



2019

January 2019
Volume 30, Issue 1

The Light
First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2323 Broadway St.
Lubbock, TX. 79401-2916

message of Light

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Reverend
Paul
Carpenter
Senior Minister
paul@fcclubbock.org

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

2nd 10:40 AM- 426
Sunday School- 133

9th 10:40 AM- 146
Sunday School- 38

16th 10:40 AM- 329
Sunday School- 129

23rd 10:40 AM- 263
Sunday School- 98

24th 4:00 PM- 272
6:00 PM- 275

Grace and peace to you! I hope this message finds you well and spiritually healthy this Christmas and New Years.

This Fall I felt it important to ask a few questions and consider some adjustments for FCC to better serve our next 10-20-30 years with strength and health. As we enter a new year, please join me in adjusting together.

The most notable change is our **Sunday morning schedule**. Beginning in February we will hold two traditional worship services - 8:30 AM in the Chapel and 10:40 in the Sanctuary. Sunday School will be from 9:30-10:30 AM. The growth of the church will dictate any further adjustments, but for now this leans into our strengths and traditions. Until February, we will maintain the one 10:40 AM service, giving us time to plan for a quality Chapel service. **If you are a person who plans to attend the Chapel service, I would appreciate your feedback and affirmation.** Parents, I encourage you to take advantage of our excellent children's Sunday School classes. We would love to see all of our classrooms full of kids so that the teaching of the Bible can spread even further into our homes.

The second change regards the "engine" of the church, **our prayers and partnership with God's Spirit**. With the help of a few Elders, I am seeking additional times/venues to gather folks to pray for our sick and hurting, and to pray for conversions and salvation over our city, nation, and world. I would love your involvement. Communal prayer and individual patterns of lifting up the church

will be HUGE for our future. In addition, soon you will receive as a gift a Bible Reading Plan for 2019. I encourage you to spend time in the Word and to commit yourself to praying often for FCC.

Third, we are bringing back **Wednesday Night Church**. While we are still working out details on meals and logistics, we are certain that the first Wednesday in February will kick off our tradition of gathering midweek. Youth, College, and Choir will already meet. We will add Children's options, and gatherings for adults and parents as well.

Fourth, let's emphasize our adult **Sunday School classes**. 60 Minutes, Seekers, ROC, Keystone, Upper Room, and New Vision are all faithful and strong communities of faith. When someone is new to the church or is looking to get more involved, our Sunday School classes are easy ways to jump in and go deeper. This Spring I will lead us in highlighting our classes and seeking all of them to grow. In addition, we are forming a 7th class (yet to be named), to help reach and equip more of our folks. I will be involved, along with Robert and Robin Grimes, in leading and growing this new class.

As we are strengthened in faith, may we remain gentle in spirit. As we grow in number, may we never neglect each person. As we seek closeness with one another, may our boundaries remain permeable for new hearts. May, in all things, the church stand faithful to the Father and to His Son, Jesus Christ.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Paul

sharing the Light

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SAVE the DATES

JANUARY

1 st	FCC Church Office Closed
6 th	Back to School Devotional (Youth)
7 th	Pray with Teachers, Bean Elementary, 9:00 am
9 th	Kids Night Out 6:00 pm– 8:00 pm
16 th	College Open Gym & Pancakes, 6:15-8:30pm
20 th	Fellowship Gathering (Youth)

The Light is
published monthly
January-December.

The Light informs
members of
congregational
news/activities

Managing Editor-
Mary Norman

Outreach

Thank You, Generous Church!

Once again, FCC members and friends stepped up to the plate and delivered a home run in funding our annual campaign to gift each child at Bean Elementary with a book at Christmas. Excess funds collected were used to purchase Christmas gifts for the teachers and staff, both at Bean and the CDC. This year, laptop bags with the Bean logo were given away at Bean and the CDC received tote bags with the CDC logo.

We had a great turn-out to wrap the books on December 2nd—thanks to all who joined in, not only to wrap, but also to enjoy some hot chocolate and FCC fellowship!

Good News Club

The Good News Club continues to thrive at Bean Elementary, with 20-22 children in weekly attendance. The final club meeting prior to the Christmas holidays held a special treat for the children as Carol Farris, CEF leader and member of the local storytellers organization, came to share the most amazing flannel graph presentation of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, with an emphasis on the Christmas story. The kids loved it—and so did the leaders!

We will be finishing the second six-week series, ***JESUS: God Who Came to Earth*** on January 24th with a birthday celebration for Jesus and all of the children, complete with “Juggler for Jesus,” Steve Winger. We are excited that 23 Bibles have been presented to children who have attended at least 5 times, and we had four children with perfect attendance since the start date of September 27, 2018.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways FCC members can help at Bean, volunteering as Lunch Buddies, reading or math tutors in the classrooms, or becoming part of the Good News Club team. Contact Bob or Marcy Lawless for more information.

Prayer for a New Year ... Marilyn Wragg

On the brink of each new year, I look through my pocket calendar and reflect on notations over the past year—church and family events, travel, weddings, funerals, birthdays, and various commitments. So much has happened, with a few things anticipated beforehand and many others totally unforeseen. It is a bittersweet exercise, as joy and sorrow mingle through remembering blessings and losses.

I glance through upcoming calendar months, and I wonder what I will be reviewing this time next year. Experience and God's word have taught me that while I can plan and anticipate, I have very little control over how life actually plays out.

And so, each year, I spend a bit of time prayerfully setting some goals. I write down prayers covering loved ones over the coming year. I thank God for His grace in the past and trust Him for the future. And I rest in the spirit of Frances Havergal's classic hymn, which is my favorite prayer as yet another year dawns.

We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps. *Proverbs 16:9*

I know, Lord, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course. *Jeremiah 10:23*

Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee;
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace,
Another year of gladness in the shining of Thy face;
Another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast;
Another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service, of witness for Thy love,
Another year of training for holier work above;
Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
On earth, or else in Heaven, another year for Thee.

~ Frances R. Havergal, 1874

New Year's Prayer

"My prayer for the New Year is that God's will would be done through everyone and that this year is filled with peace and happiness." -Zoe Hight

Noah's Nook

As you are cleaning out closets, bookshelves, under couches, backseats and trunks during January, please look through your children's books and see if any of them have a First Christian Church sticker on them. There are quite a few out there that have a 2018 due date and need to be returned. All of our books have a colored masking tape tab on the spine. So please look high and low and return the FCC children's books to one of the baskets in Noah's Nook.

Thank you for your help.



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Get away from the busyness of life and the pressures of parenting and spend time in the presence of the Lord.

Join us, February 8-10th for worship, prayer and fellowship in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Dr. Bob Utley will host a series of workshops to help us move forward in our journey into Christ likeness. Dr. Utley will help us answer bible questions you have always wanted to know.

You will have the opportunity to worship, rest, and explore beautiful Santa Fe while staying at the Hilton Santa Fe located on the Historic Plaza.

Registration is \$100 per person and we have secured a special hotel rate of \$99.00+ tax per night. Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Hilton directly at (505) 988-2811 or contact the Reservation Clerk at (505) 955-1476. Be sure to use the Group Rate Code: FCC. The room block is available until January 8th. Optional round trip transportation is also available for \$50.00 per person. Registration forms available at the FCC Main Office. You must submit a registration form to the FCC Office if you plan to attend!



New Year's Prayer

"Lord, we thank you for all your many blessings. We pray that you give us open hearts to hear your voice and seek your direction for our lives this coming year. May 2019 be a year of breakthrough and spiritual maturity for this community of faith. We love you Lord." -Travis Gibson

Upcoming JANUARY Gatherings & Meetings...

- ◇ **Bible Babes**, Mondays, 7:00 pm, Church Parlor
- ◇ **Noon Bible Study**, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:10-12:50 pm
- ◇ **Christian Women's Fellowship**, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Cattle Baron
- ◇ **Bean Elementary Prayer**, Monday, January 7th, 9:00 am, Bean Elementary
- ◇ **Elders Meeting**, Wednesday, January 9th, 7:00 pm, Room 107
- ◇ **Finance Meeting**, Monday, January 14th, 11:45 am, Conference Room
- ◇ **Foundation Meeting**, Tuesday, January 15th, 4:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ **South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued**, Wednesday, January 16th, 9am-12pm

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Keenagers

Dubai: Rising High from the Desert– January Event

In 1966 the discovery of oil in Dubai changed the country beyond recognition and led Dubai to become one of the most vibrant and modern cities in the world. Skyscrapers rose out of the sky, including the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa which rises 2,717 feet. Dubai has been the site of an extremely large skyscraper building boom and has amassed one of the largest skylines in the world. We invite you to kick off the New Year with a



trip to Dubai with Dwayne and Elizabeth Tidwell as they share some of the highlights of their visit to Dubai and Abu Dhabi last year. Our tour will be held at First Christian Church at 10:30 am. January 4th, 2019. Lunch will be \$10.00. Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 2nd.

Pre-Modern Bibles– February Event

Experience the evolution of the physical Bible.

Keenagers February trip will include a trip to the Texas Tech Museum on Friday, February 1st, 2019. We will depart the church at 9:30am.

This exhibit features a variety of bibles including the multilingual Complutensian Polyglot Bible. You will experience the colorful illuminations and more than 1,000 years of biblical scholarship and its relationship to the development of western civilization in the middle ages. RSVP by January 30th. Lunch will be at Rosa's. Pay your own way.



In the Life of the Church

Less than 10 years after the first building of the First Christian Church was completed in 1908, the need for a larger facility was obvious. After years of waiting, the decision to proceed was made in January 1920 and announced in the next edition of *The Avalanche*. The stucco, Spanish, semi-tabernacle style building, remembered by many members as the Church at 16th Street and Avenue J, was finally dedicated in September 1923.

The new building featured a sanctuary in the shape of a Maltese cross ventilated from above by banks of windows with space for 400 people. The new facility also included a basement, spacious lobby, drinking fountain, classrooms, Pastor's study, kitchen, dining room, and boiler rooms for the steam plant that heated the building. Perhaps unique to a church in town at the time, a second-story room above the lobby was designed as a "motion picture room," although the projection equipment was not installed right away.



Military News And Concerns

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

Christopher
Colgrove
Kuwait
nephew of
Laurie Williams

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

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

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

We lift up in prayer our Friends and Family

Members: Frances Ansley, Robbie Bedker, Glenda Cole, Dr. Kenneth Davis, Carolyn Lawrence, Lyle Mashburn, Gloria Meitzen, Gary Moore, Pat Renfro, Randell Resneder, Karen Slay, Jackie Williams

Friends: Bear Brock, Marilyn Brinkley, Angel Cartwright, Joe Gillispie, Katelyn Harlow, Madison Howell, Gary Hughes, Will Jordan, Shannon Layman, Walter Lupton, Sue Lotz, Chris Mackey, Leroy Montoya, Michael Oman, Jackie Shaw, Nortina Stewart, Darnell Vandivort, Pauline Webb, Carol White

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

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

Our Deepest Sympathy

We lift up the family of Joyce (Laila) Williams. Joyce passed from this life on December 16th. Joyce was also a friend of Arlano Funderburk's

Baby Dedication

August Gibson Rawe was dedicated on Sunday, December 9th during the traditional service.

Welcome New Members

Adam & Glenys Young and family
Michael & Chelsea Thero and family
Lonny and Kim King
Jennifer Horan
Shawn Walker Davis
Shelly & Burt Nelson



the Light of youth

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College Ministry

Resolution

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

During this month, it is often solicited to us that there is a new and better you out there and this is your year to discover him/her. This is actually not entirely wrong. However, the solution and goals are very secular in nature. The means to become that better you comes through working out more, reading more often, climbing your way to the top, etc. The goal is to, of course, do it for your own gain and own benefit. But when we look at scripture, we are called to a higher standard for a higher purpose. We are called to present ourselves as unashamed workers for the Lord letting truth be our native tongue. Like most, we seek to present our best selves but not for our sake or benefit but solely for the glory of God. It is my hope that before we start looking towards renewing our gym memberships and finding the newest diet fad, we will primarily seek to get back into the Word, enter into prayer often, and find ways to make God look glorious to this world. May these rise to the top of our 2019 New Years' resolution list and may God receive all the glory.



Scott Hall

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

January Announcements:

Open Gym and Pancakes — January 16th; 6:15pm-8:30pm

Come enjoy a time of fellowship at our FLCC as we start the semester back up. There will be Billiards, Foosball, Ping Pong, Basketball, and of course, Pancakes. Invite your friends and lets have a blast!

Sunday Bible Study — Every Sunday in January; 9:30am

Join us for coffee, donuts, and bible study every Sunday in our college room.

Youth Blessings

"Lord, in this New Year I ask that you captivate people's hearts. I ask that you either bring the church an outpouring of people who have been convicted to follow you or that you restore the hearts that previously were on fire for you. May this season be one where we leave all our sorry excuses, our garbage, and the lies from the enemy behind and simply follow you without these things hindering us. Draw us out from our comfortable lifestyles and establish your gloriously blazing kingdom upon our hearts. Help us, personally, to be convicted to follow you in all your ways. Father, in this New Year help us all to not be strangers to you but instead see you for who you are." *Blessings, Derek Jerezano*

Light notes

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When all the glitter and presents and wrappings of the Christmas season are swept up and put back in the closet, I am always left with a song of gratitude in my heart for the members of our church and specifically those involved in the worship and music ministry. Our Sanctuary Choir has such a genuine and deep love for God and for leading our church in worshiping Him by preparing the upcoming anthems each week with such thoughtfulness and prayer. Our organist, Darryl Berry, is so devoted to bringing an offering of beautiful music to our Lord each Sunday. Our acolytes and acolyte parents are diligent in attending each and every week to bring in the light of



Christ to the church and ready our hearts for worship. Our AV Team who run the cameras and screens for service are each so hard working and dedicated in their role. All our members who are involved in the special Sundays throughout the Fall including All-Saints Sunday and Harvest Sunday astound me with the love and care they have for enhancing worship with their gifts. God is so good to this church and I can't help but be overwhelmed with love and gratitude for what He is doing here through each one of you. From the bottom of my heart, I love you, thank you, and it is my honor and joy to be your worship and music pastor. 2019 is going to be a powerful and Holy Spirit-filled year in the life of FCC. My prayer for this new year is that Jesus draws us closer to Himself every day and that He continues to call us out onto the water and that we continue to faithfully obey Him that His renown may be greater and greater in our lives. I cannot wait to see how Jesus continues to glorify Himself here at First Christian Church.

Your sister,
Brittney



DECEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

2 nd	General- \$27,730 Designated- \$26,215	9 th	General- \$18,422.62 Designated- \$1,331
16 th	General- \$29,267.50 Designated- \$1,760	23 rd	General- \$24,784.50 Designated- \$1,409.24

New Year's Resolution

2019 resolution. Hmm...

...to have Disney World caliber fire-works timed to inspiring music; and invite our church friends over for the food & festivities as we grow our college program. Carpe Diem!

Robert Grimes

Light resolutions

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For this month's edition of The Light, I wanted to highlight members New Year's Resolutions and Prayers. For me, resolutions are reminders for our repentant hearts. The tradition of New Year's resolutions dates back at least 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. Before setting resolutions, it is important to celebrate each step of progress that was made in the last year and pay homage to the work God has done in all of our lives. For me, I am grateful for the opportunity to switch careers and join the FCC family.

Most people resolve to become healthier or quit a bad habit. However, simply resolving to do something because we think we should does not actually change us. Instead we should ask ourselves, "What would God want you to do to honor him?" Connect your resolution to prayer and pray for God's help. God is continually at work in us to make us more like Him. If there is something in your life that needs change, there is no reason to wait until January 1st to start engaging in the process. "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and you justice as the noonday."

Psalm 37:5-6 Through it all, God is guiding us and he can help us with our resolutions! I hope the prayers and resolutions shared by your friends throughout this edition will help you reflect on your own resolutions for 2019.

Love and Light, Mary Norman

As a younger person, intent on self-improvement, I used to make many New Year's Resolutions. I'm a "list person" so this was second nature to me, and I slogged through to "git-em-done!" Thankfully for me, God got hold of my New Year's lists many years ago and turned my inward focus outward and upward.

I still sometimes set a few goals, but my favorite New Year's reminder which I repeat often as a new year begins and throughout the year is from C. S. Lewis's Chronicles of Narnia. "**Further Up and Further In**" is my promise to God—that what I seek is to be closer to Him and deeper into His Word and Kingdom, leaving the daily details to Him. I am richly blessed and deeply grateful to my Lord for every day on earth and know, in my heart, that it will only get better and better until His "best" becomes mine when this life draws to a close. -Marcy Lawless

That God will draw me closer to Him daily through prayer and Scripture, and that our congregation will grow closer to God and to one another through daily Bible readings from our 2019 Daily Bible Reading Calendars. - Marilyn Wragg

2019

My Resolution is to continue a practice I began a few years back. Every morning I begin my day by reading 3 devotionals and then sending my grandchildren "Words of Wisdom". I pray that I will truly live the scripture and devotionals that I study and that my simple "Words" to my grandchildren each day will give them encouragement and love throughout their lives.

- Linda Greenstreet

New Years Prayer:

I pray this New Year for the health and well being of my family and friends. That we all may keep our eyes on Christ throughout the year and stay healthy and strong! - Holly Jessen

Light reflections

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Our Wonderful Youth Volunteers

Amanda Gore & James Yaeger

James and Amanda have been working with our middle school since 2017 as our Small Group Leaders



Cecily & Travis Gibson Feat. William Gibson

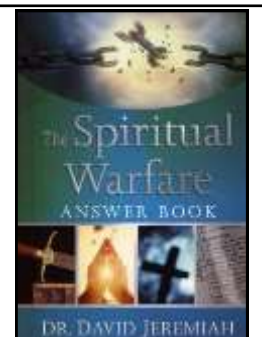
Cecily and Travis have been working with our high school since 2016 as our Small Group Leaders



BIBLE BABES

Bible Babes is back beginning January 7th at 7:00pm.

Join us as we examine the book, *Spiritual Warfare* by Dr. David Jeremiah. This book comes with a wealth of biblical wisdom on challenging and fascinating topics.



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Especially for:

JANUARY Worship Times

Sundays:

Prayer Service:
8:30 a.m.
Chapel

Traditional Service:
10:40a.m.
Sanctuary

Sunday School:
9:30 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday
8:30 a.m.-Noon

OFFICE PHONE

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

**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.*

JANUARY Birthdays

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Ethel Forman Q Duke David Allison Mason Payne Carter Kattwinkel	2 Lori Beth Wilhelm	3	4 Christian Carpenter	5 Mike Corley Dion Baker Cody Wilhelm Reagan Hawkins
6 Barbara Onstead Jillian Peebles	7 Larry Allen Daniel Edwards Morgan Dellow	8 Mary Jo McGrew Kathy Perkins	9	10 	11 Mary Beth Harris	12 Michael Armstrong
13	14 Nan Young Charlotte Watson Richard Wil- helm Leslie Kitten	15 Blair Belew	16	17 Frances Evans	18 Lindsey Becker	19 Scott Trevey Brandon Rawe
20 Carolyn Davis James Phillips Ashley Cushman Beau Harper	21 Nathan Agnew Steve Williams	22 Glenda Cole Landon Ellis	23 Frank Richardson Cole Agnew Colton Edwards	24 Norman Carter Anita Walker Lauren Follis	25 Steve Slay Dylan Jerden	26
27 Charles Baldwin	28 Lynn Thames Bill Adams	29 Connie Bowers	30 Joy Turner Matt Matzner Shane Winfield Josh Ford	31 		