



The Builder

First Christian Church
Midland

August 31, 2025 Volume 70 Issue 27



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WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN
AUG
31

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP

MON
SEPT
1

CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED
FOR LABOR DAY

TUE
SEPT
2

6:30PM CUB SCOUT PACK 67
K-5TH
7:30PM SCOUTING AMERICA
BOYS TROOP 6-12TH

WED
SEPT
3

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

SUN
SEPT
7

10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP
12PM FALL FESTIVAL & LUNCHEON

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Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

SEASONS OF CHANGE

I'm watching the weather forecast with a sense of anticipation. I know this past

season wasn't the warmest on record for this area, but I'm over these super-hot days of Summer.

Next week they're forecasting highs in the 80's and I'm excited! I can feel that football weather isn't too far off and Fall will soon be here!

What are the changes happening in your life? What seasons of life bear expectation or fear for you?

The changing of seasons of the year might have us considering the changing seasons of life. The other night my family was discussing the names that have been given to different generations. My in-laws are boomers, my wife and I are solidly Gen X, my sister-in-law is a Millennial and my daughter is on the tale end of Gen Z or the beginning of Gen Alpha. As I continue through my middle-age years and begin to imagine what the next 20 or so years might look like, it doesn't feel so far off anymore. If anything, it feels a little exhausting how quickly everything happens anymore.

The writer of Ecclesiastes understood these changes well. Famously, the author penned these words that are now etched into cultures around the world:

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;..

But these changes don't all have to lead us to a sense of exhaustion and anxiety. This past week my daughter officially became a teenager! I think back to my teens (it gets harder and harder to think that far back), but those years were exciting as I discovered new realities of growing up and developing toward the person I am today. Certainly, those years can be tumultuous, and there are certain teen years that you couldn't pay me enough to relive, but they're also years filled with rapid growth in mind, body and spirit.

What are the changes happening in your life? What seasons of life bear expectation or fear for you? The writer of Ecclesiastes, even with his/her doubts about life, nevertheless reminds us God's ways, though often hidden and inscrutable, should bring us to wonder and fearful awe. And if anything, because of the changing circumstances of life, we shouldn't take ourselves too seriously. There's an old saying about the weather around here: "if you don't like the weather, just wait a half-hour and it'll change." What's true about the weather, is true about life (though on a longer scale in my experience).

In a season of high expectation, Paul wrote the church in Thessalonica, "Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you." That church was fervently expecting Christ to return at any moment, and Paul encourages them to be

ready for the sudden and exciting change in this way: He says, "for you are all children of light and children of the day...let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." (1 Thess. 5:5, 8, 11)

As we come to another change of seasons of the year, take a few moments to reflect on the changes you're experiencing, and trust that God is faithful to walk with you through every one of them.

See you at the Table,



Rev. Tom Jones
Associate Minister

Having just turned 70, I look back on 7 decades of experiences and changes in life that I have seen.

I am always amazed at how life changed in each decade. Some of the life changes were harder than others. Transitions always have endings and new beginnings.

I am grateful that God has been a constant presence through all stages of my life, even when I didn't realize it.

70 years of life experiences has taught me that my life's journey is not always what I expected it to be. My journey is God's journey. I go where he leads me and trust that He is the One who prepares the way for me.



70 years of life experiences has taught me that my life's journey is not always what I expected it to be.



Rev. Remy Tercero
Associate Minister

SEASONS OF CHANGES

One of the only things truly guaranteed in life is change. Changes happen for the better and for the worse.

Sometimes, we find ourselves in a season of planting where we are laying the groundwork for future success, building habits, and setting goals.

One of the only things truly guaranteed in life is change.

Other times, we may be in a season of harvest reaping the benefits of hard work and celebrating milestones.

Some seasons are meant to make us stronger and test not only our faith in God but our faith in ourselves.

There are also seasons of rest, when life calls us to slow down, recharge, and regain clarity.

It is important that we recognize all three seasons and in each season be sure to self reflect and embrace what you may learn within that season. Seasons of difficulties give us chances to prove to God that we trust him, while seasons of growth give us hope for our future. Seasons of rest are also important.

Be sure to celebrate each phase of life because life itself truly is a gift. We should trust God in every chapter, both in the answered prayers and the opportunities to put our trust in him.

Change can cause us to feel uncertain, but we can hold onto God's promises to get us through the change.



FCC@KIDS

Sunday School

Preschool/Kinder will hear 2 stories about Jesus.
1st – 5th Graders will have “Fun Sunday”!

Children's Church

Preschool/Kinder will listen to stories about “King Solomon”.
1st – 3rd Graders will hear about “Paul is Shipwrecked”.

Special Event

Fall Fest is Sunday, September 7th, after the worship service.
Come to the Family Life Center for lunch and games!
(Please bring a side dish – meat, dessert & drinks provided.)
There will also be Face Painting and Balloon Art!

Sunday Afternoon

Starts up September 14th
4:30 – 6:00
Kid Cave
(Enter through west gate – across from playground.)

We are taking SECOND round orders for shirts with our brand new mission statement. Order at the link below. This order will arrive in a month. Get with Rev. Remy Tercero for more info.
<https://fccmidland.shelbnextchms.com/.../3a598c77-ef21...>

Love God and everyone.
Grow as faithful believers.
Serve together.

FCC Mission Statement Shirts



**T Shirt
Order Form**



**T Shirt
\$20**



**Polo Front
Only
\$30**



**Polo Front
and Back
\$40**



As Brenda Morris steps back from her staff position as director of Children's Ministries on September 7, let's give her a big "thank you" for all her work. Please bring cards to church on September 7 for our Fall Fest and church potluck. If you're unable to attend that Sunday, please deliver them to the office or directly to Brenda.

THANK YOU



CLC@FCC

Welcome Back CLC Teacher Luncheon!!





Prayer List

Those in need of prayer:

- Bruce Stanley
- Chris Huff
- Betty Couch
- Cinnamon Stanford
- 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
- 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

- Fonda Bowlin-
mother in law to Lee'Ayn Lesley
- 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
- 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
- Oscar Garcia -
brother of Amparo Olguin

Birthdays

Names in red are youth and children

- 08/25 Dave Cromwell
- 08/25 Luis Estrada
- 08/29 Joe Campbell
- 08/29 Layne Chisham

Anniversaries

- 08/05 Gary & Carol Thompson
- 08/08 Dave & Kathy Cromwell
- 08/20 Joe & Jill Wright

- 08/01 Butch Ladd
- 08/02 Amanda Bourland
- 08/02 Fred Schwiening
- 08/04 Bob Jones
- 08/06 Gretchen Bell
- 08/08 Kayla Stone
- 08/09 Mark Cranford
- 08/14 Ginny Estes
- 08/15 Teri Valero
- 08/15 Gene Drummond
- 08/16 Keith Gibbons
- 08/20 Tom Jones
- 08/23 Rhett James



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Please Join Us For
September 7th

Fall Festival & Luncheon

PLEASE BRING SIDE DISH

CHICKEN & DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED

Carnival Games, Balloon Animals & Face Painting

12pm Family Life Center/Gym