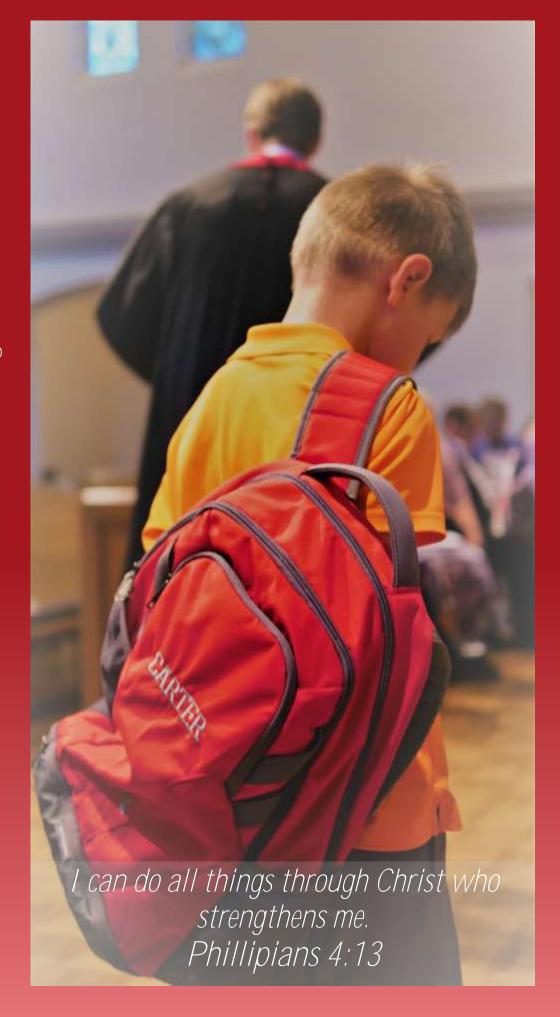
AUGUST 2019 Volume 30, Issue 8

The Light

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



a Light word



Reverend
Paul
Carpenter
Senior Minister
paul@fcclubbock.org



JUNE/JULY Attendance

30 th	8:30 AM- 60 10:40 AM- 206 Sunday School- 98
7 th	8:30 AM – 49 10:40 AM – 167 Sunday School – 96
14 th	8:30 AM-57 10:40 AM- 160 Sunday School-97
21 st	8:30 AM - 62 10:40 AM - 154 Sunday School - 96
28 th	8:30 AM – 49 10:40 AM – 192 Sunday School – 90

I'm writing this newsletter article from Florida during our annual family vacation. My parents, along with all of my siblings, gather with our families each year to love, support, and encourage each other. I'm dedicating this article to the ministry of the family, and how God uses ordinary people like brothers and sisters, moms and dads, to impact our hearts and minds for the better.

First, one of the earliest showings of God's sovereignty in our life is Him determining our family. Some of us became family through adoption and others through biology; either way we can't help but see the hand of God in picking who are closests relationships would be. Your life and your family is not an accident but one of the ways God chooses to bless and humble us. For every family has great things and every family has unique challenges. The family God has given to Valerie and me is in some ways like my family of origin and in many ways different. In both cases it's clear that God assembled our families and cherishes them deeply. During family vacations I can't help but consider at how God has been with our families for generations and generations.

Second, a family that knows and honors God naturally disciples, evangelizes, and glorifies God. The biggest decision a person can make is to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The same is true for a family. This puts us on a unique road that God blesses and uses for our good and His glory. As we're here in Florida, I see my mother who prays for all of her children and grandchildren every day and my father who leads us biblically and serves his local church as an elder. I see my brothers lead their wives and children as Christ loves the church, and along with my grandmother we discuss what is going on in our faith walk. Each night we gather on the beach and stand amazed at the handiwork of God. A faith based family is a gift that keeps on giving-normalizing prayer and praise.

Third, God is ready to redeem any family that will call on Him. While we all appreciate faith based homes sometimes it's

We've hard relate. all been to disappointed and embarrassed bν situations in our families. One thing is for certain: if faith is not the center of our homes God is willing and ready to help us make it so. Regardless of the level of faithfulness to Jesus found in your family consider these basic truths in order to pray directly for God's help. Statistically when the dad/husband begins to walk with Jesus the whole family tree is altered; zero in on fathers and husbands to know Jesus as Lord and to lead well. One of our members, Michael King, mentioned another law at work called the "80-20" rule. Either you are a family who is plugged into church 80% of the time or 20% of the time. If you are a family active in a local church you will certainly see the effect of faith and the practice of Christianity in your home. If you find yourself in a season of being a 20% family, recognize it and ask God for help to become an 80% family. The last principle I'd like to highlight is the attraction of holy things in our homes. Where is the place of prayer, scripture study, open conversations, and confession within our homes? If you've got kids or grandkids under your care, are they willing to come to you to talk through some of life's greatest difficulties and mysteries? Is the name of Jesus used with reverence and joy? God is ready to bless any home that is willing to call on Him.

As our vacation comes to an end and we prepare to return to Lubbock, I'm grateful for our family being rooted in a Christian family at First Christian Church. What a blessing it is to have unconditional love and support. In a world of change it's good to know that some things remain consistent. May God bless every household and all of our uniqueness as we honor God and live by faith.

message of Light

Hezekiah's Prayer . . . Marilyn Wragg

2 Kings 18–19 provides another example for praying in difficult circumstances. With a massive army on his doorsteps, King Hezekiah faced insurmountable odds. Assyria had already conquered the northern kingdom of Israel and deported its inhabitants. Sennacherib had captured all fortified cities of Judah and now threatened utterly to destroy Jerusalem and its people unless they surrendered and were deported.

Assyrian commanders taunted Judah and their God, boasting about nations and gods they had handily decimated.

Sennacherib sent a letter warning Hezekiah not to depend upon his God: "Who of all the gods of these countries has been able to save his land from me? How then can the Lord deliver Jerusalem from my hand?"

When Hezekiah read the letter, he took it directly to the temple, spread it out before the Lord, and prayed.

Hezekiah's example has helped me through some dreadful situations. The next time you face a crisis, remember Hezekiah. Take the threat, however tangibly you need to, straight to God. Remember and call on God's attributes. State your request. Then, leave it to God to act in a way that furthers His glory.

Upon reading the letter, Hezekiah went straightaway to the temple and physically spread out the letter before the Lord.

Hezekiah recited God's mighty traits not only to praise God and entreat His deliverance, but also to remind himself of what he knew about God. Facing terrifying odds, Hezekiah needed to remember that his God alone was Sovereign.

Hezekiah then asked God to act in a way that would further His glory – "So that all may know that You, alone, Lord, are God."

"Lord, God of Israel... You alone are God over all kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Give ear, Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, Lord, and see; listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to ridicule the living God. It is true, Lord, that the Assyrian kings have laid waste these nations and have thrown their gods into the fire, for they were not gods but only wood and stone. Now, Lord our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone Lord, are God." 2 Kings 19:15–19

And finally, remember that we cannot always see how God is working for good. But we can trust, in the words of Pastor Paul, "that God's glory and our good have been inextricably linked through Jesus."

JUNE/ JULY CONTRIBUTIONS

	June 30 th	July 7 th July 14t ^h		July 21 st	July 28 th	
General	\$10,084.00	\$20,791.57	\$31,701.07	\$17,411.00	\$13,325.16	
Designated	\$200.00	\$3,970.00	\$0	\$2,735.00	\$150.00	

Light notes

FCC Music Ministry

August is here and what a month it will be! There are so many opportunities for you and your family to get involved in the Music Ministry of FCC:

- FCC Children's Music Club Kick-Off, August 26th from 5-5:30pm, 3404 54th Street
 Children K-3rd Grade are invited to come to the Hardin House for a fun time singing bible songs, playing games, and making crafts together. We will learn about the Gospel and how to sing as members of Jesus' holy church. Parents are welcome to stay for the duration of the time or swing by Market Street for a quick coffee.
- Sanctuary Choir First Rehearsal, August 28th from 6-7:30pm, Kim Clowe Choral Suite
 Join us for cookies, lemonade, and worship as we have our first rehearsal together after the summer
 break! As a choir we love to sing to the Lord using all kinds of music and all kinds of difficulty levels. If
 you love to sing, you are welcome here! Come as you are and let's connect others to God through
 the gift of music.
- Sanctuary Choir Kick-Off Sunday Funday, September 1st from 3-5:00pm, 10608 Oxford Ave The Sanctuary Choir will come together to have a time of fellowship playing ice breaker games, music games, snacking, and getting to know one another more deeply as we kick-off the year together. If you're wondering about joining the choir, this is a great opportunity to check it out and get to know the members! If you are a veteran chorister, bring a friend and get them plugged in!

I am thrilled for this new year and wait with joy to see what the Lord has prepared for us!

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at brittney@fcclubbock.org for more information.

Upcoming AUGUST Gatherings & Meetings...

- ♦ **Noon Bible Study**, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:00-12:50 pm
- ♦ Christian Women's Fellowship, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Cattle Baron
- ♦ **Deacon Meeting,** Wednesday, August 7th, 7:00 pm, Room 107
- ♦ **Elders Meeting**, Wednesday, August 7th, 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ♦ Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday, August 18th, Traditional Service
- ♦ **Finance Meeting**, Monday, August 19th, 11:45 am, Conference Room
- Ministry Cabinet Meeting, Tuesday, August 20th, 11:30 am, Room 107
- ♦ South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued, Wednesday, August 21st, 9 am-12pm
 - ♦ **General Board Meeting,** Sunday, August 25th, Following 10:45 service
- ♦ All Church Fall Kick-Off, Sunday, August 25th, 6:30 pm, Grimes House- 3508 152nd Street

COLLEGE MINISTRY

As we enter into this Fall season, I am filled with extreme excitement. I have rounded my first year as College Minister and I have learned a LOT! We have tried a lot things that did not work and we have tried a lot of things that did work. God has big plans for FCC and our college ministry. Scripture calls us to "Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere." (Ephesians 6:18). According to Jason Meyer, praying in the Spirit has three aspects: (1) admitting our inability, (2) enjoying the creation of a living communion with God, and (3) pleading the promises of God with boldness and assurance. It is my hope that this practice of prayer will allow me to see God's will and plan for the College Ministry with complete clarity this year. I hope you will also join me in praying in the spirit for our college students who are counted among "all believers everywhere." Plus, I could use some people who are ready to influence and care for our college students. I hope that person is YOU! Yes..YOU!. Contact me if you're ready to make a difference!



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



Light the way

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FCC has been a part of Saint Benedict's Chapel since 2008. I wish I had kept a record of how many Tuesdays, how many meals, how many of you have volunteered, how many hours and how much money. But statistics are not why FCC serves. The teams are people who want to serve. Members who know that we are blessed to be a blessing. Each time we serve we are also blessed. And the good news is.....you can join a team!



There are teams that need to add members. Not just to serve the meal, but to prepare the food and/or deliver the food to the chapel. The teams serve on a rotating schedule, approximately every 9 weeks. If would like to join this out reach mission please contact me by phone, 806.928.2717 or email at dreeves@rpdo.org. I will be glad to visit with you more and direct you to one of the team leaders.

BUT WAIT THERE IS MORE!

The mission statement of Saint Benedict's is "Feeding body and soul." The board is working on a project to increase the feeding of the soul. Part of this would be to have volunteers be at the chapel when we serve the meal, but they would visit and pray with the people we serve. This is still in the planning stage, but if this is a ministry that interest you let me know.— **Dennis Reeves**

BIBLE BABES

Our fall Bible study, The Mysteries of Heaven with David Jeremiah, will start Monday Sept 9th at 7:00pm in the Chapel Parlor. Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven will answer and clarify the most important questions Christians have about their future eternal home. This study has 11 sessions and will run through Monday Nov 18th. Books can be purchased for \$10 dollars each. Make up sessions will be available at 6:00pm every Monday before the next session begins at 7:00pm. Please contact Paula Gibson at 806 632 5850 or email apaulagize@gmail.com to sign up or for questions regarding the study.



NOAH'S NOOK

We host 20-25 school age children every Wednesday in our library. They are learning in a variety of ways. And they check out a book each week and are a part of a Reading Incentive program. Awards will be given the first Wednesday in August.—Claire Dulaney





_ight of youth

Whenever I was the interim Youth Pastor in Amarillo, I recall one specific trip my partner and I had planned. This trip was our Middle School Mystery trip, it was a weekend full of fun, joy, laughter, and best of all throw up.....yes, throw up. Of all the things that I recall on the trip, the most distinct is how sick and queasy everybody got during this adventure. I bring that up because as people hurled threw the night, our friendships also kindled and sparked. It's as one of my professors called it "vomit ministry!" What he was getting at by using this term was that when

one person gets sick/ throws up it causes someone else to become vulnerable and susceptible and eventually throw up themselves. It was glorious! I got to be in the midst of watching this term play out but by the end of the weekend, after all the messes were cleaned up, all the tears were wiped away, and all our bags were headed home, we were much closer. We had shared in vulnerability and in hurt, which in turn led us to unite with each other that



much more. I believe this whole idea of "Vomit Ministry" is one we can use in our faith walks today, excluding the actual vomit. The sharing of vulnerability and authenticity, leads others to likewise be vulnerable and authentic. I have often shared my weaknesses and how the Lord has brought me out of so much darkness and this has inspired people to do likewise. In the Bible belt, it's easy to cover our problems with a Christian mask where we don't allow anyone to see our sins, my struggles, our imperfections because the thought of being vulnerable scares us. To bare ourselves in all of our emotional and spiritual nakedness is terrifying, and Satan wants to keep it that way. Satan would love for everyone to claim a perfect lifestyle yet in the shadows be choked away by their sins. I truly believe Christ is calling us to a life of vulnerability, where no matter the pain or fear involved with baring our lives to others, we do so anyway. The Church is empowered by their testimony and vulnerability, Satan's power is re-vanquished when we expose him and his ploys to the light. I hope even after reading this you'll be encouraged to share with a friend, a child, a stranger, or a loved one what the lord is doing in your life. May we all allow God's radiant light to expose us for who we truly are, his children.

Light events

FCC SPRING RETREAT – SAVE THE DATE

Our spring adult retreat will be April 24 - 26 2020 in Ruidoso NM. We are especially pleased to announce that Dr. Bob Utley has accepted our invitation to return and be our bible teacher for the retreat. As many of you know Dr. Utley has a world wide ministry of bible teaching. He will lead us in a study of Jesus' upper room talks with his disciples, John 13 - 17.

SAVE THE DATE and make plans to attend! We will have all the details concerning the retreat as well as registration information in the spring of 2020.

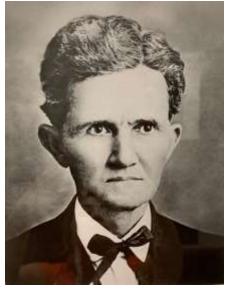


In the Life of the Church... by Deborah Bigness

On August 10, 1943, First Christian Church lost John R. McGee, one of its charter members. As the 1961 history of the church says, "The persistence of John R. McGee during those early years is largely responsible for there being a Christian Church in Lubbock."

Born in central Texas in 1853, Mr. McGee was a cowboy and a Texas Ranger in his youth. A lawyer by trade, he served as the County Treasurer in McCullough County for many years before coming to Lubbock in 1901, at a time when the town's population was approximately 300. That same year, Mr. Gee arranged for Elder Lay of Colorado City to come to Lubbock and officially organize the church.

Before the first resident pastor was hired in 1909, Mr. McGee was the official contact for the church, conducted last rites as a lay pastor and was the person that all of the members depended on in church matters. During these same years, he served six years as Lubbock County Judge, followed by six years as County Attorney, and was a prominent leader of several civic organizations.



Judge J. R. McGee Photograph courtesy of Lubbock County



Coming in Sept. – Have you been visiting First Christian for a while or know someone who has? Do you want to know more about Christ and/or go deeper in your walk? Perhaps you just met a visitor in church or Bible Study who you think might be interested in knowing more about our wonderful church? Are you ready to take the Next Step?

A one day class will be offered right after the late service from 12-1:30 pm on Sunday, Sept. 29. Lunch will be provided, as well as childcare. Contact Donna Childers at donna@fcclubbock.org or 806.763.1995 to RSVP, or if you have questions.

bless the Light

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Military News And Concerns

Lt. Brant Brock-Norfolk-

Home from Deployment 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, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage Alaska grandson of <u>Virginia Myers</u> <u>Dorman</u>

Capt. Nathaniel Swanson USMC, Cherry

Point Marine
Corps, Havelock,
North Carolina
grandson of
Virginia Myers
Dorman

We lift up in prayer our Friends and Family

<u>Members</u>: Robbie Bedker, Jeanie Chavez, Elaine Chaney, Rebecca Cunningham, Larry Deardorff, Steve DeHay, Sandra Foster, Linda Greenstreet, Monica Matzner, Zoe Phillips, Randell Resneder, Gypsie Taylor, Laurie Williams

<u>Friends</u>: Alan Barkley, Debbie Barnes, Bear Brock, Marilyn Brinkley, Dennis Brown, Tom Chavez, Paul DeArman, Paula Sue Dunbar, Steven Garcia, Joe Gillispie, Donna Harger, Vickie Herrera, Gary Hughes, Mary Ann Hunt, Autumn Kelly, Chris Mackey, Katelyn Mills, Doyle Norris, Judy Palacios, Kelsey Reinhart, Sydney Robinson, James Stair, Jerry Stair, Frank Teague, Darnell Vandivort, Pauline Webb, Carol White

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Sandra Foster, Kaye and Stumpy Greer, Lynise McDonald, Frances Evans, Cara Irvin, Ruby Power, Virginia Vincent, Marty Wells, Shelley and Bert Nelson, Joan Brown, Tom Chavez

Entered Into Heaven

Cameron Graham passed into eternal life on Saturday, July 27th. Please keep his wife Allison and family in your prayers.

With Thanks

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for praying for me and thanks for all the gifts and flowers. I appreciate everything the church does for the people in the hospital. Prayers help me get well, the doctors and nurses help me get well. *Elaine Chaney*

BAPTISMS



Anna Badillo



Treyson Durham

be a Light

FCC Good News Club

Attention:

Retired Teachers, Counselors, Lovers of Children, Bible Stories, Scripture & Singing!

FCC's Good News Club

Is Looking for You! Thursday's from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Bean Elementary School



There are places for Bible Lesson and Memory Verse Teachers, Mission & Wonder Time Presenters, Song Leaders & Shepherds (Small Group Leaders) and ALL curriculum and materials are provided by Child Evangelism Fellowship. There is also a need for Snack Providers & Overall Overseers who are available to take the children to the restroom or just sit with them if they get wiggly!!

Don't be dismayed or stay away if you cannot commit to every week throughout the school year—there still is a reserved place for you on the GNC Team!

To learn more and see where you can use your time and talents to share the "good news" of Jesus with the

children of our adopted school, Bean Elementary, please call Bob or Marcy Lawless, Team Coordinators

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(806) 799-1329 or send an e-mail, as follows: robert-lawless@utulsa.edu

marcy-lawless@utulsa.edu

SAVE THE DATE:

Team Training: Saturday, September 7, 8:30- 1:00 p.m.

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

FALL 2019 Start Dates

LISD- August 14th Cooper ISD– August 14th Frenship ISD- August 19th Lubbock Christian University— August 26th South Plains College— August 26th Texas Tech University— August 26th





this little Light

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MISSION WEEK

These kiddos spent three days serving the Lubbock Dream Center. They put their faith into action and worked hard with open and loving hearts. They washed the Dream Center's vans, did yard work at the New Legacy Home, cooked the ladies lunch at the New Legacy Home, cooked breakfast serving the homeless community, attended Adopt A Block and played with the neighborhood kids. They served the Lord freely knowing their reward is in heaven. Some children who have never prayed out loud at church not only prayed out loud in front of their peers but also for homeless strangers.



On the drive back from working at the Dream Center several kids noticed the same homeless couple on the same street corner they had seen multiple times in the last few days. Not only did they ask to stop and pray with them but they also gave them the water, chips, and sandwiches we



AUGUST 18th

Kids Day out at Dion's

We had a fun day out at Dion's Pizza and learned that the fruits of the spirit are a lot like pizza. Bread, tomatoes, cheese, and pepperoni are all great separate but when they come together and make pizza that's when the magic happens. Thank you Miss Alyssa for a wonderful tour and some yummy pizza!



PROMOTION SUNDAY: AUGUST 18™ 10:40 AM SERVICE

This is the Sunday when each child will move up to the Sunday school class corresponding with the new grade they will start in school. A small thing will be done to celebrate this transition in the 10:40am service. Have your child bring their backpacks for a prayer over this upcoming school year.

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Especially for:

Worship Times

Sundays:

Chapel Worship:

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.

The Light is

published monthly January-December.

The Light informs members of congregational news/activities

Managing Editor-**Mary Norman**

AUGUST Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
BIRTI DA				1 Paul Combest Jessica Young	2 Donna Mayfield	3 Charles Chaney Kate Toelle
4	5 Fred Bowers Annika Sihaloho	6 Dave Bender	7 Ginda Level	8 Ben Walker Kim Pierce Kendall Toelle Grace Agnew Khaki Bishop	9 Alexis Wragg	10
11 Gerry Landrum Jo Ann Newman Sarah Cypert	12 Bill Mullins Luke Lawrence	13 Leslie Ansley	14 Ann Landrum Darla Croom Courtney John- son	15 David Mindel Karen Jester Keenan Kattwin- kel	16 Ruth Ann Mindel Marcella Lovett Robin Grimes	17 Eric Ritchey Murphy Webb
18	19 Gayle Ninemire	20 Paul VanHoorebeke Pat Thurman Lequice Kohout	21 Larry Ackers Ashley Lowe	22 Bobbi Bernard	23 Melissa Lasater	24 Kohlson Dodge
25 Brenda Stanfield	26	27 Ean Pierce	28 Terry Hood Karen Moore Brittney Hardin Luke Level	29 Bennie Moore Stephen Kennedy	30 Becca Williams	31