



2021

Good News!

First Christian Church
405 N. Adelaide St.
Terrell, TX 75160 (972) 551-4700
www.fccterrell.org

Facebook: First Christian Church (DOC) - Terrell, TX

To Know Jesus Christ and Make Him Known to Others



From the Pastor's Desk

Forgive Us Our Sins

Have you ever heard the phrase, "To Err is Human, To Forgive is not Company Policy!"? Forgiving someone who has harmed us can be one of the troubling events in our lives. How do we understand the concept of sin and the interaction of God's forgiving authority?

How do we define "Sin", according to the authorities at Wikipedia, "In Abraham contexts, sin is the act of violating God's will. Sin can also be viewed as anything that violates the ideal relationship between an individual and God; or as any diversion from the ideal order for human living. To sin has been defined as "to miss the mark". Some sins are regarded as greater than others. In this nuanced concept of sin, sins fall in a spectrum from minor errors to deadly misdeeds"

Sin is then something that "happens" by us. We act in the doing of the sin. We are responsible for the actions of the sin. Sin is not something that we just "trip over" or do unknowing, we are active agents in the sin we perform. The Church has said that we all are guilty of sin. As it says in Romans 3:22-24, ²² "This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

Jesus' understanding of "Forgiveness by God" was never based upon an acceptance of the sin. Forgiveness is seen as chances to break away from the "bondage" that one finds oneself held in. Jesus' very first teaching was a call to repentance. Repentance understood as being a change in one's direction in life. Nowhere in the Bible does one find Jesus, or scriptures, condoning the continuation of any sin.

The best example of this would be the story of the "Women caught in Adultery." (John 8) when all the accusers had went away, Jesus forgave the woman but told her to "go and sin no more". Jesus did not instruct the woman that her sins have been approved or condoned in anyway. She still was called to separate herself from her sin.

In today's world there appears to be an understanding that forgiveness is in some way an approval of our sins. We have begun a process in which we are trying to find a way to make our sins more palatable in the eyes of God so as to allow us to keep participating in them. We try to walk on a fine line of trying to keep within our Sins while all the time stating that we are being faithful to the teachings of Jesus. Repentance is neither wanted nor desired.

As a church that calls upon a restoration of Wholeness, we cannot abandon the idea that this restoration can never be fully accomplished without the acceptance of one's own involvement with sin, and the repentant act which is followed by God's forgiveness through the cross of Jesus the Christ. The only question would be if we are willing to accept this forgiveness.

Accepting God's forgiveness is not a display of having weak or timid behavior. We do not show ourselves as being any lesser of a human by allowing for God's Forgiveness. We also should not see others as being any less when they stand before God asking for God to forgive them. In Jesus' parable of the two men who come to the temple for forgiveness, ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' ¹⁴ "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Sin is real, and Forgiveness is also Real. God forgives through the blood of the Christ shed on the Cross.

Accept.

Praying for you as I hope that you are praying for me, *Craig*



Serving Schedule for April 2021

Lay Leader: Jan Compton

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Elders: Mike Siemann & Scott Gilmore
Greeting: Ron & Jan Compton, David & Carol Dickens, Addison Cross
Acolyte: Lynna Johnson
Sound System: Sherri Winton
Camera Operator: Ryder Norris

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Elders: Craig & Prissy Shaffer
Greeting: Jerry Vick, Erik Vick, Clay Norris, Reese Norris, Liz Palmer
Acolyte: Elliot Cross
Sound System: Lisa Stevens
Camera Operator: Ryder Norris

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Elders: Raymond Sparks & Linda List
Greeting: Kristi Johnson, Barbara Gale, Denise Record
Acolyte: Kinsler Bratz
Sound System: Mike LeVasseur
Camera Operator: Ryder Norris

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Elders: Linda Johnson & Robert Ballard
Greeting: Linda Conder, Lynda Roberts, Ann Winton, Ann Barrow
Acolyte: Remington Cross
Sound System: Sherri Winton
Camera Operator: Ryder Norris

PRAYER

Those For Whom Prayer is Needed
(Know that we are praying for you)

As you go to God in quiet time this week, please remember these individuals in your prayers. Thank you!

Our Church Family: Terry Condran, Ronnie Glenn, Kurt Cone, Jay Cole, Guylene & Robert Ballard, Pat Sparks, Ruth LeVasseur, Pat Hopper, John Hegar* Mary Lindsey & The Lindsey Family,* Jan Compton

Our Extended Church Family: Barbara Beatty, Ariel Baska, Don Dozier,* David Lindsey, The Family of Susan Compton, Ashley & Oswaldo Soto Family* Travis Shipley, Barbara Faulkner & Family, Doris Clayton, Bill Byrd, Patty Berringer



Compton Family

Mary Lou Hall—Maintenance Fund

George Purnell

Mary Lou Hall—Maintenance Fund
Ford Family—Maintenance Fund
Teresa Jensen—Maintenance Fund
Barbara Miller—Maintenance Fund

ADDRESS UPDATE

Mr. John Hegar
1818 Martin Drive, #138
Weatherford, TX 76086

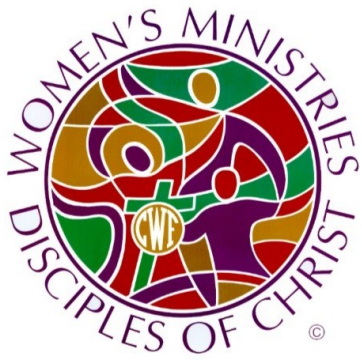
MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2021 INCOME AND EXPENSE

INCOME: \$17,628.00
EXPENSES: \$12,508.22
DIFFERENCE: \$5,119.78



Dear Pastor Craig and Congregation:
“Jim and I want to thank you for opening the gym at the church for a warming center. We appreciated a place to go when we ran out of wood at our home.”

Jim and Raenell Davis



BY
SHERRY SKELTON

Barbara Gale will bring our devotional. Donna Best will share the lesson entitled *Your Pressures: Reclaiming Peace, Rest, and Contentment*. Come and be inspired by the words of wisdom and comfort these ladies will bring to us!

Thanks go to Linda Roberts and Linda List for their guidance in the selection of frames and mats for the 1940-41 and 1941-42 CWF yearbooks. These will hang in the parlor of the Mull Family Life Center to represent our appreciation for the legacy given us by previous generations of dedicated Christian women.

Ann Embrey will share with us information she has culled from the archives of CWF history. In the past and today as well, outreach is a vital part of CWF. Jake E's Riding Round-up is our outreach focus this month. Jan Compton will be telling us about this important work.

We are grateful that we have been able to meet every month this year to learn, grow, and enjoy the fellowship of friends. Mark your calendars, and set your alarm so you can join us April 5th at 2 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:
APRIL 5, 2021 AT 2:00PM
IN THE SANCTUARY
SEE YOU THEN!!!**



Ron & Jan Compton

Linda Johnson—Maintenance Fund
Pat Hopper—Maintenance Fund

Mary Lou Hall

Linda Johnson—Maintenance Fund

Scott & Charlotte Gilmore

Pat Hopper—Maintenance Fund

**Our History: 100 years ago
By Ann Embrey**



By my count there were 7 short-term ministers during the 1920's, with some periods of vacancy. In 1920, Frank Zook came from California and was described as sensational and controversial. Yet, construction on a new brick building began. During construction, R. A. Highsmith and then Henry Hagemier came - and went. Rev. Hagemier held the shortest ministry, serving just four months before his death in a car-train wreck, while travelling to serve at a revival in Caddo Mills. Rev. Hugh B. Brous filled in and was here for the dedication of the new building in May 1923. Despite holding services during construction in temporary locations and with interim ministers, Church membership was reported at 200, while the Sunday School count was 275. Member Dr. W. R. Lindley was superintendent of the Sunday School. Many prominent citizens were members and stepped in to serve.

During this period of time, America had a population of 100 million and was bouncing back from the Spanish flu pandemic and the effects of World War I. Modern inventions were changing daily life and an influx of new ideas were expanding the way people thought & lived. The 'Roaring Twenties' with jazz music, radiovision became television, airplanes were flying across the ocean and to the North Pole and back! Speakeasies and prohibition. Religion was tested - Fundamentalism versus Modernism was debated. The stock market collapsed and a great depression fell across America.

100 years later, this church has endured. The decade of the 1920's was a testament to the faith and fortitude of the membership of First Christian Church Terrell. Truly Disciples of Christ

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1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Search for Serenity Church Terrell
3. Choose that as your preferred charity.
4. Shop as you normally would—and Amazon will automatically send 0.5% of your purchase to Serenity Church!
5. Why not use this as a hands free way to give to a great charity!
6. To date we have made approximately \$30.00!



SERENITY CHURCH

By Don Ledbetter

The weather in North Central Texas is brutally cold this week. Not to Canada standards but certainly to ours. Highs in the 20s and lows under 10 degrees is no where near the norm. It's brought us to a near standstill. The grocery stores were packed yesterday like it was the day after Thanksgiving at Walmart. Most of us grabbed bread, milk, eggs and such so we could stay comfortably warm in our homes.

We opened Serenity several days ago when the temperature dropped below freezing with the threat of freezing rain, sleet, and snow in the forecast. We opened for our homeless brothers to have shelter and food. How can we say Christ in us would only pray for these friends and not provide shelter? Which is greater: to talk about Love or to practice Real Love (1 John 3:18-19), Love that has no agenda (1 Corinthians 13:4), Love that has no qualifications (1 Corinthians 13:5-7), Love that has no boundaries (Ephesians 3:14-20).

One of brothers that is sheltered at Serenity walks and drinks his beers on our streets. To make a little bit of money he collects beer and soda cans and sells them at the scrap yard to buy his beer. That's his "job". He makes enough to buy 6-8 beers and "sinks them". We've fallen in love with him.

We see him not just with our fleshly eyes but with our spiritual eyes. We see his worth. We see his value. The same Death that brought our Redemption brought it for him as well. How much Faith does God require? Mustard seed size. Our friend has that. We embrace him. If my blood brother was homeless and alone on the street living just to drink, would I give him shelter if I could? Of course I would. This man is my brother. Shelter is available. So we open our door for him.

Another of those staying in our place normally sleeps at an open car wash. He makes money by offering to wash and clean (detail) people's cars that come there. I saw him one morning sleeping under the shelter next to the large vacuum cleaners at the wash. Someone had just donated a pair of New Balance sneakers and I just happened to have them with me and they just happened to be his size. I gave them to him. That was the start of his and my discovery of kinship with each other. This man is my brother. Shelter is available. So we open the door for him.

The weather will get back to normal maybe by Friday and our brothers will be back on the street. We'll still see them. They'll still come by. Life will get back to normal. I'll pull the cover up over me in my comfortable bed in my warm house. My brothers will sleep at the car wash, in abandoned cars or houses, in the bushes or next to a sheltering dumpster. But for a week and a half the blows of poverty and neglect are softened by the Good News that is Preached to the poor (Matthew 11:5).



Be sure to check out the
Serenity Corner booth at
the Terrell Jubilee!

April 15-18, 2021

This is the Clean Up/Collection Event Schedule for Kaufman County. Please put it on your bulletin board at home!!



**2021 - MONTHLY CLEANUP/COLLECTION EVENTS FOR
KAUFMAN COUNTY RESIDENTS**

These monthly cleanup/collection events are FREE to all Kaufman County residents,
and managed by Blackjack Disposal.

**ITEMS TAKEN FOR FREE DURING CLEANUP/COLLECTION EVENTS:
AT ALL LOCATIONS OLD MATTRESSES, OLD FURNITURE, OLD APPLIANCES,
TRASH, RECYCLABLES**

No Construction Debris /No Dump Trailers/ No Enclosed or Cattle Trailers

Proof of residence will be required at all location (driver's license or water bill).

Pct. 1 – City of Kaufman Convenience Station

701 Alton Street Kaufman - 972-932-2161

January 9, May 1, September 11 – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Kaufman Convenience Station will be open for you to bring items that are not
being collected for free the day of the event!!!

Check out www.kaufmancounty.net for regular pricing, don't forget your coupons!!

Pct. 2 – County Maintenance Barn

12051 Pct. Circle, Forney 972-703-2626

February 6, June 5, October 2 – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

ONLY IN PCT. 3 – TERRELL & PCT. 4 – KEMP

**THE FOLLOWING CAN BE TAKEN FOR A CHARGE ON THE
DAY OF THE EVENT:**

**TIRES, TV's, COMPUTERS, MICROWAVES, LATEX PAINT, PESTICIDE CONTAINERS,
HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE**

Check out www.blackjackdisposal.com for pricing!!

Pct. 3 – Terrell Convenience Station

287 FM 429 Terrell - 972-703-2626

March 6, July 10, November 6 – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Pct. 4 – ECO Station

6520 Plainview Dr. Kemp – 903-289-9881

April 3, August 7, December 4 – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

May 15 - Pct. 4 Crandall 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

(West Trunk Street across from the Police Station)

ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

**BARBED WIRE, BRICKS, CONCRETE, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, ROCK,
ROOFING, SHINGLES, BRUSH, BOATS, TRAVEL TRAILERS
AND DEAD ANIMALS (OF ANY KIND)**