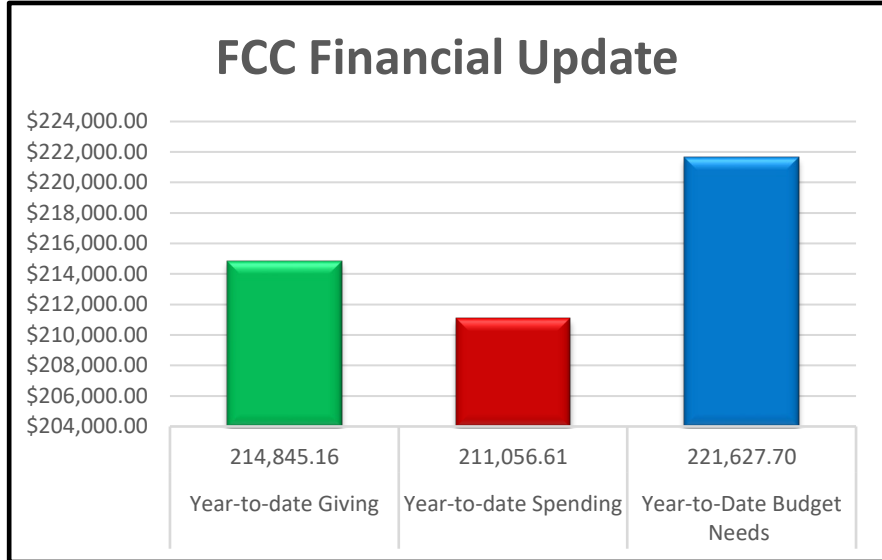


**Connections Team Update**

🤗 This Sunday is our 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Luncheon and we will be serving a BBQ Baked Potato Bar with lots of delicious options for toppings, as well as a few healthy options including salad and plain pulled pork! 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Luncheons are by donation with a \$5/person, \$20/family suggested donation. Invite a friend and join us this Sunday!

Our next Connections Team meeting will be Monday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. We will be planning for our All-Church picnic, as well as upcoming events for the Fall. We'd love to have you join us!

*Jana Frey*  
Connections Team



**FCC Attendance**  
**July 28 – 166**  
Average July Attendance – 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



# The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie  
405-282-4080    www.fccguthrie.org  
f First Christian Church of Guthrie

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

July 30, 2024     Volume 60, No. 7

**Notes from Pastor Ronnie**

I am so excited for our upcoming sermon series, “Being Christian in a Heated Election,” beginning August 18. Yes, we are going to talk politics, but not in the way you may be thinking. As Christians, it is challenging to not let our emotions and pride get the best of us. We need better tools in our toolbox, and I believe Micah 6:8 holds the keys to helping us navigate polarizing issues and candidates. Join us as we seek to navigate the election season with grace and conviction, grounded in the timeless truths of Scripture.

*Ronnie*

**Saying Goodbye and Hello**

We bid a heartfelt farewell to Derek and Holly, our dedicated custodians who have served our church faithfully for a combined 21 years. Their hard work and commitment have kept our church welcoming and well-maintained. We are grateful for their service and wish them God's blessings in their future endeavors.

At the same time, we are excited to welcome our new custodian, Brittany Torres. You may already be familiar with Brittany as she and her family are active members of the church. You will also find Brittany helping in the nursery on Sunday mornings and working with Mother’s Day Out on Tuesdays and Thursdays. With her enthusiasm and work ethic, we are confident she will continue the tradition of excellence. Please join us in thanking Derek and Holly for their years of dedication and service and in giving Brittany a warm welcome to our church staff.

# Kid Min Minute



## CANDLE LIGHTERS WANTED



It is time for a new candle lighter schedule! If your child has been wanting to participate in the Sunday morning service in this way, now is the time! If you have an incoming 3rd - 6th grader who would like to be a candle lighter, please email [nahardin@gmail.com](mailto:nahardin@gmail.com). Once we have a list together of who wants to do it, we will make a schedule for the new school year. We will also set up a couple of opportunities for the kids to get to walk through how to light the candles and the meaning behind it. Being a candle lighter is about a once every 2 month scheduled commitment with some extra Sundays as needed if we need a substitute.

## Baby Dedication



SUNDAY, AUGUST 25  
& SEPTEMBER 1

If your family would like to participate, please contact the church office

# Keeping Up With Karen



It's hard to believe Summer is coming to an end in just a few short weeks and we are talking about "Back to School." This has been an unusual Summer for sure for me and my family as I have enjoyed some additional time off and relaxed at home. This week begins the second half of my "sabbatical" time off and will run from Monday, July 29 to Saturday, Aug. 10. The Elders and Board graciously granted me six weeks of time off this year and I have been blessed to use it as a time for refreshment, renewal and healing.

I know a lot of people have wondered why we didn't plan any big vacations this Summer with the additional time off but honestly, it has been so refreshing to enjoy time at home. I am rarely at my house for extended periods of time, as we keep a busy schedule. So, being able to catch up on projects I have wanted to get done and just relax without a fast-paced schedule has been perfect. I also ended up having surgery on my knee for a torn meniscus and it was perfect timing to be able to get adequate rest to recover. I am still doing physical therapy and will continue it for a while. I am so thankful for all the calls, cards, meals, Sonic drinks, and texts during my recovery time! It truly is amazing how much our church family cares for one another, and I hope if you are ever in need, you feel cared for and prayed for throughout your difficult time.

Some of the things I have enjoyed doing while I've been off include catching up on some Bible studies I have wanted to do. Currently, I am making my way through a Beth Moore study on "Esther." Having seen the production in Branson with the Retired Fellowship Trip last Fall, it has made it that much more meaningful. I have been listening to Christine Caine's "Summer Sabbath" series and some episodes on "Life and Leadership." In addition, I finally got around to watching "The Chosen." So many have suggested it and have loved it, and I would agree. I am on Season 2 and look forward to catching up. It's worth watching if you haven't checked it out.

I have also enjoyed catching up on some movies and for the next two weeks, I am enjoying the Olympic games. I love watching our world come together for two weeks, with a look at what unity and love looks like through the lens of a worldwide level. I know there have already been moments of disappointment and disagreements over the Opening Ceremonies and the portrayal of what was seen as a mockery of Christianity. While it is disheartening that the Opening Ceremony Committee failed to recognize how some of the imagery would affect viewers, whether intentional or not, I refuse to let it take away from the fact that athletes have worked their whole lives for this moment and they are to be celebrated for their work ethic and accomplishments. The games being in Paris also holds a special place in my heart as John and I spent our honeymoon there 23 years ago. Being able to see some of the sights and sounds again has been extra special.

As we wrap up Summer, I hope you will take some moments to just breathe! It's so easy to get caught up in the hustle of getting all the "fun things" in and getting ready for "back to school" or the Fall schedule. I encourage you to take time to rejuvenate your soul. Spending time in scripture and prayer never disappoints and I am so thankful for the slower pace of my Summer. I pray you find some peace and quiet in these early weeks of August and soak in the spirit of God.

In Christ's Love, *Karen*

# AUGUST



what we're teaching this month



On your mark, get set, go! When a shepherd named David became king, it was a whole new ballgame! He had some big wins and some big losses, too, but he also had a great plan for how to overcome his challenges. In this 4-week series, kids will team up with David and learn that making peace, following God, showing kindness, and forgiveness are all part of God's game plan for us!



## GAME PLAN



scan me!  
to find out more



# ***YOUTH NEWS***

The 5th step of Ronnie's sermon on Sunday was to "Act On It" (God's Word) from James 1:22 and the youth have done just that in July! Here's the numbers: 14 youth attended summer camp where we helped paint at the camp, "swept" and picked stickers, some were also able to work at the Regional Bank Food and Resource Center where we served 37 households equaling 115 individuals plus 3,700 pounds of food and we packed 4,500 pounds of produce totaling 3,750 meals. Whew! We ended the month with three youth helping on Sunday where we packed 55 snack/dessert packs for Educators!

Sign up for remind texts to get the latest information about fccYOUTH! Grab the Back to School calendar on Sunday during Youth Extra! See you then!

**BACKPACK BLESSING & EDUCATOR SUNDAY**

**Sunday, August 18th at 10:30 AM**

Please join us at FCC Guthrie on this special Sunday on August 18th when we will recognize and pray over students of all ages, educators, administrators, and support staff for a successful school year!

All educators, administrators, & staff will receive a special gift!

Students: bring your backpacks!

Where? 402 E Noble Ave, Guthrie  
Who? FCC Guthrie

## The latest news from Mother's Day Out:



August 1 is our last day for summer session at MDO. We will be having "Meet the Teacher" August 19, 10:00AM - 12:00PM and our first day of Fall session begins August 20. Our Fall hours are 8:30AM - 2:50PM. Classes are filling up fast, we still have a few spots available for 3 and 4 year olds. If you would like more information please contact Samantha (405) 780-0559. Also if you're in the giving mood, please check out our Amazon wish list. Our teachers and students would greatly appreciate any help you can give!



## **Prayer Requests**

**We pray for our church family:** Michael Johnson and family in the death of his grandfather, Tommy Johnston and family in the death of his sister-in-law Bonnie Johnston (service at FCC 1 p.m. on Aug. 17), Linda Rice and family in the death of her brother-in-law Billy Buchanan, Jerry Rucker (hospitalized), Holly Kincaid (hospitalized), Clifton Chappell (surgery 8/1), Renee Leathers (surgery Aug. 6), Pam Williams (surgery Aug. 9), Marie Lynch, Bonita Johnston, Judy Coburn, Harvey Jarnagin, Rodney Stewart, John Shore, Carol Smith, Rylea Cowart, Lauren Porterfield, Bill Bowles, Steve Ochs, Gene Owen, Arnold Burkett, Sarah Schlueter, KC Griffin, Diane Biggs, Carson Ireton, John Riddle, Gerald Whitfield, Dennis Lynch

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

**We pray for our friends and family members:** Cathy Joy, Renee Leathers (surgery 8/6), LaJuanda Speegle, Jeff Sale, Regina Oakley, Karen Lear, Lillian Butler, Jamison Lee, Tilson Zamora, James Bailey, Gordon Sennhenn, Norman (Butch) Myers, Flora Overstreet, Laura Porter, Kirsten Shore, Lindsey Williams, Rachel Smith, Lawson Kirkland, Pam Timmons, Asher Houston, Jacob Bayless, Sharon Russell, Ronnie Jenkins, Gary Nelson, Denise Stills, Ed Hacker, Mary Beth Gilliland, Tillie Hartman, Cathy Carter, Crystal Grilley, Linda Beedle, Charlotte Cascio, Teal Esmeyer, Mike Bell, Tonya Dawn McCulloch, Mary Wheeler, Teresa May, Elsie Steinbeck

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

# DIG IN to the Word...Bible Study with us!

We have an ongoing group of people who do Bible studies together on the YouVersion Bible app. If you want to join the group and discussion, download the app, send a friend request to Karen Allen and she will invite you to each study.



# Freezer Meal Cooking Day!

We made 55 meals and will be handing them out to educators on our Backpack Blessing and Educator Appreciation Sunday on Aug. 18. We made Taco Meals, Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Chicken Spaghetti, Chicken Stuffing Casserole and Pulled Pork.

Thanks to Alice Allen, Karen Allen, Jan Bayless, Carol Doles, Wayne Elder, Karla Morris, Diann Owen, Clara Price, Colin Simpson, Kelly Simpson, Pam Smith, Nancy Tinder, and Debbie Williams!



## Join us on the You Version Bible App!

| YouVersion Reading Plan - August-October |                                            |                | YouVersion Reading Plan - August-October |                                        |                |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Date                                     | YouVersion Plan                            | Length of Plan | Date                                     | YouVersion Plan                        | Length of Plan |
| 1-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 16-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think      | 7 Days         |
| 2-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 17-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think      | 7 Days         |
| 3-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 18-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think      | 7 Days         |
| 4-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 19-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 5-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 20-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 6-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 21-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 7-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 22-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 8-Aug                                    | Journey to the Olympics                    | 8 Days         | 23-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 9-Aug                                    | The 5 R's: Lessons We Value from Educators | 5 Days         | 24-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 10-Aug                                   | The 5 R's: Lessons We Value from Educators | 5 Days         | 25-Sep                                   | Anxious for Nothing                    | 7 Days         |
| 11-Aug                                   | The 5 R's: Lessons We Value from Educators | 5 Days         | 26-Sep                                   | Personal Growth                        | 5 Days         |
| 12-Aug                                   | The 5 R's: Lessons We Value from Educators | 5 Days         | 27-Sep                                   | Personal Growth                        | 5 Days         |
| 13-Aug                                   | The 5 R's: Lessons We Value from Educators | 5 Days         | 28-Sep                                   | Personal Growth                        | 5 Days         |
| 14-Aug                                   | Anthems of Hope for Your Life & Faith      | 5 Days         | 29-Sep                                   | Personal Growth                        | 5 Days         |
| 15-Aug                                   | Anthems of Hope for Your Life & Faith      | 5 Days         | 30-Sep                                   | Personal Growth                        | 5 Days         |
| 16-Aug                                   | Anthems of Hope for Your Life & Faith      | 5 Days         | 1-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 17-Aug                                   | Anthems of Hope for Your Life & Faith      | 5 Days         | 2-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 18-Aug                                   | Anthems of Hope for Your Life & Faith      | 5 Days         | 3-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 19-Aug                                   | Act Justly                                 | 3 Days         | 4-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 20-Aug                                   | Act Justly                                 | 3 Days         | 5-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 21-Aug                                   | Act Justly                                 | 3 Days         | 6-Oct                                    | Speaking Life                          | 6 Days         |
| 22-Aug                                   | Love Mercy                                 | 3 Days         | 7-Oct                                    | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 23-Aug                                   | Love Mercy                                 | 3 Days         | 8-Oct                                    | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 24-Aug                                   | Love Mercy                                 | 3 Days         | 9-Oct                                    | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 25-Aug                                   | Walk Humbly                                | 3 Days         | 10-Oct                                   | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 26-Aug                                   | Walk Humbly                                | 3 Days         | 11-Oct                                   | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 27-Aug                                   | Walk Humbly                                | 3 Days         | 12-Oct                                   | God is:                                | 6 Days         |
| 28-Aug                                   | With Your God                              | 3 Days         | 13-Oct                                   | Certainty in times of Uncertainty      | 5 Days         |
| 29-Aug                                   | With Your God                              | 3 Days         | 14-Oct                                   | Certainty in times of Uncertainty      | 5 Days         |
| 30-Aug                                   | With Your God                              | 3 Days         | 15-Oct                                   | Certainty in times of Uncertainty      | 5 Days         |
| 31-Aug                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 16-Oct                                   | Certainty in times of Uncertainty      | 5 Days         |
| 1-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 17-Oct                                   | Certainty in times of Uncertainty      | 5 Days         |
| 2-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 18-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 3-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 19-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 4-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 20-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 5-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 21-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 6-Sep                                    | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 22-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 7-Sep                                    | Be Kind                                    | 5 Days         | 23-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 8-Sep                                    | Be Kind                                    | 5 Days         | 24-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 9-Sep                                    | Be Kind                                    | 5 Days         | 25-Oct                                   | Networking Kills, Success Thru Serving | 8 Days         |
| 10-Sep                                   | Be Kind                                    | 5 Days         | 26-Oct                                   | Under God?                             | 5 Days         |
| 11-Sep                                   | Be Kind                                    | 5 Days         | 27-Oct                                   | Under God?                             | 5 Days         |
| 12-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 28-Oct                                   | Under God?                             | 5 Days         |
| 13-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 29-Oct                                   | Under God?                             | 5 Days         |
| 14-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 30-Oct                                   | Under God?                             | 5 Days         |
| 15-Sep                                   | Humility: It's Not What You Think          | 7 Days         | 31-Oct                                   | Don't Let Politics Steal Your Peace    | 5 Days         |

Download the Version Bible Apple on your Smart Device or go to

<https://www.youversion.com/>

If you have an iPhone



App Store

If you have an Android  
(all other phones)



Play Store

1. Once you download the app, create a user profile
2. Send a "friend request" to Karen Allen
3. Karen will accept it and begin sending you invites to each study. You can choose to join a study or wait for the next invite.



upcoming Birthdays

### JULY

- 30 – Mike Carey  
Logan Payne
- 31 – Donna Koch  
Tommy Zellers

### AUGUST

- 1 – Jessica McLain  
Gene Owen
- 2 – Staci Carey  
Braylon Blakemore
- 3 – Rick Savory
- 4 – Todd Wilder  
Hogan McLemore
- 5 – Sherri McCollough  
Wilma Rogers

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### JULY

- 31 – Roy & Vicki Jones

### AUGUST

- 2 – Rick & Susan Savory
- 6 – Kevin & Alicia Carey
- 8 – Jeromé & Jami Fogle