



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

3401 Santa Fe
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
Phone: 361-854-3044
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

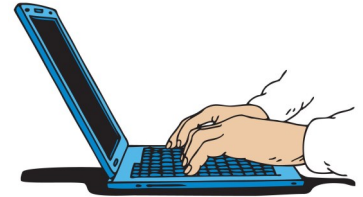
Financial Assistant

Vicki Pollard
finance@fcc-cc.org

Day School Director

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

We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who love Him and are chosen to be a part of His plan. (Romans 8:28, NLV)



It's been almost a full year since the pandemic forced us to drastically limit the activities around the church. For a while, the church office was closed, ministry meetings were cancelled, our weekly Bible study was interrupted, outside groups that normally gathered at the church stopped meeting, and the Day School was told to stop holding classes as well. Over the last year, some members moved away to be closer to family and a few passed on into eternal life with God. Offerings slowed down to a trickle causing some people to wonder if we would ever recover and be church again. This has been a difficult year to say the least. Still, as Paul reminds us, God was still at work in the life of FCC.

For 14 weeks, we held a modified worship service that we streamed over Facebook Live and, as Pastor Kellē recently reminded me, we never missed a Sunday of worship. We also discovered that our Facebook presence allowed us to reach people well beyond the walls of FCC, even beyond our state. It's even allowed the members who have moved away to maintain a connection with their church family. So, when we moved back into the sanctuary for in-person worship, we decided to maintain our online presence and a few people donated funds to help us purchase new equipment so our Facebook broadcast would be sharper and much more professional looking. God was guiding us and revealed new opportunities to share the great news.

Since we couldn't gather in person for meetings or Bible study, we were introduced to a new technology called Zoom that allowed people to gather to discuss the life of the church and study God's word from the safety of their homes. Now, those who are not able to come to the church can still join us and feel like they're a part of the conversation. During these difficult times, God opened our eyes to new possibilities to maintain connection with our church family.

Since we weren't gathering in person, our weekly offerings dropped dramatically. During one of our Cluster meetings, another pastor talked about a service called Tithe.ly. Now, we have a link on the front page of our website that allows people to give to the church online. Even though we don't receive as many offerings as we have in the past, God still provides what we need.

My friends, we always have a reason to praise God. Because, even in the not so good times, God is always working to strengthen our spirits, to open our eyes to new possibilities, and to help us see beyond our struggles. And, I pray this time of isolation has also helped us appreciate what we have here at FCC, which is why I also pray that, as more people get vaccinated and the pandemic begins to subside, we will all be eager to return to worship, share in fellowship, and start serving our community again. We know many of you watch our worship service online, so you can see us, but I hope we will see you again... sooner than later.

Peace and Presence,
Rusty

Stewardship

Consecration Sunday was on February 14th and several pledge cards were collected at the service and in these past few weeks. Thank you to everyone who has completed their 2021 pledge. If you did not complete your pledge information, you still have a few days before the Budget Ministry gathers in preparation of our first church budget in three years! You can snail mail or email your confidential pledge to:



First Christian Church
Finance Secretary (finance@fcc-cc.org)
3401 Santa Fe
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

Your pledges are used to the Glory of God by providing assistance to those who are in need through outreach activities. They are also needed for operational expenses such as utilities, supplies, payroll, and insurance. Some are used to maintain core ministries that are still ongoing even through the pandemic. Once the church is able to return to pre-COVID operations we will resume all core ministries and possibly add a few more.

Rev. Kelle Clark
Associate Pastor,
Stewardship & Youth



Marketplace

In our daily lives, we all need to purchase goods and services and we usually look on the internet or rely on word of mouth to find the right people and companies to provide those products. However, we have several members of FCC who have businesses that we would probably like to support. Therefore, beginning with our next newsletter, we will include a listing of goods and services offered by the members of FCC. If you would like your business to be included, simply send an email to Linda (coordinator@fcc-cc.org) with your name, preferred contact information, and a short description of your product. If you have something you'd like to sell, or even give away, we can include that as well.

Watching worship on Facebook?

We are always trying to reach more people with the GREAT news of Jesus so, if you watch our Sunday worship on Facebook, please make sure you "share" the video to your personal page.

Youth Group

The FCC Youth Group has been meeting in-person since last year. The online meetings were a novelty at first, but since the youth were also meeting online for school, the unique quality of online meetings lost its appeal. It was also difficult to have conversations of substance with internet connection issues, distractions within the household, and the limited options for social time or games.



The in-person meetings have been much better. We practice physical distance and wear our face masks. We changed the time of the meetings to earlier in the afternoon so that a meal would not be needed and provide individually wrapped snacks and drinks. We are meeting exclusively in the Fellowship Hall so that we have plenty of space and because the Youth Lounge is still in the process of having the flooring renovated and getting a much needed coat of paint.

In our last two meetings the FCC Youth decided they wanted to have a Sunrise Service at Easter since they were not able to do one last year – this was their decision! They have been working on the different parts of the worship service and chose to have it in the Sanctuary since that space offers adequate distancing. As in past years, they will have a “reverse offering” and this year they have something very special planned. If you don’t know what a “reverse offering” is, I encourage you to come to the 8:00am Sunrise Service on Easter morning, April 4th. The service will also be streamed through Facebook Live so that everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Risha Dulip and four of the youth will be attending the CYF Spring Rally at Camp Gonzo March 5-7. We will have a Youth Lock-In sometime in June and will include some type of outing with that event.

The youth have a strong heartbeat and they are a blessing to FCC.

Rev. Kelle Clark
Associate Pastor,
Stewardship & Youth

Easter Baskets for the Kids

Because of the pandemic, we weren't able to fill and distribute Easter baskets to children last year, but we have an opportunity to bring a little joy to some children this year. We have about 30 Easter baskets that you can pick up and fill with candy and, maybe, a Bible and some small toys for a child in need. You may pick up a basket at the church during regular office hours or we will have them available in the foyer over the next 3 Sundays. Filled baskets need to be back at the church by Palm Sunday, March 28. It's time to get back to being church and serving "the least of these," so please pick up and fill a basket to help a child experience the joy of Easter.



2021 Pledge

This is a reminder from the Budget Ministry — If you have not returned your pledge for 2021, please either put it in the offering on Sunday or mail it in to the church office. If you need a pledge card, just call the church office and one can be mailed to you.

Thank you,

The Budget Ministry

March Celebrations

Birthday Wishes For . . .

- 3 Nan Pillinger
- 3 Henry Sepulveda, III
- 9 Jack Green
- 10 Judith Whitlock
- 14 Darrian Garrett
- 20 Bud Sutphin
- 22 Beth Ott
- 24 Belen Tuley
- 26 Dee Stalter
- 29 Sue Haxton
- 30 Richard Morgenroth



Happy Anniversary to . . .

- 4 Judie & Drew Terry
- 10 Debbie & John Brooker
- 17 Rosie & Vinay Dulip



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

Remember in Prayer . . .

Ysasi Family, Marion Newkirk, Nancy Moore, David & Gladys Green, Gerry Holloway, Elena Blackburn, Donna Watkins

Lois Chesney (Holmgren)

Adore Trowbridge (North Carolina)

Doris Williams (Homewood)

Calendar

March 1 — March 31

Mon, Mar 1 5:00 p.m. AIR Group

Tues, Mar 2 **6:30 p.m. Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. AA

Wed, Mar 3 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes

Thurs, Mar 4 **6:00 p.m. Praise Team**
6:30 p.m. Multi-Church Meeting
7:00 p.m. AA

Fri, Mar 5

Sat, Mar 6

Sun, Mar 7 **8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsals**
10:30 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Youth Group
8:00 p.m. AA

Mon, Mar 8

Tues, Mar 9 **6:30 p.m. Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. AA

Wed, Mar 10 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes

Thurs, Mar 11 9:00 a.m. Music Club
6:00 p.m. Praise Team
7:00 p.m. AA

Fri, Mar 12

Sat, Mar 13

Sun, Mar 14 **8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsals**
10:30 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Youth Group
8:00 p.m. AA

Mon, Mar 15

Tues, Mar 16 **6:30 p.m. Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. AA

Wed, Mar 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes
11:00 a.m. Cluster Meeting
6:30 p.m. Ministry Council

Thurs, Mar 18 **6:00 p.m. Praise Team**
7:00 p.m. AA

Fri, Mar 19

Sat, Mar 20

Sun, Mar 21 **8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsals**
10:30 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. AA

Mon, Mar 22

Tues, Mar 23 **6:30 p.m. Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. AA

Wed, Mar 24 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes
9:00 a.m. Music Club Rehearsal

Thurs, Mar 25 **6:00 p.m. Praise Team**
7:00 p.m. AA

Fri, Mar 26

Sat, Mar 27

Sun, Mar 28 **Palm Sunday**
8:00 a.m. Music Dept Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. AA

Mon, Mar 29

Tues, Mar 30 **6:30 p.m. Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. AA

Wed, Mar 31 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes

Calendar Continued

April 1-10

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| Thurs, Apr 1 | Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. AA | Mon, Apr 5 | 5:00 p.m. AIR Group |
| | | Tues, Apr 6 | 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. AA |
| Fri, Apr 2 | Good Friday 7:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross | Wed, Apr 7 | 9:00 a.m. Tippi Toes |
| | | Thurs, Apr 8 | 9:00 a.m. Music Club 6:00 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m. AA |
| Sat, Apr 3 | | | |
| Sun, Apr 4 | Easter Sunday 8:00 a.m. Sonrise Service 10:30 a.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. AA | Fri, Apr 9 | |
| | | Sat, Apr 10 | |

Serving Schedule March & April

Elders Serving at the Table

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Mar 7 | Molly Bates |
| Mar 14 | Wayne Morris |
| Mar 21 | Debbie Brooker |
| Mar 28 | Shirley Evans |
| Apr 4 | Linda Hick |
| Apr 11 | Terri Sutphin |
| Apr 18 | ??Trey McCampbell |
| Apr 25 | |
| May 2 | Shirley Evans |

Flower Delivery

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Mar 9 | Jeanene Hummell |
| Mar 16 | Molly Bates |
| Mar 23 | Pat Getz |
| Mar 30 | Julie DeBoard |

Greeter:

Terry Klinger



Easter Lilies

You may purchase plants in memory or in honor of loved ones or friend

Please fill out this form and return it to the church office by March 28

Cost is \$10 each.

Your name: _____

| Name(s) | In Honor | Memory of | Name(s) | In Honor | Memory of |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Amount Paid: _____

I will pick up my plant(s): Yes () No ()

You may pick up your lilies following the Easter Sunday Service.