rest Boldly	5 Days
19-Mar	Beyond Belief	5 Days	21-Apr	Rest Boldly	5 Days
20-Mar	Beyond Belief	5 Days	22-Apr	Rest Boldly	5 Days
21-Mar	I Am!	3 Days	23-Apr	Rest Boldly	5 Days
22-Mar	I Am!	3 Days	24-Apr	Rest Boldly	5 Days
23-Mar	I Am!	3 Days	25-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
24-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days	26-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
25-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days	27-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
26-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days	28-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
27-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days	29-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
28-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days	30-Apr	Learning How to Hear	6 Days
29-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days			
30-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days			
31-Mar	Love Remains	8 Days			



# Mark Your Calendar

## March

26 – Mother's Day Out 8:30-2:50  
26 – Campfire 3:30-5  
26 – Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  
26 – Guthrie Educational Foundation Fundraiser – Go Team FCC!  
28 – Maundy Thursday  
28 – Mother's Day Out 8:30-2:50  
28 – NA Meeting 7 p.m.  
29 – Good Friday  
29 – Good Friday Prayer Vigil 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
29 – Office Closed  
31 – Easter – Worship 10:30 a.m

## April

1 – Young Adults to Top Golf 6:30 p.m.  
2 – Election (FCC is a polling location)  
3 – Dinner Group @ Stables  
7 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Lunch / Meet Our Elders following worship  
7 – Pastor's Class 11:30 a.m.  
10 – Elders Meeting 6 p.m.  
14 – Pastor's Class 11:30 a.m.  
14 – Dinner Group @ Chicken Shack in Mulhall  
15 – Camp Registration and \$25 deposit is due  
15 – Connections Team Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
16 – Ministerial Alliance Meeting 11:30 a.m.  
17 – Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.  
18 – Dinner Group @ Stacy's Place 6 p.m.  
20 – 89ers Parade & Youth Food Booth  
20 – Fellowship Hall booked for private event  
21 – Donut Sunday  
21 – Worship Team Meeting 11:30 a.m.  
22 – Staff Meeting 11 a.m.  
22 – Newsletter deadline 12 p.m.  
25 – Girl Scout Event in Fellowship Hall 3-7 p.m.  
26 – Sanctuary and Reception Hall booked for private event  
28 – Baptism Sunday  
28 – Loose Change Sunday benefiting Mission Sunday  
28 – Christian Ed Team Meeting 11:30 a.m.



We are extremely grateful for the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation and the grant money they awarded to FCC Guthrie! We received 4 of the 5 grants we wrote this year including funds for Kidventure, Vacation Bible School, Children & Youth Office shelving and a fish tank for our Mother's Day Out and Children's Ministries! The total funds received was \$3,073.22! Oklahoma Disciples Foundation awarded over \$134,000 in grants this year.

## Palm Sunday

