



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

3401 Santa Fe
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
Phone: 361-854-3044
Fax: 361-854-3062
www.fcc-cc.org

Sunday Schedule

Church School

9:15 a.m.

Worship

10:30 a.m.

Staff

Senior Minister

Rev. Rusty Wright
pastor@fcc-cc.org

Church Coordinator

Linda Butler
coordinator@fcc-cc.org

Financial Assistant

Elena Garza
finance@fcc-cc.org

Day School Director

Noelia Torrez
dayschool@fcc-cc.org
361-854-1241
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It feels so good to be back from sabbatical. These last three months gave me the opportunity to do some studying (though I didn't get nearly as far as I wanted with my Spanish lessons), but this time away also gave me the opportunity to reflect on my roles as pastor, husband and father. Regarding the last two, it was such a blessing to be able to spend some real quality time with Amy and the girls. We took a couple of small trips around south Texas and one *long* (two week) road trip to visit family in El Paso, where I lived for 9 years as a child. The next leg of the trip took us to the Grand Canyon, where we saw God's incredible glory revealed in the beauty of that amazing landscape. Then, it was on to visit more family in San Diego, where we visited the famous zoo but, mostly, strengthened the bonds of family. On the way home, we stopped in Phoenix where we had an unexpected treat... dinner with an old friend from San Antonio. It was an amazing 4000 mile adventure that helped us create some wonderful memories and brought us closer to one another as a family.



Of course, time away from the church did not mean time away from our faith. We worshipped each Sunday at different churches around the area. And, we found something we liked in each one, but they weren't quite the same as what we experience here at FCC. In fact, after the second or third week away, Madeline and Julia both said how they couldn't wait to come home to this church and, quite frankly, neither could I. I missed being with this church family... worshipping together, sharing in the joys of life, comforting each other when life wasn't so joyful. In other words, I missed being a pastor and I am so glad to be home. Thank you for giving me and my family this time. I feel that my spirit has been recharged and I'm ready to get back to work serving you and serving God. Thanks to everyone on the Sabbatical Ministry who did an amazing job of planning and to everyone who filled in during my absence. I knew this congregation would be in good hands... and it was. And, that made it so much easier for me to take a step back and focus on how I can be a better pastor. I hope I am, because you deserve it. Again, thank you so much.

Peace and Presence,
Rusty

Ministry Reports

Ministry Council

The Ministry Council will meet Wednesday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Membership Ministry

The Membership Ministry will meet Wednesday, September 18, at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Terry Klinger

Check Requests: As you may or may not remember last year in June a new process was set up to request a check from the Finance Secretary. The process is for the person requesting a check must fill out the Check Request Form. This form is found on the Finance Secretary's door. After filling out the form you can either leave it with Elena, the Finance Secretary, or clip it to her door. However we need to take this one step further. Since we need two signatures on a check, you will need to have the check request form in to Elena on Monday for her to process the check and be able to get the two signatures by Tuesday. If she does not receive the request by Monday then you will have to wait another week for the check. The second signature person will be here on Tuesdays. So we are asking for you to please plan ahead. Your cooperation in using this process will not only help us but you as well for a more speedy and accurate process for your request.

Youth Group Ministry

Youth Group is Back!

Well everyone, it is September and we all know what that means; school has started back up for the youth at FCC and so has youth group. The Youth Ministry has been working hard all summer long with making sure our kids went to camp and that everything has run smoothly with all the camps and events that went on this summer. This summer our youth spent a lot of time in Gonzales at numerous different camps that went on there; as well, some of our youth went on a mission trip to Missouri to help out those hit by recent natural disasters. Also, Texas Christian University (TCU) held its annual end of every summer event called TCU Day; there some of our youth and hopefully future TCU students went up to Fort Worth to live the weekend as a college student and they had an amazing opportunity to experience what it will be like there for them.

This summer the Youth Ministry has also been working hard on the upcoming 2019-2020 school year/youth group calendar; making sure there will be no dull moments this upcoming year. We are excited to have finally completed our yearly calendar and we are so blessed that the financial needs for all camps, trips, and youth group get-togethers have been met. This church has stood up and made sure that the youth group doesn't feel the pinch of the budget cuts this year and for that; we are extremely grateful and blessed.

Youth Dinners

In some other exciting news, something happened in the month of August that has never happened before with the Youth Ministry; at least since I have been here. On one Sunday in August the Youth Ministry reached out to the congregation for help with providing the youth group dinner on Sunday evenings; So many people volunteered to help provide dinners, that we were able to fill every calendar date for the rest of all of 2019! Normally, this would have taken several weeks to happen; however, this time it took only one day. Again, we here with the Youth Ministry feel so blessed and honored to be apart of a congregation that is caring and looks after the youth of this church; thank you everyone!

My farewell...

In other news, the time has come for me to move on from my responsibilities and duties here at First Christian Church. Though I am leaving the pastoral staff here at FCC; I will remain a member of this congregation and attend church here as I am fulfilling the other requirements given to me by the military as I pursue military chaplaincy.

As most of you know, I have been pursuing a career as a U.S. Navy chaplain and my success in this pursuit has been because of the loving support I receive from FCC. With the help of this congregation and the Christian Foundation, I have completed my Master of Divinity degree at Logsdon Seminary and I have completed the very long journey to become a fully ordained minister within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The last requirement given to me is to complete 4 units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). It will take me one year to get these 4 units, whilst at the same time I will be a Resident Chaplain at a hospital here in town. As this year pushes forward, my wife and I look forward to continuing to worship here at FCC and to participate in the life of the church here. Though I am leaving one position to start another, we will remain here with all of you.

Blessings,
Rev. David Bartlett

Thoughts on Stewardship

A few weeks ago the air conditioning in my house went kaput. It was blowing air, but not cooled air. At 5:00pm the temperature was 82F and at

6:00pm it was 87F I started opening windows. Did I mention that it was a Friday? The technician who came out to the house worked on it for a good three hours. He went back to the shop to get a part that would be a “last ditch effort... no guarantees” since the unit was old and had served more time than should have been expected. We told him to be careful and we would pray while he was gone. It was cooler outside than inside at this point. Within the hour he returned with the part and again reminded us that it might not work. I went inside to check on the puppies. About 15 minutes later The Bear came into the house and I asked/told him, “It didn’t work did it?” Oh me of little faith... it worked and the air began to blow cool again.

This incident has happened to 99% of everyone who lives in South Texas and is reading this article. The nice technician never complained and tried everything he could to make our uncomfortable situation better. It was his Friday night too. He was a positive person and checked with other co-workers on the phone to confirm that he had tried all remedies to get the A/C system working again. Sure, we are going to pay the bill and recommend their company to others as would be customary, but here’s the deal... when was the last time you sent a thank you note to someone or to a company who provided something for you that you needed? Even the daily things like a favorite cashier at our grocery store or a favorite wait person at a restaurant. Think about those people we see on a regular basis who have chosen a profession of service to others. To serve us.

And here’s the flip; when was the last time you received a thank you card because you did something that someone else thought was special to them? My answer is that I don’t do it often enough. I can even say I have received more thank you notes than I have sent this year. For me, that is an easy thing to change and I plan on doing that. I also want to invite you to do the same. So many days we see tragedy and heartache nationally and locally. It’s hard to give kindness or a cheerful word when the news we have day in and day out is so negative. This is something we can do and it will bring a smile to our face as we seal the envelope (or hit send on the email or text) and, it will bring a smile to the face of the receiver when they open the “thank you” that was not expected. It will make a difference.

The other thing my broken air conditioner brought to mind was the A/C unit at First Christian Church. It’s served out the intended time too. We will have to replace it soon. This was not a budgeted expense. With back to school expenses for families and the electricity bills that have grown this summer for all of us it may not be the best time to ask for money, but if you can help above your budgeted giving I know it will be appreciated by everyone who is in the sanctuary for Sunday Worship. THANK YOU.

Rev. Kellē Clark

FCC Youth & Stewardship Minister



STEWARDSHIP

MINISTRIES

September Celebrations

Happy Anniversary to . . .

- 2 Janet & Wayne Morris
- 3 Nan & Barry Pillinger
- 3 Judith & Thomas Whitlock
- 8 Julie & Terry Klinger



Birthday Wishes For . . .

- 3 Shirley Selz
- 6 Jesse Alvarez
- 7 Victoria Sepulveda
- 8 Grant Garrett
- 8 Rusty Wright
- 9 Beth Juan
- 11 Mike Kirkham
- 14 David Shell
- 24 Jim Bookout
- 25 Todd Lovvorn
- 28 Lisa Lovvorn



Editor's Note: If your birthday or anniversary is not on our list, we may not have it in the church records. Please either call or email the church office with the information — 854-3044 or coordinator@fcc-cc.org

Remember in Prayer . . .

Agnes Fankhauser, Vinay Dulip, Billy Dean, Harriet Null, David Green, David & Gerry Holloway, Cathy Harrison, Mike Kirkham, Jim Davis, Jennifer Watkins (all at home)

Lois Chesney (Holmgren)
Doris Williams (Homewood)
Verlyn Nolen (The Villa, South)

Irene Moore (Round Rock, TX)

Calendar

September 1 — 18

Sun, Sep 1	All Church Retreat Continues 8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 8:00 p.m. AA	Tues, Sep 10	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
Mon, Sep 2	All Church Retreat Ends Labor Day — Church & Day School Closed	Wed, Sep 11	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Tues, Sep 3	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA	Thurs, Sep 12	6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA
Wed, Sep 4	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Fri, Sep 13	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
Thurs, Sep 5	6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA	Sat, Sep 14	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Fri, Sep 6	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi	Sun, Sep 15	8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA
Sat, Sep 7	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Mon, Sep 16	5:00 p.m. AIR Group 6:30 p.m. Property Ministry
Sun, Sep 8	8:00 a.m. Music Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Elders' Meeting 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA	Tues, Sep 17	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
Mon, Sep 9	9:00 a.m. Las Donas 5:30 p.m. AIR Group 6:00 p.m. Santa Fe HOA	Wed, Sep 18	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 11:00 a.m. Cluster Mtg 5:30 p.m. Membership Ministry 6:30 p.m. Ministry Council 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Calendar

September 19 — October 5

Thurs, Sep 19	6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA	Fri, Sep 27	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
Fri, Sep 20	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi	Sat, Sep 28	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Sat, Sep 21	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Sun, Sep 29	8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA
Sun, Sep 22	8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA	Mon, Sep 30	5:30 p.m.
Mon, Sep 23	5:00 p.m. AIR Group	Tues, Oct 1	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 10:00 a.m. DWM Board 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
Tues, Sep 24	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA	Wed, Oct 2	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Wed, Sep 25	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Thurs, Oct 3	6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA
Thurs, Sep 26	9:00 a.m. Thursday Music Club 10:30 a.m. Day School Chapel 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir 8:00 p.m. AA	Fri, Oct 4	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
		Sat, Oct 5	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi

September

Serving Schedule

Elders Serving at the Table

Sep 1 Debbie Brooker, Rick Ott
Sep 8 TBA
Sep 15 TBA
Sep 22 TBA
Sep 29 TBA

Greeter:

Delbert Isley

Communion Servers

Risha Dulip, Adore Trowbridge

Flower Delivery

Sep 3 No Flowers
Sep 10 Linda Garrett
Sep 17 Shirley Evans
Sep 24 Jeanene Hummell

FROM OUR MAIL BAG....



Dear Church Family, Thank you all for keeping me in your prayers and sending positive vibes my way. I consider myself lucky to have you as my church family. I am making good progress and recovery is going well. Thank you, Thank you. God Bless."

—Vinay & Rosie Dulip