

Attendance
December 24, 2016
Sunday School: 125
Christmas Eve Worship
Services:
10:40- 207
4:00- 258
6:00- 262
Contributions:
December 24, 2017
General Budget:
\$26,121.40
Poinsettias & Beans:
\$200.00
Juliette Fowler Special
Offering: \$2,358.00
Total Designated:
\$77,608.00

Attendance
December 31, 2017
Sunday School: 149
Worship Services:
10:40- 171
Contributions
December 31, 2017
General Budget:
\$13,879.10
Total Designated:
\$10,050.00

Attendance
January 7, 2018
Sunday School: 170
Worship Services:
10:40- 279
Contributions
January 7, 2018
General Budget:
\$32,283.50
Total Designated: \$0

Attendance
January 14, 2018
Sunday School: 174
Worship Services:
10:40- 222
Contributions
January 14, 2018
General Budget:
\$11,829.04
Total Designated:
\$225.00

Attendance
January 21, 2018
Sunday School: 168
Worship Services:
10:40- 235
Contributions
January 21, 2018
General Budget:
\$22,325.92
Total Designated:
\$275.00



JANUARY 31, 2018

VOLUME XXIX , ISSUE 2



Annual FCC Chili Cook-Off & Dessert Bake-Off Sunday, February 11th at 5:00 p.m.

The First Christian Church annual Chili Cook-off and Dessert Bake-off will be held at 5:00 p.m. in Kuykendall Hall on Sunday, February 11th.

Each year the cooks in our congregation come together for some friendly competition. If you have a favorite chili recipe or a delectable dessert recipe that you think is award winning then BRING IT ON! Entries must be at the church at 4:00 p.m. Judging will take place at 4:30. You are welcome & encouraged to bring chili or a dessert even if you are not entering the competition. Winners will be recognized on our famous cook-off aprons. After you have had your fill of chili, stay for a round of BINGO! Prizes will be awarded to the winners! If you have any questions, call the church office at 763-1995.



Ash Wednesday Worship Service

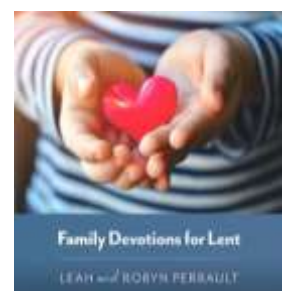
Ash Wednesday is February 14, 2018. This is a day to remember our mortality and reliance upon God's grace and forgiveness. We will hold our traditional service that evening at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

The Elders of First Christian Church are pleased to sponsor the Chalice Class, a four-week class in February on the history and theological thought of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We welcome anyone with an interest in our heritage, and we especially invite new and prospective members to come and learn of the rich history we enjoy.

The schedule for the classes can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. Classes will be held during the Sunday school hour in Kuykendall Hall.



The Lenten booklet selected for our congregation this year is **"Practicing Love: Family Devotions for Lent."** A booklet will be handed out to each family after worship services on February 11th and February 18th. Readings start on Ash Wednesday, February 14.





Rev. Paul Carpenter
Senior Minister
paul@fcclubbock.org

A Message From Rev. Carpenter

As the Season of Lent approaches I'm writing to tease out the differences between what is coined the "therapeutic gospel" versus the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to scripture. The therapeutic gospel is an ingrained belief that we are all basically good and if the conditions around us improved most of our problems would dissolve. Professor David Powlison of Westminster Theological Seminary lists the basic desires drawn from this belief:

- I want to feel loved for who I am, to be pitied for what I've gone through, to feel intimately understood, to be accepted unconditionally.
- I want to experience a sense of personal significance and meaningfulness, to be successful in my career, to know my life matters, to have an impact.
- I want to gain self-esteem, to affirm that I am okay, to be able to assert my opinions and desires.
- I want to be entertained, to feel pleasure in the endless stream of performances that delight my eyes and tickle my ears.
- I want a sense of adventure, excitement, action, and passion so that I experience life as thrilling and moving.

In contrast to this popular view, the Gospel according to scripture does not affirm that our problems are outside of us only. In fact the question, "What's wrong with the world?" should be answered with each of us saying "I am." Here's the deal, Jesus did not come to make bad people good; he came to make dead people live. It's not about human goodness versus evil; it's about impotence and death versus abundance and life.

Ash Wednesday (which is coincidentally on Valentine's Day this year) includes an evening worship service at 6:00 PM. The imposition of ashes on our foreheads or hands forces the difference between the "therapeutic gospel" and the Good News of Jesus Christ: "Without intervention from God by grace, you are merely dust that will remain dust." But by God's grace and for His glory He moves to redeem the lost. According to Professor Powlison this reveals an entirely new list of needs and desires for us:

- I need mercy above all else.
- I want to learn wisdom, and unlearn willful self-preoccupation.
- I need to learn to love both God and neighbor.
- I long for God's name to be honored, for his kingdom to come, for his will to be done on earth.
- I want Christ's glory, loving-kindness, and goodness to be seen on earth, to fill the earth as obviously as water fills the ocean.
- I need God to change me from who I am by instinct, choice, and practice.
- I want him to deliver me from my obsessive self-righteousness, to slay my lust for self-vindication, so that I feel my need for the mercies of Christ, so that I learn to treat others gently.

"THE LIGHT" is published monthly January—December
Managing Editor: Crystal Vinson.
Deadline for news is the Thursday before
"The Light" is mailed.

"The Light" informs members of congregational news/activities.

IS YOUR "LIGHT" LATE?
If this issue is not delivered to you by Saturday, call Crystal at the church, 763-1995 or e-mail her at crystal@fcclubbock.org

Next Issue:
February 22, 2018
(March Issue)

Next Deadline:
Thursday,
February 15th

Continued on Next Page...

A Message From Rev. Carpenter Continued...

- I need God's mighty and intimate help in order to will and to do those things that last unto eternal life, rather than squandering my life on vanities.
- I want to learn how to endure hardship and suffering in hope, having my faith simplified, deepened, and purified.
- I need to learn to worship, to delight, to trust, to give thanks, to cry out, to take refuge, to hope.
- I want the resurrection to eternal life.
- I need God himself.

Peace and Grace be yours,
Paul Carpenter

The Chalice Class will be held during the Sunday school hour in Kuykendall Hall.



The calendar for the classes is listed below:

February 4 *That the church of Christ on earth is essentially, intentionally, and constitutionally one*
(Thomas Campbell)

We will begin our discussion with the historical background that gave rise to the Restoration Movement.

February 11 *No creed but Christ; no book but the Bible.*

We will continue our conversation about the people and the events that culminated in the emergence of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February 18 *Where the Scriptures speak, we speak; and where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent.*
(Thomas Campbell)

This session will focus on our theological understanding, and will be led by Paul Carpenter.

February 25 *Within the universal church we receive the gift of ministry and the light of Scripture.*
(Preamble, The Design of the Christian Church)

The last session will focus on the history of our own congregation, First Christian Church Lubbock, and its mission on the South Plains.

Mollie Parsley, Morris & Janice Knox, D'Ann Yeager

FCC Music Ministry Happenings...

This February is a fun month for the FCC Music Ministry! Beginning on February 18th the children will begin learning and practicing their song during Sunday School hour for a special Palm Sunday performance. All children ages Kinder-5th grade are invited to join us as we learn *Antiphonal Hosanna*.



On February 25th at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary, our very own Jen Townsley, who is very active in our College Ministry as well as our choir, will be giving a recital alongside Bob Luther in gratitude of First Christian Church. Jen is a 2-year scholarship soprano in the Sanctuary Choir and Bob has played trumpet as special offertory music in Traditional Service. We are so blessed to have these two extremely talented people involved in the life of FCC. Please come and support them as they give their musical gifts to the glory of God.



“Our mission is to mobilize the Body of Christ to Shine the Light and Share the Love of Jesus.”

JUSTICE & MERCY

The gospel of Jesus Christ constantly speaks about compassion for the poor and the marginalized. Compassion for the poor is insufficient unless it includes both mercy and justice. As we listen to the cries of this generation we hear a plea for justice and mercy. In order to engage in the complexities of injustice we have to begin with establishing the right foundations for our response. Outreach and evangelism begin with seeing what God has placed before us and being moved with compassion. Then we do, we act, we follow Christ.

This year we have so many beautiful opportunities for the church to be mobilized in both Outreach and Evangelism.

It is not a question of “IF you are called” it’s a question of “How?”

BEAN ELEMENTARY

In 2016 FCC adopted Bean Elementary School in order to share the Gospel with a school who had been forgotten. This ministry continues to grow and prosper with the guidance and direction from the Lord. There are many opportunities to become involved in this ministry. Volunteers have been invited to come and read with a child, eat lunch with a child, and pray with the teachers and staff at the beginning of every 6-weeks.

If God is calling you to become apart of this ministry, don’t wait any longer. Become involved and share the love of Christ!

FMI please contact Marcy Lawless at 918/284-8195

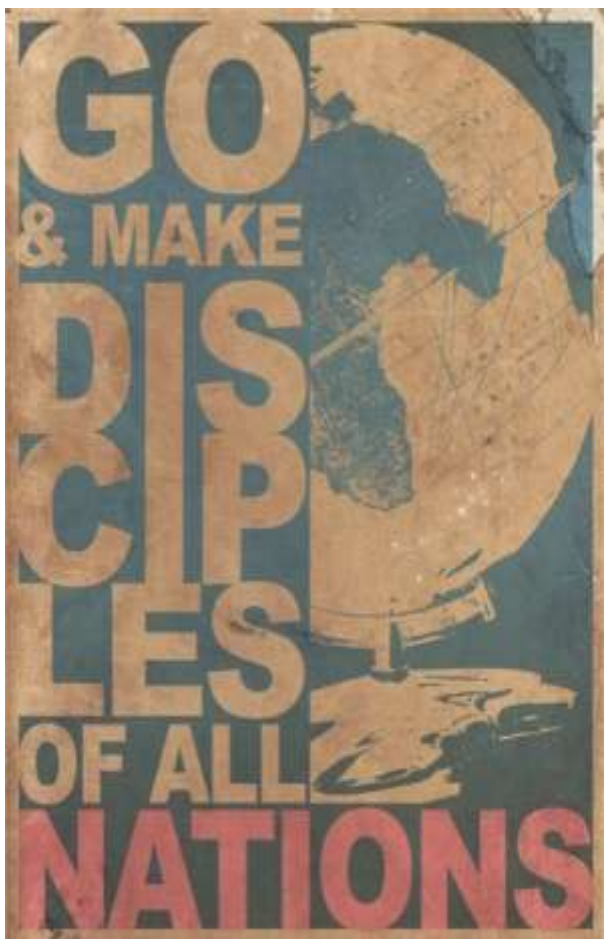
FAMILY PROMISE

Did you know that there are 25 other churches that also serve the Family Promise Mission? Did you also know that 85% of those who are helped out of homelessness through our efforts are able to leave the bonds of poverty forever?

If you have a heart to serve by preparing meals, planning a simple children’s activity or hosting overnight please contact either Linda Taylor@ 806 535-7725 or Wayne Kohout 806 773-5541 OR sign up online at signupgenius.com.

Our Family Promise Rotation is February 12-15th

Praise be to God for the many of you who attended the Gala in November. We so appreciate your monetary support. You had the opportunity to see the impact of your contributions through the life changing testimonies of several individuals.



HOUSTON "Flood Them With Love"

Spring Break, March 10-13th

Led by Pastor Paul

When Hurricane Harvey came ashore, the Category 4 storm hit and caused considerable damage. As the storm moved inland torrential rains continued for days and flooded many areas in Houston and Pearland.

We are putting together a team to take to Houston and help rebuild as well as love on the people and families who have been affected by this storm.

Evangelism, rebuilding, loving your neighbor.

Don't miss the opportunity to be apart of God's work

FMI regarding Houston please contact Jonna Russell

325.374.4004

PUERTO RICO

Led by Jonna Russell

After Hurricane Harvey hit Houston, Puerto Rico was the next victim of a hurricane devastation. There are still so many damages, people without power, and rebuilding that needs to take place.

"If we're going to rebuild and reconstruct, it has to be for the right reasons," says Cruz, the San Juan mayor. **"We have to reshape our society. As awful as this has been, it's an opportunity."** This trip is already filled but I am asking you to prayerfully ask if God is calling you to be apart of this opportunity either with prayer or helping financially. The team going will help build a roof for a 70 year old man and help build a home for a 25 year old single mother of 5. Along with building, the team will serve food, work with children, and share the Gospel.

FMI regarding giving to the Puerto Rico trip please contact Jonna Russell 325.374.4004

Haiti Evangelism Mission Trip

July 13-21, 018

Led by Lal Williams

Every year, Mission of Hope hosts thousands of mission trip participants from around the world. Teams participate by serving in one of the 12 villages where we partner with the local Haitian churches. In seeking to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of the villages, two primary strategies have been developed to reach every man, woman, and child – Strategic Village Time and Church Advancement Projects.

ALL ages welcome but children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a guardian.

FMI regarding Haiti please contact Lal Williams, 806.283.0339

It's not a question of "IF you are called" it's a question of "HOW?"

PRAY GIVE GO

Upcoming February Gatherings & Meetings...

- ◇ **Bible Babes Women's Bible Study**, Every Monday Evening, 7:00pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **CMF Weekly Men's Breakfast**, Every Tuesday Morning, 7:00am, Cast Iron Grill, 620 19th St
- ◇ College & Career Bible Study & Dinner, Every Tuesday Evening, 6:30pm, Kuykendall Hall
- ◇ Noon Bible Study, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:10-12:50pm, Family Life Center
- ◇ Oasis Book Club, Thursday, February 1st, 7:00pm, Contact Church Office for Location
- ◇ Keenagers Program & Luncheon, Friday, February 2nd, 10:30am, Kuykendall Hall
- ◇ Mary/Martha CWF, Tuesday, February 6th, 9:30am, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ Worship Committee, Tuesday, February 6th, 6:00pm, Conference Room
- ◇ Elders Meeting, Wednesday, February 7th, 7:00pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ Deacons Meeting, Wednesday, February 7th, 7:00pm, Room 107
- ◇ Deborah CWF, Thursday, February 8th, 7:00pm, Contact Church Office for Location
- ◇ God Fathers, Friday, February 9th, 6:00am, Cast Iron Grill, 620 19th St
- ◇ Finance Committee, Monday, February 12th, 11:45am, Conference Room
- ◇ **Minister's Cabinet (Executive Committee)**, Tuesday, February 13th, 11:30am, Room 107
- ◇ CWF 2nd Tuesday Fellowship Dinner, **Tuesday, February 13th, 6:00pm, Orlando's on S. Loop 289 & Indiana**
- ◇ Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Wednesday, February 14th, 6:00pm, Sanctuary
- ◇ General Board, Wednesday, February 14th, 7:00pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ Lubbock Music Club, Friday, February 16th, 9:00am, Chapel/Chapel Parlor
- ◇ Foundation, Tuesday, February 20th, 4:00pm, Conference Room
- ◇ South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued, Wednesday, February 21st, 9am-12pm, Church Office



SCURRY COUNTY
MUSEUM
SNYDER, TEXAS

Happy Texas Independence Day!

Please join the Keenagers on March 2nd for a bus trip to see a little bit of Texas some us have never seen. The first stop will be the Scurry County Museum in Snyder. There is no admission charge. Lunch will be at Blackland's Smokehouse. The cost will be \$12 plus tip. The next stop will be at Hobbs, TX. to see an Indian

Arrowhead collection. We'll come home through Gail to see Mushaway Peak. This has played a large part in Texas history with the Native Americans, explorers, soldiers, bison hunters, ranchers, and settlers. The bus will leave the church at 8:00 a.m. Please make reservations by noon on Wednesday, February 28th. Call 763-1995 or sign the pad in the hallway. Seating is limited on the bus. Please bring cash for lunch. Mark you calendars and we hope you will join is!!

Front Desk Volunteers Needed

Do you have a few free hours during the week? Join our wonderful front office volunteer team. We are so thankful for the welcome our volunteers extend to those who visit our church and the support they provide to our office staff! Serve as a substitute or as part of a weekly rotation. There are 3-hour shifts available throughout the week both in the mornings and in the afternoons. Substitutes are needed as well, to fill in on an as-needed basis. Training is provided, and our office is a fun place to hang out! If you are interested, please contact Crystal Vinson in the church office at 763-1995. Thank you!

Pray to Love . . . Marilyn Wragg

It is quite special that the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, falls on **Valentine's Day** this year. It is also rare; the last time the two days coincided was 1945. When you think about it, this special occurrence **perfectly celebrates God's gift of love to us, as written in 1 John 4:8–11**. It also reminds us that our response ought naturally be to love one another. Many Scriptures teach what it looks like to love as we ought, such as 1 John 3:18.

Love, however, is not easy always to practice. We can say we love, **even when we don't feel it. But we are called to go beyond words and speech. As a congregation, let's be especially intentional during this season of Lent to love as the apostle John instructed.**

Love with actions. **Our Lent booklet this year is "Practicing Love."** It is a book of family devotions with scriptures, reflections, and ideas for putting love into practice that relate not only to families, but also to persons of all ages and stages. Join with your FCC family in walking through this booklet and praying daily the prayer: *Jesus, I give You my heart with my acts of love today.*

Love in truth. It is possible to express love with speech and even with actions when we are not really feeling it. **But it is impossible to love "in truth" when love does not genuinely flow from the heart. That is where prayer enters in.** Only God, through His Spirit, can fill our hearts with genuine love that overflows to others.

Throughout this season, let's pray for God to enable us to love one another, not just outwardly through words and actions, but inwardly and truly from our hearts. A good way to start is to take Scriptures like 1 John 3:18 and 1 Corinthians 13:4–8 and pray them back to God.

God, help me today to love not only with words, but with actions and in truth. Help me be patient; help me be kind. Today, may I not envy or boast or be prideful. Give me presence of mind never to dishonor others or be self-serving. Don't let me be quick to anger or keep track of wrongs. Teach me not to delight in evil but to rejoice with the truth. Enable me always to protect, to trust, to hope, and to persevere in loving. I praise You that love never fails. Please, fill me with Your Spirit of Love, so my heart will overflow with love for others.

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him... **Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.**
1 John 4: 8,9,11

Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.
1 John 3:18



God Fathers!

God fathers is a monthly time for Christian men to remember the Gospel as it concerns our marriage and our parenting. Our next gathering will be Friday, February 9, 2018. We will meet at Cast Iron Grill located at 620 19th Street at 6:00 a.m.
Wake up, grab some coffee, and join us!!

CFW 2nd Tuesday Fellowship Dinner!

All women of FCC are invited to join together on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at **Orlando's** Italian Restaurant on the S. Loop & Indiana. The next gathering will be Tuesday, February 13, 2018. This is sure to be a time of delicious food, fabulous fun, & wonderful fellowship!!

Joys & Concerns of our Church Family & Friends...

Military News & Concerns

Lt. Brant Brock- Japan
son-in-law of
Brenda Hendricks
Currently deployed on a ship

Lt Heath Brown
Millington, TN- grandson of
Flo Brown

Christopher Colgrove
nephew of Laurie Williams

Lieutenant Colonel
Ethan Diven
Anchorage, AK
husband & father of
Sabrina, Jacob & Kendall
and son-in-law of
Jerry & Brenda Stanfield

Ryan Mansell
grandson of Jim Bales

1st Lt Nicholas Swanson
USAF, Tinker AFB,
Oklahoma City, OK
grandson of
Virginia Myers Dorman

Capt. Nathaniel Swanson
USMC, Oceana Naval Station,
Virginia Beach, VA
grandson of
Virginia Myers Dorman

*If you desire to add one of
your family members to our
military list, please contact
the church office at 763-1995.*

*We unite with you in your happiness, comfort you in sorrow, and pray for your concerns.
NOTE: If you do not wish for your name to be in our hospital list or prayer concerns,
notify the church office.*

We lift up in prayer our friends and family struggling with ongoing medical issues:

Members: Robbie Bedker, Sandra Foster, Margaret Kennedy, Juda McKinney, Bud Reeds,
Randell Resneder, Jan Sanders

Friends: Jeff Adkins, Paul Bush, Bear Bock, Bill Dean, Katelyn Harlow, Delmon Hilton,
Ron King, Chris Mackey, Leroy Montoya, Abu Nasser

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers:

Jim Bales, Al Crossland, Kenneth Davis, Tommy Davis, Frances Evans, Carolyn Gunter,
Margaret Ingraham, Cara Irvin, Margaret Kennedy, Ruby Power, Herbie Vannoy,
Virginia Vincent, Marty Wells

It is a joy to report those dismissed from the hospital throughout the past month.
We continue to pray for them as they recover at home:
Margaret Merrell, Jerry Stanfield, Laurie Williams

Our Deepest Sympathy...

We lift up Juda McKinney, Megan McKinney, and Shay McCrary Kay in the passing of
Jerry McKinney. Jerry passed from this life on January 7, 2018. Services were held on
January 13th at Resthaven's Abbey Chapel.

We lift up the friends and family of Joanne Batson. Joanne passed from this life on
January 9, 2018.

Thank you!

**Thank you for the blanket and for delivering a poinsettia to me for Christmas. I'm
enjoying both. ~Leonard Yoder**

I just wanted to express my thanks to our friends at First Christian Church for the
cards, calls, visits, and help with Jerry. He cherished every card and every note he
received, and so in the end did we. ~Thank you, Juda & Megan McKinney

Thanks From Me! Just a little line or two to bring my warmest thanks to you!
"Dear FCC, I'm enjoying my pretty wine velvet comforter. It is wonderfully warm.
Also, I am enjoying my big beautiful poinsettia. Thank you for your graciousness to
me. ~Love and Blessings, Joan Brown"



Thank you Continued...

Dear Members of First Christian, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart and tell you how much I appreciated the gifts at Christmas time. They certainly helped. My family from China, myself, and Mike Hensley all had pneumonia or the flu at Christmas and it was a treat to see something nice come in our front door. Each gift has special meaning and was very much appreciated.

I am now going through physical therapy for my new knee and it is such a pleasure to be able to walk and not hurt. I hope to soon be back at church.

Again, thank you for remembering my family and me at Christmas. Wish we could have taken part in this special season at church. It has always been very special to me, from singing in the church choir, playing the bells, and helping to make Christmas decorations like we used to. We joined First Christian in Lubbock in **1963, so I've watched many changes come and go at FCC in 54 years.**

I have to say a particular "thank you" to Frances Ansley for her many cards to me. I will be back soon to sit with you I hope. Much love and a prosperous new year to all of you. Thanks again!

~In Christ's love, Sandra Hensley Foster.

Baby Bundles

August (Auggie) Gibson Rawe was born on December 26, 2017 to Brandon and Neely Rawe. Auggie was 9 lbs. 10 oz. The proud grandparents are Bobby and Becky Yates.

William Turner Gibson was born on December 23, 2017 to Travis and Cecily Gibson. William was 9 lbs. 8 oz. The proud grandparents are Mike & Paula Gibson and the proud great grandparents are Bud & Alta Reeds.



A Baby Dedication is a time of joy and commitment. Parents dedicate their babies during worship and personally commit themselves to nurture their children in a Christian home and to raise their children in this manner. The Gibson Family along with the family at First Christian Church, made this commitment to William Turner Gibson on Sunday, January 14, 2018.

Welcome New Members!!

We joyfully welcome the newest members of our family of faith at First Christian Church.

Amanda Gore and her daughter Lizzy placed their membership at First Christian Church on Sunday, January 28, 2018 at the 11:00 Simply Worship service.

WELCOME!!




Baptism

Sharing in your joy and gratitude as you are baptized into the community of faith!

Blake Matzner was baptized on Sunday, January 7, 2018 during the 10:40 a.m. worship service.

Congratulations Blake!!

FCC Children's Ministry



Wednesday, February 28th
6:30-8:30pm

The youth and children's ministry will have another combined Parents' Night out at the FLCC. There will be food and games! A nursery will be provided as well.

RSVP to holly@fclubbock.org

FCC Youth Ministry

FCC WINTER/SPRING CALENDAR 2018



January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 4th-5th: Winter Hangouts
- 24th: Faith In Action
Service project Boy's Ranch 6pm-8pm
- 31st: Experience!
Popcorn, drinks, a movie, and Gospel discussion.

- 5th: LISD Lunch Out
Join us for lunch at Chick-fil-a on Slide @ 12pm. Bring \$10. Transportation available upon request.
- Ash Wednesday Service
6pm in the Sanctuary
- 28th: Faith in Action
Service project TBA: 6pm-8pm

- 15th-17th: Spring Retreat!
Details pending - \$75
- 28th: Faith in Action
Service project TBA 6pm-8pm
- 30th: Southcrest/New Deal/ Frenship Lunch Out

Weekly:
Sunday Youth
Every Sunday in the Youth Room
10:00am-10:45am
Home Church
Every Wednesday; 6-7:30pm

"Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." -Ephesians 6:13-17

TEXT
"FCLUBBOCK"
to 84576 to
receive important
updates on your
phone!

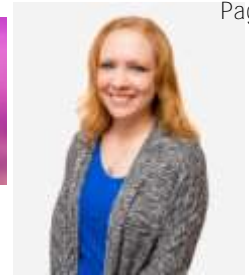


www.fclubbock.org/student-ministry/

Questions? scott@fclubbock.org

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Jonna Russell, Membership Administrator & Director of College Ministries
 jonna@fcclubbock.org, 325/374-4004



Search No More!

College is back and going strong but I realized that among all the differences we have, there is one thing we all have in common, we are searching. Searching for something. A new job, graduation, boyfriend, girlfriend, car, someplace to live, purpose, meaning, identity, fulfillment, healing, acceptance, the list goes on and on. But why? Why do we search for these things? Because we have forgotten God. We have forgotten about the Holy Spirit that lives within us. We have forgotten about Jesus, our Lord, Savior, the Messiah.

“The one who seeks will find.” in Luke and Matthew Jesus spoke these words to us. So what is the difference **between seek and search? When you search you are looking for something you don’t know exists . When you seek you are looking for something you know you can find.** So seek God, seek Him and Him alone. Search no more! Seek the One who was, and is and is to come!

“By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but only seek Him who sent me.” ~ John 5:30



Have You Forgotten God?

Why do you believe the way you believe? What process do you follow in forming your beliefs?

Upon foretelling his death, Jesus comforts the disciples by telling them that **“another Counselor”, “another Advocate” is coming.** Jesus speaks about leaving the Spirit of truth, which lives in you and will be with you. He goes so far as to say it is to their advantage that he leaves so the counselor can come. Jesus’ disciples had no idea what or whom they were waiting for but they trusted Jesus.

The Bible tells of remarkable stories about what the Spirit does in people’s lives. Yet this is not the way it is for most people. For some reason we don’t think we need the Spirit. We don’t expect the Spirit to act. Our expectations are often misguided or self-serving.

Given our talent set, experience, and education, many of us are capable of living rather successfully (according to the world’s standards) without any strength from the Holy Spirit.

Believe it or not even church growth can happen without the Holy Spirit. Let’s be honest if you combine a great speaker, a talented worship band, and some hip, creative events, people will attend your church. Yet this does not mean that the Holy Spirit of God is actively working and moving in the lives of the people.

We must be careful not to substitute atmosphere for the presence of God. Are you worshipping based on the atmosphere or because you believe in a living God that is present and alive in your life? This semester my prayer is that we learn something new about the Holy Spirit, that we recognize it, and recognize the work God is doing our life. This is a powerful Spirit that wants to lead and guide us.

My prayer is that our life will be changed by God and God alone and that we will be able to share what the Spirit is doing in our lives!

Join us every Tuesday at 6:30 pm!

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 by First Christian Church, Inc.
 2323 Broadway Street, Lubbock, TX 79401-2916.
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“The Light” at 2323 Broadway Street,
 Lubbock, TX 79401-2916.

Especially for:

Worship Times

Sundays:

Prayer Service:
 8:00 a.m.
 Chapel

Traditional Service:
 9:00 a.m.
 Sanctuary

Sunday School:
 10:00 a.m.

Simply Worship:
 11:00 a.m.
 Chapel

PHONE:

806-763-1995
 Fax: 806-763-5904

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.-Noon
 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.-Noon

Family Life
 Community Center
 747-5962

Office Hours: 3-6 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Empowered by the Holy Spirit we will NURTURE: help individuals become more Christ-like, SHARE: lead people into a relationship with God through the love of Jesus Christ, and REACH OUT: call each member to respond to the needs of others in Jesus' Name.

February 2018 FCC Birthdays!

February 3
 Mont McClendon
 Garrett Taylor

February 4
 Marsha Weiss

February 5
 Dwayne Tidwell
 Greg Harris
 Sherilyn Toelle

February 6
 Jane Stuart
 Jacob Bartholomew
 Braxton Duty

February 7
 Eddie Mann

February 8
 Mike Jenkins

February 9
 Patti Lupton
 Lindsey Hinson
 Tyson Brock

February 10
 Larry Lowe
 Julie Swindle

February 13
 Bob Lawless

February 14
 Al Crossland
 Chris Kebert
 Kaye Greer

February 15
 Alicia Trevey
 Luke Duty

February 16
 Larry Sanders
 Dwayne Dixon Jr.

February 17
 Larry Deardorff
 Mike Worley
 Mary Ann Anthony

February 18
 Lois Kirkman
 Michael Peebles

February 19
 Donna Armstrong

February 20
 Clarence Guhl

February 22
 Judy Mann
 Laurie Williams
 Neely Rawe
 Shadrick Taylor

February 23
 Monica Matzner
 Annabelle Santillan

February 24
 Wayne Allison

February 25
 Gypsie Taylor
 Elizabeth Mackey



We're on the web!
www.fcclubbock.org

WEEKLY

MEN'S

BREAKFAST

Tuesdays, 7:00 a.m.
 Cast Iron Grill
 620 19th Street



THE
 CHRISTIAN
 BOOK & ART NOOK
 2323 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79401

STORE HOURS: Every Sunday, 8:30 – 11:15 a.m.

All profits go to our church!

Located Inside the Church Office!

Marilyn Wragg's book *Prayer Matters* is available in the Nook. Get your copy TODAY!!