



## 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

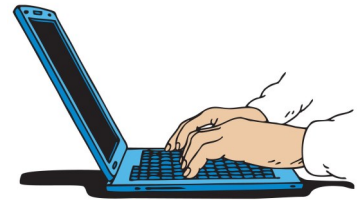
##### Financial Assistant

Elena Garza  
finance@fcc-cc.org

##### Day School Director

Noelia Torrez  
dayschool@fcc-cc.org  
361-854-1241  
Fax: 361-854-3062

A couple of days ago, our family watched one of our favorite Christmas shows— “How the Grinch Stole Christmas.” We actually love all of those old animated Christmas specials like “Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer” and “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” and “Frosty the Snowman.” But, there is a relatively new Christmas show that has also become one of our favorites. It’s based on the



Shrek movies and it’s called “Shrek the Halls.” In this show, the ogre wants to provide the perfect Christmas for his family so he buys a book call “Christmas for Dummies” and he follows the directions word for word. Eventually, the book tells him to read the Christmas story before the children go to bed on Christmas Eve. But, the story it told him to read was “The Night Before Christmas,” which is a Christmas story but it is not the Christmas story. If you want to hear the real Christmas story in one of these shows, you have to watch “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” You know the story... Charlie Brown is asked to direct the Christmas play, but no one will listen to him. All the kids want to do their own thing because they all have different ideas about the meaning of the holiday. Finally, in a fit of frustration, Charlie Brown shouts, “Doesn’t anyone know what Christmas is all about?” Well, his best friend, Linus, says that he knows. So, he walks to the center of the stage, asks for the lights to be turned down, and beautifully recites the *real* Christmas story:

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; you shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

Then, Linus walks off the stage and says to his friend, “That’s what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.” My friends, that is *exactly* what Christmas is all about. During this busy time of year, I pray that we won’t lose sight of that. And, as we make the four week Advent journey to the manger, I also pray that our hearts will be filled with hope, peace, joy and love... because, that’s what Christmas is all about as well. Merry Christmas!!

Shalom and Blessings,  
Rusty

# Special Happenings — Mark Your Calendars

## The Sounds of the Season

The Advent Season began last Sunday with the Hanging of the Greens Service on the 1st Sunday of Advent. As we go rushing into the Christmas Season, stop and remember the true and real meaning of the season!

The following is a list of events to celebrate the season in our church home.

### Poinsettia Orders

If you would like to honor or remember a loved one or friend, you can purchase a poinsettia plant that will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. The cost of each plant this year is \$10.



wiseGEEK

There will be a form in the Sunday church bulletin for the next two weeks or you can send/bring your information and money to the church office until December 15.

### Christmas Card Tree

Say a Merry Christmas to your friends at First Christian Church and help those in need at the same time. How?? By stopping by the Christmas Card Tree in the Fish Bowl, signing an angel ornament and making a donation to the Ministers' Discretionary Fund. Your donations will be used by our Minister to help those in need throughout the year. After the Christmas season, the names are published in The Visitor and everyone will know that you wished them a Merry Christmas.



### Diamond Disciples' Christmas Luncheon

The annual Diamond Disciples' Christmas Luncheon will be celebrated this Sunday, December 8, in the Parlor following the service.

If you are 75 years old or more, then you and a guest are invited to attend the luncheon in your honor. The luncheon is sponsored by the Pastoral Care Team.

### Disciples' Fellowship Luncheon & Program

Please join us for our very special Disciples Fellowship Christmas Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 10, at 11:45 a.m. in the Church Parlor!! Our theme for this Christmas extravaganza is "Angels We Have Heard on High"..

Our very own, Billie Sumpter, will be leading us in a heart-warming, spirit-lifting devotional. You will not want to miss this opportunity to bring the Light of Christmas to those who need it the most! As an added bonus, you will also be treated to beautiful Christmas music from the sweet voices of our Day School children and a solo by Lori Rockwell.

This year we invite you to bring your special Christmas Holiday party finger food, sweet or savory. If you are unable to bring a party food, please come anyway! It is more important that together we share a scrumptious lunch, sprinkled with Christian fellowship, laughter, and worship, as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

ARE YOU GETTING HUNGRY YET??

Did we also mention door prizes??



# Special Happenings Continued — Mark Your Calendars

## Adopt An Angel

The Children's Ministry Team was given 35 names of little angels that needed to be adopted for Christmas gifts. We are happy to report that all 35 have been adopted. Now as a reminder the gifts are to be wrapped and returned by Sunday, December 15. This allows enough time for Child Protective Services to deliver the gifts to the children in time for Christmas. They always love all of the presents that our church gives to them.



## Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival

### Boar's Head Participation Registration

It's not too late to sign up to be in the annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival. There costumed roles as well as non-costumed roles. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact



Lisa Vickers at 361-688-6270 or email her at [lisaevickers@gmail.com](mailto:lisaevickers@gmail.com)

### Boar's Head Stage Setup

If you have some free time, the stage for the Annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival will be set up on Sunday, December 15, starting at 2 p.m. If you have any questions, contact Trey McCampbell at 361-215-2035 or Rick Dupriest at 361-946-6789. The more hands to help the less time it will take.

### Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival Performances

The Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival will be on Saturday, January 11, 2017, with performances at 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

## Special Christmas Offering



December 15 & 22 have been set aside as the 2019 Christmas Special Offering days. The following is a list of some of the ministries this special offering supports in our region.

- assist congregations and leaders in claiming their unique mission and ministry, and provide resources and support
- Call, commission and ordain new pastors, and support and equip all pastors for their ministries
- Revitalize existing congregations and plan for new congregations
- Provide camps, conferences and retreats where children and youth find hope and Christ's love
- Call and equip passionate leaders for today's church
- Provide pastoral care for clergy and congregations

## Christmas Eve Service

Please make plans now to be here at **6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve** for a service of carols, candles and communion. It is a service designed to prepare our hearts and minds to receive the most gracious gift of God— the Savior, who is Christ the Lord. As always, it is "come as you are" and we hope to see everyone here to celebrate the coming of a King.



## Church Offices and Day School Closures

The church offices and Day School will be closed on Tuesday, December 24, and Wednesday, December 26. The will be open on Thursday, December 26. The Day School will be closed Thursday, December 26 and will reopen Friday, December 27.

# December Celebrations

## Happy Anniversary to . . .

17 Jane & Charles Cromwell

21 Lisa & Bobby Stephens



## Birthday Wishes For . . .

1 Evin Rae Meurer

1 Phyllis Allen

5 Jon Garrett

6 Billy Dean

10 Donna Watkins

10 Sophie Almaguer

13 Barry Whelan

20 Allen Lowe

22 Lois Chesney

22 Ann Jaynes

23 Linda Garrett

23 Terry Klinger



**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](mailto:coordinator@fcc-cc.org)

## Remember in Prayer . . .

**Elena Blackburn, Linda Garrett, Ann Jaynes, Harriet Null, David Green, David & Gerry Holloway, Cathy Harrison, June Pearce, Patricia Bibbs, Lloyd Holmes** (all at home)

**Lois Chesney** (Holmgren)

**Irene Moore** (Round Rock, TX)

**Doris Williams** (Homewood)

**Verlyn Nolen** (The Villa, South)

# Calendar

December 1 — 16

<b>Sun, Dec 1</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00 a.m. Music Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship <b>Hanging of the Greens</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Mon, Dec 9</b>	9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal
<b>Mon, Dec 2</b>	9:00 a.m. DS Rehearsal	<b>Tues, Dec 10</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Set up for DWM Luncheon</b> 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 11:45 a.m. Disciples Fellowship Luncheon & Program 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Tues, Dec 3</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi <b>9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal</b> 10:00 a.m. DWM Board 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Wed, Dec 11</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal</b> 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
<b>Wed, Dec 4</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal</b> 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi	<b>Thurs, Dec 12</b>	9:00 a.m. Music Club <b>10:30 a.m. DS Chapel</b> <b>6:30 p.m. Day School Christmas Program</b> <b>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</b> 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Thurs, Dec 5</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal</b> <b>10:30 a.m. DS Chapel</b> <b>6:00 p.m. Praise Team</b> <b>6:30 p.m. Hand Bells</b> <b>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Fri, Dec 13</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
<b>Fri, Dec 6</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Day School Rehearsal</b> 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi	<b>Sat, Dec 14</b>	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi
<b>Sat, Dec 7</b>	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi	<b>Sun, Dec 15</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Adopt An Angel Gifts Due In</b> <b>8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal</b> <b>9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes</b> <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b> <b>Congregational Meeting</b> <b>Following Service</b> <b>2:00 p.m. BH Stage Set Up</b> <b>Youth Group Christmas Party</b> 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Sun, Dec 8</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship <b>11:45 a.m. Elders' Meeting</b> <b>11:45 a.m. Diamond Disciples' Luncheon</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Mon, Dec 16</b>	5:00 p.m. King Choir

# Calendar

December 17 — January 4

<b>Tues, Dec 17</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Thurs, Dec 26</b>	<b>Day School Closed</b> 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Wed, Dec 18</b>	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 11:00 a.m. Cluster Mtg <b>6:30 p.m. Ministry Council</b> 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi	<b>Fri, Dec 27</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
<b>Thurs, Dec 19</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. DS Chapel</b> <b>6:00 p.m. Praise Team</b> <b>6:30 p.m. Hand Bells</b> <b>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Sat, Dec 28</b>	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi
<b>Fri, Dec 20</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi	<b>Sun, Dec 29</b>	<b>First Sunday After Christmas</b> <b>8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal</b> <b>9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes</b> <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b> 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Sat, Dec 21</b>	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi	<b>Mon, Dec 30</b>	
<b>Sun, Dec 22</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> <b>8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal</b> <b>9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes</b> <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Tues, Dec 31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve</b> <b>Day School Closed</b> 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Mon, Dec 23</b>		<b>Wed, Jan 1</b>	<b>Happy New Year</b> <b>Church Offices &amp; Day School Closed</b> 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
<b>Tues, Dec 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Church Office &amp; DS Closed</b> 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi <b>6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service</b> 8:00 p.m. AA	<b>Thurs, Jan 2</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. DS Chapel</b> <b>6:00 p.m. Praise Team</b> <b>6:30 p.m. Hand Bells</b> <b>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</b> 8:00 p.m. AA
<b>Wed, Dec 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Merry Christmas</b> <b>Church Offices &amp; Day School Closed</b>	<b>Fri, Jan 3</b>	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
		<b>Sat, Jan 4</b>	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi

# December

## Serving Schedule

### Elders Serving at the Table

**Dec 1** Shirley Evans, Linda Hicks  
**Dec 8** Brenda Shell, David Shell  
**Dec 15** Gary Haxton, David Shell  
**Dec 22** Debbie Brooker, Shirley Evans  
**Dec 29** Kelle Clark, Terry Klinger

### Communion Servers

**Dec 1** Barry Whelan, Karen Whelan  
**Dec 8** Gary Haxton, Sue Haxton  
**Dec 15** Youth  
**Dec 22** Elena Blackburn, Richard Katz  
**Dec 29** Barbara Baker, Winkie Peters

### Greeter:

Agnes Fankhauser

### Flower Delivery

**Dec 3** Artificial Flowers  
**Dec 10** Krishna Morgenroth  
**Dec 17** Artificial Flowers  
**Dec 24** Poinsettia  
**Dec 31** Poinsettia

Ministry Council meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.

In the Parlor

**Congregational Meeting**  
**Scheduled for Sunday, December 15**  
**Following the service**