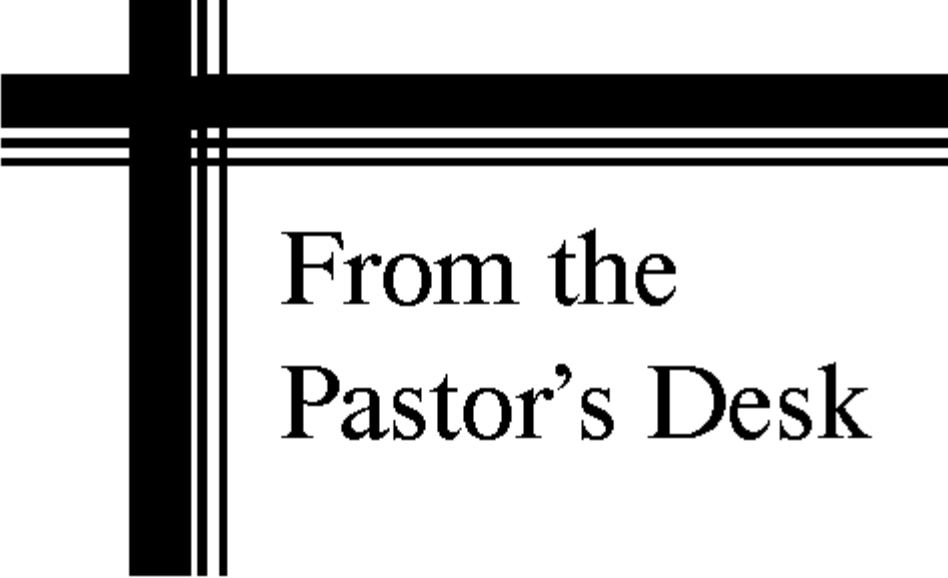


# Good News!

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June, 2019 Volume 2021 #81 *To Know Jesus Christ and Make Him Known to Others*



## From the Pastor's Desk

As we begin the last couple of weeks of the Easter season, if we really are giving it the kind of deep and penetrating thought that it deserves, we start finding ourselves confronted by a group of questions that might make us feel slightly uncomfortable. At some point in the course of the Eastertide week we come into the presence of the cross of Jesus. During the rest of

the year we might have been able to find ways to skirt around the thought or conversation, but, at this time we almost cannot get away from the image of the cross. Even going to buy some amount of Easter candy for our children at the local Wal-Mart brings us face to face with chocolate crosses being sold there. Even the Sunday worship begins to revolve more closely around the cross as we use the palms from Palm Sunday and flowers brought to church on Easter in front of the church.

With all of this "Cross" imagery it should be expected that some of the conversation within the church would then be about the meaning of the cross. This is where we might begin our feeling of being uncomfortable as the questions start coming forward as to our understanding and belief about the cross and what it stands for. We are asked from the pulpit whether or not we believe in what the cross is supposed to do for us. Is the cross a source of power in our lives or not?

Through the readings of Holy Scriptures, the church announces that the cross is not just a source of the vilest sort of execution that the Romans had come up with, but also it is a powerful and transforming portal of God. The cross becomes the "door" through which God passes ALL of the gifts of God to His people. Mercy, Grace, Forgiveness, Salvation, Love and many more come to us through the cross. We are changed by the cross and become the "HOLY" people of God.

Therefore, part of Easter is to challenge us with the question, "Do we really see ourselves as the children of God; Holy, saved and sanctified?" Are we really the people that the Bible describes us to be or are we something other than that? More importantly, if we are just as the Bible describes us, then what is it that keeps us from fully taking hold of this and moving on in the light of God?

Over the course of the many years that I have been preaching from the pulpit, I have noticed this strange occurrence in the lives of Christians, that while they were willing and able to except the concept of this power of the cross to bring upon them as an individual this sort of change, when it came to the notions of this change having some sort of power over them, they began to waver in their thoughts. This understanding also has promoted itself to others around them. They found themselves silently mocking the conversion and baptism of someone they knew or who are their family member.

Maybe this way of thought comes out of a vision of ourselves; we understand what type of people we truly are and then find ourselves unable to except any power, even from God, as being able to truly wipe away the damage and filth that we see in us. If God is unable to change us, then God must be unable to change those around us. However, when we really begin to see the power of the cross in our lives, the ability to forgive ourselves, then we begin to see the change in others' lives as well.

We as Christians see Easter as a time where God provided each and every one of us the wonderful ability to not only be able to forgive those who have hurt us in our lives, but also the ability to truly forgive ourselves for the things that we have done to others and ourselves. The cross that the world sees as only two pieces of old and broken wood, is the power of God to make each one of us something that we thought would be impossible to accomplished. Easter stands as a reminder to us that we are not only forgiven but we are made children of the Most High God. Easter reminds us that everything before is no longer as it was. We just need to take hold of the cross with outstretched arms and meet with the nail impaled hands of Jesus.

Praying for you as I hope you are praying for me.

*Pastor Craig*

## Called to *Serve*

**Sunday June 2, 2019**

**Elders:** Scott Gilmore & Helen Remes

**Greeting, Serving at Table & Serving the Homebound:**  
Denise Record, Lisa Stevens, Janet Baska, Barbara Gale,  
Leon Pickens, David & Carol Dickens, Kristi Johnson

**Acolyte:** Remington Cross

**Sound System:** Sherri Winton

**Sunday June 9, 2019**

**Elders:** Linda Johnson & Dale Hogue

**Greeting, Serving at Table & Serving the Homebound:**  
Sue Ann Norris, Joe & Donna Best, Rouland Mayo,  
Reece Norris, Jerry Vick, Gary Barnett

**Acolyte:** Valcus Best

**Sound System:** Lisa Stevens

**Sunday June 16, 2019**

**Elders:** Mike Sieman & Pat Hopper

**Greeting, Serving at Table & Serving the Homebound:**  
Lori Uptmor, Linda Conder, Sherri Winton, Ann Winton,  
Sharon Drinning, Spencer Cross

**Acolyte:** Ryder Norris

**Sound System:** Mike LeVasseur

**Sunday June 23, 2019**

**Elders:** Ron Compton & Jan Compton

**Greeting, Serving at Table & Serving the Homebound:**  
Denise Record, Lisa Stevens, Janet Baska, Barbara Gale,  
Leon Pickens, David & Carol Dickens, Kristi Johnson

**Acolyte:** Lynna Johnson

**Sound System:** Sherri Winton

**Sunday June 30, 2019**

**Elders:** Jay Cole & Linda List

**Greeting, Serving at Table & Serving the Homebound:**  
Sue Ann Norris, Joe & Donna Best, Rouland Mayo,  
Reece Norris, Jerry Vick, Gary Barnett

**Acolyte:** Elliot Cross

**Sound System:** Lisa Stevens



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

## 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:** Elvy Cole, Terry Condran, Alta Condran, Liz Palmer, Lori Uptmor, Maurice Uptmore, Maxine Vick,\* Denise Record, Pat Sparks, \*Kurt Cone, Robert Ballard, Guylene Ballard, The family of Harold (Sonny) Leigh, Donna Best

**Our Extended Church Family:** Sarah Curry Coffman, Emily, Paul & Aida Williams, Becky (Emily's mom), Sue Sickel\* Sue Parnell Courts, The family of Beverly MacLean,\* Sandra White, Mrs. Knight, Wade Rogers, Kathy McClain



**BAG LADIES WORKSHOP**—Saturday, June 1 at 10:00 AM

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**—Sunday, June 2 following services

**CWF MEETING**—Monday, June 3 at 2:00 PM

**HAND BELLS**—Every Wednesday, at 5:00 PM

**CHOIR**—Every Wednesday at 6:00 PM

**BOARD MEETING**— Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 PM

**CWF LUNCHEON**—Saturday, June 15 at 11:00 AM

**CHRISTMON REPAIR MEETING**—Tuesday, June 18 at 9:00 AM

**BAG LADIES**—Tuesdays, June 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 9:00 AM

**VBS**—Monday-Wednesday, June 24-26, 5:00-8:00 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 APRIL, 2019 INCOME AND EXPENSE

INCOME: \$13,612.70

EXPENSES: \$12,096.11

DIFFERENCE: \$1,516.59

Next Good News Issue Deadline

June 21, 2019

CHRISTIAN WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP  
ANNUAL MEETING

The final meeting of the CWF year will be a luncheon held in the church basement at 11:00 am on Saturday morning of June 15th. All ladies of the church and friends are invited to this meeting which will be a covered dish salad luncheon. A guest speaker has been secured from Juliette Fowler Communities in Dallas. As this home is part of the Christian Church, it will be good to learn of the ministry there. New officers for next year will be installed at the meeting and the Blessing Box offering we have been saving all year will be dedicated. This is the culmination of a very good, very active year for CWF. The study of “The Fruit of the Sprit” has been inspiring and up building. We thank the 9 women who each gave a program on one of the fruit.

We thank Donna Best for leading us through the year of out-reach projects. By creating a “Pass It Forward” tree she encouraged each member of CWF to reach out and then document our good deeds by adding leaves to the tree. This activity has helped us focus on service to others and the blessing we receive from giving.



We hope you will join us on Saturday, June 15th for a fun fellowship, great lunch, and an inspiring program.



**Saturday,  
June 15, 2019  
11:00 AM**

DEDICATION OF SLEEPING MATS  
HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

During worship on Sunday morning a moving service was held to dedicate the Sleeping Mats made by our Bag Ladies group. This group consisting of men and women members of our congregation and ladies from outside Terrell, Kaufman, College Mound, Wills Point and Rockwall, has produced since last October, 27 sleeping mats and 11 pillows which will go to the homeless ministry in Dallas, “Our Calling.” The total number the group has completed since its beginning is now 157 mats and 14 pillows. If you extrapolate this the group has taken 129,450 used plastic bags out of the waste stream and turned them into items that will bring comfort and warmth to people who have found themselves homeless. Our prayer is that the mats will also help them feel Gods love as it flows to them through us.



*We pray God’s blessing on the 21 Bag Ladies (men, women, and youth) who participated in the Dedication on Sunday.*

*27 sleeping mats and 11 pillows were dedicated to the glory of God on Sunday. We pray that God will bless the hands that worked to produce them and his children who will sleep on them.*



## SERENITY CHURCH CUPBOARD IS BARE

When Joy Class was serving their recent Friday Night meal at Serenity Church their cupboard was bare and in need of donations. They see people all during the week who are in need of food so a bare cupboard means their ministry is severely hampered.

Below 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 to them every month. They buy huge numbers of bottled water to distribute, especially in the summer.

- Potted Meats
- Vienna Sausage
- Tuna Fish Lunch Packs
- Beef Jerky
- Summer Sausage
- Crackers (esp. in small packages)
- Ramen Noodles (any flavor)
- Fruit Cups
- Peanut Butter
- Pork and Beans
- Granola Bars
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Washcloth
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razor
- Shaving Cream
- Mouthwash
- Chapstick
- Comb or Hair Pick
- Tissues (in individual packages)
- 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!!!

## CHURCH PARLOR PROJECT UPDATE



This settee is one of the pieces of furniture in the church parlor which is in bad need of recovering. The Upholsterer who has looked at our furniture recommended recovering this one because it is a very

good piece. Those of us who sit on it regularly recognize that it needs some loving care. The cost will be in the neighborhood of \$500 (includes our purchase of fabric plus labor). The piece has a special value in the parlor as it is small enough to be moved frequently as the room has to be rearranged for various functions. If you would like to help with this project checks should be made to First Christian with a "parlor project" notation. The CWF raised funds to purchase a needed couch and love seat but without some donations will have to wait another year to complete this project. Eventually we need to buy two chairs, replace end tables and lamps, have the seats of two chairs redone and clean or possibly replace the drapes.

## SLEEPING MAT WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IF YOU ARE A BAG LADY, WANT TO BE A BAG LADY OR JUST WANT TO HELP... THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR YOU.



We now have a large number of members and friends who are involved in the making of Sleeping Mats. A workshop will be held at the church on Saturday, June 1st from 10:00 am to noon on the process of mat making.

***EVERYONE WHO IS INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT OR WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IS INVITED TO ATTEND. A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED.***

The process of making the mats from used plastic bags to finished mat is very time consuming and challenging. Each step from saving the bags, to flattening the bags, to cutting the bags, to tying the strips, to rolling the balls of plarn, to crocheting has a right and wrong way. We appreciate so much all of the folks who are spending time helping with the project and would like to make sure the time is well spent.

At this workshop we will go over each step of the process and instruct in the right way of doing it. We like the old saying "Many hands make light work," but we don't want anyone spending their time doing work that isn't beneficial.

This will be a working event but we hope it will also be a fun one as we all learn a little more about how to make Sleeping Mats for the Homeless.

**NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, JUST COME!!!**



The brunch given in regards to my retirement from First Christian Church was wonderful. The food and seeing so many of my FCC friends was great. Your well wishes, amazing gifts, and the retirement cards I received were very much appreciated.

My 12-1/2 years at FCC has been a wonderful experience, filled with fond memories and I have made so many great friends. I'm hoping to remain in contact with everyone. Thanks again.  
God Bless, Brenda Turner

## In Memory of

### William (Ed) Rollins

Mr. & Mrs. Elvy Cole—Maintenance Fund  
Edwin Russell—Maintenance Fund  
Mason Rollins—Maintenance Fund  
Maxine Flatt—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Gilmore—Maintenance Fund  
James D. Rollins Jr.—Maintenance Fund

### Harold (Sonny) Leigh

Mamie McCasland—Maintenance Fund  
Art & Stephanie Crothers—Maintenance Fund  
Joyce Kimmell—Maintenance Fund  
Harvey Chitty—Maintenance Fund  
Marcia & Paul Fotsch—Maintenance Fund  
Jack Tankersley Family—Maintenance Fund  
Homer Winton—Maintenance Fund  
Wylie & Helen Musser—Maintenance Fund  
Employees of Musser Motors—Maintenance Fund  
Mary Hall—Maintenance Fund  
The Roy Henry Family—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Shaffer—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. and Mrs. Elvy Cole—Maintenance Fund  
Mrs. Mary Lindsey—Maintenance Fund  
Mrs. Doris Lane—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. John Hegar—Maintenance Fund  
Roy & Renee Henry—Maintenance Fund  
Susan Schneider—Maintenance Fund  
Patricia Hopper—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike LeVasseur—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Dana Skelton—Maintenance Fund  
Brenda Turner—Maintenance Fund  
GB Henson Jr.—Maintenance Fund  
Truman Welch—Maintenance Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Gilmore—Maintenance Fund  
Wayne Howe—Maintenance Fund

### Doug Lane

Wayne Howe—Maintenance Fund

### Don Lindsey

Wayne Howe—Maintenance Fund



After more than 12 years, we had to say “Good Bye” to a good friend and hard worker for the church. Brenda Turner has served this congregation, 6 different pastors and went well beyond her normal daily duties. Her steadfast love for this church flowed out of her easy smiles and earnest greetings when one came into the office. Her kindness will be missed and we wish her only the best in for future.

On a personal note: I extend my own thanks to Brenda for sticking around with us for one more year to show the newest pastor the ropes. You have made my transition a smooth one. Blessings friend.



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 24, 25 & 26

5:00-8:00 PM

AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AGES 4-11 YEARS OLD

Please invite anyone in this age group to come have fun and learn bible stories. Our theme is *"To Mars and Beyond"*. If you would like to participate in any way, please contact Janice Compton at 972.551.9073.

There are work days scheduled for decorating on June 17-21 after 2:00 PM at the Methodist Church.

Registration forms are available in the church office on the table designated for VBS.

Finally, please pray for those children who will be attending VBS and for all those who will be serving as well.

*"Glory to God who is able to do far  
Beyond all that we could ask or  
Imagine by His power at work with us."*  
Ephesians 3:20

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



## FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

JUNE 2, 2019



OUR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON WILL BE AN OLD FASHIONED POT LUCK. YOUR NURTURE COMMITTEE WILL FURNISH THE FOLLOWING:



FRIED CHICKEN  
BREAD  
COFFEE  
TEA



PLEASE BRING A LARGE SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE ON THE TABLE.



COME ENJOY THE WONDERFUL  
FOOD  
FUN AND  
FELLOWSHIP.

