

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Return Service Requested



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DECORATE THE CHURCH TOGETHER!!!!



On **Saturday, Nov. 26th** at **10 AM**, we invite **ALL** of you to come and decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for Christmas. We will have music of the season and we **REALLY** do have lots of work for all to do. The children K-5th will have gingerbread time, the youth will be our ladder climbers and a nursery will be provided if needed.

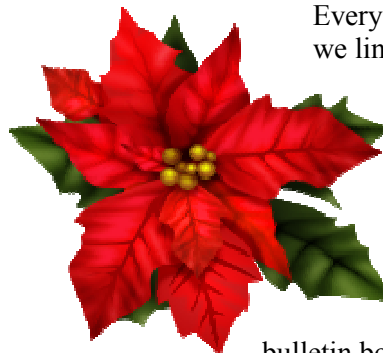
CHRISTMAS FLOAT NEEDS BUILDERS!



If you help Susan Smithwick build the "Candy Cane for Jesus" float then God will come see you at Christmas....and every other day...because He is your Daddy! For real, Susan and others will start putting together a float for the Dec. 2nd, Cleburne Christmas Parade and **YOU** are invited, encouraged and asked to help. **Give Susan a call right now (817-774-6242) and sign up to build!!!**

*Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses;
Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes;
Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears;
Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean;
Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself. ~Unknown*

IT'S POINSETTIA TIME!!!



Every year at Advent Season we line the Sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias.

We purchase these at a local store and you pay for them by donating \$10 in memory or in honor of someone you love. The sign-up list in on the

bulletin board by the office and you can make your checks out to "FCC - Poinsettias".

NOVEMBER 27th STARTS SEASON OF ADVENT! AN OLD ENGLISH CHRISTMAS!

Over many hundreds of years, the church has celebrated



the 4 Sundays before Christ's birth and this celebration is called "Advent". On each Sunday we have a church family light the Candles of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy, and then at our Christmas Eve Service, we light the Christ Candle and eagerly anticipate the Christ-Child's

arrival. So on November 27th, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, be ready to prepare your hearts and anticipate Christ's coming anew into our lives, homes and world. We will have an "Old English" theme this year, using parts of Charles Dickens's book "A Christmas Carol" in all of our Advent sermons, culminating with the Christmas Eve service.



NOVEMBER YOUTH NEWS & NOTES

God bless ya'll! Pastor Burr
If you have questions call or email me at:
816-589-2279 or steven.buu@tcu.edu

Youth News by Reverend Wayne
Cans To Create Change!!! Thanksgiving Meal to Create Heartburn & Youth Money! The Youth want to fix up their Youth Room, buying a new TV, getting couches and recliner type chairs and adding a "surprise" to make it the best Youth Room ever! To pay for this, they will pass the cans in November and let you help for the change ...er...for your change. The Youth love collecting extra this way and it seems fun for you too. AND THEN....every year we have a Thanksgiving Dinner the Sunday before Thanksgiving. It has become a tradition to have a huge Mexican Feast of homemade tamales, guacamole, nachos, tacos, enchiladas and more, with the Outreach Team doing the work. Well, this year, the Youth and their Parents will put the meal together so the monies can go for the Youth Room. Every youth parent needs to call Steven to see what they can do to help the cause. Also remember to help with Youth programs on Wednesday evenings for the Chi Rho and Sunday evenings for the C.Y.F.

CHILI COOK-OFF & DESSERT AUCTION

HURRAH!!! For God and for You!!! We raised almost **\$1,100** for our **Mission Trip** at the Chili Cook-off! What a good time we had! (Check out our Facebook album!) This year's winners were: **Hannah Smithwick** the **Dessert Champion**, **Thomas and Kristina** the **Chili Champions - Judge's Choice** and **George Smithwick** the **Chili Champion - People's Choice**. A million thanks to the awesome Outreach Committee chaired by **Jane Silvey** for the hard work. Last month this Committee fed over 30 folks from our local Homeless Shelter, gave \$175 to fix a car and made up 25 Snak Paks each week (weekend food for needy children in our school system). We also had Dorothy Watts' family give \$200 to the Mission trip in Dorothy's name. What good people you all are, God is pleased, just check out Matthew 25, and F.C.C. will be blessed, blessed and blessed some more!

SERMONS FOR NOVEMBER

- November 6 –“How Holidays Can Change”
Isaiah 1:10-17
- November 13 –“The Gratitude Attitude”
Ephesians 5: 15-20
- November 20 –“Thanksgiving, a Holiday or a Habit?” Psalms 34:1-8
- November 27 –“The Tender Mercy of Our God”
Luke 1:67-79

LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

- November 6 Chuck Bailey
- November 13 Robby Owen
- November 20 Adrienne Anderson
- November 27 George Smithwick



ELDERS AT THE TABLE

- November 6 Ken & Susan Ellis
- November 13 Chuck Bailey & Cindy Ashlock
- November 20 Perry & Adrienne Anderson
- November 27 Alice Finley & Jeff Cooper

SERVING DEACONS

- November 6 Dottie Bennett, Susan Smithwick, Ken Chandler & Rick Blaine
- November 13 Jerry Scott, Ronnie Boyer, George Smithwick & Ruth Graeve
- November 20 Jerry Scott, Susan Smithwick, Dottie Bennett & Ruth Graeve
- November 27 Rick Blaine, Ken Chandler, George Smithwick & Ronnie Boyer

WEDNESDAY MEALS

- November 2 Chicken & Dumplings
- November 9 Beans & Cornbread
- November 16 Stew
- November 23 No Meal
- November 30 Stew



NOVEMBER CLASS HOSTING AND COMMUNION PREPARATION

- Class Hosting Seekers
- Communion Roger & Sharon Ray

ATTENDANCE & GIVING REPORT

		Attendance	Reg. Offering	Other Giving
Oct	2	117	\$4696.00	\$0
Oct	9	108	\$4659.00	\$ 89.60
Oct	16	118	\$3047.00	\$151.00
Oct	23	109	\$1859.00	\$227.50

IN THE DAYS AHEAD....

Nov. 4 - Game night, 6:00 PM we all gather in the Fellowship Hall, bringing food to share and games to play and laughs to laugh, a church that plays together stays together!

Nov. 4 & 5 - Chi Rho Fall Retreat

Nov. 5 - Time Change- Fall Back!

Nov. 17 - Agape meal, we feed the Lodge (our local homeless shelter) at **6:00 PM**, although if you can help cook, we will need you to start earlier. Call Jane Silvey or Beverly Boyer and find out how you can help!

Nov. 18 & 19 - CYF Fall Retreat

Nov. 20 - Mexican Fiesta Dinner right after worship.

Nov. 20 - Cabinet meets at **4:00 PM**, working on the work of the church, Committee leaders of FCC are expected to be there.

Nov. 21 - Elders meet at **6:00 PM** to pray and share concerns of the Body, asking God for insight and vision for leading this church to be what God wants us to be.

Nov. 21 - The Board of FCC will convene at **7:00 PM** to hear reports and do the business of the church; this meeting is open to any and all who wish to be there.

Nov. 23 - No meals or meetings.

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed



MEXICAN FIESTA DINNER FOR THANKSGIVING!!!

Again this year we will have a "Mexican Fiesta Dinner" the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day. This is offered by the Youth, believing that you will get enough turkey in the week ahead and that you will love homemade tamales, guacamole and fresh hot tortillas. The youth pays for all the food and asks that you make a donation equal to what you would spend if you took your family out for a classy Thanksgiving meal. This meal will be served on **November 20th right after worship**. You will eat well and give generously and all will say, "Muchas Gracias!"



WAYNE'S WANDERINGS



Hello again! We are in the Fall season! Leaves are turning, falling and temperatures are cool, I just love it! It is "Holiday Season!" starting with the Church birthday which was the first Sunday in October. Our church has lots of fun things, holiday events, great meals and more planned. Halloween is really based on a Spiritual holiday. As the eve before All Saints Day, the devil and his minions are fearful and act up before God's Power of Love overcomes them. Do you think that is what America believes at Halloween??? - I don't either. Now Thanksgiving, the big holiday for November, is NOT a Church holiday, but a day established by thankful Presidents of the United States who recognized special times of God's help, started by Washington when France helped us fight the British and reestablished by Lincoln as a day to remember our blessings and be especially thankful. When Charles Dickens visited America in the late 1800's, giving lectures across the country, he said Americans had things mixed up. He suggested we should change Thanksgiving Day to "Complaining Day", and then make sure the other 364 days of the year were not "Complaining Day" but days of Thanksgiving. Good point! Why not give thanks every day and in every way, allowing only one day a year to complain and growl and moan and act like the devil. I think I agree with Charles Dickens; let's start making every day Thanksgiving and let's pick one day a year to do ALL our complaining and fussing. When you pick your "Complaining Day" let me know so I can be sure to avoid you that day, but when you are thankful, be sure to look me up! I will see you in Church on Thanksgiving Sunday, 52 times a year!

Da Rev

Nov. 25 - Office Closed

Nov. 26 - Decorate The Church at 10:00 AM.

Nov. 27 - First Sunday of Advent

REHEARSALS FOR CHRISTMAS PLAY!



Please bring your **Elementary age child** to church every **Wednesday at 6:30 PM** from now until **Dec. 18th**. We will have the Children's Christmas Play on Dec. 18th, followed by gifts and a visit from Santa (it starts at 6 PM on the 18th). We want to have the children act

out the Christmas story, with Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, angels, wise men and more; and on Wednesday nights, they will start learning the story, the songs and also have a fun time learning the Story of God's Love at that first Christmas. **Make sure your child is at FCC every Wednesday!!!**