the Light

August 2018 Volume 29, Issue 8 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 2323 Broadway St. Lubbock, TX. 79401-2916

message of Light



Reverend Paul Carpenter

Senior Minister paul@fcclubbock.org

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

- 5th 9:00 AM- 200 11:00 AM- 56 12th 9:00 AM- 226 11:00 AM- 52 Sunday School-
- 19th 9:00 AM- 271 11:00 AM- 56 Sunday School-175
- 26th 9:00 AM- 203 11:00 AM- 54 Sunday School-165

CONTRIBUTIONS

- 5th General- \$18,429.18 Designated- \$275.00
- 12th General-\$11,141.08 Designated-\$175.00

19th General- \$15,522.41 Designated- \$2,767.28

26th General- \$14,377.12 Designated- \$250.00 Some of us are better than others at making and keeping friends. My wife is a professional - she works to bridge geography and time to stay near her friends. Valerie has lasting relationships from high school, college, our ministry in Gainesville/Dallas, and now has become a friend to many in Lubbock. I admire her commitment to make and keep friends.

Whether your life is full of moves and transitions, or is settled in one place for many decades, you can count the years like rings on a tree based on the friendships you have and hold dear. It's not the money, impact, or legacy that we ultimately remember - it's the people we love. Whenever the storms of life land on us, we are ever aware of our friends as gifts from God. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 expresses, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

How are you as a friend? If that question makes you pause, perhaps this is a season when God is going to grow you as a better friend. As I admire Valerie, I can see my deficiencies, my excuses, and also an example of how God can use us over time to shine the light of Christ to others simply by being a friend.

In addition to personal fulfillment, friendship is one of God's most beautiful and effective means for reaching people with the Gospel. Our friends are how many of us got to know

Jesus, and throughout our walk it has been our friends who have reminded us of the love and faithfulness of our Savior.

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In our most recent sermon series, I'm challenging the church to be a faithful friend and to use our friendships for Christ's acclaim. Specifically when it comes to our companions of other faiths, backgrounds, experiences, God can use our relationships to share His grace and provision. No one people group is more resistant to the Gospel than another others, but for much of our lives we live in disobedience in not taking the time to share our greatest treasure with those we love. As much as you love your unbelieving friends, Jesus loves them more.

God uses ordinary Christians who feel inadequate and underdeveloped to share His gift to the world. Certainly there are as many hearts touched and transformed over coffee as there are in a church service. Consider the people God has sent your way - agnostics, athiests, the wounded, the proud, people of other worldview and religions, family members who just cannot believe. God will received children from every nation, people group, and background; your friendship can be the sermon He uses to seed faith in another.

Be a friend. Take the time. Take Jesus with you.

In Christian fellowship, Paul

hear the Light

An Evening with AARON DEVIEW

<u>WHO:</u> AARON DEVIEW

WHAT: Las Vegas shooting survivor shares his message

WHEN: Friday September 28th 7:00 pm

<u>WHERE:</u> First Christian Church Sanctuary

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Sunday, October 1st, 2017 the nation was shocked by the worst mass shooting in American history. The Las Vegas Strip was ravaged by a shooting that occurred from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel. A gunman perched and shot through his corner suite into a crowd of thousands attending the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival below. In the end, fifty-eight people died and approximately 869 people sustained injuries.

Aaron DeView, a local bartender and country music fan, was in attendance during the Route 91 Music Festival. DeView attend the festival every year with a group of friends. During the shooting, DeView ran to his Tacoma pick up and loaded up victims and their families and drove them to safety. One of the victims DeView tried to save that evening , sadly passed away from her injuries.

Since that day, DeView's life has been "redefined" by God. He believes strongly that





God kept him safe to tell people about the Lord and to share his story with others. DeView believes we all have the opportunity to experience a "re-defined life." "Live your life, write your story and make it a GREAT one. It's a conscious choice and only YOU can make it!"

Aaron DeView will speak on Friday, September 28th at 7:00 pm in the First Christian Church Sanctuary at 2323 Broadway Street, Lubbock, TX 79401.

His story includes pain, the miraculous, and light in the midst of darkness. His sharing will inspire guests to experience God leading them in their own story of love and light. He will encourage you to open your hearts, be patient, and don't be afraid to ask questions.

"When you go through what I have...then it's important to understand that to be in a place where I am...is nothing short of special. I'm at peace with Life and Death. It's not scary, it's a part of the process. Keep the faith, love as much as you can, and then try more and open your heart. "

be the Light

Back to School

SAVE the DATES

SEPTEMBER

19 th	Parent's Night Out
24 th	Pray with Bean Teachers/ Staff
28 th	An Evening with Aaron Deview

The FCC Outreach team started the Fall 2018 school year off with a Welcome Back celebration for teachers and staff on Monday, August 13th. Bean elementary teachers and staff were served a Menchie's Yogurt Bar, complete with toppings and hugs from the FCC Outreach team!

On August 14, the FCC team and staff met at Bean Elementary to pray over 62 teachers and staff as the school year began. Classes for LISD began on Wednesday, August 15th and students at Bean Elementary walked the red carpet (provided by Yates Flooring) through a balloon arch provided by FCC.

The FCC congregation generously provided several checks and school supplies during the Bean School Supply Drive. Bean students will receive over 900 composition





books, 3500 pencils, 2270 colored markers, 457 boxes of tissues, 300 dry erase markers, 147 containers of disinfectant wipes, and close to 4,000 assorted sizes of Zip-Lock bags.

Beyond those requested items, there were notebooks, folders, erasers, highlighters and more.

Thank you for your generosity, kindness and love for the teachers and children of our adopted school.

Good News Club

Plans continue to progress for a September 27^{th} kick-off of the *Good News Club* at Bean. Invitations/registration forms for the 3^{rd} and 4^{th} graders will be going home in a couple of weeks and, depending on response, may be extended to additional grades.

There are currently 14 FCC volunteers signed up to attend training classes on the mornings of September 8th and 15th through Child Evangelism Fellowship, and it's not too late for more to join the team!!! Please contact Bob or Marcy Lawless if you have an interest (806) 799-1329.

OCTOBER

21 st	Family Outing At'l Do Corn Maze
26 th	Bean Fall Festival

The Light is published monthly January-December.

The Light informs members of congregational news/activities

Managing Editor-Mary Norman

children of Light

<u>Noah's Nook</u>

Three terrific baseball books have been given to the Children's Library! Who Was Babe Ruth?, Who Was Jackie Robinson?, and What is The World Series? Were given in the memory of David Nelson, a true baseball fan. These are three in a series for young readers. They are full of interesting facts (it cost 50 cents to attend the first World Series game), and loaded with great illustrations and photographs for baseball and sports fans. Come by and check one out!



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Bean Lunch Buddies

Want to make a difference in the life of a child? Join the lunch buddy program at Bean Elementary! You will be connected with a student to spend 30 minutes with each week. As a lunch buddy you can expect to laugh and build special memories together as you talk, play board games, color, and read with your lunch buddy. You will also be making a difference in the next generation! Many of our students are from challenging backgrounds-family members in jail, parents who are struggling to provide, students who are struggling to succeed. Our students need a little extra attention and support from consistent, caring adults like YOU! The commitment is 30 minutes a week for the semester or year. Last year 13 FCC members were Lunch Buddies. If you would like to learn more please contact Dave

Bender at 790-4839 or Ruth Davis at ruth.davis@cisssouthplains.org or at 806-219-5100. Signup sheets will be available at the Bean table at the entrance to Common Grounds coffee shop.



Parent's Night Out.....September 19th 6pm Family Outing- At'l Do Corn Maze...October 21st 4pm Bean Fall Festival.....October 26th5:30pm Parent's Night Out.....November 14th 6pm

Mark these dates on your calendars for the next three months! Look forward to date nights and activities for the whole family. More information on each event is to come.

Light it up 👤





As we enter into this Fall season, I am filled with extreme excitement for First Christian Church of Lubbock. Truly we have started to take hold of the mission that the Lord handed to us. Namely, we have started impacting college age people in a relational manner in order to make disciples. I am excited to see our church surround our college students and I look forward to seeing us remain obedient to the Great Commission through our discipleship of college age people. Personally, it has become my joy to work with college age people. They are passionate and caring. They desire to belong to the body of Christ. Their attitude towards the mission of God is nothing short of contagious. By walking with our college students, the Lord has allowed me to see the passion He has imputed into them and, by His grace, chosen to impute fresh desire for His mission as well. I cannot wait to see how the Lord continues to use our church body for His purposes and His glory. May all honor, glory, and praise go to Him. Amen.



Scott Hall University Minister First Christian Church-Lubbock (806)283-0566

Looking for ways to get plugged into the FCC College Ministry?

Six main ways to get involved:

1. <u>Meals</u> – Good at cooking or can you afford to purchase some food for hungry college students? Sign up to help provide meals for the college ministry on Thursday nights.

2. <u>Missions</u> – Have a heart for missions? Sign up to sponsor a college mission trip.

3. <u>Housing</u> – Do you have an extra bedroom? Sign up to host a student in your home. This can be short term (a few weeks between semesters or during a holiday where the dorms are closed) or long term (Semester or yearlong).

4. <u>Hosting</u> – Do you love hosting groups in your home? Host homes help provide a place for our college mission groups to meet during the year. Sign up to host on a weekly basis or an "as needed' basis.

5. <u>Event Assistance</u> – Do you have passion for making sure events go smoothly, things are set up properly, and things run efficiently at a events? Then sign up to be a part of our event assistance crew!

6. <u>**Prayers**</u> – Are you steadfast with your prayer life and want to see the FCC College Ministry thrive by the Lord's hand? Then set a reminder on your phone for 9am every morning and join us in praying for this ministry.

bless the Light 💐

Military News And Concerns

Lt. Brant Brock-Virginia son-in-law of Brenda Hendricks

Christopher Colgrove nephew of Laurie Williams

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

1st Lt Nicholas Swanson USAF, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City grandson of <u>Virginia Myers</u> Dorman

Capt. Nathaniel Swanson USMC, Oceana Naval Station, Virginia Beach grandson of <u>Virginia Myers</u> <u>Dorman</u>

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

<u>Members</u>: Robbie Bedker, Herb and Barbara Miller, Patti Lupton, Randell Resneder, Karen Slay, Mary Jane Smith, Anne Sweazy

<u>Friends</u>: Bear Bock, Marilyn Brinkley, Kelsey Cooper, Lexi Galloway, Kyle Gibbs, Joe Gillispie, Katelyn Harlow, Ron King, Shannon Layman, Chris Mackey, Leroy Montoya Nortina Stewart, Darnell Vandivort, Carter Wiechmann

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Kenneth Davis, Kaye and Stumpy Greer, Frances Evans, Cara Irvin, Ruby Power, Virginia Vincent, Marty Wells, Shelly and Burt Nelson

Our Deepest Sympathy

We lift up the family of Barbara **Bobbie Rains** following her passing from this life on August 7th. A Memorial Service was held on August 11th at FCC.

We lift up Dawn and Dave Bender in the passing of **Leonard Yoder**. Leonard passed from this life on August 7. A Memorial Service was held on August 27th at FCC.





Baptisms Carson Williams was baptized on August 19, 2018.

With Loving Thanks-

Dear First Christian Church Family -

Thank you for the outpouring expression of sympathy, love and prayers during these past weeks. David loved our church with his whole heart and he is missed throughout the pews and across our community. We are grateful to each of you for sharing your love of him with us.

"In the end there are three things that last - faith, hope and love. And the greatest of these is love."

1 Corinthians 13:13

In Christian Love, The J. David Nelson Family (Ainsley, Jill and Jack)

Light the youth

As Fall begins to make its way into this year the restlessness that our hearts experience also begins. You see Fall is packed with busy schedules, lists of assignments and tasks, sports, and new friendships. It is easy for

this seemingly beautiful season to capture everyone before they even realize it. The schedules will bind your ankles to chains, the tasks & lists will place weights on your shoulders, the sports will fill you emptiness, and the friendships will be lost in hustle and bustle of life. As we begin the Fall let me encourage you to rest in the Lord. During the moments where the Fall seems endless, crazy, and hectic... Be still and know that He is God. If we don't dedicate our time to being connected and resting in him we will begin to feel as if we are drawing from an empty well. Let me invite you this Fall to intentionally and intensely rest in the Lord. He will give you rest, he will give you breath, he will give you life.



Derek Jerezano-Youth Ministry



songs of Light

Age: 19 years old

University: Texas Tech

Class: Sophomore

Major: Nutrition/ Pre-Nursing

How are you anticipating the Lord to work in your life

this year? Helping me to see where and what I am



supposed to be in the future. Whether it is nursing or something else.



FABIAN GRIFFITH

Age: 24 years old University: Texas Tech Class: Graduate School (the 20th grade) Major: Vocal Performance How are you anticipating the Lord to work in your life this year? Through music and using me to speak His word to others through song.

BETHANY BROKENBEK

Age: 19 years old University: Texas Tech Class: Sophomore Major: Music Education, Horn How are you anticipating the Lord to work in your life this year? Greatly through His Word and Son Jesus.





MORGAN DELLOW

Age: 19 years old University: Texas Tech Class: Sophomore Major: Music Education, Voice How are you anticipating the Lord to work in your life this year? I have no idea what He will do, but I'm ready!

experience the Light

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Keenagers – by Alta Reeds



Only a few days left to sign up for our first event of the year! You will have the opportunity to participate in a tour of Tiny Houses in

Spur, Texas.

Church vans will depart at 8:30 AM from the West parking lot

Following our tour of Tiny Houses, we will visit the Spur/Dickens County Museum.

Lunch will be at the Senior Citizen Center for a \$4.00 donation.

The house tour is \$5.00.

There is no admission fee for the museum.

Sign the sheet in the hall or call the church office at 763-1995 by noon on Wednesday, Sept. 5, for reservations.

Our next event will be on Friday, October 5, at 10:30 AM. Our guest speaker will be Billy Skillman.

Billy heads the West Texas Native American Association. His family on one side is from the Muskogee Nation with a 5th generation grandfather on the other side who was a captain in General George Washington's

army. He fought in World War II and has many degrees and much teaching experience. Scott Trevey from FCC and the Lubbock Lakesite will introduce him. Please join us and make reservations on the signup sheet in the hall or call the church office at 763-1995 by Wednesday, October 3. Lunch will be \$10.00.



Helping Hands

We are happy to announce the resurrection of a ministry of our church that was, and is, much needed. We will have a team of volunteers who will do minor repairs, some house work (like changing light bulbs, filters for air conditioners, emptying trash etc.) There will be no charge for these services. Simply call the church office, let us know what you need, and we will schedule a time to visit you. It is likely that most of our work will be done on weekends but we will do our best to help as soon as possible.

words of Light

The start of a new school year evokes many emotions. Especially in a university community, the heightened bustle and excitement are palpable. Sports enthusiasts gear up for football season. Students and parents and educators experience the thrill of new beginnings, accompanied by anticipation that ranges from joy to anxiety over what lies ahead. Even those with no direct school ties are impacted by increased traffic and congestion at stores and restaurants.

First Christian Church has many back-to-school connections. We actively support Bean Elementary School. We are in the midst of launching a huge mission focus to university students. Not to mention the many students, teachers, and support personnel within our congregation.

Whatever your back-to-school connection may be, it is good for us all to pray daily for those on the front lines of education in our community. Just as our congregation recently prayed to bless the backpacks of students in church, let's continue to pray for students, teachers, and their families.

Back-to-School Prayer Starters

For students

- Watch over students as they head back to school.
- Protect them from injury, illness, and evil.
- Fill schools and classrooms with warmth and security.
- Create an environment where all can learn without fear.
- Provide each child with encouragement and support.
- Help especially those whose families are struggling, broken, or lack basic resources.
- Nudge hearts of students to know that they are loved by You, dear God.

For teachers

- Pour Your grace and mercy upon teachers.
- Grant discernment, patience, and hearts to encourage.
- Equip them to reach even those students hardest to reach.
- Give them comfort, energy, and courage.
- Surround them with supportive co-workers and administrators.
- Infuse moments of joy and laughter into each day.
- Draw them to You, Heavenly Father.

In the Life of the Church

(An FCC Historical Tidbit) By Deborah Bigness



The September 11, 1913 edition of the *Lubbock Avalanche* announced that Rev. J.E. Chase had "accepted the call of the South Side Christian Church" to be its second resident pastor. In these early days, South Side Christian Church was a name for the church frequently used in print because of its location on the southern edge of town – at 16^{th} Street and Avenue J!

Rev. Chase and his family moved to Lubbock from Benjamin, Texas, and would stay with us until 1919. During his time here, his two youngest sons were born, the church made its first-ever donation for foreign missions of \$6.65, and by 1917, the church had grown so quickly that plans were being discussed for a new building. Those plans were shelved and Rev. Chase's

ministry was interrupted when America entered World War I in April 1917 and he entered the service.

_ight the youth

FALL RETREAT

The Christian Journey : What It Is and Where It Leads

SAVE THE DATE - OCTOBER 6th

FALL RETREAT

The retreat will be held at our church and will begin with a fellowship time at 9:30am and conclude around 4:00 pm. Lunch and discussion groups will also be a part of this event. Everyone is welcome and childcare will be provided. Please email Holly Jessen <u>holly@fcclubbock.org</u> if you require childcare. There will be no cost for the retreat but we are praying it will strengthen us as a church family and encourage us to boldly move forward in partnership with our Lord in His plans for us.

Grace And Peace – Arlano

2018 Southwest Good Samaritan Mission

First Christian Church has a long tradition of mission trips to the Lower Rio Grande Valley to share in the ministries of Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries. SWGSM, founded and led by Feliberto Pereira, serves refugees and disadvantaged residents the Valley and neighboring areas of Mexico. This trip will provide an opportunity to see one of our outstanding Disciple organizations in action, participate in distribution of Disciples Beans we send each Christmas and Easter, and experience the lives of legal refugees who have been processed through the federal detention center near Brownsville. The recent efforts to reunite families separated at the border has significantly increased the workload at SWGSM, and may provide additional service opportunities for our team.

The activities of the mission trip will be developed around the skills and interests of the participants. There are a number of construction-type projects, both on the SWGSM campuses at Bayview and Los Fresnos and for families in the community. Participants can also help with sorting and distribution of donated materials, including Disciples rice and beans, and the Gospel and Christ's love with refugee families. Other options will depend on the makeup of the team.

The team will leave Lubbock on Saturday, October 13 and return Friday, October 19, traveling by church vans. We will spend Saturday night in San Antonio on the way to the Valley. Lodging will be in dormitories at the Bayview campus of SWGSM.

Join our Light

Volunteers Needed

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 Mary Norman in the church office at 763-1995.

Upcoming September Gatherings & Meetings...

- Labor Day, Monday, September 3rd, FCC Office will be closed
- College & Career Bible Study & Fellowship, Every Thursday Evening Beginning 6:00pm
- Noon Bible Study, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:10-12:50pm,
- Elders Meeting, Wednesday, September 5th, 7:00pm
- Deacons Meeting, Wednesday, September 5th, 7:00pm
- Finance Committee, Monday, September 10th, 11:45am, Conference Room
- Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, September 10th, 11:45, Room 107
- Foundation Meeting, Tuesday, September 18th, 4:00pm, Conference Room
- South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued, Wednesday, September 19th, 9am-12pm,
- **Bean Elementary** Pray for Students and Teachers, Monday, September 24, Bean Elementary
- Aaron Deview Presentation Friday, September 28th, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary



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 <u>Prayer Matters</u> is available in the Nook. Get your copy TODAY!!*

_ight blessings



Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 19, 2018











Light blessings

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Blessing of the Animals

Saturday August 11, 2018















