



# The Tie That Binds

First Christian Church, Guthrie

405-282-4080 [www.fccguthrie.org](http://www.fccguthrie.org)



First Christian Church of Guthrie

Sharing Christ, Growing in Faith

April 28, 2026

## From the Pastor's Desk:

There is a lot happening in the life of our church right now, and I want to begin by sharing an important update.

Last Thursday morning, a faucet line broke on the third floor and caused significant damage to part of our church building, including our church offices. We are currently working with Flood Recovery and our insurance company as we begin the cleanup and restoration process. Our Mother's Day Out is not currently meeting since they use space in the affected part of the building, and many of the groups we host are also having to find other places to meet for now. At this point, we are being told we could be displaced for as long as six to eight months. We are praying and hoping it will be much shorter.

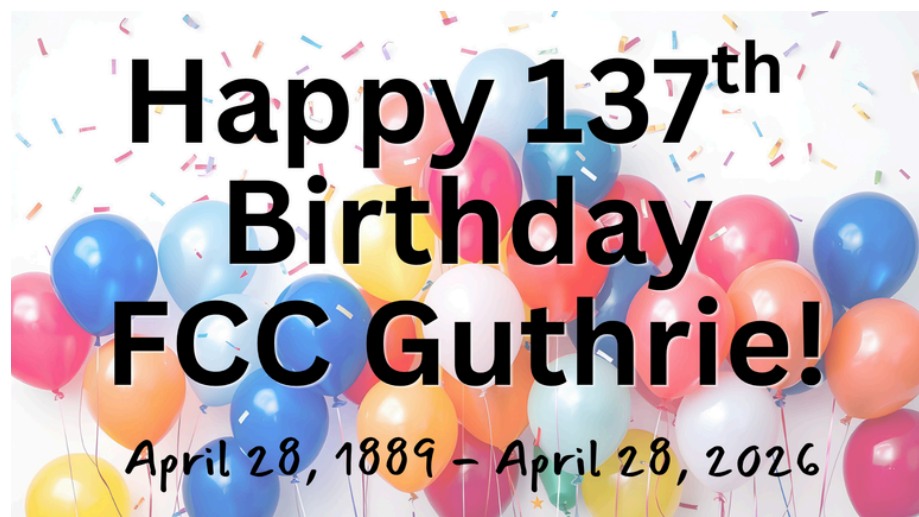
I want to be clear that this is not related to the ongoing Reception Hall remodel. This is obviously not what any of us wanted, and it will require flexibility, patience, and grace in the days ahead. But the church is more than offices and walls. We are still the church, and ministry will continue.

I also want to say a special thank you to our staff. They have stepped up in a big way, worked hard, and been incredibly flexible as we have started figuring out next steps and making plans. I am grateful for the way they have responded in the middle of a very stressful situation.

Please keep praying for a smooth restoration process, for those making decisions, and for all the ministries that are being disrupted right now. We will continue to keep you updated as we know more.

Grace and peace,

*Ronnie*



## **A Word of Thanks and Blessing for Michael**

We want to share that our worship leader, Michael Johnson, and his family will be moving to Arkansas this summer. Michael has served faithfully among us for more than seven years, and his last Sunday with us will be May 31.

We are grateful for the way Michael has led us in worship, served our church, and shared his gifts so generously over the years. Please be praying for Michael and his family as they prepare for this next chapter. We will have more to share soon about ways we can thank and encourage them well.

## **AV Fund Gift**

We recently received a generous gift of \$10,000 to our AV fund in memory of Diana **Baldwin**. This gift was used to purchase new cameras and video and audio equipment for worship.

We are deeply grateful for this meaningful gift and for the opportunity it gives us to strengthen both our in-person and online worship ministry. What a beautiful way to honor Diana's memory and bless the church.

## **Reception Hall Update**

Our Reception Hall remodel continues to move forward. Replacing the floor is set to begin this Wednesday or Thursday and should take about a week. The window will also be going in this week. After the floor is complete, Grace Construction will finish the door installation, and the project will be nearly done.

The exciting news is that once the floor is in, we should be able to begin using the room again. Woohoo! We are thankful for all the work that has gone into this project and cannot wait for you to enjoy the finished space.

## **Board Meeting Update**

At our Board Meeting on Sunday, April 26, several important actions were approved. We approved our new interim youth minister, Lance Blasier, who will serve through Sept. 30. We will begin a new search process on Sept. 1. Between now and then, we will also spend time better defining what we need as a church and what success will look like for the future of youth ministry.

We also approved our new Nominating Committee: Gregg Gumerson, Ryan Daniels, Janet Hudson, Barbara Mahan, and Debbie Hubbard.

In addition, we approved our new Personnel Policy, which will be available for viewing on our website shortly.

Please continue to pray for our church's leaders as we make decisions and move forward together.

# Thank you Kaden & Jill Frost!



Thank you to local Cub Scout Kaden Frost and his mom Jill for cleaning up some of our flower beds on the South side of the church. Kaden is working on his "Champions for Nature" elective badge. We are proud of this young man and appreciate the efforts to beautify our property.

**National Day of Prayer Breakfast**  
May 7 Community Church 7 a.m.

## This week's Birthdays

### April

28 - Carol Doles  
Austin Reece  
29 - Conna Dewart  
30 - Abigail Ball  
Dawn Hacker  
Clara Price

### May

1 - Emerson White  
3 - Kelly Simpson  
Barbara Smith  
4 - Andrew Hardin  
Jamie Hudson  
Bronson Johnson

## This week's Anniversaries

### April

28 - Brian & Danie Johnston  
28 - Jason & Sherri McCollough  
28 - Gene & Diann Owen



Birthdays and anniversaries are listed for the upcoming week. If your information is missing, please contact the church office.

# Prayer

**We pray for our church family:** Gavin Shults (knee surgery, May 6), Macey Lee, Lydia Gates, Karla Morris, Sarah Schlueter, Crystal Vassar, Gene Owen, KC Griffin, Nolan Crick, Dennis Lynch, Mike Carey, Nicole Linker, Phil Pingel, Marie Lynch, Bobby Davison, Anna Frey, Denise Shoun, Diana Dewart

**Our church family currently in rehab/assisted living/nursing home:** Cynthia Baker, Dorothy Smith, Jane Weeks, Ruth Underwood

**We pray for our friends and family members:** Steph Fortney, Marian Couey, Cordell Wiley, Herman Foust, Haley Truitt, Julie Cook, Theresa May, Tom Crawford, Ronny Joe Nelson, Dawn Low, Michael Wamsley, Steve Fields, Terry Holcomb, Michelle Beam, Jacob Davis, Rodney Myers, Scarlett Koenke, Deborah Hutchison, Edna Hellman, Barbara Sanchez, Randy Goodnow, Gary Bailey, Levi McMellian, Brandy Carey, Missy Lansdowne, Dale Owen, Ed Stevenson & family, Pam Timmons, Mike Damron, Gail Davis, Janell Loesch, Patty Bradley, Patsy Schull, Amelia Valentino, Harriet Black, Lexy Carothers, Johnny McKee, Kristy Gatlin, Kade Warner, Madelyn Wehr, Cathy Joy, Flora Overstreet, Asher Houston, Mary Beth Gilliland, Teal Esmeyer

**And our military all over the world:** Natasha Okine, Patrick Hardin, Sonny Crick, Court Machtolff, Bonnie Epperson, Jonah Friese, Matt Byce, Braxton Canning, Nate Ames, Garrett Canning, Brent Walton, Connor and Megan Neyen

**Text "GIVE" to  
405-645-6070 to  
donate to FCC  
Guthrie**

# Keeping Up With Karen

Wow! What a whirlwind it has been since I walked in the door last Thursday morning! On Thursday morning, just a few minutes before 8 a.m., I opened the west door of the education/office side of the church building to be greeted by water running toward me and what sounded like a heavy rain shower. As I investigated, I found water pouring in every room on the 1st floor and went upstairs to the 2nd floor to find the same thing but a little worse, and then, going to the 3rd floor found a supply line that went to a set of “child-sized” sinks spraying water as far and as wide as it possibly could. On the third floor, water was running over the top of my shoes as I shut it off, and at the west end of the building it was about an inch deep. Everything changed in that moment. We later learned that the “leak” happened around 2:15 a.m. and had been gushing for 5 hours.

A whirl wind of texts, phone calls, getting electronics unplugged, valuables out of water, canceling Mother’s Day Out (as they were 15 minutes from opening), moving a funeral dinner, and a myriad of other activities ensued in the moments ahead. I am so thankful to work with staff members who never complained or panicked but rather made the best of a terrible situation. Just the day before “The Great FCC Flood of 2026,” our staff had been working on some videos and were in and out of each other’s offices all day and had joked that: “We need to be in one big office; this would be a lot easier.” Well... here we are! That being said, if you need one of us, we are available by cell phone or we are sharing one church landline. “Headquarters” for the staff is the former Choir Room/Sanctuary Classroom. For now, all activities are in the Sanctuary end of the building. Hopefully, we are only a couple weeks away from opening the revamped Reception Hall! We can’t wait to show you how amazing it looks and all the new features.

Our target for our first event in the Reception Hall is Baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 13, when we host all the Seniors and their parents for a worship service. I can’t think of a more appropriate Grand Opening than an event that invites the community into our building. The purpose of our church is to be a front door to introduce people to Jesus and to bring them into a closer relationship with God. I am thrilled we get to host this event! I know for Ronnie and I, it is extra special this year as we both have graduates! It’s hard to believe those “little boys” have grown up into great young men, and I know I speak for Ronnie as well, when I say that we are thankful that this congregation has been a big part of their growth and development.

As we move forward in the next weeks and months ahead, we ask for your patience as we navigate activities and are forced to be “creative” in how we do things to utilize the space we have. We ask for your “presence” when our doors are open in Worship or other activities. We aren’t shut down; we are open and doing everything we can to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I am a little bit excited to be challenged to not do things “like they’ve always been done,” and to think through ministry a little differently. Sometimes it’s easy to always do what is “easy.” I know God will provide for us and ask that you pray for us to use this as an opportunity to draw closer to Christ.

I hope you have an amazing week. Pray for our graduates and all of us Senior parents as we navigate the next month with grace and joy!

*In Christ's love,  
Karen*

# YOUTH NEWSletter



## LANCE BLASIER



I have a huge heart for students and love helping them grow in their relationship with Christ.

I'm all about building real connections, having fun, and creating a place where students feel like they truly belong.

My family and I are actively involved in foster care, and right now our home is full with 11 kids—so life is definitely busy, loud, and full of love! I wouldn't have it any other way.

I'm really looking forward to building a youth ministry that's full of energy, faith, and community—where every student feels known, encouraged, and challenged to grow. When I'm not at church, you'll probably find me spending time with my family (which keeps things fun and interesting!).

I'd love to get to know you—feel free to reach out anytime if you have questions or just want to connect!

I can't wait to meet you all and see what God has in store!

[fccguthrieyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fccguthrieyouth@gmail.com)

405-612-3939



# Youth Meet & Greet with Youth Minister Lance Sunday, May 3

**Come & Go 5 - 6:30 p.m.**

All 7th-12<sup>th</sup> graders  
and their parents  
are invited!

**at Pizza Hut**



## YOUTH SERVING SCHEDULE

### Scripture Reader

<b>May 3</b>	Colten Stevens
<b>May 10</b>	Aiden Hardin
<b>May 17</b>	Lily Rechlin
<b>May 24</b>	Emmet Hardin
<b>May 31</b>	Ethan Cotton

### Junior Deacons

Anna Stevens & Avery Schroder
Bailey Hardin & Gabby Bench
John Rechlin & Ethan Cotton
Daelon Rice & Max Fields
Charlie Hooper & Colten Stevens



**Volunteers Needed**  
**June 15-18**

# Mother's Day Out

All MDO activities are on hold until further notice due to flooding. As most of you know, the 3rd floor of the Education Wing experienced a broken pipe in the early morning hours on Thursday. Because of that, the entire Education Wing experienced water damage and has been deemed unsafe; it is currently closed for the foreseeable future. Thank you to everyone who has offered help, but there is not much we can do at this time.

We will definitely need help unpacking when the time comes to move back in. We will try to keep everyone posted as we learn more. They are estimating 6-8 months, but we are praying for less.

We will know more about our needs as everything progresses.

We serve the God of miracles.



Amazon Wish List



## Outreach Opportunities



 First Christian Church  
Guthrie

### Wings of Hope

Starting in April, we will have a **Wings of Hope** tree in entry way with colorful butterflies, colored by our children, that have suggested items that are needed in **Logan County**.

On **April 19<sup>th</sup>**, **Wings of Hope** will come to speak about their organization along with the services & impacts in the community.

We will end this on **Mother's Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>**, in honor of all moms whether or not they have utilized services or not.

—  **COLLECTION OF WELCOME BASKETS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS & SELF CARE KITS:**  —

 Paper towels	 Hand towels	 Non-perishable food
 Cleaning wipes	 Self care kits	 Hairbrushes
 Sponges	 Gas cards (minimum of \$10)	 Tampons and pads (all sizes)
 Toilet paper	 Socks (all sizes)	 Deodorant (travel size is fine)
 Air fresheners		 Bags (can be backpacks, draw string, small make up/toiletry bags)

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

# Volunteers Needed!



July 13 - 16

CLASS OF 2026

**GRADUATION**

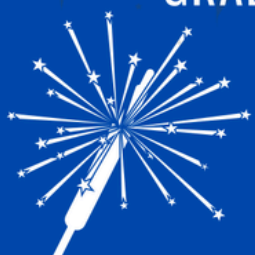
**SUNDAY**

**Sunday, May 17**

**GRADUATE BREAKFAST 9 A.M. (RSVP BY MAY 13)**

**WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.**

Seniors, send your picture to the church office by Wednesday, May 13  
[fccguthrie.office@gmail.com](mailto:fccguthrie.office@gmail.com)





# NEWSLETTER

## TITHING AND OFFERING

Teaching children about tithing is a meaningful way to help them grow in generosity, gratitude, and faith. When kids learn to give a portion of what they have, they begin to understand that everything we receive is a blessing and that giving is an act of trust and worship. Tithing also helps children develop a heart for others, showing them the joy that comes from helping those in need.

As part of putting this into action, we will be collecting tithes weekly, giving children a consistent opportunity to practice generosity and stewardship.

Thank you for helping us teach our children the value of giving while making a positive impact in our community.

## LESSON

KW - GENESIS 1- CREATION

## MINISTRY LEADERS

KW - Priscilla Moores

**2 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED  
THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH.

- GENESIS 1:1 -

**Memory Verse**

# CLIFF TOP

## COMING TO FCC GUTHRIE

Sunday, May 17

5:30-7:30 p.m.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
**Admission is FREE**

Bring a canned food item for our community Blessing Boxes

A Love Offering will be collected to benefit a school supply drive for Coyle Public Schools



# Join us on the YouVersion Bible App!

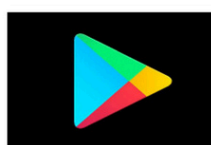
YouVersion Reading Plan - March, April, May 2026					
Date	YouVersion Plan	Length of Plan	Date	YouVersion Plan	Length of Plan
1-Mar	Power to Heal	5 Days	16-Apr	A Recklessly Extravagant Love	5 Days
2-Mar	Power to Heal	5 Days	17-Apr	A Recklessly Extravagant Love	5 Days
3-Mar	Power to Heal	5 Days	18-Apr	A Recklessly Extravagant Love	5 Days
4-Mar	Power to Heal	5 Days	19-Apr	Truth in the Dirt	5 Days
5-Mar	Power to Heal	5 Days	20-Apr	Truth in the Dirt	5 Days
6-Mar	Speak to my Heart, Jesus	5 Days	21-Apr	Truth in the Dirt	5 Days
7-Mar	Speak to my Heart, Jesus	5 Days	22-Apr	Truth in the Dirt	5 Days
8-Mar	Speak to my Heart, Jesus	5 Days	23-Apr	Truth in the Dirt	5 Days
9-Mar	Speak to my Heart, Jesus	5 Days	24-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
10-Mar	Speak to my Heart, Jesus	5 Days	25-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
11-Mar	5 Prayers of Humility	5 Days	26-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
12-Mar	5 Prayers of Humility	5 Days	27-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
13-Mar	5 Prayers of Humility	5 Days	28-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
14-Mar	5 Prayers of Humility	5 Days	29-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
15-Mar	5 Prayers of Humility	5 Days	30-Apr	Use Your Power for Good	7 Days
16-Mar	Broken Crayons Still Color	5 Days	May 1	God Fights For Us	7 Days
17-Mar	Broken Crayons Still Color	5 Days	May 2	God Fights For Us	7 Days
18-Mar	Broken Crayons Still Color	5 Days	May 3	God Fights For Us	7 Days
19-Mar	Broken Crayons Still Color	5 Days	May 4	God Fights For Us	7 Days
20-Mar	Broken Crayons Still Color	5 Days	May 5	God Fights For Us	7 Days
21-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 6	God Fights For Us	7 Days
22-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 7	God Fights For Us	7 Days
23-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 8	White Knuckles - Trust God	5 Days
24-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 9	White Knuckles - Trust God	5 Days
25-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 10	White Knuckles - Trust God	5 Days
26-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 11	White Knuckles - Trust God	5 Days
27-Mar	The Supremacy of Love	7 Days	May 12	White Knuckles - Trust God	5 Days
28-Mar	The Palm Sunday Pressure	5 Days	May 13	Start At The Finish	5 Days
29-Mar	The Palm Sunday Pressure	5 Days	May 14	Start At The Finish	5 Days
30-Mar	The Palm Sunday Pressure	5 Days	May 15	Start At The Finish	5 Days
31-Mar	The Palm Sunday Pressure	5 Days	May 16	Start At The Finish	5 Days
1-Apr	The Palm Sunday Pressure	5 Days	May 17	Start At The Finish	5 Days
2-Apr	Why Easter	5 Days	May 18	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
3-Apr	Why Easter	5 Days	May 19	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
4-Apr	Why Easter	5 Days	May 20	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
5-Apr	Why Easter	5 Days	May 21	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
6-Apr	Why Easter	5 Days	May 22	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
7-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 23	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
8-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 24	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
9-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 25	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
10-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 26	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
11-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 27	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
12-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 28	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
13-Apr	Resurrection	7 Days	May 29	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
14-Apr	A Recklessly Extravagant Love	5 Days	May 30	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days
15-Apr	A Recklessly Extravagant Love	5 Days	May 31	Unlimited Relationship	14 Days

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.