

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
200 South Nolan River Road
Cleburne, Texas 76033

Return Service Requested



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Changes Going On At FCC!!!

Goodness!!! Where do we start? On September 2nd, **Tammy Morris** gave her notice as Secretary of FCC. She has worked for three years and we are thankful for her work. We have hired **Tamara French** to replace her and wish Tammy a blessed life as a "stay at home Mom" in the days ahead. Then on September 16th, **Liz and Don Haywood** gave their notice as our Church Custodians. We have a committee interviewing candidates for replacing them at this time. Tammy and Liz and Don all will work until the end of September.

But then, and this is not related, **Pastor Wayne** gave notice of his retirement, read his statement;

"After 30 years of working in Ministry in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, it is time for me to announce my retirement. I give notice that January 8th, 2012, will be my last Sunday in the pulpit of F.C.C., Cleburne. I hope to still coordinate the 4 church mission trip that will be March 11-16 in Joplin, Missouri and I have a wedding scheduled for Feb. 23rd that I would like to do. My actual Pension and Social Security payments will start January 1st, so my last payday at FCC, Cleburne will be December 31st. My leaving is not due to any negative circumstance except my age and weariness.

*We plan to stay and live in Cleburne and time will tell of how we will all live out our being dear friends and co-laborers in Christ. I have truly loved being your Pastor and plan to continue as such until January 8th, at which time I shall then truly love being your friend.
Wayne"*

First Christian Church is in for some changes, but the leadership is clear that God who started this church will keep it functioning as the Body of Christ and we all believe we will continue to **"Make God proud and Jesus famous!"**

ON GIVING....

We have had a tough month in Stewardship. You have done fairly well with the building fund, allowing us to build the lift (almost finished) and to repair the missing shingles on the roof.... But your giving to our General Fund has been weak, causing the Stewardship Committee to pray harder and the Pastor to write this article. We need ALL of you to make a regular offering so we can do the work of the Lord. We have not had to hold any payments but it has been close. Be faithful that is all we ask. If you can't get to church, send your offering to FCC, 200 S Nolan River Rd., Cleburne TX, 76033. Thanks!



**OCTOBER
YOUTH NEWS &
NOTES**

Dear Friends,
I have officially been here for an entire month! I can hardly believe how blessed I feel to be a part of this church family! I got the chance to preach two Sunday's ago, and it was wonderful to hear my mother say how she feels like I'm in a church home, not working for a church! My grandfather, who is most likely the wisest man that I've ever known gave me the best advice I've ever gotten – find a job you love, and you'll never work a day in your life. And that I have! I love being your youth pastor!

Coming up soon, we need to get those registration papers in for fall retreats for Chi-Rho and CYF camps! **SEND YOUR KIDS TO CAMP! THEY WILL LOVE IT!**

The Youth are redecorating their room, and they are in need of A LOT of furniture! If you have a chair, a love seat, or a massive COUCH you are looking to help find a better home for, we would love to take it off your hands – as long as it's comfy! That seems to be the only qualification that the youth really care about!

There is a signup sheet for Youth dinners on the bulletin board across from the office! It still has some blanks....

This past Sunday was a ton of fun, and Trip loved getting to meet everyone!

Thank you for all of your loving support during my first month of ministry!
-Steven

SERMONS FOR OCTOBER

- October 2 – **“Old Stories For a New World”**
Luke 10:27 & Matthew 28:16-20
- October 9 – **“Sent Out by Jesus”**
Luke 10:1-12 & 17-20
- October 16 – **“A Chip On Your Shoulder”**
Corinthians 13:1-10
- October 23 – **“Ready For Anything”**
Matthew 25:1-13
- October 30 – **“Covenant Making, Covenant Breaking”**
Genesis 2:18-25

LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

- October 2 Ken Ellis
- October 9 Becky Hightower
- October 16 Lisa Chandler
- October 23 Fred Bennett
- October 30 Ken Chandler

ELDERS AT THE TABLE

- October 2 Karen Griffith & Chuck Bailey
- October 9 Jeff Cooper & Karen Cowan
- October 16 John & Lynda Hathaway
- October 23 Cindy Ashlock & Fred Bennett
- October 30 Bob Brown & Adrienne Anderson

WEDNESDAY MEALS

- October 5 Chicken Enchiladas
- October 12 Bar-B-Que Chicken
- October 19 Mystery Meal (No Cook)
- October 26 Potato Pile-On

OCTOBER CLASS HOSTING AND COMMUNION PREPARATION

- Class Hosting Pairs & Spares
(Led by Alice Finley)
- Communion Adrienne Anderson

ATTENDANCE & GIVING REPORT

		Attendance	Reg Offering	Other Giving
Aug	28	125	\$9,944.00	\$226.50
Sept	4	102	\$5,662.22	\$88.30
Sept	11	132	\$3,107.00	\$30.00
Sept	18	120	\$2,000.00	\$276.50
Sept	25	101	\$1,712.00	\$64.00



ALL CHURCH WORK DAY THIS SATURDAY! October 1st

We need many of you to come and help for 3 hours at the All Church Workday. Our NEW Property Chairpersons are calling us to lend a hand! **Jerry Scott** and **Charles Collins** have asked that some of us reorganize the kitchen, putting up new labels and bringing order to one of our most used areas.

Another group will clean up the Sanctuary, vacuuming, cleaning the rooms on the side, dusting, cleaning the silver set, replacing light bulbs, and such. Then we need a ladder crew, cleaning everything up high, including the attic area over the nursery. If we have enough help, we will have an Outdoor Crew, working around the church in many areas to bring order, beauty and cleanliness, all this to get the church ready for its 144th Birthday Celebration. Jerry and Charles will cook us hamburgers on the grill and we will end our work day with a great meal.

SIXTH ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF and DESSERT AUCTION!! Oct. 23rd, 6:00 PM!



Here we go again! Bragging rights for the best chili, best desserts, with Chili winners in the "People's Choice" (George Smithwick, 2010) and "Judge's Choice" (Don

Haywood, 2010) and the best Dessert (People's Choice, Jane Silvey 2010)...This is the biggest fundraiser for the Mission Trip to Joplin, Missouri in March of 2012. We will have 10-12 folks cook chili and 10-12 folks cook 2 homemade desserts (one to eat and one to sell) and then all of us get to judge what is best by EATING some of every chili and every dessert made (it's a tough job but someone's got to do it!). We put money in the bucket by each chili as a vote of affirmation and then we auction off the 2nd of each of the desserts, with lots of laughter and profit! 100% of this money will go to buy and plant trees and shrubs in tornado ravaged Joplin.

PLEASE sign up to cook a pot of chili or two desserts (exactly alike), and then come and bring 10 friends (rich) with you on the 23rd.



This is one of the funnnnnnest things we do!!!!

What's Happening In October???

Game Night - On October 7th, you are invited to grab a snack, a game and a friend and come to the church at 6:00 PM for food, friendship and games. Most play a dice game called "Farkle" but others can be found playing games of all sorts. This is a good way to make new friends and be the Family of God for real!

Horse Races/P.E.A. - This month the Professional Eater's Association will do something a bit different, joining with others who love going to the races in Grand Prairie. We will leave on October 20th at 4:30 PM and head to the fun horse races, where you will enjoy an excellent buffet. This is a great way to make new friends!

LODGE of Cleburne - On October 13th, a bunch of us will cook an awesome meal for those living at the homeless shelter here in Cleburne. Last month we fed over 20 folks plus our own servants and all had a sweet time. We like to offer a special night out for those who are walking through tough times. So let's serve others in Jesus' love and name.

Widow Patrol - On October 15th this month we will ride out at 9:00 AM, doing deeds of kindness for any who have a need, especially widows, single moms and the elderly. This is 3 hours of hard and wonderful work, please come and help!

Sunday Morning Wedding - On October 30th, as part of a sermon on making covenants, Pastor Wayne will join Joyce Kozora and Richard Siratt in marriage. You are invited to stay after worship for punch and cake.



WAYNE'S WANDERINGS

What a month! We are fully into Fall programs, into staff changes; into doing God's work in a way that will make God proud and at the same time tell Cleburne that Jesus is Lord of FCC! I wish you could have seen the wonderful Elders of your church gather around me in prayer after I told them that I was retiring. I have never had such a wonderful group of Spiritually focused people working together as one for our God. Their attitude has spilled over into the Board, your Committee and elected leaders who make the decisions of doing God's will on earth as it is done in Heaven. They too received my retirement with sadness, joy and with confidence in God's leading. **Whoever comes to pastor this church after me will be one lucky and blessed Pastor!!!** You guys are awesome!!! I plan to take a year Sabbatical and let the "land rest"; I will keep the faith but do no pastoring, just get myself renewed and restored. I have been doing this job for 30 years, pastoring 6 churches, and I need to recharge my batteries. I am sure God has a plan for me in retirement, a plan of encouraging churches, counseling people and growing anything that is well rooted. BUT, until Jan. 6th, I am your pastor. We will meet in church to worship our Lord and have an awesome program aiming to help others love God with all their heart, mind, soul and strength. Then they will love their neighbors as they love themselves! I will see you in Church!

Da Rev



His Healing Hands

God has the power to heal a mind, A body wracked with pain.

He holds you in his loving hands, Tho' it seems so all in vain.

It may not be this moment, Or later in the day, days and weeks and months may pass.

But never cease to pray.

It's not for us to understand, No use to even try.

But oh, my friend, He loves you so!

He knows you wonder – "Why?"

So wear God's armor every day and try to run the race, your cross will seem much lighter with His sufficient grace.

Helen Parker

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FCC, established 1867!

Always on the first Sunday of October we celebrate our church's birthday. We are one of the 4 first churches of Cleburne. Our church started meeting in the home of **Confederate Major, E.M. Heath in 1867**, and the Christian Church denomination was one of the fastest growing church groups in the re-United States after the Civil War. In 1867, what would someday become T.C.U. was meeting in Thorpe Springs (west of Granbury) and many of those who started T.C.U. would come and preach here in Cleburne. In the early years in Cleburne, the Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and Christians would each have a Sunday to worship at the Courthouse and the other churches would either join the church using the Courthouse that Sunday or they would meet in the homes of their leaders. Our first Church building was built in 1880 on Wardville Street. We met there for most of our first hundred years, constructing three buildings as we grew. We moved to our current location in 1973.

This Sunday you will hear some of the stories we are famous for, and you will sing some old songs we sang in the early years. We will **serve communion out of the silver set** that Major Heath's daughter gave to the church in 1941 in memory of her family. The band will play, Pastor Wayne will stump preach, old stories will be shared and we will renew our commitment to serve the Lord in Cleburne for another year! You are to "dress country"; wearing what you think your Grandpa and Grandma would have worn back in 1900 and **you are to bring a REAL covered dish** for the Pot Luck Lunch after worship. The Church will provide the meat, fried chicken and ham and you are to bring side dishes that fit the time and fill the tummy. **This will be a great Sunday** to bring a friend and fill the Sanctuary with song, word and witness to a God who will never let us go! We will see you this Sunday!!!

