



The Builder

First Christian Church
Midland

November 14, 2024 Volume 69 Issue 36

STEWARDSHIP



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Thanksgiving Luncheon

Recent & Upcoming Events

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN
NOV
17

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP
4PM YOUTH PROGRAM AT THE DISNEY'S
6:30PM EVENING CHILDREN PROGRAM

TUE
NOV
19

6:30PM CUBSCOUTS K-5TH GRADE
7PM BOY SCOUTS 6-12GRADE

TUE-
THUR
NOV
19-21

5-6PM MIDWEEK WALKING GROUP
IN GYM/FAMILY LIFE CENTER

WED
NOV
20

7AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
9AM FOOD PANTRY
5:30PM EXECUTIVE MEETING IN
BEDFORD ROOM
7PM CHOIR REHERSAL

SUN
NOV
24

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP

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Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

A YEAR, ALMOST, IN REVIEW

Although 2024 isn't quite over, it's a good time to think back over this past year and what we've accomplished as a church family. In many ways we continue to "hit on all cylinders", following established patterns of effective ministry. Our worship services continue to be Christ focused and inspirational. Our Food Pantry continues to serve from 1100 to 1300 people each month with a solid and diverse volunteer base. The Children's Learning Center continues to run at capacity with a waiting list. Our ministries to children and youth continue to grow as Lauren and Brenda complete their first full year as staff members.

We began the year 2024 looking at a large project that no one wanted to do but needed to be done: replacing almost all the roofs on our buildings. They were over 10 years old and the last hailstorm that passed through Midland had damaged them. That project has been completed and we're hopeful that not only will our buildings stay watertight, but some of the flooding we were seeing in CLC classrooms will no longer be a problem; of course, we have to have rain to make sure, so only time will tell on that one. We also started and have almost completed remodeling the restrooms in the sanctuary to make them more accessible—as our congregation ages, and we are seeing more wheelchairs and walkers show up on Sunday mornings, it's a critical and long-needed change. We're also finishing up designs for new signage throughout campus—hopefully we will see those installed before the end of the year.

Our big events continue to draw thousands of Midland families. This year we hosted Trunk-r-treat on the east side of campus, and I'm glad we did—if we were on the west side of campus we would have been shoulder-to-shoulder. As it was, families were able to spread out and enjoy the seasons fun and our beautiful front yard. Our best guess is that over 1000, up to 1500, children and families came out to enjoy that event. And, as always, our Easter Eggstravaganza in Hill Park was huge success. Again, thousands of locals enjoyed the beautiful day in the park.

Next year, I look forward to challenging us in an important way—starting in January we're going to read through the entire Bible in a year. There will be more information forthcoming in December. This will require daily reading schedule and the program we're using includes some nice video content to help explain the background of the books of the Bible and a deeper dive into some topics—I've used some of this video content with my Sunday School class and they've always given it high marks.

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it's a good time to think back
over this past year...**

Looking forward I also see renovation projects to make other areas of the campus more accessible, as well as more beautiful. We have a courtyard space that would be ideal, but we can't get anything to grow there, and the sidewalks surrounding need to be redesigned; many rooms in the south education building inaccessible unless you have two really good, working legs. On the east side of campus, adjacent to the church offices, the parking and walkways are downright

treacherous. And our empty garden beds around campus have been an eyesore for some time. I hope we can address all of these issues in the coming year—we will schedule a town hall meeting to discuss our priorities once we get through the holiday season.

All this is to say that your financial support of our congregation has been an important part of all our successes this past year, and I ask for you to prayerfully reflect on the role that financial

stewardship plays in discipleship. Your faithfulness is an important part of how we continue to share and live out the good news of Jesus Christ.

See you at the Table,



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sunday School

Preschool/Kinder will listen to the story of “Joshua”.

1st – 5th Grade will finish the movie “Jesus”. They will begin learning a Christmas song that they will sing during worship on December 8th.

Children's Church

Preschool/Kinder will begin the story of “Jonah”.

1st – 3rd Grade will hear the parable of “The Wise and Foolish Builders”.

Sunday Afternoon Program

Children will gather in the Kid Cave from 4:30 to 6:00. They will be doing a Christmas project – something for our elderly and something for themselves.

Kinder through 5th Grade will have a Christmas party on Friday, December 6th, from 6:00 to 8:00 in the Kid Cave.

Dinner will be served followed by games, craft, and surprises!

All Saints' Sunday





Honoring Young at Heart Thanksgiving Luncheon



**Thank you to all
who help make
Thanksgiving luncheon
so successful.**



Stewardship of First Fruits 2025

In the ancient Israelite tradition, before the full grain harvest had begun in earnest, God's people would bring their "first fruits", the first gleanings from the field, to the Temple in thanks to God and with trust that God would provide a plentiful harvest (Leviticus 23:9-14).

As we near the end of 2024, we are so thankful for the harvest that you have shared with First Christian Church over this past year through your tithes, offerings and gifts. We know as well that many of you share an end-of-year thanks offering which is important to our annual budget cycle--as the year closes, please remember your church if that is a part of your stewardship plan.

Looking forward to 2025, we wish to give you the opportunity to plan your "first fruits", your estimate of giving, for the coming year. The Lord commands the Israelites not to give from whatever is leftover, but to give faithfully, and give from the top. We invite you to prayerfully reflect on your giving plan for 2025. These estimates of giving are important as we plan our budget cycle.

Follow the QR code on this page for a link to submit your information online, or contact our bookkeeper Anieta McNabb in the church office (ph. 432-682-2541, email amcnabb@fccmidland.org). Hard copies of an estimate of giving form will be distributed during worship services on November 10th & 17th.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your family throughout 2025 with grace, peace and abundance!



Teacher Spotlight



We love to highlight our staff, and this week we highlight Elida Hinojosa. This is Elida's second year at the CLC. She is currently teaching in 4-year-old preschool. The best thing about being a teacher for Elida is that she can learn and develop new skills, and that she can make a difference in students' lives. Elida has 2 daughters, Araceli 6, and Avianna 4. She has a female St. Bernard, named Chloe. Elida's birthday is December 6th. Turquoise is her favorite color and tacos/pasta are her favorite foods. In her spare time, Elida likes to relax, and watch shows. She loves to cook and bake. Elida's favorite quote is "Make a determination that you will live your purpose today." Elida, we are glad to have you as a part of the CLC team!

Youth Corner

Our youth group hosted a successful bingo party on Friday night (11/9) at Disciples Village in Odessa, an independent senior living complex. One of our church members, Cricket Harrison, is a resident there. Pastor David and Lauren Disney are also on the Executive Board for the Disciples Village buildings.



Prayer List

Those in need of prayer: Kairos Conde-
nephew of Olivia Espino
 Virgie Lewis
Grayson Pickett- friend of Jeweli Flores
 Tere Valero
Al Schorre- friend of Sharon Boyd
 Dave Burgard
Robin Diegan & Jason Diegan- cousins of Ginny Estes
 Nancy Stanley
Amanda Bryant- friend of Dave & Kathy Cromwell
 Patsy Hill
 Fred Yates
 Vincent Cooper
 Pat Marshall
 Ginny Estes
 Joshua Harrison
 Mary Beth Corbett
 Linda Taylor
 Lisa Craven
 Mark Cranford
 Cricket Harrison
 Betty Odom
 Fred Schwiening
 Nicky Rodriguez
 Lana Cooley
 Carol Cook
 C.C. Petteway
 Pat Chambers
 Kathy Landrum
 Sheila Crudgington
 Robert Crudgington
 Gary Thompson

Military:

Lee Anna Crudgington
 Tyler Brown- *grandson of Lyn Brown*
 Kairos Conde - *nephew of Olivia Espino*
 Oscar Garcia - *brother of Amparo Olguin*

Families, Friends Beyond

FCC

Cindy Garcia- *CLC Teacher*
 Barrett Wood- *cousin of Ginny Estes*
 Jay Warren - *friend of Pat Marshall*

Birthdays

11/01 Hayleigh Iness
 11/04 Luke Bourland
 11/05 C.C. Petteway
 11/13 Hannah Wright
 11/13 Joan Huff
 11/16 Sheila Crudgington
 11/16 Martha Fentem
 11/18 Kelley McCullough
 11/19 Jeannine Hurst
 11/25 Connie Hawkins
 11/27 Rylea Tercero
 11/30 Jean Jones

Anniversaries

11/09 Bill & Sharon Boyd
 11/10 Chris & Joan Huff
 11/30 Gene & Beverly Drummond



Sunday, November 24th
Decorating The Sanctuary
 After worship, you are invited to join the FCC elves as they begin to decorate the Sanctuary for Advent.
 Let the holidays begin!



Disciples Food Pantry
 is in need of 1 or 2 pound bags of rice and beans.






1301 W. Louisiana Ave.
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www.fccmidland.org

Christmas with
SANTA CLAUS

TREATS | CRAFTS | PHOTO WITH SANTA

Bring the whole family for snacks, crafts and don't forget to bring a letter to give to Santa Claus himself!

- Saturday
7 December 2024
- First Christian Church
1301 West Louisiana Ave
- For More Information
www.fccmidland.org



DECEMBER 1ST
Hanging
of the
Greens

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP



Night In Bethlehem
Come experience the sights and sounds of that first Christmas.

December 15, 2024
Family Life Center

