



# The Builder

## First Christian Church *Midland*

March 23, 2025 Volume 70 Issue 8



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### WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN  
MARCH  
23

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11AM WORSHIP  
3:30PM HANDBELLS  
4:30PM CHILDREN & YOUTH  
EVENING PROGRAM

TUE  
MARCH  
25

6:30PM CUBSCOUTS  
6:30PM SCOUTING AMERICA  
BOYS TROOP

WED  
MARCH  
26

7AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST  
9AM FOOD PANTRY  
6PM EXECUTIVE MEETING  
7PM CHOIR

SUN  
MARCH  
30

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11AM WORSHIP  
3:30PM HANDBELLS  
4:30PM CHILDREN & YOUTH  
EVENING PROGRAM

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Rev. David Chisham  
Senior Minister

### THINGS THEY DIDN'T TEACH ME IN SEMINARY

It's a common refrain  
amongst ministers: "Why  
didn't they teach this in

seminary?" In ministry we often find ourselves spending a lot of energy doing things that we didn't study at the graduate level. We train to do advanced exegesis of ancient texts--we spend a lot of time trying to exegete instruction manuals for office equipment. We study methods in preaching and pastoral counseling--we spend a lot of time fencing with HVAC systems and diagnosing plumbing issues.

**I remember my mom feeling a little anxious about my future: "I don't want you to grow up to be a jack-of-all-trades and master of none."**

Growing up...well still today...I have a tendency to be a hobbyist. Growing up I was constantly picking up new interests. I had a black-and-white (and eventually color) photography darkroom in my basement when I was in junior high. It started with my mother's lucrative purchase of darkroom equipment at a garage sale and mushroomed into a pastime that took over half of my mom's basement laundry room. That launched me into a lucrative career as photographer for my high-school and college, but then I went to seminary to study more important things, the darkroom equipment was sold off or given away, and my camera and lenses went into the closet. After all that experience, I wondered what that was all about.

I remember my mom feeling a little anxious about my future. I remember her making the comment, "I don't want you to grow up to be a jack-of-all-trades and master of none." I was quick to pick up new hobbies, run with them for a while, but never developed a laser sharp focus on anything in particular. I remember another time that she was concerned that I wasn't spending enough time in Bible study while in Bible College. I'll admit that there are any number of folks who know more Bible than I do, but I think I've made up for that one. But I do have to grant that I tend to bounce from one thing to another--what good can come of that?

Years later, I'm in my second ministry, and I find a forgotten interest re-emerging. By the mid-2000's digital photography has replaced traditional photography, and suddenly you don't need an entire room to create beautiful photographs. That blossomed into some creative art I created for my church and eventually became an important part of the project I did for my Doctor of Ministry degree at Drew University. Though there were no Seminary Classes on photography and visual arts, and I'm sure most of my Bible professors would have poo-pooed the idea, somehow God found a way to use that skill that I had put on the back burner decades before.

Some folks have been asking me about how long I've been playing guitar. Though I started when I was a teenager, but like so many other interests, there have been long stretches of times, as long as a decade, that I didn't pick up a guitar. And the strange thing is, even after laying off for quite a while, as soon as I pick it up, the muscle-memory that I developed as a teen comes back and I form familiar chords like I had only taken a week off.

I attended seminary at Abilene Christian University, and for obvious reasons that did not offer a class on leading worship with guitar accompaniment--the Church of Christ is a non-

instrumental movement after all. Though that didn't teach me that in seminary, for some reason I hear God calling me to reach back into those stowed resources for the benefit of His people.

As a minister, and as a Christian, that's often when I feel like I'm giving my all for God. When I can share traditional resources like Biblical preaching and teaching, but also share myself, that's when I feel like I'm loving God with all that I am.

In your walk and in your desire to give your all for God, what experiences do you call upon to share God's love with others?

See you at the Table,



Rev. Tom Jones  
Associate Minister

How does God rule in your heart?

How does anything rule or drive you?

I think it all depends on priorities. The great Dallas Cowboys coach, Tom Landry, put it simply when he said that his priorities were God, family and football.

When serving God is put in the forefront of our minds, our actions will follow. Our focus changes when we have the mind of Christ. God gave his all to us through the sacrifice of his only son. Shouldn't we give our all to God in return?

**How does God rule  
in your heart?**



Dear church family,

Please keep the family of Teresa Thornton in your prayers. Her grandson Daniel has been active in our youth program for several years, and Teresa has attended worship with us from time to time. Recently she began volunteering in our Food Pantry. On Wednesday March 19th, while working in the pantry, she suddenly collapsed and subsequently passed away. Our hearts go out to Daniel, to Lyle her husband, and Sharon her daughter and all their family. Christ's peace and healing be with them!

I'm thankful for our volunteers, and Manny our Sheriff's Deputy, who responded and provided medical attention until first responders arrived. It was all very tragic and sudden and unexpected--let us draw together in the compassion and love and mission we share in Christ. When services are announced we will forward that information.





First Christian Church,

Coming up we have our annual Easter Eggstravaganza on April 19th from 10:30-1 at Hill Park. I have attached the event graphic to this email for you to share.

The big thing that we need now are easter eggs. We need close to 30,000 more easter eggs and these are the best priced and highest quality eggs on the market.

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B08WTFBMZ1/ref=ox\\_sc\\_act\\_image\\_3?smid=A1NBR3Q099DRUV&th=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B08WTFBMZ1/ref=ox_sc_act_image_3?smid=A1NBR3Q099DRUV&th=1)

Please feel free to have the eggs delivered to First Christian Church.

Along with easter eggs, we could also use volunteers for the event, candy, or financial donations.

If you are asking yourself, what do we need more, candy or eggs, the answer is eggs, and we need them quickly. The reason for that is because candy can be purchased in bulk much cheaper than easter eggs and I have a huge order of candy coming on the 27th.





# CLC @ FCC





## Kids @ FCC

### Sunday School

Preschool/Kinder will watch and listen to how Jesus fed thousands.

1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders will read about “Paul’s 1<sup>st</sup> Mission Journey”.

### Children’s Church

Preschool/Kinder will hear another story about Jacob and his family.

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders will continue reading stories about Jesus’ last week.

### Sunday Afternoon

Katie and Chaney Coffman will be hosting this week. They will have some interesting and amazing things to show you. Come and find out!



# Birth Announcement

**Ellis Jene Kosmoski**  
arrived on Thursday, 03/13/2025 at 3:03 p.m.  
He weight 8 lbs. 5 ounces and was 21 inches long.  
Proud parents are Michael and Kayla Stone Kosmoski.



**IT'S A BOY**

Proud grandparents are Sandra and Doug Wills.  
Ellis is welcomed by his Aunt Ambrey Stone  
and his cousins Olivia and Kennedy Stone.

**Congratulations to the Stone Kosmoski Family!**



**We pray for God’s blessings upon the newest member  
of the Stone Kosmoski Family.**



## The Story *my story*

A Year Reading  
through the Bible

Scan this QR  
code to find the  
suggested reading  
plan for 2025!



## Disciples Food Pantry is in need of canned soup.



**Prayer List**

Those in need of prayer:

Jim Mauldin  
 Hunter Family  
 Abraham Ortega  
 Virgie Lewis  
 Tere Valero  
 Kaylene 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  
 C.C. Petteway  
 Pat Chambers  
 Kathy Landrum  
 Sheila 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**

03/03 Jim Morris  
 03/03 Destiny Crudgington  
 03/03 **Morgan Pierce-Dishron**  
 03/05 Mary Lightfoot  
 03/12 Clyde Kinsey  
 03/15 Bill Terry  
 03/16 John Schnable  
 03/19 Michael Landrum  
 03/22 **Brecken Hattenbach**  
 03/23 Fred Yates

03/23 Spencer Armour  
 03/23 David Davis  
 03/24 Mike Stephenson  
 03/25 Sharna Gibbons  
 03/28 **Aimsley Lastoka**  
 03/30 Joe Gassie  
 03/31 Gary Thompson

**Anniversaries**

03/04 Roy & Jeannine Hurst  
 03/12 Charlie & LuAnn Morgan  
 03/17 Beau & Barbara Estes  
 03/17 Joe Gassie & Pat Vincent

Names in **red** are youth and children

**Gifts Given**  
**Memorial Fund**  
**In memory of :**  
  
**Robert Black**  
**Carol Cook**





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[www.fccmidland.org](http://www.fccmidland.org)

**Palm Sunday**  
April 13th

**Maundy Thursday 7pm**  
April 17th

**Good Friday**  
April 18th

**Easter Eggstravaganza**  
April 19th

**Easter Worship**  
April 20th

6:40 am Sunrise Service  
11 am Worship Service