



The Builder

First Christian Church *Midland*

May 18, 2025 Volume 70 Issue 18



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WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN
MAY
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10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP
12PM SENIOR/YOUTH LUNCHEON
4:30PM CHILDREN & YOUTH
EVENING PROGRAM

TUE
MAY
20

6:30PM SCOUTING AMERICA
BOYS TROOP

WED
MAY
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7AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
9AM FOOD PANTRY
5:30PM EXECUTIVE MEETING
7PM CHOIR

SUN
MAY
25

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP

MON
MAY
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CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED
HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

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Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

I DID IT! NOW WHAT?

I remember my high school graduation well. I was glad to be out of school, but I wasn't clear on where I was heading.

I think I submitted enrollment to Wichita State University for the Fall of that year, and I thought that I might go into the engineering program. But to be honest, I wasn't sure that was a good fit for me.

Not long after graduation my oldest sister and brother-in-law came to visit my family in Wichita. It had been a couple of years since we had been together, and I guess in those years I had matured enough that they actually liked being around me; I had a tendency toward moodiness as a teen and I guess I "came out of my shell" that year.

They asked me about my college plans; I assumed that I needed to stay close to home to start college. Since I was a little directionless at the time, I wasn't looking at anything out of state. Out of the blue, my brother-in-law, after talking privately with my parents, asked if I would be interested in going to the Bible College in eastern Kentucky where he was a professor; they even offered for me to live with them to save on dormitory costs. At the time I didn't think there was a possibility for me to embark on such an adventure. But that generous offer has forever changed the direction of my life.

I'm excited for the futures of our graduates, and I look forward to how God will shape their futures. I've spoken with several of them; some of them are pretty sure of what's next and some not so

much. But as it says in Jeremiah 29:11, I believe the Lord "has a plan for you. Plans for welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

I'm excited for all our youth and the transitions they make as they finish this year. With another year of education behind them, all of them are filled with potential that only God can see. I pray they hear God's voice leading them in new and blessed directions.

And now that I've "walked the stage" at graduation four times and have the diplomas hung on my wall, I find that God is still not finished with me. There is always something new to learn, a further development to achieve, and more growth to happen.

In my lifetime there have been a number of unforeseen adventures that became turning points. I think about my adventure to Abilene, TX where I learned to live independently and developed my calling in life. I think about being a newlywed and heading to the east coast to start a life there. I think about my call to Midland to pastor this church. If you asked me at the beginning of those adventures, "do you realize what your next move will be?", I'm not sure I would believe what God had in store. But looking back I see the opening of each chapter of my life as God's preparation for many more chapters to follow.

...that generous offer has forever changed the direction of my life.

What are the chapters and adventures of your life? Perhaps they've all happened here in west Texas, or perhaps you've made some sojourns in other areas of the world. Nevertheless, I always find as one chapter closes another opens. Sometimes these are painful chapters, but we can always trust that "God is working for the good of those who love him." (Romans 8:26) Hopefully, there are many chapters filled with joy and love. As wonderful as those chapters are, we trust there's more because we believe in a God "who is

able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20) As we celebrate the accomplishments of our youth at the end of a school year, and rejoice with our graduates looking forward to what comes next for them, take a few moments to consider how God is opening a new chapter in your life!

See you at the Table,



Rev. Tom Jones
Associate Minister

In college, I was involved in the Wesley Foundation campus ministry at East Texas State University.

Ray Alderman was the campus minister and was the most influential person in helping me understand my call to ministry.

**...many great people help us
become who God intended
us to become.**

After graduating from ETSU, I went to Perkins School of Theology at SMU where I graduated in 1982. It had been a very difficult year. My mom

passed away at Christmas. I was denied ordination in the Methodist church in North Texas, so I had to search other parts of Texas where I could serve. My future was uncertain.

After the graduation ceremony, I left the building to meet my dad. Sitting right outside the door on his bicycle was Ray Alderman. Ray was serving a church in Bakersfield, California and had ridden his bicycle to Dallas, Texas to raise money and to attend my graduation.

It was a great surprise and made me realize that many great people help us become who God intended us to become. Thank you, God.





Rev. Remy Tercero
Associate Minister

GRADUATION

Graduation has finally come for our incredible seniors here at FCC and thousands of other seniors in our community.

This is an exciting time for each of them as what they do over the next five to six years will shape the next three decades of their lives. This can be a stressful time for them, as they attempt to decide their next steps.

Now that I am in the twilight of my 20's (29) I have now fully gotten to see who the people I went to school with became. Did they fulfill their goals? Did they have any goals or did they simply let life come to them? Are they parents? Are they good parents? What sort of relationship do they have with their families? How did the relationships in their lives shape them?

By the time you hit 29 all of the answers to these questions have been answered and the answers to these questions directly reflect their own day to day lives.

Keep your relationship with God the number 1 priority in your life. Whether you succeed or fail, your relationship with God will remain your constant rock that carries you through your difficult days and weeks.

Now knowing what I know now, I ask myself the question, what would I go back and tell 18 year old Remy? I hope that these lessons can help our recent graduates and seniors as they journey through life.

However I do understand that no matter what advice I give them, they will have to go forth and learn all of these lessons on their own and that is okay. Our parents can write us a book full of all the lessons they learned, yet those lessons don't become real for us until we make those same mistakes. That being said, my lesson number 1 may be one of the most important lessons on this list.

Lesson 1

Making mistakes is part of growing. Don't be afraid to put yourself out there and learn from the experience. You will soon be able to tell who took risks and learned from those risks, and who did nothing at all.

Lesson 2

Keep your relationship with God the number 1 priority in your life. Whether you succeed or fail, your relationship with God will remain your constant rock that carries you through your difficult days and weeks.

Lesson 3

Don't bend over backwards to fit yourself into a situation you don't belong in. Be confidently yourself, everyone else is taken.

Lesson 4

Make intentional time to quiet your mind and pray, or listen to praise music. We can spend 25 hours a week on Tik Tok but won't spend 1 hour praying.

Lesson 5

You won't make friends sitting in class. You will make friends either at work or participating in hobbies or clubs. These next few years can feel very lonely, so fill your week with things that you enjoy.

Lesson 6

For my final lesson, I encourage you to spend time with the people that mean the most to you. You never know when will be the last time you see a particular friend or family member.



Kids @ FCC

Sunday School

Preschool/Kinder will listen and watch the story of "The Lost Son".

1st – 5th Graders will begin learning about Paul's letters with brief summaries and activity sheets.

Children's Church

No Children's Church because of Youth Sunday. Tell your children that one day it will be their turn to lead the worship service.

Sunday Afternoon Program

1st – 5th graders will meet at 4:30 in Kids Cave. Then will board the church bus and go to Baskin Robbins for ice cream! No money necessary.

THIS IS THE LAST REGULAR MEETING FOR THE SUMMER.



Martha Fentem Day
Sunday, June 29, 2025

**Join us after worship in the
Family Life Center for
a luncheon to celebrate
Martha Fentem**





The CCSW Disciples Women's Assembly is being held June 27-28, 2025 at Ridglea Christian Church in Fort Worth. All women are invited & encouraged to attend this special regional event.

Our theme this year is "I Got You!" based on Isaiah 41:10. Keynote speaker is Rev. Jeneille Lagrone and a Bible Study will be led by Georgia Traylor-Julien

Attached you will find a flyer with more information as well as information about registration & hotel reservations.

Early Bird Registration \$115 is due by June 2, 2025. After June 2 the fee will be \$125.



New Members Welcome

Tamara , Xander, Alicia
& Damien Conn to
First Christian Church

**Prayer List**

Those in need of prayer:

Abraham Ortega
 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
 Lana Cooley
 C.C. Petteway
 Pat Chambers
 Kathy Landrum
 Sheila Crudgington
 Gary Thompson

Military:

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
 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

BirthdaysNames in **red** are youth and children

05/01 Betty Couch
 05/01 Julie Lastoka
 05/02 Jed Heard
 05/02 Cierra Stanford
 05/05 John Espino
 05/07 Gwyn Hill
 05/09 Barbara Estes
 05/09 Nathan Dziuk
 05/10 Linda Hyatt
 05/11 Nancy Stanley
 05/11 Tom Hill
 05/13 Bea Lea Somerville
 05/15 Ernie Gilkerson
 05/18 **James Coffman**
 05/19 Jill Wright
 05/20 Matti Erwin
 05/21 **Grayson Stanley**

05/23 Sandra Wills
 05/26 Fay Carey
 05/27 Brenda Morris
 05/27 **Chloe Wells**
 05/27 Amber Hopper
 05/28 **Greyson Flores**
 05/28 Justin Disney
 05/31 Carol Thompson

Anniversaries

05/01 Jessica Garrett Southern &
 Kevin Southern
 05/07 Marty & Sherry Wallace
 05/17 J.R. & Amanda Bourland
 05/19 Tom & Meta Jones





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