



The Builder

First Christian Church
Midland

November 7, 2024 Volume 69 Issue 35



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WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN
NOV
10

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP
12PM ALL CHURCH LUNCHEON
HONORING THE YOUNG AT HEART

TUE
NOV
12

9AM CONCERN COOKIES
6:30PM CUBSCOUTS K-5TH GRADE
7PM BOY SCOUTS 6-12GRADE

TUE-
THUR
NOV
12-14

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

WED
NOV
13

7AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
9AM FOOD PANTRY
7PM CHOIR REHERSAL

WED
NOV
14

11:30AM DISCIPLES WOMEN'S
LUNCHEON & BIBLE STUDY

SUN
NOV
17

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP
4:30PM EVENING CHILDREN &
YOUTH PROGRAMS

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Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

Celebrating Our Seniors

In the book *Watership Down*, by author Richard Adams, we're introduced to a warren of rabbits, each different and

vulnerable in significant ways, yet each with important gifts that contribute to the life of the community. There is Fiver, a small runt, but who has powers of foresight that are important in saving the community from disaster. And Pipkin who is small and always needing help; but his need for help becomes an important point of connection within, rather than burden upon, the community. Of course, the book isn't really about rabbits, but about human communities, and the important role that everyone plays.

This Sunday we celebrate our "Young at Heart", our brothers and sisters in our church who are 80+ years old. Most of these friends have been a part of our congregation for years, even decades, and though their roles in the congregation have evolved, and perhaps they are less active than in previous years, their place is no less important.

In my years as minister, I've come to value the important place that the Young at Heart hold within the life and spirit of a congregation. In the first church I served, I remember Zara who was far into dementia when I became her pastor. There were some Sundays that she wasn't sure why she was in church, and audibly asked her son when they were going home! But once we began to pray the Lord's Prayer, I could hear her voice above all others—though so many other things were lost, the words of that prayer connected with something deep inside of her.

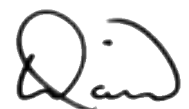
In Rockville, several Young at Heart were the heart and soul of that congregation. Their support of me, a young pastor still learning his way, was valuable, even when they weren't quite sure where I was headed. And their Christian love for each other supported them through even the most difficult times and losses.

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In Baton Rouge, there was Harvey, about whom I've shared with all of you. He was another grandfather figure who took me under his wing. He asked some difficult, sometimes unanswerable questions, about our faith, but even with his questions he was dedicated to being present in church. After COVID lockdowns and months of isolation in his retirement home, he was able to make it back to worship one more time before he passed—he was a living witness to everyone of how important a church community was to him.

And here in Midland, we have so many who serve and love in important ways. This Sunday, as we open the season of holiday celebrations with our annual Thanksgiving pot luck meal, make sure you let our Young at Heart know how much they are loved, and how they still influence you in important ways!

See you at the (Thanksgiving) Table,





Rev. Remy Tercero
Associate Minister
Celebrating our Seniors

I have learned many valuable lessons from our seniors here at First Christian Church. Among

those priceless lessons I would hold one particular lesson I learned above the rest and this lesson was learned through getting to know many of our leaders here at First Christian Church.

It is more important to listen than to speak. The final person in the room to speak will give the wisest response because they are now educated on everyone else's perspective.

It is more important to listen than to speak.

Understanding that listening is far more important than speaking has helped my ministry more than I could possibly articulate. Mike Hunter would tell me that people don't care what you know until they know that you care. To me, listening is the most pivotal of steps when it comes to getting to know others.

Making an intentional effort to listen more than I speak has strengthened many of my both personal and professional relationships.

Listening to understand rather than listening to respond, is a helpful perspective. Listening more to the others around you can only improve your relationships.

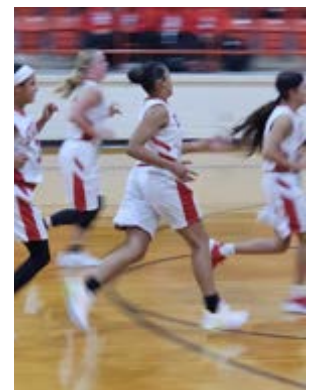
We might think that we know what other people's mindsets or perspectives will be based upon their reputation. The truth is, we know nothing! People change and people grow every single day. Rather than assuming we should do more listening.

Listening more than we speak can also be translated to our prayer life. If your prayer life consists of occasional 45 second praying sessions where you list off what you need from God and no more, then you are missing out in a big way. In a spirit of prayer, God can direct your thoughts and opinions towards viewing situations in your life from a healthy, life-giving perspective. In a spirit of prayer, God directs both the heart and mind. Listen more than you speak.



Youth Spotlight

Congratulations to McKynlea Estrada and the Lady Buffalo "A" Team for winning their first basketball game in Stanton on Monday night! Your church congregation and the youth group are very proud!





YOUTH RALLY





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 amazing teachers at the CLC! This week we introduce you to Renee Corbin. This is Renee's first year at the CLC. She teaches 2-year-olds in Room 204. Renee loves this age. It's her favorite! She loves seeing all the new personalities bloom! Renee loves the sass, singing songs to them, and the adorable faces are a plus! Renee's birthday is April 28th. She has 4 children and a pet dog. Her favorite colors are all shades of blue and green. Renee loves all foods. In her spare time Renee loves going to nature trails and the park with her kids for picnics. She loves doing sign language and scrapbooking. Renee's favorite quote is "In a world where you can be anything, be yourself; everything else is already taken." Renee, thank you for all you do! We are so glad you are a part of the CLC team!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sunday School

Preschool/Kinder will learn about "The Ten Commandments".

1st – 5th Grade will continue watching the movie, "Jesus".

Children's Church

Preschool/Kinder will hear what happened to Daniel in the Lions' Den!

1st – 3rd Grade will listen to the parable of "The Lost (Prodigal) Son".

NO AFTERNOON PROGRAM ON THE 10th.

COME TO THE "AFTER CHURCH" DINNER INSTEAD.

BE SURE TO VISIT THE CHILDREN'S STORE AND BUY A FINE "WORK OF ART".



**Chalice Fund
Angel Tree Adoption
November 10th & 17th!**

Benefiting Family Promise Families

**Return gifts to the
church office by
December 11th.**



**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!



Prayer List

Those in need of prayer:

Tere Valero
Dave Burgard
Nancy Stanley
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*

Families, Friends Beyond**FCC**

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

Kairos Conde –
nephew of Olivia Espino
Grayson Pickett –
friend of Jeweli Flores
Al Schorre – *friend of
Sharon Boyd*
Robin Diegan & Jason
Diegan –
cousins of Ginny Estes
Amanda Bryant –
*friend of Dave & Kathy
Cromwell*
Freda Benton
Amanda Lee –
friend of Janice Ford
Reymondo Garcia –
brother of Maria Vinson
Gary Kennedy
*friends of
Lauren & Justin Disney*
Lee Stone –
brother of Jean Jones
Fred Copeland –
father of Lauren Disney
Ed Keah
friend of Joy Singleton
J.M. Moore –
father of Kathy Landrum
Kairos Conde –
nephew of Olivia Espino
Oscar Garcia –
*brother of Amparo
Olguin*

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





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