

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Return Service Requested



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Wayne's Wanderings

Greetings again as we head into November. It is still too warm to be "the jolly season" but that will change soon. It is funny how little things have to be in place for big changes to happen. No frost on the window, no hot apple cider with cinnamon red-hot's. With the Fall time change usually comes a falling of the leaves and getting the fire place ready for first fire. Little things in place so big things can happen. Little things add up. If we would watch the pennies the dollars would be in the bank account when needed. I want to encourage you to work on little things in the month ahead. Don't read a lot of Bible, just a few verses daily. Don't pray all night, just a little, morning, noon and night. Don't sell your house and give the proceeds to the church, just put aside the Lord's share every time you get some money. I am in week 35 of 90 weeks of Weight Watchers. I am just watching the little things and losing a little each week, but if I keep it up, I will be a new person by January, 2012. What if you worked on your Spiritual journey for 90 weeks, doing a little every day to draw you closer to God. What would you look like at the end, probably like a Saint. Let's make little adjustments in our walk in the days ahead and become a big part of God's will being done on earth!

Thanks, Da Rev.



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 Mexico Mission Team believing that you will get enough turkey in the week ahead and that you love homemade tamales, guacamole and fresh hot tortillas. The team 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 21st right after worship. You will eat well and give generously and all will say, "Muchas gracias, El Senior!"

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".

ELDERS AT THE TABLE

November 7 Perry & Adrienne Anderson
 November 14 Ken & Susan Ellis
 November 21 John & Lynda Hathaway
 November 28 Jeff Cooper & Chuck Bailey

SERMONS FOR NOVEMBER

November 7 – “Becoming the Good News”
 Ephesians 4:11-16
 November 14 - “Sharing the Good News”
 Ephesians 4:11-16
 November 21 – “Celebrating With Thanks Giving”
 Luke 4:14-21
 November 28 – “Do What You’ve Always Done,
 Get What You’ve Always Got!”
 Luke 1:5-23

WEDNESDAY MEALS

November 3 Tacos & Nachos
 November 10 Chili Cheese Dogs
 November 17 Preacher’s Stew
 November 24 No Meal

NOVEMBER CLASS HOSTING AND COMMUNION PREPARATION

Class Hosting Seekers
 (Led by Ken Sickels)
 Communion Elizabeth Price

NOVEMBER 28th STARTS SEASON OF ADVENT!

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 28th, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, be ready to prepare your hearts and anticipate Christ's coming anew into our lives, homes and world. Note the events of Advent and mark them on your calendar, making special room in your busy lives to make sure that this is the "Best Christmas Ever!"

DECORATE THE CHURCH TOGETHER!!!!

On Saturday, Nov. 27th, 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 for our youngest members. Pastor Wayne will have a big hot pot of "Preacher's Stew" with corn bread and more and it will be a great time!

IT'S GINGERBEAD TIME!

All children of our church are invited to come and make Gingerbread Men, Candy Trains and more. This special children's Christmas event will be on Nov. 27th, 10 AM-1 PM (while others are decorating the church for Christmas). We will make cookies, candy trains, planes and rocket ships to give to the Fire Stations, Police headquarters, the Lodge and to other special friends of our church. We will need some of you to volunteer to help with the cookies and some with trains (need hot glue guns, especially). We greatly need "green agape" (money) to pay for the ingredients and we, of course, need your child to come. Nov. 27th at 10 AM, it is Gingerbread time!!!

ATTENDANCE & GIVING REPORT

		Attendance	Reg Offering	Other Giving
Sept	26	130	\$2,182.08	\$702.00
Oct	3	128	\$5,364.00	\$84.50
Oct	10	129	\$4,334.55	\$422.00
Oct	17	117	\$2,418.17	\$193.72
Oct	24	120	\$2,270.00	\$150.00

Holiday Singers are SINGING!

Starting Nov. 7th, you who love Christmas music will be rehearsing on Sunday evenings at 6:30 PM. We will have rehearsals all through the Christmas season and Karen Griffith will be our fearless leader. Bring a friend, a family member and let's sing "joy to the world" because "the Lord has come!"

WEDDINGS.....

Victor & Heather Stephens

Congratulations to Victor Stephens and Joni (Heather)

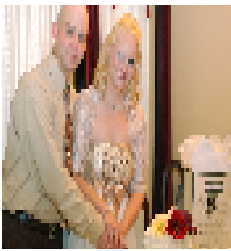
Letts in their wedding on October 16th. In the 7th grade, Vic fell for then, Joni Matlock, daughter of our own Mary Lou Brown and

they re-met after many years apart and committed their lives together at First Christian on October 16th. We give them our love and support!



Jason & Christina Spies

On October 23rd Christina Forrester took Jason Spies to be her wedded husband.



We would like to Congratulate Jason, Christina, Corbin and Ethan as they enjoy this new family. They will continue to live at 1410 Wedgewood Drive, Cleburne.

A GRIEF SHARED...



It is with sadness we share the passing of Noyce Renfro on October 2nd. Noyce was the longest time member of FCC, being baptized here in 1937. Noyce was also the church musician for over 50 years and active in every area of our

church. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Maurice Renfro. Be in prayer of the family as they walk through this time of grief.

WHAT ABOUT WEDNESDAY STUDIES?

We are about through with the study on Revelations and the ladies study will continue until the first of December. When the study of Revelations is over Perry Anderson will lead a study through the Old Testament book of Ruth. Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM we will have something going on, plus seasonal children's events and a nursery always. Come and be a part of Wednesday meals and studies that follow.



NOVEMBER YOUTH NEWS & NOTES

Come join us this month for Fun and Fellowship

For Jr. High and CYF:

November 5-7~ Chi Rho Fall Retreat in Athens

November 7~ Youth Group 5-7 PM

November 14~ Youth Group 5-7 PM

November 19-21~ CYF Fall Retreat in Athens

November 21~ NO YOUTH

November 28~ NO YOUTH

Sneak Peak into December for Youth

December 17~ (4:00 PM-close)

Holiday in the Park

For 1st-5th graders:

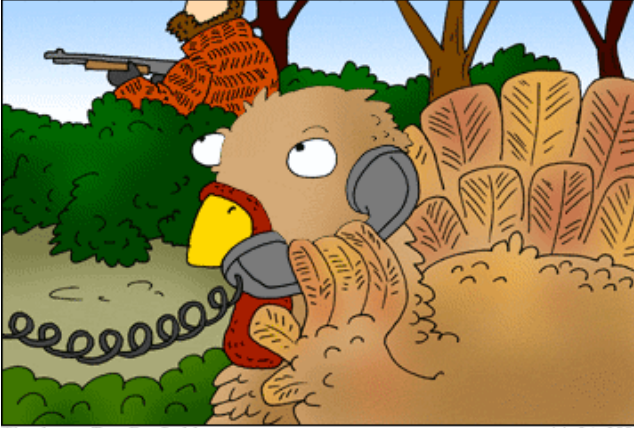
November 27th there will be "Gingerbread Time" for the kids while everyone else is decorating the church for Christmas. Also as a sneak peek into December...on the 11th we were supposed to go to the Polar Express. Well things have changed and now we are "taking an adventure to Waxahachie for a Night in Bethlehem." Call me or the office for more information!

If you have any questions Please Call Me at 309-267-1588 or email me! If you want to help with any activity please call or email as well. Thanks and PEACE~ Emily



JOKE FOR NOVEMBER

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Jay Benfield

11-24-2000

HELLO, YOU HAVE REACHED THE SALVATION
HOTLINE ... ARE YOU READY TO MAKE A
DECISION TODAY?

JESUS' WISH LIST FOR CHRISTMAS

Jesus would surely want "Peace on earth and good will for all men!" He would want families fed and loved and at peace. He would want justice, all children fed and warm and loved in His name. We have found five families through the Crisis Center that we want to bless for Christmas, giving them gifts in honor of Jesus' birthday. The wish tags will be posted by November 15th. Once posted pick up one of the wish tags, write your name so we know who has what, and enjoy shopping for Jesus' birthday. The families lists will be on the bulletin boards by the office.

OUTREACH IS STILL REACHING OUT!

This morning we had a car fixed for a lady from the Lodge. Roger and Sharon Ray are at the moment getting ready to assemble Snak Paks. Last Sunday we raised over \$1,800 for our Mexican Mission project. We plan to feed the Lodge again on Nov. 11th (come and join us!), the Widow Patrol rides out on the 13th (bring your leaf rakes and garbage bags!), and Rick Blaine is finding us some families to bless at Christmas. Know that the Outreach Committee takes serious your giving 10% of all monies to help others. We Reach Out in Jesus' Name!!!!

AUTUMN LEAVES

*Upon the breeze, the autumn leaves
Are carried thither, yon;
They rest at last, upon the grass
One moment...then they're gone.
They're tossed about and in and out
They fly across the way;
And up and down, they sail around-
The wind they must obey.*

*Now, if you please, the autumn leaves
Are much like most of us;
We're tossed about by fear and doubt
And things we rare discuss.
This need not be, for you and me-
There is a surer way;
The Solid Rock will bear the shock
No matter what the fray.*

*He who believes is not like leaves
That drift with every wind,
His faith is fixed, in God unmixed
With doubts that Satan sends.
He walks with God, while earth he trods
He's led by pow'r divine;
When life is through, beyond the blue
He'll dwell in lands sublime.*

Carl C. Williams, Sr.

HARVEST

*Pumpkins in the field row
Become filling in the pie.
Apples in the orchard
Are gleaned from trees on high.
Roses in the garden
Offer fragrance and delight
Raising spirits in the sunlight,
Lending solace in the night.
If plants from fields and gardens
Give themselves without reserve
Never questioning or doubting
Whether we deserve
To receive their bounteous blessings
Bestowed without complaint
Surely, we, the Father's first fruits
Can be shared without restraint.*

Paul Avinger