



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

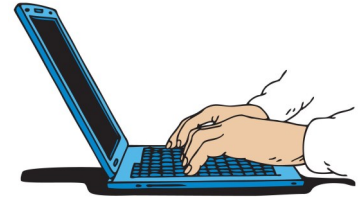
Financial Assistant

Elena Garza
finance@fcc-cc.org

Day School Director

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

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Luke 10:25-27 NIV)



A couple of years ago, I was speaking with a man about the things we do here at FCC. He had been visiting with us for a while and commented very favorably about our outreach efforts, our blended worship service and how we focus so strongly on the power of prayer. But, during the course of our conversation, he said that he couldn't understand why we had so many people on our "ongoing prayer list." He asked if I knew all those people, if they were members of the church, or why they had been added to our list. I said that I knew many of them, but not all, because some were not members of the church, nor did I know all the reasons why they were on the list. Finally he asked, with a hint of disbelief, why we would pray for so many people we don't know who are not members of the church. And, my answer was because at one point in time someone close to that person knew they needed help, help that only God could provide, and they cared enough to bring their situation up to us knowing that we are a church that believes strongly in the power of prayer. I also said that, even though we may not know what struggles these people are going through, God knows, and that's all that matters to me.

Immediately following the above scripture, the "expert in the law" asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" And, as his answer, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan. It is a story that tells us that our neighbor is anyone and everyone and we are called to care for them in any way we can, even if all we can do is offer a prayer on their behalf, asking God to provide them guidance and comfort and peace.. We may not know the person. She or he may not be a member of FCC. We may not know what that person is going through. But, God knows, and isn't that the only thing that matters?

Salaam and Blessings,

Rusty

2020 Pledge

This is a reminder from the Budget Ministry. If you have not returned your pledge for 2020, please bring your pledge card to church this Sunday, January 26.

There will be blank pledge cards in the Narthex if you have misplaced yours.

Thank you,

The Budget Ministry

Closing Out of 2019 . . .

The end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 is a bit of a blur for many of us. It seems as it has come and gone in a blink of an eye. Here we are about to begin the second of not only this new year but a new decade. But before we complete close out 2019, there a still a few thing we need to acknowledge.

First of all, the Card Tree that was up for the month of December. Many of you donated to the Card Tree, which goes directly to the Minister's Discretionary Fund, and by doing so you wanted to wish people a Merry Christmas. I suppose that next year rather than wishing people Merry Christmas we need to wish them a Happy New Year as we do not get the wishes out until January.

Thank you to all who donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.



**Christmas
Card Tree**

So the FCC Family that sent wishes are the following:

Gail Brewer

The Klinger's

Dorothy & Gary Cowan

Linda Force & Juan Santa Cruz

Linda & Mike Hicks

Shirley & Dan Evans

Leslie Jicha & kids

Nan & Barry Pillinger

Jeanne Goodhew

The FCC Youth Group

The AV Ministry

Rosie & Vinay Dulip

The Wright

The Praise Team

Adopt An Angel



This past Christmas FCC provided gifts to over 30 children from names given by the Child Protective Services (CPS). The Children's Ministry would like to thank you for the wonderful job that you did for providing for these children. Following is a letter from Emelinda Palacios from CPS sent to Jeanne Goodhew

"I'd like to begin 2020 by thanking everyone for their support in 2019, and I'm starting with you!"

My sincerest appreciation for all you've done in coordinating with First Christian Church for the generous donation of Easter Baskets and Christmas Gifts for our precious children at CPS. The projects have brought joy and happiness to children who most need bright and beautiful moments to remember. Knowing these blessed gifts are given I the spirit of honoring Jesus is most special to me.

I look forward to a fantastic new year of working with you again in 2020. May God Bless you and First Christian Church a hundredfold for all of your kindness. You've touched many, many lives, including mine, more than you may ever know.

Humbled & honored,

—Mel

Emelinda Palacios

CPS/CVS Unit D2

Beginning 2020...

As we close the calendar on 2019, we must open it for 2020. We begin to look at events and dates for this new year. One of the things we must do is turn our eyes from the birth of Jesus to his ultimate sacrifice for us—his crucifixion.

Easter Sunday is April 12th this year. But before we get to that date, let's make note of some special events leading up to Easter Sunday. As the progresses, other activities or events will be added. But for now please add these to your calendars.

Lent, 40 days leading up to Easter, not counting Sundays, begins with Ash Wednesday, February 26.

Ash Wednesday Service

Rev. Margaret Jones wrote, "Ash Wednesday is a wake-up call. Ash Wednesday hits us squarely between the eyes, forcing us to face mortality and sinfulness." Ash Wednesday is the gateway to Lent in which we center ourselves on God and reflect on how we can transform our lives to be more faithful to our calling to serve our Creator. First Christian Church will usher in the season of Lent with an **Ash Wednesday Service on February 26 at 6:30 p.m.** This is sure to be a memorable service and all are welcome.

Pastor's Class Forming

Ash Wednesday is February 26. It is the first day of Lent and the traditional time for churches to offer classes for people considering baptism. Pastor Rusty will be leading a Pastor's Class for anyone wishing to learn more about church membership and what it means to be baptized into the Body of Christ. However, the Sunday Pastor's Class is primarily for kids, so *any adults wishing to find out more about baptism* should contact Pastor Rusty so a class designed for them can be scheduled as well. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Pastor Rusty or call the church office at 854-3044.

Stories to Tell

Lent is fast approaching and, as we have for the last few years, we have asked the members of FCC to share your stories, through Lenten Devotionals, of those times when your life has been touched by God's grace and mercy and love. Last year, we received only a handful of devotionals with some people saying that they have already told their story. But, God's love doesn't just touch us once and disappear. Experiencing God's grace and mercy is not a one shot deal. God's presence can be, and *is*, felt in our lives every single day and, when we feel it, God gives us yet another story to tell. And, it's important to tell those stories because what you say is often exactly what someone else needs to hear to help them on their journey of faith. Lent begins on February 26 and we would love to fill each day with a story from FCC. Please consider sharing one of yours.



Time for Chili!!!

The Super Bowl this year is on February 2 and, at FCC, that can mean only one thing— time for our annual “Chili Bowl” chili cook-off. This is always one of the more eagerly anticipated events of the year and always a good time for everyone in the church. There will be a sign-up sheet in the foyer on Sunday, January 26, for anyone wishing to help out or compete in one of the three categories: bean, no-beans, and spicy. Remember, this event is a fundraiser for our youth so it will be 25¢ for a taste of a particular chili and \$1.00 for a bowl. The entry with the most tickets at the end of the day will be crowned the “People’s Choice” and will win the coveted “Golden Spoon.” Tickets will be sold at the door. So get those crock pots and Dutch ovens ready and bring your winning recipe to the church on Super Bowl Sunday.



This Sunday, January 26, there is a planning meeting for VBS for this summer. If you would like to part of this exciting event, please join Debbie Brooker in the conference room following the service. Please bring ideas, opinions, thoughts, etc. with you.



Remember Youth — Youth Group resumes this Sunday, January 26, at 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come see what exciting things will be happening this semester. Don’t forget to bring a friend!!

January/February Celebrations

Happy Anniversary to . . .

January:

- 9 Amy & Rusty Wright
- 27 Linda & Mike Hicks

February:

- 23 Jennifer & Grant Garrett
- 28 Brenda & David Shell



Birthday Wishes For . . .

January:

- 1 Lloyd Holmes
- 1 Harriet Null
- 6 Elena Blackburn
- 10 Mary Jane Crull
- 11 Terri Sutphin
- 14 Kate Lovvorn
- 16 Rick Ott
- 16 Cathy Crews
- 16 Debbie Brooker
- 21 Tommy Whitlock
- 25 Barbara Baker
- 25 Julie DeBoard
- 27 Beth Hoekje

February:

- 3 Linda Force
- 9 Mike Hicks
- 14 Billie Sumpter
- 15 Dorothy Klinger
- 15 Jeanene Hummell
- 19 Denise Adams
- 22 Veronica Meurer

24



Editor's Note: If your birthday or anniversary is not on our list, we may not have it in the church records.

Remember in Prayer . . .

Ann Jaynes, Harriet Null, David Green, David & Gerry Holloway, Cathy Harrison, Patricia Bibbs, Lloyd Holmes (all at home)

Phyllis Allen (Doctor's Regional)

Lois Chesney (Holmgren)

Doris Williams (Homewood)

Verlyn Nolen (The Villa, South)

Calendar

January 26 — February 12

Sun, Jan 26	8:00 a.m. Music Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. VBS Planning Meeting 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA	Tues, Feb 4	9:00 a.m. Commissioned Ministers Review 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
Mon, Jan 27		Wed, Feb 5	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Tues, Jan 28	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA	Thurs, Feb 6	10:30 a.m. DS Chapel 6:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA
Wed, Jan 29	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Fri, Feb 7	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
Thurs, Jan 30	10:30 a.m. DS Chapel 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA	Sat, Feb 8	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi
Fri, Jan 31	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi	Sun, Feb 9	8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Elders' Mtg 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA
Sat, Feb 1	12:00 p.m. Tai Chi	Mon, Feb 10	9:00 a.m. Las Donas 5:30 p.m. AIR Group
Sun, Feb 2	8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Chili Bowl 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 8:00 p.m. AA	Tues, Feb 11	9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA
Mon, Feb 3	5:00 p.m. AIR Group	Wed, Feb 12	9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi

Calendar

February 13 — March 1

<p>Thurs, Feb 13 9:00 a.m. Music Club 10:30 a.m. DS Chapel 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>Fri, Feb 21 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. DAR 6:00 p.m. Youth Lock-In</p>
<p>Fri, Feb 14 Valentine's Day 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi</p>	<p>Sat, Feb 22 12:00 p.m. Tai Chi Youth Lock-In until 10 a.m.</p>
<p>Sat, Feb 15 12:00 p.m. Tai Chi</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 23 8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Sunday Classes 10:30 a.m. Worship 8:00 p.m. AA</p>
<p>Sun, Feb 16 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</p>	<p>Mon, Feb 24 5:30 p.m. AIR Group 5:30 p.m. DS Committee</p>
<p>Mon, Feb 17 President's Day 5:30 p.m. Air Group 6:30 p.m. Property Ministry</p>	<p>Tues, Feb 25 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA</p>
<p>Tues, Feb 18 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>Wed, Feb 26 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi</p>
<p>Wed, Feb 19 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes 10:30 a.m. Karate 11:00 a.m. Cluster Mtg 6:30 p.m. Ministry Council 7:00 p.m. Tai Chi</p>	<p>Thurs, Feb 27 10:30 a.m. DS Chapel 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA</p>
<p>Thurs, Feb 20 10:30 a.m. DS Chapel 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>Fri, Feb 28 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi</p>
	<p>Sat, Feb 29 12:00 p.m. Tai Chi</p>
	<p>Sun, Mar 1 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</p>

February Serving Schedule

Elders Serving at the Table

- Feb 2** Bud & Teri Sutphin
- Feb 9** Judie & Drew Terry
- Feb 16** Brenda & David Shell
- Feb 23** David & Pat Getz

Greeter:

TBA

Communion Servers

- February** Gary & Sue Haxton

Flower Delivery

- Feb 4** Linda Garrett
- Feb 11** Shirley Evans
- Feb 18** Jeanene Hummell
- Feb 25** Molly Bates

Welcome our Newest Member — Lydia Bluntzer

Lydia joined our FCC family on Sunday, January 12. Please add her to your directory. Her address is 13934 Blackbeard Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78418-6321. Her phone number is 361-645-9036 and email address is lydiaakanaturegirl@gmail.com. Please sure and welcome her to our church family.

