



# Good News!

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

July, 2019

*To Know Jesus Christ and Make Him Known to Others*



## *Forgive Us Our Sins*



*From the  
Pastor*

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 be-*

*tween 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, *"<sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> 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 gone 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, <sup>10</sup> *"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' <sup>13</sup> 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.' <sup>14</sup> 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 Christ shed on the Cross.

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

## Called to *Serve*

**Sunday, July 7, 2019**

**Elders:** Ron Norris & Sandra Wnorowski  
**Greeting, Serving at the Table and Serving the Homebound:** Lori Uptmor, Linda Conder, Sherri Winton, Ann Winton, Sharon Drinning, Spencer Cross  
**Acolyte:** Kinsler Bratz  
**Sound System:** Mike LeVasseur

**Sunday, July 14, 2019**

**Elders:** Scott Gilmore & Helen Remes  
**Greeting, Serving at the Table and Serving the Homebound:** Denise Record, Janet Baska, Barbara Gale, David Dickens, Carol Dickens, Kristi Johnson, Lisa Stevens  
**Acolyte:** Remington Cross  
**Sound System:** Sherri Winton

**Sunday, July 21, 2019**

**Elders:** Linda Johnson & Dale Hogue  
**Greeting, Serving at the Table and Serving the Homebound:** Sue Ann Norris, Joe Best, Donna Best, Rouland Mayo, Reece Norris, Jerry Vick, Gary Barnett  
**Acolyte:** Valcus Best  
**Sound System:** Lisa Stevens

**Sunday, July 28, 2019**

**Elders:** Mike Siemann & Pat Hopper  
**Greeting, Serving at the Table and Serving the Homebound:** Lori Uptmor, Linda Conder, Sherri Winton, Ann Winton, Sharon Drinning, Spencer Cross  
**Acolyte:** Ryder Norris  
**Sound System:** Mike LeVasseur

## 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 & Alta Condran, Liz Palmer, Lori & Maurice Uptmor, Leon & Ida Pickens\* Kurt Cone, Robert & Guylene Ballard, The family of Harold (Sonny) Leigh, Donna Best\* Ronnie Glenn, The family of Maxine Vick, The family of Elvy Cole

**Our Extended Church Family:** Sarah Curry Coffman, Emily, Paul & Aida Williams, Becky (Emily's mom), Sue Sickel, Barbara Beatty\* Sandra White, Mrs. Knight, Wade Rogers, Kathy McClain\* Vicki Klawinski, Vera Spindler, The family of Warren Erickson, Greg Hinds

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**—Thursday, July 4

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**—Sunday, July 7 following services

**BOARD MEETING**— Wednesday, July 10 at 7:00 PM

**BAG LADIES**—Tuesdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 9:00 AM

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**—Friday, July 19



**THE CHURCH  
OFFICE WILL BE  
CLOSED IN  
OBSERVANCE OF  
JULY 4TH.**

Next Good News Issue Deadline

July 19, 2019



To reach Pastor Craig Rutherford, please use the following email address:  
Craig Rutherford  
Minister.craig2@gmail.com

To reach Lynn in the church office or to submit an article for the newsletter, please use the following email address (this is a new email):  
Lynn Beavers  
Lynn.officefcc@gmail.com

Just a reminder that the church office is open  
Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM—2:00 PM

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Would you like an electronic copy of the updated church directory?

If so, please email Lynn in the church office and request a copy that you can then download and print out on your own.

Lynn.officefcc@gmail.com

## MONTH OF MAY, 2019 INCOME AND EXPENSE

INCOME: \$12,791.65

EXPENSES: \$20,188.03

DIFFERENCE: <\$7,396.38>



**SERENITY CHURCH**  
**DON'T FORGET SERENITY WHEN YOU ARE**  
**SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES!!!**

This is a list of items they can use with ready-to-eat meals the priority. Cash donations are always welcome. Make checks out to FCC as the office cuts a check and sends donations on to them every month. They buy huge amounts of bottled water to distribute, especially in the summer.

Potted Meats	Vienna Sausages	Tuna Fish	Lunch Packs	Spam
Beef Jerky	Summer Sausage	Ramen Noodles	Fruit Cups	Peanut Butter
Pork & Beans	Granola Bars	Crackers (small packages)		
Shampoo	Wash Clothes	Toothbrush	Toothpaste	Soap
Deodorant	Disposable Razor	Shaving Cream	Mouthwash	Chapstick
Comb	Hair Pick	Tissues (individual)	Feminine Products	

Please remember that the folks who come to Serenity usually have no source for cooking meals.  
If food is canned it needs to be a pop top can.

**VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE:**  
***Serenity does not have space for clothing so please no more clothing donations.***

PLEASE PLACE ALL DONATIONS FOR  
SERENITY CHURCH IN THE LABELED  
BINS.  
THERE ARE BINS OUTSIDE THE  
CHURCH OFFICE AND IN THE CHURCH  
BASEMENT.  
THANK YOU!!!

In  
Loving  
Memory  
of

**Harold (Sonny) Leigh**

Mrs. H.D. Harper—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronal Norris—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. JW Barrow—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. James Musick—Maintenance Fund  
Janice Liston—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Uptmor—Maintenance Fund



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Bits & Pieces of our Church History**

- \* One of our early pastors, Brother Hagemier, was killed about 1922 in a car/train accident while on a preaching mission in Caddo Mills. He was driving the church's first automobile.
- \* Another pastor who served the church in the early 1930s, W. P. Harmon, designed and built the wood grille which hung for many years in front of the organ pipes and now hangs in the Charles E. Mull Christian Family Center foyer.

## SLEEPING MATS DELIVERED



We reported last month on the Dedication of the latest Sleeping Mats. Following the dedication the mats were moved to the Joy Classroom until delivery could be arranged. On Sunday, June 9th the mats were loaded in the Gilmore's van and 24 of the 27 dedicated were delivered to *Our Calling* in Dallas on Monday. *(That happened to be the Monday when most of Dallas had no electricity so photos had to be taken right inside the back door.)* The staff were all so encouraged by our gift. Pastor Jeremy told us that summer is the time the mats are most needed because people are

comfortable sleeping outside and usually stay in one place. *(side note: Since Our Calling had no electricity the day we were there, they had set up tents and tables in their parking lot and were serving coffee to the folks who had gathered there.)* The other 3 mats were given to Don Ledbetter at Serenity Church. He immediately gave one to a gentleman he encountered who said he had learned about the mats and had been looking for one.

We now have one new mat in our closet so a new season has begun. (We dedicated in April 2018, then November 2018 and now in June so our seasons seem to be every six months).



Our Bag Ladies are continuing to work every Tuesday through July and in August will plan another workshop on Bag Collection and Preparation. (Date will be announced.) As you can see we have a really good sized mountain of bags that have to be “worked” (that means sorted, flattened, cut, tied and rolled into balls) in preparation for the crocheters.) It would speed up our production so much if we had more people preparing the bags for us so they are donated ready to cut. We hope many of you who are donating now will attend the workshop. We are always there from 9 am to noon but you can arrive when convenient and leave when you need to.



**Save  
the  
Date**

Join us in July....

July 2

July 9

July 16

July 23



## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MEETING



The meeting was held on Saturday, June 15th at noon with 33 church women in attendance and a grand time was had by all. For a group of women nothing is better than a salad lunch and our ladies know how to do salads! We gathered for the luncheon in a beautiful setting created by Sandra Wnorowski and her group of helpers and were led in prayer to start our lunch off by President Linda Johnson. Following a very satisfying lunch, Vice-President Helen Remes introduced our speaker for the day, Ms. Ann McKinley, Mission Advancement Officer for Juliette Fowler Communities in Dallas. She introduced us to the work of this intergenerational Christian Church ministry to the aging and the young. Fowler has two programs: Senior Living which includes Senior Apartments, Licensed Assisted Living, Certified Memory Care, Skilled Long-Term Nursing Care, Skilled Short-Term Rehabilitation and Out-Patient Therapy and Ebby House which is a residential home for young women at risk who have aged out of Foster Care.

Ms. McKinley shared so many interesting things about Juliette Fowler and its history with a connection to the Christian Church since her family moved to Dallas in the early 1830's and bought all the property in East Dallas which most of us now know by street names like Peak, Worth, Junius, Carrol, Flora, Field, Harwood. She told us how Juliette turned tragedy in her own life into blessings by purchasing the 15 acres on which Juliette Fowler now stands and in her will instructed that it was to be used for children and elders. This was in February of 1889 before she died unexpectedly in June of that year. Her spirit of generosity and her vision of a unique community for young and old live on at Juliette Fowler.



Ann expressed gratitude to our congregation for a very generous offering we took for them on Mother's Day. She also encouraged us to continue to maintain our connection to Juliette Fowler. She left a donation for us of coloring books for adults and expressed interest in returning to share with the whole congregation.

Our program was rounded out by a Dedication of the Blessing Box Offerings of \$519.50 and by the Installation of officers for 2019-2020. Each year our ladies drop coins in a small box as a way of counting our blessings and we bring them to the annual meeting for the dedication. Our donations are sent to the national office in Indianapolis where they are joined by those from our sister churches worldwide to be used for women's ministries. Charlotte Gilmore led the dedication service. The officers for our new year beginning in September were installed by Pat Hopper.

**President-Helen Remes**  
**Vice-President-Sherry Skelton**  
**Treasurer-Doris Lane**  
**Secretary-Linda List**  
**Service Chair-Mary Lou Hall**  
**Outreach-Jan Compton**

We invite all ladies of the church and friends who might want to participate to our meeting on September 9th at 2pm in the church parlor.





Thank  
You

...from Rouland Mayo

"Thank you for the amazing bible! I will absolutely love taking it on my Scotland trip and keeping it for as long as I can! Thankful for everyone. "

...from Addison Cross

"Thank you so much for helping to fund my trip to Chi-Ro this year. I had a wonderful time and learned so many new things. My gratitude cannot be expressed enough; if you had not helped, I would not have gotten to experience all the wonderful things I did, and meet some amazing new people. Looking forward to next summer!"

...from Juliette Fowler Foundation

"Thank you so much for helping us receive the full value of the \$50,000 matching gift. Your generous gift of \$384.00 to our One Heart Fund has been doubled and is already extending the vision of Juliette Peak Fowler. Thank you so much for helping us continue the dreams of Juliette and her sister, Sarah, two ordinary people whose accomplishments were extraordinary. Their dreams survive today because of you and others...God Bless You!"

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL

## GREECE & THE GREEK ISLES

*IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL*

11 Days: October 15 - 25, 2019

*visiting*

Athens • Corinth • Mykonos • Ephesus • Patmos

Santorini • Delphi • Kalambaka • Thessaloniki

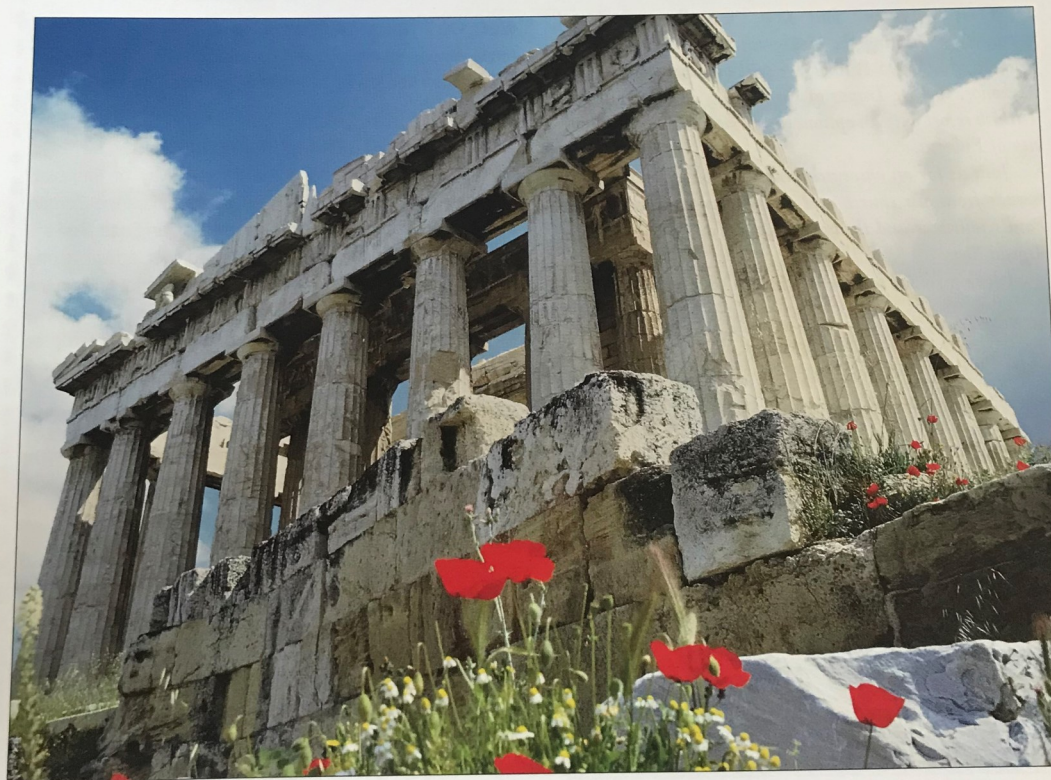
*Including a 3-Day Cruise to the Greek Isles & Turkey*

*hosted by*

Dr. Chris Pulliam

\$3899 from Dallas - Ft. Worth

(Air/land tour price is \$3479 plus \$420 government taxes/airline surcharges.)



QUALITY TOURS SINCE 1949

## GREECE & THE GREEK ISLES

**October 15-25,  
2019**

**Are you interested  
in going?**

**Please contact:**

**First Christian  
Church of Tyler**

**903-561-8138**

**or**

**email Dr. Chris  
Pulliam at:  
[chris@fcctyler.org](mailto:chris@fcctyler.org)**