

The Light

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

JANUARY 2020
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2020

message of Light



Reverend
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Carpenter
Senior Minister
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“Comfort yourself with the Word of God” – Martin Luther

Very soon you will receive a gift from the church in the mail. It's our 2020 Bible Reading Plan in calendar form. Several members took full advantage of last year's plan and encouraged us to provide one again. I'm eager to start the year committed to personal time in the Word of God, and to watch God comfort and instruct His people.

Our attitude and heart's focus is essential for proper reading of scripture. Alexander Campbell (one of the founders of our denomination) writes:

“Everyone who opens the Book of God, with one aim, with one ardent desire – intent only to know the will of God – to such a person the knowledge of God is easy; for the Bible is framed to illuminate such, and only such, with the salutary knowledge of things celestial and divine. Humility of mind, or what is in the effect the same, contempt for all earth-born pre-eminence, prepares the mind for the reception of this light; or, what is virtually the same, opens the ears to hear the voice of God”

Taking Campbell's teaching, before I enter the scriptures, I prayerfully confess three things: (1) That my trust in the reliability of the scriptures is unshakable, even when I read things that offend my feelings or ways of thinking; (2) That I am hungry to receive God's gift to me by His counsel and Word – that each moment in scripture study is pure grace to me; (3) That what I'll read today fits in with what I've read in the past, even if there are tensions – all 66 books of the Bible (though written through several human authors) are all ordained and controlled by the Holy Spirit and are ultimately telling one glorious story of God's grace.

Join us this year in spending more time in the Bible. May God bless you and yours in 2020 with the fruit of Christ and the joy of the Holy Spirit.

In love,
Pastor Paul

Upcoming JANUARY Gatherings & Meetings...

- ◇ **Noon Bible Study**, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:00-12:50 pm
- ◇ **Pilgrims Progress Study**, Fridays, 12:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **BIBLE BABES**, Mondays starting January 6th at 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **Pray for Bean Elementary**, Monday, January 6th, 10:00 am, Bean Elementary
- ◇ **Elders Meeting**, Wednesday, January 8th, 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **Finance Meeting**, Monday, January 13th, 12:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ **Christian Women's Fellowship**, Tuesday, January 7th, 6:30 pm, Cattle Baron
- ◇ **South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued**, Wednesday, January 15th, 9 am-12pm
- ◇ **Foundation Meeting**, Tuesday, January 21st, 4:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ **Saint Benedicts Tuesday Schedule:**
 - January 14th– Team 6
 - January 21st– Team 1
 - January 28th– Team 2

FCC Office will CLOSE at NOON December 31st through January 1st

Resolve to Treat Prayer More Seriously . . . Marilyn Wragg

While cleaning out a desk drawer, I recently discovered an old spiral notebook in which I had recorded prayer requests. The notebook spanned many years, and often there were several years between each list of requests. As I read through the prayers, I was amazed to see how God had worked over time in the life of each person. Looking back decades later, I could see God’s grace and mercy through answered prayer in ways I never saw at the time. Many loved ones for whom I was praying have now passed to Heaven; recognizing God’s faithfulness to carry each of them through their final challenges was a huge boost to my faith.

In order for me faithfully to persist in praying over a specific person or situation, I find it necessary to write out my prayers. The process of putting the request into words leads me to pray for discernment over what specifically to ask, which invites the Holy Spirit into the up-front process of framing requests. Later, it is often in those specifics that God’s answers are most clearly visible.

I once read that in all endeavors, wise people assess how things turn out. That we do not regularly do so with prayer shows we do not treat it as seriously as other endeavors.

While I believe we will never know the total impact of our prayers until we reach Heaven, I also believe God graciously grants us many confirmations, if we take time to look expectantly for results.

The beginning of a New Year is an apt time to reflect over ongoing prayer requests and how God has worked in each life and each situation. Be sure to thank God for answered prayers. For those prayers still “in progress,” seek to discern how best to continue praying in 2020.

Ask God to help you pray more earnestly and expectantly. Pray for the Holy Spirit to increase your faith that God is working when you cannot see it, and to give you eyes more clearly to see answers God is gracious to reveal.

Resolve this New Year to treat prayer as seriously as other endeavors you undertake. Pray more expectantly, and be more intentional to recognize and thank God for ways He is working.

DECEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS



	DEC. 1 st	DEC. 8 th	DEC. 15 th	DEC. 22 nd	DEC. 29 th
General	\$20,057	\$34,263	\$20,365	\$13,610	\$23,805
Designated	\$5,545	\$19,988	\$28,350	\$36,900	\$39,600

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Don't choose "goals." Seek to be conformed

It's that time again! Time to create a list of goals that will help us step into this year and bring about changes that we have always desired. However, if you are like me, I usually set those new year's resolutions every year only to quit around early February (if I'm lucky). It sets me up for some guilt and disappointment as I continue with the other 11 months of the year. So this year, I decided to do something different. Inside of setting goals, I am going to ask the deeper question of, "how do I want to be conformed more to the likeness of Christ this year?" This question opens me up for success.

Conforming to something suggests it is more of a process and less of a one time goal that has a definitive end point. It helps me remember that even if I mess up, that is okay. I just need to dust myself off, get my bearings set again, and keep striving. It is my hope that by the time 2020 ends, I can look back and see how far God has brought me and how much I have matured in the Lord. Maybe goals are not for you either. Consider joining me in 2020 as we faithful seek "...to be conformed to the image of his Son..."

(Romans 8:29)

Happy New Year, my friends!



Soli Deo Gloria!
Scott Hall
University Minister
First Christian Church-Lubbock
(806)283-0566

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LUBBOCK
**COLLEGE
MINISTRY**

WINTER CALENDAR 2019

NOVEMBER

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

DECEMBER

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				

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	

19 **WORSHIP NIGHT**
Meet at the church @ 6:30pm for a night of worship and fellowship. Dinner provided!

20 **OUTREACH: KNO**
Join us as we serve our community and church with Kid's Night Out! Meet at the FLCC @ 5:30pm!

5 **DEAD DAY PIT STOP**
Come to the church throughout the day for refreshments, a quiet place to study, and prayer! Chili/Stews, Hot chocolate and cookies will be served from 6:30pm-8pm!

10, 17 **HOME BIBLE STUDY**
Come to the Halls home on Dec. 10th and 17th for bible study and dinner 6:30pm | 2823 53rd st

28 **WORSHIP NIGHT**
Meet at the church @ 6:30pm for a night of worship and fellowship. Dinner provided!

17-20 **ANGEL FIRE SKI TRIP**
Want to go Skiing/Snowboarding? Sign up to go on our ski trip to Angel Fire, NM! Details on cost pending.

WEEKLY:
TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Select Tuesday Nights; 6:30pm
Dinner Provided | 2323 Broadway
SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS
Every Sunday; 9:30am

FIND US ON:
 @fcc_college_ministry
 @FCCCollegeMinistry

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



Light notes

We have enjoyed another beautiful holiday season where we celebrated the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ and welcomed the beginning of a brand-new decade together. A new year often times means a new change for the better in many of our lives. A new year to grow deeper in the Word of God, to grow closer to Jesus and further away from the world, and for a greater hatred of our sin and deeper affections for Christ and His coming kingdom. To start anew is a beautiful gift from God! This year, I invite you to pray and consider whether the Lord is calling you to join the Sanctuary Choir as we do just that. All are welcome to join us as we tell of the love we have for Jesus, learn together, pray with one another, and proclaim the Gospel through song. Rehearsals are each Wednesday from 7-8:15pm in the Kim Clowe Choral Suite. No audition required, just a love of the Lord and a heart of worship! Consider joining us in 2020.

Also, the Alleluia Handbell Choir will be working on and preparing multiple pieces throughout this new year for the 10:40am Sanctuary service and would love to have you join us! Our first official ring is February 9th and our rehearsals leading up to it are January 12th-February 2nd from 2-3pm in the Kim Clowe Choral Suite. This ensemble has a rich tradition of joy, faithfulness, and excellence in our church and is in need of some new members to help us grow. If you've never played before and are considering joining, please give me a text, call, email, or just come by my office to learn more. I'd love to visit with you about getting involved!

The FCC Children's Music Club is a great place to get your children involved in the worship life of FCC. We will be kicking off the year on Monday January 13th from 5-5:30pm at my house, 3404 54th St. and will meet every other Monday throughout the school spring semester. We meet to learn bible songs, play games, pray together, and prepare a few short songs to share with the congregations on Sunday mornings. Children from Kindergarten-5th grade are welcome to join us as we learn why we sing and how best to sing to our King.

I pray this year that God continues to grow a deep love of worship in each of our hearts as we see Him as all satisfying and all worthy of praise!

Brittney Hardin

Director of Music Ministries

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH *by Deborah Bigness*

Sunday, January 22, 1967, was a day of double celebrations in the life of the church. On that afternoon, members gathered to formally dedicate our beautiful and distinctive octagonal Hodges Chapel. The new chapel was made possible by a gift to the church from J.A. and Helen Hodges and dedicated to the memory of their parents. Immediately following the formal dedication service, members celebrated the Hodges' Golden Wedding Anniversary in the new Chapel Parlour.

J.A. and Helen Hodges married in Dimmitt, Texas, on January 24, 1917, and immediately took up residence in Lubbock, where Mr. Hodges was in the hardware business. Their kindness and philanthropy not only made lasting contributions to the First Christian Church, but also to their chosen home. Two parks and a community center were donated to the city by the couple and each of them established scholarship programs through bequests that have benefited students for decades.



J.A. and Helen Hodges with their daughters Edith and Nancy.

Light of Youth



Derek Jerezano
Youth Minister
Youth Minister

January Events

- **Jan 1: New Years day**
- **Jan 3: Lets Go to the Zoo**
Join the FCC youth in going to the Amarillo Zoo
- **Jan 18: Fellowship Night**
Come join our night of activities and fellowship

Devotional Thought

In the Book of Exodus, there is a large section of scripture, chapters 25-40, that is generally skipped over by most readers. This is mainly due to the fact that Exodus diverts from talking about the history of the Israelites and their wandering and jumps into giving the reader very precise details about the construction of the tabernacle and all that encompasses it. If this text is properly enjoyed, a beautiful image begins to form; the image of God's divine presence with his people. I mention this text/image because through it we begin to notice that the excruciating details included in this text are not simply to bore the reader but to paint a picture of the magnificent and beautiful dwelling place of God in the Old Testament. Acacia wood overlaid with gold, curtains made of fine linens and animal skins, precious stones decorating the furniture, and pleasing aromas all around. Within the text, we see that God has the people prepare the supplies to construct for Himself a location to be with the Israelites. The Israelites are instrumental for building this testament of God's presence with them. This is what we see through the accomplished work of Jesus Christ. Jesus prepares the bodies of those whom he will dwell with and makes their dilapidated and inhabitable homes into precious tabernacles fitting for the Holy Spirit to dwell with. Christ is instrumental and necessary for this indwelling to take place. This is one of our many hopes, given by Christ, that we have the ever-present God with us in all and through all. I encourage you to pray this prayer through this upcoming year to grow in faith and love "God make me more aware of your presence in my life"



If you would like to start receiving youth ministry updates, text "FCCLUBBOCK" to 84576

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Lift up the Light

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
Newport News, VA
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
Virginia Myers Dorman

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

Members: Alan Barkley, Robbie Bedker, Bobbie Bernard, Elaine Chaney, Lynn Cooper, Jody Dean, Steve DeHay, Laura Flieller, Ethel Forman, Chris Kebert, Monica Matzner, Shelley Nelson, Pam Patton, Ken Redding, Randell Resneder, Jerry Stanfield, Dick Tarr, Cindy Wiseman

Friends: Sandra Bermingham, Debbie Boen, Bear Bock, Marilyn Brinkley, Dennis Brown, Paula Sue Dunbar, Doris Evans, Twana Evers, Steven Garcia, Mary Garibey, Joe Gillispie, Donna Harger, Deborah Haywood, Gary Hughes, Mary Ann Hunt, Kate Irvin, Milton Jones, Chris Mackey, Kristen Mata, M’Lee McDonald, Leroy Montoya, Kerry Coats Nielson, Judy Palacios, Becky Peckham, Sydney Robinson, Catherine Royalty, Shannon Etter Thompson, Carolyne Travis, Darnell Vandivort, Pauline Webb, Carol White, Connie Turner Wilson, Mike Yont

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Kaye Greer, Lynise McDonald, Frances Evans, Cara Irvin, Ruby Power, Marty Wells, Jan Sanders, Shelley and Bert Nelson, Joan Brown

Baptisms

Keegan Daniel, December 29th

New Members



Jeff and Cecily Jackson
Children: Harper and Payton



Durham Delaney



Emily Pember

Entered into Heaven

Floyd “Stumpy” Greer passed into eternal life on Saturday, December 28th. Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 2nd at FCC.

Attendance

December 1 st	December 8 th	December 15 th	December 22 nd	December 24 th	December 29 th
8:30 am– 45 10:40 am– 268	8:30 am– 69 10:40 am– 256	8:30 am– 74 10:40 am– 221	8:30 am– 65 10:40 am– 258	4:00 pm– 331 6:00 pm– 275	8:30 am– 43 10:40 am– 201
Sunday School– 101	Sunday School– 130	Sunday School– 134	Sunday School– 114	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	Sunday School– 92

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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.

January Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Ethel Forman Q Duke David Allison Mason Payne Carter Kattwinkel	2 Syble Brashear Lori Beth Wilhelm	3	4 Christian Carpenter
5 Mike Corley Dion Baker Cody Wilhelm Reagan Hawkins	6 Barbara Onstead Mary Norman Jillian Peebles	7 Larry Allen Morgan Dellow	8 Mary Jo McGrew Kathy Perkins	9	10	11 Mary Beth Harris
12 Michael Armstrong	13	14 Nan Young Charlotte Watson Richard Wilhelm Leslie Kitten	15 Blair Bewlew	16	17 Frances Evans	18 Lindsey Becker
19 Scott Trevey Brandon Rawe	20 Carolyn K Davis James Phillips Ashley Cushman	21 Nathan Agnew Steve Williams	22 Marilee Bybee Adam Young Glenda Cole Landon Ellis	23 Frank Richardson Cole Agnew	24 Wade Carter Anita Walker Lauren Follis	25 Steve Slay Dylan Jerden
26	27 Albert Sechrist Charles Baldwin	28 Lynn Thames Bill Adams	29 Connie Bowers Michael Thero	30 Joy Turner Alan Barkley Matt Matzner Josh Ford Lynn Gorsuch	31	

The Light is published monthly January-December.

The Light informs members of congregational news/activities

Managing Editor-
Mary Norman