



The Builder

First Christian Church
Midland

November 2, 2025

Volume 71 Issue



All Saints'

In this Issue:

Pastors' Articles
Children & Youth Programs
Recent & Upcoming Events

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN
NOV
2

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP

TUE
NOV
4

6:30PM CUB SCOUTS
FAMILY PACK K-5TH
7:30PM SCOUTING AMERICA
BOYS TROOP

WED
OCT
5

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

SUN
OCT
9

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

432-682-2541

1301 W LOUISIANA AVE., MIDLAND, TX 79701

FCCMIDLAND.ORG

OFFICE1@FCCMIDLAND.ORG





Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

Saints, Sinners, and the Holy People that Made Us Laugh

Have you ever come to All Saints Day wondering what's

the to-do with all those church saints? Like St. Polycarp, was he the patron saint of fish fryers or dysentery (turns out to be the latter of the two). For most of us, the traditional "saints" can seem like an intimidating, even unapproachable, bunch—kind of like the spiritual equivalent of Hall of Fame athletes. Their resumes are filled with miracles, martyrdom, and the sort of humility that makes you roll your eyes in dubious disbelief.

But here in our congregation, All Saints Day means more than just the "official" canonized saints. We celebrate the canon of folks who have shaped us, not through miracles or persecution (unless you count staying awake and surviving some long sermons), but through their everyday faithfulness, wisdom, and, yes, even the way they make us laugh.

St. Ambrose famously said, "No one heals themselves by wounding another." St. Augustine, never one to shy away from the obvious, reminded us to "Take care of your body as if you were going to live forever. Take care of your soul as if you were going to die tomorrow." These are words to live by. But I'll be honest, some of the best spiritual advice I've ever received came from people whose feast days don't appear on any calendar.

Take my own parents, Boyd and Gertrude. As a teenager, I suspected they were secretly plotting to ruin my life (or at least my social calendar). Looking back, now that I'm past 50 with a

teenager of my own, I can see they were just being saints in 70's leisure suits and pastel polyester. "Because I said so" now rings as sage orthodoxy, and sacrificial love sometimes looks like sitting through my little league baseball games.

After nearly 25 years as a pastor, I've had to say "see you later" to many of these everyday saints. This past year has been especially difficult for our congregation, as we've had to farewell some truly remarkable souls. They weren't perfect—far from it. Some of them could be downright hard-headed. Others had a knack for telling the same story every Sunday (sometimes twice). One of our saints left behind a freezer full of food that we've not been brave enough to open. But each one was a work of God's redemption, a living sermon on grace.

**...they were just being saints
in 70's leisure suits
and pastel polyester.**

It's tempting to put saints, both the famous and the familiar, on pedestals. But the real miracle is that God uses ordinary, imperfect people to do extraordinary things. The saints I've known weren't perfect, but they were generous with their time and steadfast in their witness. They taught Sunday school, showed up with casseroles during hard times, chaired committees nobody wanted to be on, and kept the coffee pot full (which, let's be honest, deserves its own feast day).

And their wisdom? It wasn't always delivered in Latin or in panegyrics. Sometimes it came in the form of a gentle nudge to "be kind," or a much-needed reminder that "this too shall pass." Sometimes it was just a shared laugh in the

church kitchen. Their humor lives on in me, and, I suspect, in all of us.

So, as we light our candles and read the names of those who have gone before, let's remember that sainthood isn't about perfection. It's about faithfulness, love, and a willingness to let God's light shine through our cracks and flaws. The saints we have known—parents, teachers, friends, and fellow church members—are proof that God's grace is bigger than our mistakes.

On All Saints Day, let's give thanks for the official saints, but let's also celebrate the unofficial ones, the ones who shaped our faith, made us laugh, taught us to forgive, and not to hide our fractures and scars because they prove that we're real people. May their memory be a blessing, and may we aspire to be just as saintly, quirks and all.



Rev. Tom Jones
Associate Minister

All Saints Day is a day of remembrance.

Remembrance is important in our faith lives. The Israelites always remembered God's great acts and how he worked through their ancestors. In the Christian faith, we remember the life of Jesus and the apostles who spread the gospel.

Our Bible is a book of remembrance. On all Saints Day. We remember important people in our lives that have died. We recall the significant impact that they have had on us. While they are no longer with us, their spirit lives on in our lives. Remembering the lives of those who have died and their impact on us is really remembering who we are. And it is remembering who God is and how he works through our lives and the lives of those who have gone before us. Thanks be to God.

**Remembrance is important
in our faith lives.**



**Come Check It Out
1502 Ventura Ave**

Thurs Nov 6th & Friday Nov 7th
5-8pm

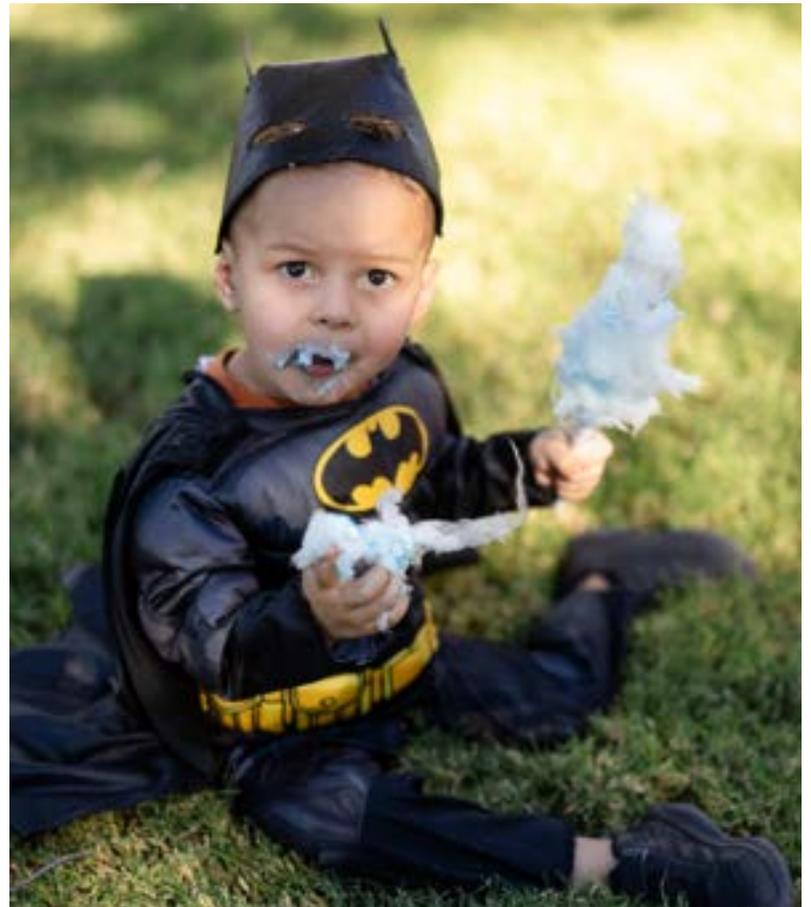


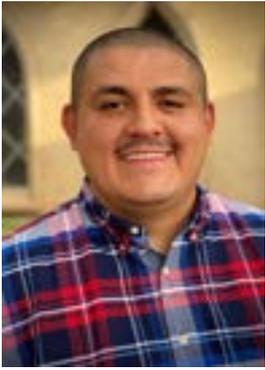
Remaining household items in
Peggy Jones' house are being given
away free to church members.



Trunk Or Treat 2025







Rev. Remy Tercero
Associate Minister

Each year on All Saints' Day, we pause to remember the faithful who have gone before us, those who taught us to pray, who showed us love in action, who lived out the gospel in their daily lives.

These saints are not only the famous names of church history, but also the quiet, steady believers whose lives pointed us toward Christ. Without these Saints we would not have this incredible faith based community.

Hebrews 12:1 reminds us, "Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let

us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." The saints remind us that we do not run this race alone. Their example encourages us to stay faithful, to keep serving, and to trust that God is still at work in and through us.

The saints remind us that we do not run this race alone.

As we light candles, speak names, and remember faces, may we give thanks for all who have reflected Christ's light. And may their faith inspire us to carry that same light into the world today.

KIDS@FCC

Sunday School

PreK will learn about Jesus and His Disciples (Luke 24).

Children (Kinder - 5th grade) will continue the series on Angels of the Old Testament.

Children's Church

PreK will hear the story of three brave men from Daniel 3.

Children (Kinder - 5th grade) will learn about Rahab (Joshua 2 & 6).

KIDS@FCC

No afternoon meeting due to MISD long weekend.

Calendar (for the remainder of 2025)

Nov 9: Meeting from 4:30-6:00pm in the Kid Cave

Nov 16: No meeting due to Thanksgiving luncheon

Nov 23: No meeting due to Thanksgiving break

Nov 30: Children sing for Lighting of the Greens at 11am; Christmas party combine with Youth (TBA)

Dec 7: Church-wide caroling (TBA)

Dec 14: Night in Bethlehem (TBA)

Dec 21-Dec 28: No meetings due to Christmas break

****Correction from last newsletter: Children will not sing this Sunday for All-Saints.****



Prayer List

Those in need of prayer:

- Mike Harrison
- Marty Wallace
- Bruce Stanley
- Chris Huff
- Betty Couch
- Cinnimon Stanford
- Abraham Ortega
- Kaylene Burgard
- Nancy Stanley
- 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

- Nolan Gandy-friend of Terry Perry
- Cindy Garcia- *CLC Teacher*
- Kairos Conde-*nephew of Olivia Espino*
- Robin Diegan & Jason Diegan-
cousins of Ginny Estes
- Amanda Bryant-
friend of Dave & Kathy Cromwell
- 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

- 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
- 11/19 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

Our Deepest Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the following family who has recently lost a loved one.

We are sad to announce that on October 24, 2025 we had to say goodbye to Margy House .

Margy is the mother of Jon Aaron & Magen House and Grandmother to Madison House.

A private graveside service will be held for Margy, honoring her life and legacy in the presence of her closest loved ones.

Please keep the House Family in your prayers.



1301 W. Louisiana Ave.

Midland, TX 79701

432.682.2541

www.fccmidland.org

Sunday, November 16th

Please Join Us For

**All Church Thanksgiving Luncheon
Honoring our Young at Heart**

Immediately Following Worship

**Please bring your favorite dessert or side dish church
is providing Turkey, Ham, Dressing, rolls & drinks!**

Family Life Center/Gym