

From the Pastor's Desk

We are all members of something larger than ourselves. Within our own families we might hold several different titles: Brother, Sister, Aunt, Uncle, Cousin, Father, Mother or maybe even a Grandparent. Each and every relationship reminds us that we are not alone and are part of something larger. Even within the church we are not just a single person but are part of the larger Body of Christ.

The local church, within the body of Christ and the Disciples of Christ movement, is not alone. We are part of a large and vibrant church that stretches well beyond the limits of the walls of our building or the limits of our town or the limits of our State. Our Church stretches around the world through our missionary work or established churches and forming churches in far flung locations.

Just inside the State of Texas First Christian belongs in two levels of the church. At the State level there is the "Christian Church of the Southwest." This version of the church covers all of New Mexico, Texas and the Panhandle of Oklahoma. Through our Regional Minister Andy Mangun, the regional ministries help with every church within its boundaries. They help with camps, new church growth and many other areas. We connect with all of our 380 sister churches through assemblies and church training.

We also belong to the "Northeast Area of the Christian Church," which is a small group of churches within the region. There are around 90 churches within the area. They also do many different ministries and we have a long history with the area.

The Area will be hosting an Assembly of the Northeast Area on Saturday, October 2 at FCC Longview TX. Registration begins at 9 am till 10 am. Cost is \$20 individual or \$30 Couple or \$35 Family. There will be three times of Workshops on a variety of topics. Lunch and Booths will be offered.

Hope everyone can attend. Craig





Dear Members of First Christian Church,

I wanted to continue discussing with you the important things that are happening at the Church Board Meetings.

On September 8, the Board met in the Parlor with 14 present out of a possible 45. Important things we discussed: Church giving was way up in August. The Hispanic Church is holding ESL (English as a second language) classes in the Family Center on Tuesday nights and Prayer Meeting on Thursday nights. Lifeline will be here in the gym on October 5 to conduct health testing – check with the office or Ron Compton for more details.

The new budget for 2022 was presented and approved and will be recommended to the congregation for approval on October 10 at the Congregational Meeting. Also the list of Elders and Deacons nominated for the upcoming year was presented and will be sent to the Congregation Meeting for a vote by the members.

Some of you may wonder how we determine who becomes an Elder or a Deacon each year and what their duties are. Well...

In July each year, the Nominating Committee is formed with a chair and 3-4 other members. That Committee is announced at two Sunday services and members are invited to suggest names. The Committee goes over the current list of Elders & Deacons to determine who is eligible to be appointed for the next three-year term. When their list is completed it is presented to the Board at the September Meeting. If approved it is forwarded to the Congregational Meeting on the second Sunday in October for approval by the members, and their new terms begin the first Sunday in the new year. According to the Bylaws, the duties are:

Elders: "The Elders shall promote the growth and welfare of the Church; be responsible for the spiritual life of the Congregation; promote regular attendance at the Lord's Supper; give thoughtful consideration to policies of the Church that shall enable it to fulfill its complete mission; encourage by example and word the missionary, evangelistic, educational and stewardship responsibilities of the Church; and serve at the Lord's Table."

Deacons: "The Deacons shall cooperate with the Elders in promoting the growth and welfare of the church; be responsible for greeting and ushering at all worship services; have special responsibility for the preparation and serving of Communion and for the care of the Communion ware; assist with the preparation of candidates for baptism; minister to families in times of sickness and bereavement and other times of need; give counsel and service in the business affairs and program activities of the Church and are responsible for seeing that the Church buildings are in order for worship."

Yours in Christ,

Scott Gilmore, Chairman of the Board





## Serving Schedule for October 2021

## Lay Leader: Janet Baska

#### Sunday, October 3, 2021

**Elders:** Raymond Sparks & Linda List **Greeting:** Kristi Johnson, Barbara Gale **Acolyte:** Youth of the Church **Sound System:** Mike LeVasseur **Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

#### Sunday, October 10, 2021

**Elders:** Linda Johnson & Colleen Metcalf **Greeting:** Linda Conder, Lynda Roberts, Ann Winton, Ann Barrow **Acolyte:** Youth of the Church **Sound System:** Sherri Winton **Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

#### Sunday, October 17, 2021

**Elders:** Helen Remes & Dale Hogue **Greeting:** Ron & Jan Compton, David & Carol Dickens, Addison Cross **Acolyte:** Youth of the Church **Sound System:** Lisa Stevens **Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

#### Sunday, October 24, 2021

**Elders:** Dana & Sherry Skelton **Greeting:** Jerry Vick, Erik Vick, Clay Norris, Reese Norris, Liz Palmer **Acolyte:** Youth of the Church **Sound System:** Mike LeVasseur **Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

#### Sunday, October 31, 2021

**Elders:** Mike Siemann & Scott Gilmore **Greeting:** Kristi Johnson & Barbara Gale **Acolyte:** Youth of the Church **Sound System**: Sherri Winton



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

**Our Church Family**: Terry Condran, Ronnie Glenn, Jay Cole, Guylene Ballard, Pat Sparks, Ruth LeVasseur, Pat Hopper, Joe & Cynthia Parnell\* Liz Palmer, Denise Record, Bill Beatty

**Our Extended Church Family**: Barbara Beatty, Ariel Baska, Don Dozier, Evelyn O'Lexy, June Breazeale, Phyllis Ferguson\* The Family of Ann Whitney, Abby Andrews, James Davis, Charles Bridges, Margie Enochs, The Family of Charles Lyles\* Mary Beth Siemann, Bill Hessel





PRAYER

#### Merv Cross

Kay Cole Maintenance Fund

Mary Lou Hall Maintenance Fund

#### **Billie Turner**

Barbara Coffman Maintenance Fund





## OCTOBER 10, 2021

## 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

MAKE PLANS NOW TO COME AND JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!





## "Genesis Castle" By Janet Baska

I thought I would share a photo of the kids. We tore down our Lego structure and rebuilt it. We called it the Genesis Castle as that was our lesson and it was a new beginning.

Kids are Elliott Cross, Lynna Johnson, her friend Lexi, and Remi Cross The Charles E. Mull Christian Family Center



#### Bits & Pieces of our Church History

\* On April 28, 1945 the original mortgage on our sanctuary building was burned (after 22 years). This note having been signed in April 1923 with 16 male board members each agreeing to obligate themselves to \$1,000.00 of the note.

\* In the late '30s and early '40s our church was served by two ministers who were natives of New Zealand, Rev. Sisterson and Rev. Hinrichson.

### **TIDBITS FROM OUR CHURCH HISTORY**

It was in March of 1987 that our Church Board recommended the building of what we now know as the Charles E. Mull Christian Family Center at a cost of \$685,000. It was voted to enter into a Fund Raising Campaign for this building with part of the money on hand, part to be a loan from Church Extension (a division of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and a goal of \$200,000 to be raised by the congregation. That goal was reached in July of that same year and planning began. A grand groundbreaking was held in October of 1987, a dedication of the completed building in October of 1988. The note to Church Extension plus another note that had to be made later for repairs on the Sanctuary building were paid off and the note burned in February of 2006.

If interested, there is an album in our History Room documenting each step of that construction.

Your Church Historian

## Join what God is doing through Operation Christmas Child and pack a Shoebox gift!

You can have an eternal impact on the life of a child around the world when you pack a shoebox gift with a quality "wow" item, fun toys, school supplies, personal care items, and a letter\* letting the child know you're praying for them (the letter and prayers are Important\*).

Find gift suggestions and ideas here: https://sampur.se/Join-what-God-is-Doing

Need a shoebox? Stop in the church office or grab one on Sunday morning



### **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2022**

The Outreach Committee for 2022 is made up of the following members: Charlotte Gilmore, Chair

Michael Levasseur	Dale Hogue	
Ruth LeVasseur	Alice Hogue	
Linda List	Scott Gilmore	
Liz Palmer	Sherry Skelton	

We are happy to announce our plans for the year, pending approval by the congregation on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

MINISTRIES, MISSIONS AND NEEDY CAUSES WE WILL SUPPORT THIS YEAR ARE: Monthly meal for the homeless Juliette Fowler – a hands on project yet to be decided The Christian Church in the Southwest (supporting our Regional Minister and his service to all the churches in the Southwest Region.) Sharing The Love Foundation (a youth empowerment program) Serenity Corner general fund (a recurring donation) Adopt-a-Classroom (a donation to help pay for teacher's classroom supplies) Kaufman County Children's Shelter (our county emergency shelter for children in need) Pastor's Emergency Fund (assistance for those who find him in his office) Terrell State Hospital Volunteer Services (buying patient's personal needs that are not funded by the State. Trunk or Treat (our fun outreach to children in our neighborhood) Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes (postage costs that are not met by donations) Blue Christmas (special gifts to grieving family members) Some of these are funded by Special Offerings and some are budgeted items. We are so honored to serve this year as your representatives on the Outreach Committee. We are so proud to be a part of this generous congregation that is focusing on being the hands and feet, the purse

Charlotte Gilmore, Chairman

## **Proposed 2022 Budget - FCC**

and the heart of Jesus.

# Voting: October 10, 2021

	2021	2022
	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
TREASURER COMMITTEE	5300	6140
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	52553	54129
PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE	62424	64297
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE	1550	1350
EVANGELISM COMMITTEE	500	300
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	400	400
OUTREACH COMMITTEE	4500	5800
WORSHIP COMMITTEE	2615	2715
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE	5806	5856
PROPERTY COMMITTEE	53454	47824
	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
	2021	2022
	BUDGET	BUDGET
	\$189,102	\$188,811

#### **STORIES FROM OUR CHURCH HISTORY**

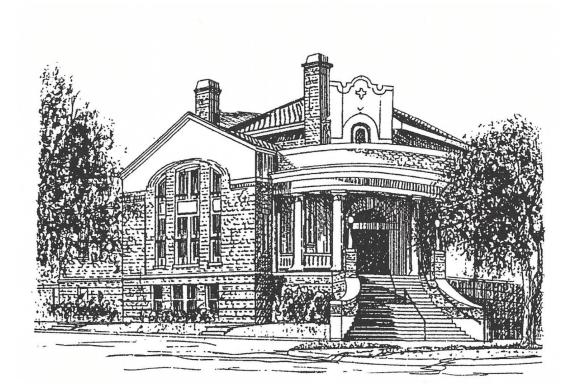
Beginning in the late 1890's Terrell and Kaufman County were experiencing fast growth. There were artesian wells in the area, and much interest in oil & gas exploration. Cotton was the king of the agricultural crops. A railroad was coming through. Our church had been organized in 1874, meeting in borrowed space, but within a couple of years had built a modest frame structure. A larger, more 'church-like' frame building was built as the church grew.

A newspaper article written in 1989 by Jack Stoltz, the renowned historian and member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Terrell, has been found that tells of the "great revival that shook up the town in 1920". In looking for a new minister, this church hired Frank W. Zook, formerly of Bakersfield, California. He brought his zeal and zest as an evangelist, and within 3 weeks of arriving had launched "a spectacular revival that would have matched a Hollywood extravaganza." The revival began March 14, 1920 and lasted an entire month, spanning 5 Sundays.

Great music was a big draw, with a large choir directed by J. E. Macon, with members added from other churches in the area. Special music included a quartet consisting of Mrs. F. H. Guild, Mrs L. E. West, Roy Duncan, and J. E. Macon. Piano accompaniment was provided by Mrs. Fred Massingill and Mrs. C. W. Cartwright, with solo numbers by Mrs. W. A. Wilson, Charles Anderson and Hal C. Dunn.

After the first week, people were turned away due to no available seating or standing room, so the back of the auditorium was adjusted to provide more seating. It was expected to be "the largest crowd that ever attended a revival meeting in the history of the Christian Church, if not in the history of Terrell."

The culmination of the revival was the baptismal service. "The red lights on the large cross hanging over the baptistry formed red rays of the cross to fall upon the water." Thirty-six citizens had accepted Christ and many hearts had been touched. "The old church creaked and groaned last night as though resenting the action of members at the morning service to tear the old house down and replace it with a new one. That was not all! They decided to build a parsonage on the church lot next door. AND that was not all! They had raised all the money to purchase a fine automobile for the use of the pastor in his work and for his personal use. The best of all was that it was to be done at once!" In 1922, the current brick sanctuary was built and the state-of-the-art organ was installed.



Submitted by Ann Embrey



## CWF Meeting 9/13/1921

Our ladies are off to a great start this season - we had 21 at our meeting in the church parlor on Tuesday afternoon. Linda List gave our Devotional and Jan Compton presented the first lesson on "Praying with Faith", from the book Women Who Move Mountains, by Sue Detweiler. This month's outreach project was Serenity Corner, to which a donation of \$300 was made, to be matched through the North Texas Giving Day Challenge. Light refreshments were served by Ann Winton and Linda Condor.

The next CWF meeting will be Monday, October 4 at 2 pm. All the women of the church are welcome to attend.



Goodness of God By CeCe Winans

I love you Lord For Your mercy never fails me All my days I've been held in Your hand From the moment that I wake up Until I lay my head Oh I will sing of the goodness of God

'Cause all my life you have been faithful And all my life you have been so, so good. With every breath that I am able Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice You have lead me through the fire In darkest nights You are close like no other I've known You as a father I've known You as a friend And I have lived in the goodness of God

With my life laid down I surrender now I give You everything, oh Lord Your goodness is running after Is running after me

And all my life you have been faithful And all my life you have been so, so good With every breath that I am able Oh, I'm, gonna sing of the goodness of God.

