

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2323 Broadway St.
Lubbock, TX
79401-2916

The Light

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."—Matt. 5:16

VOLUME XXIII, ISSUE 2

JANUARY 18, 2012



5th Sunday All-Church Chili Cook-Off & Dessert Bake-Off, January 29th

Join us after the all-church 10:40 worship service on Sunday, January 29th for a mouthwatering Chili Cook-Off & Dessert Bake-Off. If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to enter, please sign up on the sign-up board located in the Great Hall. Not sure? Have no fear partner, late entries will be welcome as well!! There will be games, a cookie decorating contest for the kids, door prizes and great fellowship. Casual dress and jeans are encouraged. Let's all invite a friend and show our outrageous hospitality in the new year. Call Lisa Sanchez at 778-5863 or send her an e-mail at lgsanchez314@yahoo.com if you have any questions or would like to volunteer your help in any way.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting to approve the 2012 church budget on Sunday, January 29th, during the 10:40 a.m. all-church combined worship service.

Keenagers Explore Pueblo Life, The Old & The New February 3rd, 10:30 a.m.



Join the Keenagers on Friday, February 3rd at 10:30 a.m. in Kuykendall Hall as our very own Mary Jane Shannon shares her experiences with the Pojoaque tribe and the history of the Pueblo of Pojoaque located in New Mexico. After this fascinating presentation, Mary Jane will sing a few of the popular wedding songs in which she performed as a soloist during her freshman year of college. During that time in her life, she performed in over 50 weddings. You won't want to miss this AMAZING program!! The cost of lunch will be \$10.00. Please call the church office at 763-1995 to make your reservations by Wednesday, February 1st.

Blanket The World With Love

The Christian Women's Fellowship of First Christian Church is sponsoring the sale of Valentines for Church World Service (CWS). This is a project to "BLANKET THE WORLD WITH LOVE."

This is how it works...By purchasing a valentine for \$5.00, a blanket will be given to someone (could be anywhere in the world). CWS provides these blankets in areas of great need all over our planet. All of the valentine money raised will be sent directly to CWS.

You may purchase valentines in the lobby off the Great Hall on Sunday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m. The sale will be January 22nd through February 12th.

Attendance

January 8, 2012

Sunday School: 172

Worship Services:

8:30- 89

9:30- 25

10:40- 188

Total: 302

Contributions

January 8, 2012

General Budget:

\$12,400.02

Designated:

\$30,900.00

Attendance

January 15, 2012

Sunday School: 156

Worship Services:

8:30- 78

9:30- 32

10:40- 178

Total: 288

Contributions

January 15, 2012

General Budget:

\$13,880.00

Designated: \$9,091.00

Capital Campaign:

\$5,050.00

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This bi-weekly issue
covers news from
January 19th-
February 1st

“THE LIGHT” is published monthly in the summer & bi-weekly September—May. Managing Editor: Crystal Vinson. **Deadline for news is 10:00 a.m. Monday of the week mailed.**

“The Light” informs members of congregational news/activities.

IS YOUR “LIGHT” LATE?
If this issue is not delivered to you by Saturday, call Crystal at the church, 763-1995 or e-mail her at crystal@fcclubbock.org

Next Issue:
February 1st

Next Deadline:
Monday, January 30th
10:00 a.m.



WEEKLY MEN'S BREAKFAST
Tuesdays, 7:00 a.m.
The Cast Iron Grill
1711 Ave. K

Michael's Mind

Dr. Michael Passmore, Senior Minister
michael@fcclubbock.org



Dale Riffle was given a young Vietnamese pot-bellied pig in 1988 and was told they can be great indoor pets. The breeders said that these minipigs were quite smart and would grow to around 40 pounds. The breeders were half right. They are smart, but many of these pigs grow to almost 150 pounds, some of them become aggressive! That is what happened with Dale's pig, Rufus.

Rufus never learned to use the litter-box and developed a craving for carpets and wallpaper and drywall. This could have spelled a grim future for Rufus. But not so... Dale Riffle loved his pig... so he bought a small farm in West Virginia and started taking in other unwanted pigs. Before long Riffle was in “hog heaven,” so to speak!

There were 180 residents at Riffle's Farm with a waiting list of other pigs wanting to get a hoof in on Riffle's action. Pigs snooze on beds of pine shavings. They wallow in mud puddles. They soak in plastic swimming pools and listen to classical music. They never have to worry about becoming bacon or pork chops.

Dale Riffle told a reporter at U.S. News & World Report, “We're all put on earth for some reason, and I guess pigs are my lot in life.” We now know that some remarkable people can fall in love with pigs!

I will tell you something even more amazing. An infinite, perfectly holy, majestic, awesome God is passionately in love with insignificant, sinful, sometimes openly rebellious, frequently indifferent people. God loves you and me.

Michael D. Passmore

Ministry In Word January 22nd and 29th

1/22: “Cantankerous Jonah”
(Matthew 12: 38-41)

1/29: “Puffed Up or Building Up?”
(I Corinthians 8: 1-13)



Mary Jane Smith
Executive Assistant
maryjane@fcclubbock.org

Membership News

We always rejoice when friends and family are **dismissed** from the hospital:

Bill Dorman
Kristy Sanders
Skip Watson
David Wragg

Friends in Need of Prayer

Vicky Burton
aunt of Natalie Howell
Bruce Campbell
Debbie Mullins' brother-in-law
Robert & Margie Clowe
Enterprise, KS
father & mother of Kim Clowe
Larry Colgrove
father of Laurie Williams
Beth Ford
mother of Stephen
1213 John St, Baltimore, MD 21217
Flo Garnett
Don Garnett's sister-in-law
Bob Gibson
father of Mike Gibson
Joe Harriger
Melissa Reeves' brother
Ron King
George & Shirley Sharp's son-in-law
Michael LaCourse
Jacob Miller's friend
Chris Mackey
Midland- Elizabeth Mackey's son
Julie Parsley
George & Mollie Parsley's
daughter-in-law
Shelby Potts - 26
Robert & Robin Grimes' friend
Norma Resneder
mother of Randall Resneder
Don Russell
Trois Payne's nephew
Mary Stevenson – San Angelo
mother of Patti Lupton
Bob Turbidy
Worcester, MA
John Schnable's brother-in-law

Homebound Prayers

Margaret Blacker
wife of Robert
Flo Brown
mother of Scott Brown
Janice Craighead
mother of Carol Yogovich
Bill Dorman
husband of Virginia Dorman
Hazel Earsley
Rita Hirsch's mother
Frances Evans
mother of Linda Taylor
Ruth Fields
mother of Ruth Higginbotham
Joyce Manning
mother of Vicki Cisneros
Betty McNeill
Troy McNeill's wife
Meg Murphy
friend of FCC
Mardema Ogletree
mother of Vicky
Don Osborne
father of David Osborne
Ruby Power
mother of John & James
Odell & Nelda Purdy
Former members
Lola Roan
Inez Scott
mother of Sheryl Williams
Geneva Smith
grandmother of Rachel Smith
Sam Strong
father of Pam Davis and Pat Strong
Ethel Thurman
wife of Pat Thurman
Otis Turner - hospice
father of Carol Weeks
Ruth Turner
mother of Karen Palmer
Jim Watt
friend & member of FCC

Family Concerns & Prayers

Members and friends within our congregation who are currently in hospitals or advanced care are as follows:

Covenant Medical Center

John Lauderdale
Andi Milligan
Glyneth Knight
Alarah Russell
Al Crossland

University Medical Center

Margaret Blacker
Randy Smith

We continue to remember our many friends and family struggling with ongoing medical issues. They are as follows:

Members in Need of Prayer:

Jennie Bowers
Mike Connolly
Kensley Free & Family
Debbie Hanson
Jeanette Jenkins
Don Lewis
Bert Pennock
Arlene Reid
Bob Renfro
Jim & Alarah Russell
Maurice & Kay Steen
Bob Sweazy
Margaret Vann
Skip Watson
Lori Wilson
Mike Worley
David Wragg

We want to unite in your happiness, comfort you in sorrow, and pray for your concerns. Please call me in the church office, 763-1995, **by 10 a.m. Monday.**
NOTE: If you do not wish for your name to be in our hospital list or prayer concerns, please notify the church office.

There are always **many** beyond our church family with needs of which we are unaware; however we pray they know the comfort and peace that God shares. We **encourage** you to remember them in your prayers.

Military News & Concerns

We ask you to continue to pray for the safety and well being of our military personnel around the world. Also, remember our leaders and other global leaders that they may make decisions to find ways to bring freedom and peace to Earth. We remember by name the following individuals serving their country in difficult times:

United States

Heath Brown

Millington, TN- grandson of Flo Brown

Ethan Diven

Kansas

husband & father of

Sabrina, Jacob & Kendall

and son-in-law of

Jerry & Brenda Stanfield

Taylor Force

Fort Hood

Johnnie Sue Dayton's grandson

Jeffrey Howell

Camp Lejeune N. C.

Mark & Susan Price's son

Ryan Mansell

grandson of Jim Bales

Cpl Michael Anthony McIntire

USS Makin Island, Singapore

Col. Bob & Sharon McIntire's grandson

SFC Scott Milligan

Fort Riley, Junction City, KS

son of Bobby & Andi Milligan

Jeremy Oswald

Norfolk, VA

Lori & Wade Wilson's nephew

Eric Ritchey – HOME

husband of Mary Jane Ritchey

Josh Stevens-Italy

husband & father of Barbie & Luke,
son and son-in-law of

Larry & Marsha Stevens and

Tom & Ginger Brown

2Lt Nicholas Swanson

Laughlin AFB

grandson of Bill & Virginia Dorman

2Lt Nathaniel Swanson

Whiting Naval

grandson of Bill & Virginia Dorman

PVC Brian Wilhelm

son of Richard & Lori Wilhelm

If you would like to add one of your family members and their addresses to our military list, please call Mary Jane Smith in the church office -763-1995.

In Sympathy

Most always, the loss of a loved one has a great impact on those closest to them. However, a whole church congregation is saddened as well for those among us that we call church family. Our hope is that we each lift up in prayer grieving families- not just today, but for the many days that follow. We reach out to provide support, care and love to them by enabling them to move forward with Christ's love & as God's children surrounding these families during a difficult time.

Our Friends in Christ

Died

Family Members

Friends at FCC

Ricky Janssen-Houston, TX

1-4-12

Cousin: Marsha Teichelman

Thank You

We recently received a lovely note in a Christmas card from Bill and Virginia Dorman that read, "Our First Christian Family—During this season when it was difficult to remember the world was celebrating Christmas, I must tell you how much the remembrances from you meant - Michael and Jim and their visits and comfort, the visits from members of this wonderful family reminding us of the gift of love Christ gives us every day, the Poinsettia, sharing communion, your prayers and loving thoughts have sustained us in this difficult time. Please continue to remember Bill in your prayers. Love and appreciation..."

"To My Church Family, I would like to thank you for the cards, calls, and visits during my convalescence from my broken arm and blood clot. Thank you to Trip Forman and Tom Brown for bringing me home Communion. The love of my church family helped with my recovery. With Christian Love, Robbie Bedker"

Baby Bundles



Receiving the gift of your first-born child is usually a "God experience" for families. It is such a wonderful mixture of love and an overcoming joy to see God at work in making the world go on. Each child that arrives is such a time for families to relive the gift He shares. On January 10, 2012, parents, Steve & Kristy Sanders, welcomed their little son, **Stellan Ryan Sanders**, to their family. He arrived weighing 8 pounds and 9 ounces and 22 inches in length. We are thrilled that this family is growing as a part of God's kingdom.

Upcoming Gatherings & Meetings @ FCC:

Noon Pastor's Study
Wednesdays at 12:00pm,
Chapel Parlor

Lubbock Music Club
Friday, January 20th,
9:00am, Chapel/Chapel Parlor



Clergy Cluster
Monday, January 23rd,
12:00-2:00pm, Chapel Parlor

FCC Prayer Group
Tuesday, January 24th,
7:00pm, Chapel Parlor



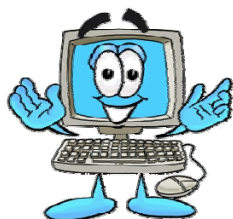
Long Range Planning
Tuesday, January 31st
7:00pm, Chapel Parlor

Exciting Middle School Events!!!



Middle school student, **Piper Rains** writes...Downstairs in our little corner of the church, a major change is occurring. The middle school group that used to meet at 10:40 a.m. has moved to 9:30 due to popular demand. Also, the Chi Rio Mid-Winter Retreat (for everyone currently enrolled in grades 6-8) at Ceta Canyon is coming up very soon. The theme for this year is "Little People Can Do Big Things," Proverbs 30:24-28. Carter Bowers is a co-director of the retreat this year and would love to see the middle school youth of FCC attend. The retreat is February 10-12. Registration begins at 7p.m. on the 10th and closing circle will be at 10:30pm on the 12th. The cost of the camp is \$90.00 and scholarships are available (see Carter for details).

FREE Computer Classes at FCC Beginning on Tuesday, January 24th, at 2:00 p.m.



Come and learn more about your PC and the Internet. At the first class we will discover what you are interested in learning about, and develop the classes around that. Beginners and novice users are welcome. Laptops will be provided or you may bring your own laptop. This will help us to accommodate more people. Frank Richardson will be teaching the classes. To register, please call the church office at 763-1995.



Dr. Jacob C. Miller,
Director of Music
Ministries
jacob@fclubbock.org

Music Ministries

Have you ever wondered how a worship service at FCC is created? We first begin with earnest prayer that our decisions will be most worshipful. We then hope to design a service that will serve several functions towards the congregation. These would include a service that will nurture those who need nurturing, comfort those in need and educate, or further amplify the scripture readings. We always start with the Old Testament and New Testament readings. This Sunday we will be studying Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and Matthew 12: 38-41. The Jonah passage deals with God calling Jonah to speak to the citizens of Nineveh, who were in great sin. Jonah followed God's call and delivered a message of destruction if they did not repent. The Matthew passage deals with Jesus speaking of Jonah, discussing Jonah's reluctance, but eventually following of God's call.

For the 10:40 service, our opening hymn will be *Revive Us Again*. This great revival-era gospel hymn is a call upon us as followers of Christ to be renewed spiritually. *Revive Us Again* calls the church to humble ourselves, turn from our sinful ways and earnestly seek a spiritual renewal. After the prayer concerns we will sing *The Summons*. This is a rather new hymn written in 1987 that asks Christians, "*will you come and follow me if I but call your name?*" This hymn is a call to Christians to follow Christ, wherever he leads, to show His love, His mercy and His salvation. The communion hymn will be *Come to Me O Weary Traveler*. This hymn speaks to the Christian who is tired, distressed and burdened. The stanzas begin, *come to me, o weary traveler, come to me with your distress; do not fear, my yoke is easy, do not fear, my burden's light; take my yoke and leave your troubles, take my yoke and come with me; and rest in me, o weary traveler, rest in me and do not fear*. After communion the choir will sing a selection based on the hymn, *Lord, Here Am I*. This hymn uses the Fanny Crosby text, *willing my Savior, to take up the cross; willing to suffer reproaches and loss. Willing to follow if Thou will but lead, only support me with grace in my need. Master, Thou callest and this I reply, "ready and willing, Lord, here am I!"* The offertory will be followed by the Children's Moment where Leanne will discuss the gospel message with the children of the church in a way in which they can understand, but also containing a message for any adults who are listening. The transition from the Children's Moment to the Old Testament will be filled with a short contemporary refrain, *Follow Me*, by Morris Chapman, which will be repeated before the New Testament reading. These short sung refrains will reinforce the message of the morning. Michael will preach a message of heeding God's call and how Jonah accepted God's calling. Our closing hymn will be our response as Christians, *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*.

Music Ministries Continued...

As you can see, much goes into planning a worship service. Careful planning helps create an atmosphere of worship that is centered on a theme. All the songs, hymns, scripture readings, Children's Moment and sermon work together to enhance your worship experience. I hope this Sunday you will be able to follow from beginning to end in a most worshipful environment that will also seek to teach, nurture and comfort.

Upcoming Musical Events:

February 5th at 4pm, our own Kevin Wass will be giving a tuba recital accompanied by his wife Susan on our new Mason Hamlin sanctuary piano. This recital will be the second installment of the dedication series. I hope you will be able to make this very special event!

Sunday Morning Offerings:

Sunday, January 22

Lord, Here Am I, arranged by John Ness Beck

Sunday, January 29

Be Thou My Vision, arranged by Paul Basler

Sunday, February 5

The Majesty and Glory, by Tom Fettke

Sunday, February 12

Only Jesus, by Amy Tate Williams

Sunday February 19

I Stand Amazed in the Presence, arranged by Cindy Berry

I Will Rise, sung by the scholarship students based on Chris Tomlin's song and arranged by Craig Courtney

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Worship Bulletins

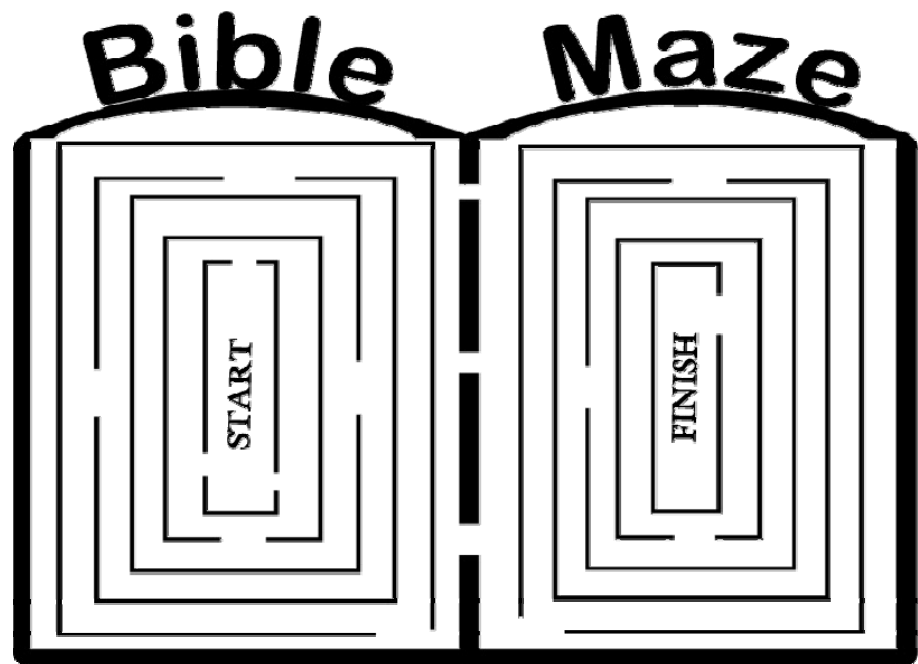
Each Sunday you will find located on a table outside the sanctuary Children's Worship Bulletins that coincide with the morning's scripture reading. There is one for children ages 3 – 6, and another for children ages 7 – 12. Orange totes with crayons are also provided. Please return these to the table as you exit the sanctuary.

Playground

We continue to accept donations to reach our goal of installing an ADA accessible playground suitable for children of all ages. Please continue to pray for the funds to complete this project in the spring. Cookbooks will be available in March or April with all proceeds going to this fund.

Children's Pastors' Conference

I am so grateful to the Foundation for funding my trip to the Children's Pastors' Conference in Orlando, Florida last week. I experienced a full range of emotions during the 5 days I was there. I was encouraged, discouraged, overwhelmed and at peace at times throughout the sessions. I am by nature an over-achiever. I tend to do things myself and try not to impose on or burden others. I discovered that I was not alone in trying to do everything I possibly can to avoid asking someone else to give up going to Sunday School or worship in order to teach a class. The most important thing I brought home with me is this: this isn't my ministry, it is God's. My stress says God cannot handle the ministry, and is an insult to him. I am simply a steward of God's ministry. I am giving it back to God.



Leanne Forman
Director of Children's
Ministries
leanne@fcclubbock.org

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**POSTMASTER: send address changes to
“The Light” at 2323 Broadway Street,**

Especially for:



MISSION STATEMENT OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



*Empowered by the Holy Spirit we will **NURTURE:** help individuals become more Christ-like, **SHARE:** lead people into a relationship with God through the love of Jesus Christ, and **REACH OUT:** call each member to respond to the needs of others in Jesus’ Name.*

Worship Times

Sundays:

Traditional Service:

8:30 a.m.-Chapel

Contemporary Service:

9:30 a.m.

Davis Worship Center

Convergent Service:

10:40 a.m.-Sanctuary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m.

PHONE:

806-763-1995

Fax: 806-763-5904

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.-Noon

1:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.-Noon

1:00-4:00 p.m.

Family Life

Community Center

747-5962

Office Hours: 3-6 p.m.

www.fcclubbock.org

Everyone Pray for Everyone

What will 2012 bring for First Christian Church, Lubbock, Texas? As a church, we do so many things well, and yet, there is so very much more that we can do.

Michael told us in Sunday’s sermon on “The E-Word” that we each have a call on our life; we are expected to witness. Our Deborah CWF has learned through studying Unbinding the Gospel that at the heart of real evangelism is a vivid relationship with God. We have to know God in our lives today to share the good news. A vivid relationship with God is dependent on a “live, current, attended-to spiritual life,” and at the heart of an attended-to spiritual life is prayer.

I envision all the opportunities, challenges, and pending decisions that face First Christian in 2012 as small pieces in a large, impossibly complex puzzle—impossibly complex for us, but a “piece of cake” for God. What God desires is that we turn to Him, individually and corporately, in every aspect of our lives. As we ask Him to put the First Christian puzzle pieces together, it is absolutely critical that we remain faithful in prayer, that we earnestly and intentionally seek His guidance.

The prayer focus begun in the fall has been a good step towards strengthening the prayer life of our congregation. On **Tuesday, January 24**, a meeting will be held at **7 p.m. in the Chapel Parlor** to discuss next steps. We will talk about the best time to convene prayer meetings, but we will also look at other ideas to involve members as we seek to learn about and practice prayer more intentionally.

If you have ideas, please make plans to attend the meeting. If you cannot attend, call Marilyn Wragg at 797-0778 to provide input. And everyone, whether you attend or whatever else you do, **pray!** As stated in Unbinding the Gospel, in a great congregation, where people’s knowledge and love of God overflows in flourishing evangelism, the baseline assumption is that “everyone prays for everyone.”

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:9-11)

We’re on the web!
www.fcclubbock.org

STORE HOURS: