



Good News!

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

To Know Jesus Christ and Make Him Known to Others



<div data-bbox="68 927 509 1005"></div> <div data-bbox="142 1042 441 1161"><p>FROM THE <i>Pastor's Desk</i></p></div> <div data-bbox="68 1188 509 1300"></div>	<div data-bbox="850 946 1214 1016"><h2>Thanksgiving</h2></div> <div data-bbox="516 1064 1536 1244"><p>During a sermon, I proposed to ask the question "What would you do if God sent you a bill for all the things He has given you, just like the electric bill, or the water bill?" Many of us, I believe, go through our lives completely taking for granted all of the gifts that are around us. We need to be able to take some time and reflect on all of the things that are in our lives that we receive. We need to be reminded that there are reasons to be thankful.</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 1271 1536 1419"><p>It sometimes is a shame that we only take one day a year to set aside for the specific reason of giving thanks. This is in no way to diminish the importance of Thanksgiving Day and gathering around the table with our family and friends to give thanks, but should we not be thankful every day of our lives? Why does it take a special day on the calendar to remind us to be thankful?</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 1446 1536 1596"><p>With all of the events, and things we have in our life, it can be an easy process to overlook those things that remind us of the great gifts of God. We lock our car doors and roll up the windows tightly so that we can pretend not to see the homeless on the side of the street. We avoid hearing the cries of those who might not know where their next meal will be coming from. When we receive news about the destruction of the family of a relative or friend we slowly shake our heads and say "tisk, tisk."</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 1623 1536 1744"><p>It is only in those times in which problems raise up in our own lives, that we really begin to pay attention. The times when we are the ones being affected by the results of tests on our health, or when sudden tragedies fall upon us with the loss of someone close to us; at those moments in our lives we are powerfully reminded how many good things we had prior to the onset of those troubling times.</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 1771 1536 1833"><p>In the Bible, Jesus tells the parable of a man who believed that he had all of the things he needed and could only look to the future with certainties. He tells the story in this way:</p></div> <div data-bbox="297 1854 1315 2153"><p>¹⁶ And He told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' ¹⁸ "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."'" ²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for your self?' ²¹ "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God." - Luke 12: 16 – 21</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 2179 1536 2271"><p>As we come upon this year's Thanksgiving Day and we take time to gather around the table to eat the traditional dinner, let us also lift up our continuing thanks to God for all that God has given to us throughout our life. Let us each day give thanks!</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 2298 1536 2389"><p>One thing that might give your holiday a new twist would be to invite a member of the church that might not be having family or friends coming over this year. There might be a family who may not be able to have the traditional meal because of their current economic situation. You might invite them to your table.</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 2416 428 2448"><p>Have a great Thanksgiving.</p></div> <div data-bbox="76 2475 777 2507"><p><i>Praying for you as I hope that you are praying for me.</i></p></div> <div data-bbox="76 2534 237 2567"><p><i>Pastor Craig</i></p></div>
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HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019



ITEMS TO BE FURNISHED:
 BAKED HAM/GRILLED PINEAPPLE
 BUTTERED BROCCOLI
 SMOKED TURKEY BREAST
 GRANDMA'S CORNBREAD DRESSING/STUFFING
 HOT ROLLS
 TEA AND COFFEE



PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY SIDE DISH OR DESSERT.
 COME ENJOY THE FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP!!!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS—Sunday, November 3
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—Sunday, November 3
HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON—Sunday, November 3
CWF MEETING—Monday, November 4 at 2:00 PM
CHOIR—Wednesdays, Nov. 6, 13 & 20 at 6:00 PM
DISCIPLES HOMES OFFERING—Sunday, November 10
VETERANS DAY SUNDAY—Sunday, November 10
BAG LADIES—Tuesdays, Nov. 12 & 26 at 9:00 AM
BOARD MEETING—Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 PM
SERENITY CORNER—Friday, November 15 at 5:30 PM
SHOEBOXES DEDICATED—Sunday, November 17
NURTURE MEETING—Tuesday, November 19 at 10:30 AM
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE—Thursday, November 21
REECE NORRIS SCOUT PROJECT—Saturday, Nov. 23, 11-3
POINSETTIAS ORDERING BEGINS—Sunday, November 24
OFFICE CLOSED—November 27—29
THANKSGIVING—Thursday, November 28



Pastor Craig will be calling on five families to participate in the lighting of candles during the upcoming Advent season.



Thank You!

“Leon’s Church Family was ‘very special’ to him and he always appreciated your prayers and support; as we his family do during this difficult time. Please know your words and presence brought comfort and will always be remembered. Also, a special thankyou for the delicious lunch.”

Blessings to all,
 The Family of Leon Pickens



THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Disciples Homes



Disciples Homes exists to provide social services and housing to meet the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs of elderly persons, in the loving and caring spirit of Christ.

The five Texas Apartment complexes are nonprofit for low to extremely low income seniors. These facilities are owned and operated by a local Board of Directors made up of members of the Christian Church (DOC) and other community members who have a heart for providing safe and affordable housing and services for our elderly.

Money collected during the Thanksgiving special offering will go towards providing a Christmas Party at each of the facilities. We will partner with community members to provide gifts, door prizes, paper products, decorations and assistance with meal costs.

Want more information? Head over to their website at disciplehomes.org.

First Christian Church will be taking a special offering for the Disciples Homes on November 10.

Please make checks payable to FCC and notate DISCIPLES HOMES.



Leon Pickens

John Hegar—Maintenance Fund
Mary Lou Hall—Maintenance Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Gilmore—Maintenance Fund
Sherri Winton—Maintenance Fund
Sally Leigh—Maintenance Fund
Kingdom Builders Class—Maintenance Fund
Kay Cole—Maintenance Fund
Doris Lane—General Fund

Emily Williams

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Gilmore—Maintenance Fund



A GUIDE TO PUTTING YOUR CLOCKS BACK



SMARTPHONE
Leave it alone,
it does its magic



SUNDIAL
Move one house
to the left



OVEN
You'll need a
Masters in
Electronic
Engineering
or a hammer



CAR RADIO
Not worth it,
wait six months

The church office
only has one phone
number to be
reached at:
972-551-4700.
Please make a note
of it.

Called to *Serve*

Sunday, November 3, 2019

Elders: Jay Cole & Linda List

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: Elliot Cross

Sound System: Lisa Stevens

Sunday, November 10, 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, November 17, 2019

Elders: Scott Gilmore & Colleen Metcalf

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, November 24, 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

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, Ida Pickens, Gary Barnett*,
George Purnell, The family of Leon Pickens, Ronnie Glenn,
Joe Parnell* Pat Hopper, Charlotte Gilmore, Mary Lindsey,
Ron Norris, Andrew Cross, William D. Beatty, Lisa Cross,
David Eubanks, Donna Best, Joseph Best.

Our Extended Church Family: Sarah Curry Coffman,
Sue Sickel, Barbara Beatty, Ariel Baska, Andrew Howard*,
Thelma Rutherford, Jerry & Delma Deak, Heather Yost,
Kenneth Wilson, The family of Joyce Gibbs, Bill Marshall,
Don Dozier, Kenneth Wilsom, Ricky Stone, Vicki Klowinski,
Ann Hogue* Albert Olguin, Gerald Parrish, Charlie
Vasquez, Jessica Simonson, Ginger Day, Max Slayton, The
family of Janey Scully, Don Ledbetter, Free Burma
Rangers, Jeff Silva, Ricky Stone, Sandra White.

POINSETTIAS ORDERING BEGINS NOVEMBER 24



COST: \$8.00



CALLING ALL BAG LADIES (AND MEN)...

**The Bag Ladies Ministry will be meeting on an every
other week timeframe. Please mark your calendars
for the following dates through out the rest of the
year...**

**NOVEMBER
12, 26**

**DECEMBER
10**



"THE SILENCE AND THE SOUND"
PRESENTED BY FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHOIR
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 10:50AM

From the crazy world of Joyce Kimmel....

One evening in the Dining Room at the Senior Community where I live, I
was chatting with a newcomer at my table. The conversation went like this:

Me: You have mentioned "we" in the conversation. Is there a Mrs. with
you?

Newcomer: He just hung his head and said "No"

Me: Oh, so she's in a "better place"?

Newcomer: Yeah, she lives over in Manitou Springs and didn't want to
make the move here with me



ATTENTION ALL VETERANS...

We would like to honor YOU on Veterans Sunday in November.

Please email a picture of yourself IN UNIFORM to Pastor Craig no later than NOVEMBER 3, 2019.

minister.craig2@gmail.com

Thank you for your service!



A big thank you to John Hegar for giving towards the Parlor Project this past month. Donations are still being accepted.



Blue Christmas
Sunday,
December 8 at
6:00 PM

For those experiencing grief, loss or hardship, the Christmas season is far from the most wonderful time of the year. A Blue Christmas service is designed to allow you to confront the pain of loss felt by so many at this time of year, and to offer a somber, gentle space in which to gather. This service is very important as it gives you permission to grieve while offering hope and comfort—and to know that you are not alone in your grief. Many others care about you but most importantly—Christ cares about you! If you are experiencing a loss, please make plans to join us at this unforgettable event. This service will be open to anyone who wishes to attend—if you know someone who has experienced a loss, please be sure to invite them.



Sponsored by:
First Christian Church Terrell
Faith Fellowship Church of the Nazarene
First United Methodist Church
Serenity Corner
Terrell State Hospital Chaplain
Centro Apostolico Nueve Esperanze
(New Hope Apostolic Center)
The Rock Church
First Assembly of God



CWF NEWS

By Linda List

What a terrific meeting October was! We had 22 ladies attend, isn't that terrific? Jan Compton recapped our visit to Jake E's Riding Round Up. We had such a wonderful time discovering what wonderful things happen here for veterans struggling with scars of combat, adults and children of all ages with special needs, at-risk youth and others who can benefit from therapeutic interaction with horses. If you ever know of anyone struggling with emotional problems I would definitely suggest having their therapist recommend this program. They have 2 certified instructors that help these people in need. Horses are terrific! After this report (tears of joy) we continued with going over our other projects, I'll list a few: Kaufman Co. Children's Shelter, Ebby House, visitations, etc. Oh yes, HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our hard working Service Chairperson, Mary Lou Hall, who we all wish could attend every meeting as we greatly miss her. And we ended our meeting, as usual, having delicious refreshments which were provided by Linda Conder and Sandra Wnorowski.

Don't forget our next meeting on November 4th at 2pm in the parlor.

Y'all Come!!!



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT FOR REECE NORRIS

Reece Norris has begun his final steps toward becoming an Eagle Scout! Let's all get on board and help him achieve this high honor! Here's what you need to know....

1. Reece is collecting plastic grocery bags to make mats for the homeless. Drop off your bags in the basement of the church or outside the church office in the designated box.
2. Reece is collecting scissors to cut up the plastic bags in order to make the plarn. These can be left in the bins as well.
3. November 23 is the final work day at the church to help Reece assemble the mats. Join him from 11:00-3:00 in the Gym. *****Food and Refreshments will be provided!*****
4. Are you a "bag lady"? If so, Reece could use your expertise in directing the scouts exactly what the process is for making the mats!
5. Questions? Contact Reece at:
RNorrismusic@gmail.com or text 469-410-2866



HOW TO PACK A OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX



1. A Wow Item
2. Personal Care Items
3. Clothing/Accessories
4. Crafts/Activities
5. Toys
6. Personal Note
7. Label for a boy or girl

***Please do not put money in your shoebox.**

***If you can pay for shipping, please write a check to FCC with the notation: SHOEBOX**

***Shipping cost per shoebox is \$9.00.**

Partner with Hobby Lobby! You can purchase an empty plastic shoebox for \$2.99, download their coupon for 40% off and have fun filling it up! They have a bunch of fun ideas for the shoeboxes....one stop shopping!



Do Not Include

Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
Shoebox Collection
Gets underway at FCC

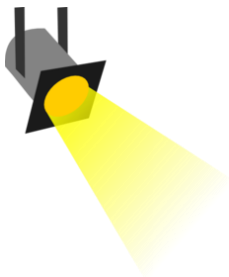
Dedication Sunday – November 17th

It is again that time of year to begin planning your shoebox donations. Each shoebox, packed with small items for a child will be delivered by Samaritan's Purse to children around the world. Each box is an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and to hear the Gospel. Each year the number of shoeboxes from our church has grown just as the number of shoeboxes collected worldwide has grown. To date over 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of a simple shoebox, including 50 of the most inaccessible countries in the world. Let's pray that God will bless our Shoebox Ministry this year.

Here is what you do:

1. Choose one of the flat, pre-printed shoeboxes and labels at the back of the Sanctuary on a Sunday or in the church office during the week. Or use an old shoebox and decorate it or buy a plastic shoebox.
 2. The labels help you choose the age and sex of the child you pack for. Be sure to take one of the labels and tape it to the top of your box.
 3. Read the list of suggested gift items for the various age groups.
 4. Pack and bring the boxes back to the church for a dedication on Sunday, November 17th.
 5. Put your name and address in the box along with a photo and a message of love.
 6. Pray for the child who will receive your box.
- DON'T SEAL YOUR BOX. THEY ARE OPENED BEFORE SHIPPING TO ADD CHRISTIAN LITERATURE IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE CHILD WHO WILL RECEIVE IT (YOU MAY CLOSE IT WITH RUBBER BANDS.)
 - DON'T PUT MONEY INSIDE THE BOX. WRITE A CHECK TO THE CHURCH FOR THE SHIPPING (\$9 PER BOX) WITH A "SHOEBOX" NOTATION.
 - YOU CAN ALSO GO TO THE WEBSITE TO MAKE YOUR DONATION AND PRINT OUT A LABEL THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO FOLLOW YOUR BOX TO ITS DESTINATION.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/>



SPOTLIGHT ON SERENITY

Big “L”

By Don Ledbetter

Big L pulled me aside this past Friday evening. He wanted to talk to me. We’ve known each other for the past three and a half years. He’s known for drinking 32 ounce “soda pops.” That’s what he calls his beers around me.

Our friends at First Christian Church here in town were present and had a good number of their members in our room serving pulled pork sandwiches. They’ve been very active on The Block and know a number of people from the street by name. Big L was in the room with them and joined in the friendly and comfortable conversations that took place. It was when I walked in that he pulled me aside and said he wanted to talk.

Of course I said OK and we stepped outside. Big L stepped over to the bench donated by Faith Fellowship and sat down and I sat next to him.

He began, “I want you to know how much I love all of you. You guys have taken care of me like no one else ever has. When I got sick, you took me to the hospital. Do you remember that?”

“Of course I do.”

“Well I remember too. I remember y’all buying me clothes while I was there so I could have something clean to wear. Remember?”

I nodded.

“Do you remember y’all coming to see me when I was in jail? And you put money on my commissary card?”

“Yes.”

“Y’all have helped me when I needed rides to the doctor and to my cousin’s house. Y’all feed me and let me stay here during the day.”

“We’re your friends.”

“My family doesn’t do nothing for me. I love y’all.”

“I know. And we love you too.”

“You don’t know,” he said with tears in his eyes, “nobody has ever loved me before.”

“Jesus loves you and always has.”

“Thank y’all for taking care of me,” he said as tears rolled down his cheeks.

I sit amazed at the stirring I see in him as Christ moves within the heart of a friend who is truly a brother. A realization that there is a depth beyond relationship. It’s kinship. As Christ is my brother, Big L is my brother. Christ bringing together two different people from different experiences and backgrounds into this marvelous bond of true family.

To steal an insight from Gregory Boyle from the song “O Holy Night”:

“Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.”

Big L was made to face his value through the accepting embrace of brothers and sisters from First Christian Church and three and a half years of Heaven on earth from others. And a soul felt his worth.

Love requires that we get involved in the messy situations in people’s lives.

“At the end of the day it’s not about what you have or even what you’ve accomplished...it’s about who you’ve lifted up. Who you’ve made better. It’s about what you’ve given back.”
Denzel Washington

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 in cups | Fruit Cups | |
| Peanut Butter | Pork & Beans | |
| Granola Bars | Crackers | |
| | (ind. packages) | |
| Shampoo | Wash Clothes | Toothbrush |
| Toothpaste | Soap | Chapstick |
| Deodorant | Disp. Razor | Comb |
| Shaving Cream | Mouthwash | Hair Pick |
| Tissues (ind. 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.

Serenity does not have space for clothing so please no more clothing donations.

POVERTY + DISCONNECTION + CATASTROPHE HOMELESSNESS!



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019
5:00 PM
MEET AT FCC TO LEAVE TOGETHER AND
SERVE AT SERENITY CORNER
FOR SEVERAL HOURS

“Then He will answer them, “Truly I tell you,
just as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.”
Matthew 25:45

**YOU WILL BE BLESSED BY THIS SIMPLE ACT
OF SERVICE TO THE LEAST OF THESE!**