

the Light

**July 2020
Volume 31
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First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2323 Broadway St.
Lubbock, TX. 79401-2916



*“Let the wheat grow until the harvest....
Then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.”*
Matthew 13:30

message of Light



Reverend
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As this season began in March we remembered that difficult times forge character and allows the light to shine the brightest. These months have seen real challenges. Our nation isn't just experiencing the pandemic, but also economic turmoil and civil unrest. Each day there seems to be a new phase of

this complicated year. For the people who are unable to "live by faith and not by sight," 2020 would be unbearable. We, however, are people of faith. Though we might be hurt, or tired, or anxious, we carry on each day in light of the truth of God's Word.

By faith we know that nothing surprises God. By faith we remember that our lives are not accidents, but that He is equipping us to shine. By faith we profess that the end is the best part, and we walk in that hope. By faith we turn to scripture as our source of inspiration and direction.

God's church, and all His children by faith, are to be "in the world but not of the world." Romans 14:7-8 teaches, *"For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord."* We are God's special property – His sheep, His instruments, His holy people. God's love and hand are upon us to bear light and grace in the darkened world. So shine!

The world is cruel, chaotic, divisive, unrighteous, and unjust. The Kingdom of God is gracious, God-governed, whole, holy, and fair. We are ambassadors to this Kingdom of God, though we are treated as foreigners. Let's all do our part to stay "prayed-up." Let's take time in scripture to see how we measure up and how God is calling us to be reflectors of His light. For personal study, I'm currently working through Romans chapters 12-15. St. Paul offers such encouraging words – go see what he says. Let's call and check on each other, seeking each other's welfare.

We are on the side of victory. The light wins. The darkness

flees. Let us make the most of our lives, of every day, of each opportunity. The final verse of the great hymn *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* proclaims:

*Mortals, join the happy chorus;
Stars of morning, take your part;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Binding those of tender heart.
Ever singing, move we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.*

Grace and Peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Paul

4 WAYS TO *stay thankful* IN TOUGH TIMES

1. RECOGNIZE THAT GRATITUDE DOESN'T CHANGE YOUR EXPERIENCE; GRATITUDE CHANGES YOUR PERCEPTION OF YOUR EXPERIENCE.
2. REMEMBER THAT GRATITUDE ISN'T A FEELING; IT'S A MUSCLE YOU CHOOSE TO EXPERIENCE.
3. FOCUS ON THE UNCHANGING CHARACTER OF GOD. NOT THE FRUSTRATING CIRCUMSTANCE.
4. TALK TO JESUS WHO CAN EMPATHIZE WITH YOUR PAIN AND FRUSTRATION.

Praying Through the Coronacrisis . . . Marilyn Wragg

It seems we have endless concerns over which to pray these days. I started a list on Good Friday, which I sometimes use as a guide when I take extended time to pray. I share in hopes that it may help you as well, especially as you personalize it to your own life and experiences.

Mayor, Governor, President
 World Leaders and Health Advisors
 Health Care Personnel and First Responders
 Bean Elementary, including Good News Club kids
 Child Development Center kids, families, staff
 All school children, especially those most vulnerable
 Families under pressure, especially those already dysfunctional
 Homeless and disadvantaged
 Those whose jobs are especially impacted
 Those in care facilities
 Those homebound
 Singles who live alone, facing loneliness
 Kids and teens and all socially isolated
 Those struggling with addiction
 All those ill, especially hospitalized alone
 Christians in persecuted countries
 Healing of political and racial fractures in our nation

FCC Lubbock:
 Ministers and staff and families
 Sunday school classes
 Homebound and infirm
 For continued bonds of love and fellowship
 Wisdom; creative ways to minister and worship
 Protection over all
 Ways to care for sick, dying, bereaved
 Financial stability
 Marriages and families
 That FCC be strengthened through these times
 That we be a light in our community

Loved ones:
 Families stay strong, loving, positive
 Protection from virus; healing if get the virus
 That this time strengthen bonds of love
 Mental, emotional, and spiritual health
 Financial security
 Protection from isolation and fear
 Discernment to make good decisions
 That we stay close, find creative ways to connect, and support as we can those distant in proximity
 That all recognize their need for God, for a Savior

Myself (and spouse if applicable):
 Daily strength and focus
 Endurance and encouragement
 Creativity and productivity in service
 That we utilize days well and not waste this time
 That marriages and families grow stronger
 That we each draw closer to God
 That we grow in prayer and love for Scripture
 That we trust and not be fearful
 Protection from the virus; healing if we get it; trust in God whatever may transpire

For God to be magnified and glorified
For many to be drawn to pray and know God
For many to meet Jesus for the 1st time
That Christians shine brightly through this crisis

That God's Kingdom come, and His will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Amen.

MAY/JUNE CONTRIBUTIONS

	May 31 st	June 7 th	June 14 th	June 21 st
General	\$10,271.00	\$17,552.07	\$13,344.00	\$14,657.01
Designated	\$ 25.00	\$350.00	\$25.00	\$150.00

A Prayer to Sing

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

-Colossians 3:1



Brittney
Hardin
Worship and
Music
Pastor

Take My Life

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1. Take my life, and let it be con-se-crat-ed, Lord, to thee.
2. Take my hands, and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing; un-to God my praise I bring.
4. Take my sil-ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;
5. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no lon-ger mine.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea-sure store.



1. Take my mo-ments and my days; let them flow in
2. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beau-ti-
3. Take my lips and let them be filled with mes-sa-
4. Take my in-tel-lect, and use ev-ery power as
5. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy
6. Take my-self, and I will be ev-er, on-ly,



1. cease-less praise, let them flow in cease-less praise.
2. ful for thee, swift and beau-ti-ful for thee.
3. ges from thee, filled with mes-sa-ges from thee.
4. thou shalt choose, ev-ery power as thou shalt choose.
5. roy-al throne, it shall be thy roy-al throne.
6. all for thee, ev-er, on-ly, all for thee.

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus by Arlano Funderburk

We sing, “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” and yet how challenging to do what we sing. Keeping our eyes on Jesus, loving and trusting Him, is in fact, exactly what Jesus said was the most important thing we are called to do as Christians. The ancient singer of Israel expressed it like this, “I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.” (Psalm 16:8) And yet, clearly, there are many things in our present circumstances that threaten to take our attention from Him.



Arlano Funderburk
Pastoral Care

No one would deny how difficult it is especially in the midst of the pandemic, economic, and racial crises we are currently experiencing. So the question becomes, how do I keep my eyes on Jesus, trusting and loving Him? Thank God He never asks us to do something without giving us the resources we need to do it (Philippians 2:13). For example, remember Peter wanting to walk on water? He started out well but took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink and Jesus helped him.

It is so important for us to keep our eyes on Jesus loving and trusting Him to help us not let the storms of our lives take our attention from Him. Peter learned, even in the worst of storms, Jesus was/provided all he needed. It is a lesson that is no less true for us today. Turn your eyes upon Jesus!

In the Life of the Church by Deborah Bigness

During the Covid-19 crisis this year, we have gathered for worship in our west parking lot. It has been an innovative and creative solution that allowed us to be together. Were you there in 2013 when we had church in the parking lot?

That summer, this pair of these festive cupcakes added to *The Light's* masthead announced a “Patriotic Celebration,” planned for the Sunday before July 4th – in our east parking lot! Only one service was held that Sunday, and 225 members of the congregation gathered that morning at tables and chairs to rejoice in our many blessings. Dr. David Mindel, our Transitional Minister at the time, led the worship. Care was taken to provide special, reserved parking for those with mobility issues and to take advantage of the shade in the area. Casual dress, along with caps and hats all in red, white, and blue, were encouraged! A celebration lunch followed our church service that Sunday – in the parking lot.



Light of children

Noah's Nook by Claire Dulaney

CDC school-agers enjoy learning in Noah's Nook every Wednesday. They check out books each week and are involved in a reading incentive project, Whooooo Loves to Read. Awards will be given in August!



FCC JUNE ATTENDANCE

June 7	9:00 am– 195
June 14	9:00 am– 214
June 21	9:00 am– 213 11:00 (Sanctuary) - 65
June 28	9:00 am– 186 11:00 (Sanctuary) - 79

Oatmeal Cookies by Mildred Grimes from *What'll I Cook?* 1969 (FCC cookbook)

2 sticks margarine
1 cup white sugar
1 cup brown sugar
1 ½ cup flour
1 tsp soda
1 tsp baking powder
2 cups oatmeal
2 cups Rice Krispies
1 tsp vanilla
1 cup coconut

Preheat oven to 375 degree. Cream margarine and sugars. Add other ingredients in order listed and mix well. Drop by spoonful onto greased cookie sheets and bake for 7 minutes. Remove immediately. These will freeze well.

Military Prayers

Lt. Brant Brock-
Navy, CA.—
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

Jay Underwood
Army
South Korea
son of LouAnn
Underwood

We lift up in prayer our Friends and Family

Members: Robbie Bedker, John Paul Belew, Steve DeHay, Robyne Garcia, Terry Hood, Chris Kebert, Lucy Lanotte, Bob Lawless, Carolyn Lawrence, Juda McKinney, Zoe Phillips, Randell Resneder, Dick Tarr, Alicia Trevey, Phyllis Underwood, D'Ann Yeager

Friends: Fred Alley, Sandra Bermingham, Debbie Boen, Bear Bock, Chelsea Branscum, Marilyn Brinkley, Paula Sue Dunbar, Monica Etter, Steven Garcia, Joe Gillispie, Donna Harger, Deborah Haywood, Eric Hite, Dr. Justin Holmes, Chris Mackey, Kristen Mata, Katelyn Mills, Shari Morris, Kerry Coats Nielson, Eli Overley, Shannon Etter Thompson, Darnell Vandivort, Murphy Webb, Pauline Webb,

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Frances Ansley, Alan Barkley, Pat Davis, Kaye Greer, Lynise McDonald, Frances Evans, Sandra Foster, Cara Irvin, Barbara Onstead, Ruby Power, Mary Jane Shannon, Marty Wells, Jan Sanders, Shelley and Bert Nelson, Joan Brown, Gypsie Taylor

Entered into Heaven

We lift up the following families in prayer-

Bobbie Bernard entered into God's Kingdom on June 12th, 2020. Please pray for her family during this time.



The FCC Office will be closed Friday, July 3rd.

Please pray for the USA at 8:00 pm every night. This tradition is based on how the British paused to pray during WWII to make it through the German bombings. Please join us in prayer.

Especially for:

First Christian Church
2323 Broadway
Lubbock, TX.
79401-2916

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**Return Service
Requested**

Worship Times

Sundays:

Parking Lot Service:
9:00a.m.
West Parking Lot

Sanctuary Service:
11:00 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.

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published monthly
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The Light informs
members of
congregational
news/activities

Managing Editor-
Mary Norman

JULY Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Lynise McDonald	2 Mary Smith Jerry Stanfield	3 FCC OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 Scott Hall Marilyn King	6 Bob Brown Claire Dulaney Gerri Young	7 Hannah King Susan Sechrist Lani Allen	8 Donna Russell	9 Glen Garnett Kenneth Redding Marsha Stevens	10 Helen Lauderdale	11
12	13	14 Todd Taylor	15 Gordon Blome Alex Hardin Brian Wilhelm	16 Linda Greenstreet Tricia Plowman Sophia Sagala Alyssa Sim-	17 Cherie Deardorff D'Ann Yeager	18 Wade Wilson Clayton Yeager Wylie Rawe
19 Colby Matzner	20 Carolyn Davis Morris Knox Vincent Yeager	21 JoAnne Richardson	22 Kevin Polumbus Lavender Young	23 Debbie Passmore	24 Mike Chase	25
26 Kenan Gilbert Burle Pettit Dennis Wall	27	28	29 Pam Davis Lynn McClendon Ben Todd	30	31 Peggy DeHay Scott Hillyer Ainsley Nelson	