



The Builder

First Christian Church
Midland

March 29, 2026

Volume 71 Issue 15



Holy Week

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN PALLM SUNDAY
MARCH 10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
29 11AM WORSHIP
2:30PM HANDBELL CHOIR

TUE
MARCH 6:30PM CUB SCOUTS PACK 67
31 7PM SCOUTING BOYS TROOP 175

WED
APRIL 7AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
1 9:30AM FOOD PANTRY
7PM SANCTUARY CHOIR PRACTICE

THUR
MARCH 7PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
2

SUN EASTER
APRIL 7AM EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
5 10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11AM WORSHIP

In this Issue:

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Recent & Upcoming Events

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Rev. David Chisham
Senior Minister

Walking Through Holy Week with Matthew

Holy Week invites us to slow down. In a world that moves quickly, that rushes from

one moment to the next, Holy Week asks us to linger—to walk, step by step, through the final days of Jesus’ life. And when we walk that path through the Gospel of Matthew, we begin to notice something important: this is not simply a story about what happened to Jesus. It is a story about what happens when the Kingdom of Heaven comes into direct conflict with the kingdoms we build for ourselves.

From the moment Jesus enters Jerusalem, the tension is unmistakable. Crowds line the streets, waving palms and shouting, “Hosanna!” It looks like a royal welcome, but Matthew wants us to see something deeper. Jesus does not enter the city on a war horse, but on a donkey—an embodied declaration that his kingdom will not be built through force, but through humility and peace. Even in celebration, there is already a question hanging in the air: will the people recognize the kind of king he truly is?

As the week unfolds, that tension sharpens. Jesus enters the Temple and overturns the tables. He tells parables that expose hypocrisy and challenge authority. Again and again, Matthew shows us religious leaders growing more unsettled, more threatened, more determined to silence him. This is not just disagreement—it is a collision between two ways of understanding faithfulness. One is rooted in control, boundary, and public performance. The other is rooted in mercy, justice, and a lived relationship with God.

For Matthew’s church, this would have felt very familiar. They were living in the aftermath of Jerusalem’s destruction, navigating their identity as followers of Jesus within a broader religious world that did not always welcome them. The tension they experienced—questions of belonging, authority, and faithfulness—echoes in these final chapters of Matthew’s Gospel. Holy Week is not just about what Jesus endured; it is about what it means to follow him when faith itself becomes contested ground.

And yet, Matthew does not present this week as chaos or tragedy spiraling out of control. There is a steady sense that something purposeful is unfolding. Jesus is not caught off guard. He speaks openly about what is coming. He shares a final meal with his disciples, reinterpreting the bread and the cup as signs of a new covenant. Even in the face of betrayal, denial, and abandonment, there is a quiet resolve in his actions. Matthew emphasizes that this story is not simply about human decisions; it is about the fulfillment of God’s purposes moving forward, even through suffering.

Perhaps nowhere is this more clear than at the cross. To the watching world, the cross is a sign of failure. It is public humiliation, the silencing of a voice that challenged the status quo. The religious leaders believe they have resolved the tension. The empire has done what it always does. And yet Matthew invites us to see what others cannot. In that moment, the earth shakes,

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the curtain of the Temple is torn, and a Roman centurion declares, “Truly this was the Son of God.”

What looks like collapse is, in fact, revelation. What appears to be the end is the unveiling of a deeper truth about who God is and how God works in the world. And that is where Holy Week meets us.

Because the tensions we see in Matthew’s Gospel are not confined to the first century. We know something about competing claims on our lives, about the pull between appearances and authenticity, about the temptation to build our lives on things that feel stable but cannot ultimately hold. Holy Week invites us to look honestly at those places—not with fear, but with clarity.

It also invites us to follow. To walk with Jesus through the cheers of Palm Sunday, the confrontations in the Temple, the quiet intimacy of the Last Supper, the loneliness of Gethsemane,

and the stark reality of the cross. Each step reveals something about the kind of kingdom Jesus brings and the kind of life he calls us to live.

Matthew’s Gospel does not rush us to Easter. It invites us to stay here for a while. To sit with the tension. To listen carefully. To recognize that the same Jesus who entered Jerusalem in humility still calls us to a way of life shaped not by power or performance, but by mercy, faithfulness, and love.

And as we walk this week together, we begin to see more clearly that Holy Week is not only something we remember. It is something we enter.

See you at the Table,



The poster features a blue sky background with white clouds, colorful Easter eggs hanging from a string, and two white rabbits in the foreground. The church logo is at the top center. The event title is in a large, green, cursive font. The date and location are in a white rounded rectangle. The hunt times are listed in a green box.


First Christian Church

Easter Eggstravaganza

April 4th, 2026 10 AM-1 PM
Hill Park, 1301 W Cuthbert Ave

Easter Egg Hunt Times
Low Sensory Egg Hunt 10am
Toddler-Age 3 10:45
Age 4-Kinder 11:15
Grades 1-3 11:45
Grades 4 and up 12:15

KidsGrow@FCC

Sunday School (10:00-10:45am)

PreK will hear the story on “Jesus is Arrested and Crucified” (Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, John 18-19).

Children (Kinder - 5th grade) will continue the series from the Grow Curriculum called “GLOW” for Lent/Easter.

This Sunday morning (the 29th) is Palm Sunday! Children will process with palms during the worship service!

Children's Church (Sundays during Worship)

PreK will hear the story of “Jesus Arrested and Crucified”.

Children (Kinder – 3rd grade) will hear the story about the “Triumphant Entry of Jesus” (Lent 6) from Matthew 21.

KidsGrow@FCC (Sunday Evenings from 4:30-6:00pm)

March 29: Kids (Grades 1-5) will continue the series from the Grow Curriculum called “GLOW” for Lent/Easter.

Upcoming:

April 26 - NexGen Service

June 22-25 - VBS

July 19-22 - Summer Camp at Lake Brownwood (3rd-5th grades only. RSVP as soon as possible. Scholarships available.)



Vacation Bible School
June 22nd-25th
5:30-8pm
Age 3 yrs old by June 1-completion of 5th grade
First Christian Church
1301 West Louisiana

WHAT'S COOKIN'?

Registration Dates
FCC Kids April 26th
CLC Kids May 3rd
Open to Public May 10th

CLC@FCC

Our lucky charms in 301 celebrated St. Patrick's Day with some yummy treats and green milk. They also created their own rainbows.



Christmas in Action

Christmas in Action is starting on Saturday, April 11th, and Brenda Morris is asking for volunteers to bring side dishes and desserts for the workers' lunch. Fried chicken will be provided, but other meat dishes are also welcome.

Food needs to be at the CIA house by 11:30 on Saturday, the 11th. The address is 701 South Tilden.

It's also listed on the back of the bulletin. Any questions, please call Brenda Morris at 432-413-3708.

Our Deepest Sympathy

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

Ken Sneed passed away on March 19, 2026.
Celebration of life will be held for Ken Sneed on
April 8, 2026 at 4pm at
First Christian Church, Midland, T.X.

Please keep the Sneed family in your prayers.

Disciples Class

The Disciples Sunday School class that meets in the Parlor will begin a new study on Systematic Theology, What Christians Believe, Why it's True and What it Means to Everyday Life on Sunday, April 12th at 10 am. Contact Pat Vincent for workbook information.

Palm Sunday

March 29th

11am
Worship



Maundy Thursday



April 2nd

7pm



Christmas In Action
Building Hope in Your Community



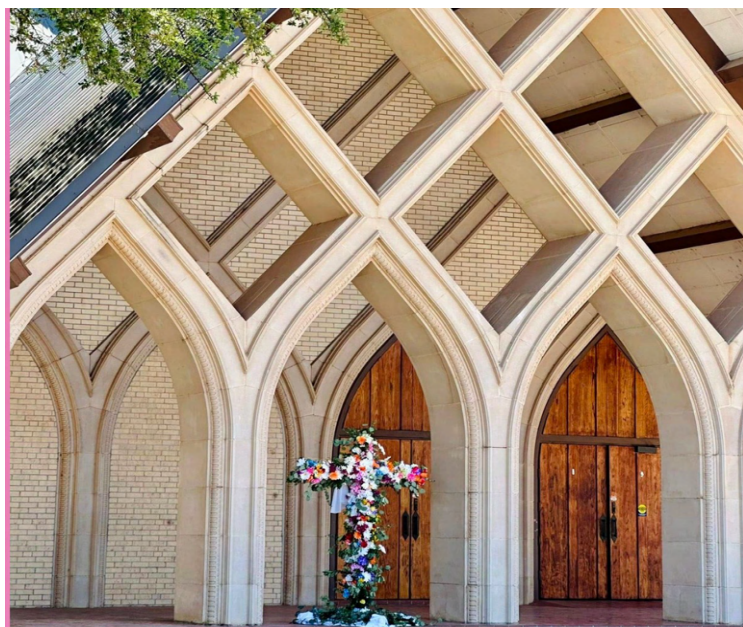
April 11th



701 South Tilden



8am



Easter Sunday

April 5th

Sunrise Service
7am

Traditional Worship
11am



Prayer List

Those in need of prayer:

Leona Bowman
Lorenzo Espino
Robby Boyd
Ronny Aaron
Kathe Hepher
Maria & Vinson Cooper
Sandy Faulkner
Bill Boyd
Joy Singleton
Judy Hunnicutt
Mike Harrison
Marty Wallace
Bruce Stanley
Chris Huff
Betty Couch
Cinnamon Stanford
Abraham Ortega
Kaylene Burgard
Nancy Stanley
Fred Yates
Pat Marshall
Ginny Estes
Joshua Harrison
Mary Beth Corbett
Linda Taylor
Lisa Craven
Mark Cranford
Cricket Harrison
Fred Schwiening
C.C. Petteway
Pat Chambers
Kathy Landrum
Sheila Crudgington
Gary Thompson

Military:

Tyler Brown– *grandson of Lyn Brown*

Families, Friends Beyond FCC

Sharon Thorton–mom of Dainel Thorton
Kylea Stone–*friend of CLC*

Nolan Gandy–*friend of Terry Perry*
Cindy Garcia– *CLC Teacher*
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

03/03 Jim Morris
03/03 Destiny Crudgington
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
03/24 Paisley Perley
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



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Palm Sunday

March 29th

Maundy Thursday 7pm

April 2nd

Easter Eggstravaganza

April 4th

Easter Worship

April 5th

7 am Sunrise Service

11 am Worship Service