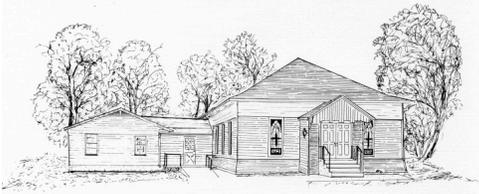




FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

April 2024

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.



MINISTER'S MESSAGE



UPCOMING events

- April 7
Board Meeting 9:30
- April 15
Women's Bible Study and Lunch 9:30/11:00
- April 21
Luncheon honoring Danielle Chamberlin and Colton Raper

In this Issue

- Upcoming Events 1
- Minister's Message 1
- Men's Devotional 2
- Women's Bible Study 2
- Financial Report 3
- Sermons and Texts 3
- Prayer List 3
- Celebrations 4-5

Dear beloved church family,

As we gather together in the warmth of God's love, I am filled with gratitude for the sacred journey we have embarked upon in recent weeks. From the solemn reflections of Palm Sunday to the jubilant celebration of Resurrection Sunday, our hearts have been uplifted and our spirits renewed by the power of God's presence among us.

Palm Sunday marked the beginning of Holy Week, a time of deep introspection and spiritual preparation as we walked alongside Jesus on his journey to the cross. Together, we reflected on the humility and grace exemplified by our Savior as he entered Jerusalem, riding on a donkey amidst shouts of Hosanna. It was a poignant reminder of the depth of Jesus' love for us and the sacrifice he was willing to make on our behalf.

Our journey through Holy Week culminated in the joyous celebration of Resurrection Sunday, the cornerstone of our faith. On this glorious day, we rejoiced in the miraculous triumph of life over death as we proclaimed, "He is risen!" The empty tomb serves as a powerful symbol of hope and renewal, reminding us that nothing is impossible with God and that His love conquers even the darkest of circumstances.

In the midst of these sacred celebrations, we also experienced the last Passover meal and the establishment of the first communion. As we shared in the bread and the cup, we were reminded of the profound significance of Jesus' sacrifice and the intimate connection we share as members of the body of Christ. It was a sacred moment of unity, reflection, and gratitude as we reaffirmed our commitment to follow in the footsteps of our Savior.

And now, as we continue to bask in the joy of Christ's resurrection, I am excited to announce the restarting of our Adult Bible Study sessions. These gatherings provide us with an invaluable opportunity to deepen our understanding of Scripture, strengthen our faith, and grow in fellowship with one another. Whether you are a seasoned Bible scholar or new to the faith, I encourage you to join us as we delve into the rich truths of God's Word and explore how they apply to our lives today.

As we embark on this new chapter of learning and growth together, let us approach it with open hearts and minds, eager to receive the wisdom and guidance that God offers us through His Word. May our Adult Bible Study sessions be times of inspiration, encouragement, and transformation as we seek to live out our faith in the world.

I look forward to seeing you all there, as we continue to journey together in the light of God's love.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Doc

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

Encouraging Brotherhood in Fellowship

Verse: Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) - "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."



In the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, it's easy to find ourselves caught up in the busyness of work, family responsibilities, and personal pursuits. Yet, amidst the chaos of life, it's crucial that we prioritize something of utmost importance: our fellowship with one another.

Hebrews 10:25 reminds us of the importance of meeting together as brothers in Christ. It's a verse that speaks directly to the heart of our shared faith journey and the significance of our communal bond. But why is this fellowship so vital?

Firstly, meeting together fosters unity. When we gather as brothers in Christ, we strengthen the bonds that unite us. Our shared experiences, struggles, and victories draw us closer together, creating a sense of camaraderie that transcends individual differences. In our fellowship, we find common ground, mutual support, and the encouragement to press onward in our walk with the Lord.

Secondly, meeting together provides accountability. As men of faith, we are called to walk in righteousness and integrity. However, navigating the challenges of life can sometimes lead us astray. By gathering regularly with our brothers, we create a framework of accountability where we can challenge one another to live according to God's Word. In our fellowship, we hold each other up, offering guidance, correction, and prayerful support as we strive to honor God in all that we do.

Lastly, meeting together cultivates spiritual growth. As iron sharpens iron, so too do our interactions with one another sharpen and refine our faith. In our fellowship, we have the opportunity to learn from one another, to share insights and revelations, and to grow in our understanding of God's Word. Through meaningful discussions, prayerful reflection, and the sharing of our testimonies, we spur one another on toward deeper spiritual maturity and a more vibrant relationship with Christ.

Brothers, let us not underestimate the power of our fellowship. As we gather together, let us do so with open hearts and minds, ready to encourage one another, support one another, and build one another up in faith. And as we see the Day of Christ's return drawing near, let our commitment to meeting together only grow stronger, knowing that our unity, accountability, and spiritual growth are essential for the journey ahead. May our fellowship be a source of strength, blessing, and joy as we walk together in the light of God's love.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, Thank You for the gift of fellowship and brotherhood in Christ. Help us to prioritize our gatherings with one another, knowing that in our unity, accountability, and spiritual growth, we honor You and strengthen the body of Christ. May our interactions be filled with love, grace, and encouragement, and may Your presence be ever evident among us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our next bible study and lunch will be April 15 at 9:30. This is a change from our usual second Monday of the month. We will be discussing Joseph and Mary which begins on page 75. Last month, we ate lunch at LaMadeleine's in McKinney. Everyone enjoyed it so much that we are planning to have lunch there again after our bible study on the 15th.

We have all grown in our knowledge of the bible and have had great discussions covering a wide range of topics. A big thank you goes to **Brenda Lambert** who facilitates our discussion and is always so well prepared. We appreciate the time she spends studying and her willingness to lead the bible study.

SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR APRIL

Date	Title	Scripture	Additional Scriptures
April 7	Intersections	Galatians 2:20	Proverbs 16:9, Hebrews 4:13, Romans 5:6-8, Acts 9:1-6
April 14	No U-Turns	Luke 9:62	Romans 7:18, 19, 21, Romans 6:1-4, Luke 5:36-37
April 21	One Way	John 4:6	John 14:2-3, 1 Peter 4:12-13, Matthew 20:17-19, John 17:13-24
April 28	Rest Area	Matthew 11:28-30	1 John 2:16, John 4:25-26, Matthew 6:24, Romans 3:9-12, Ephesians 2:8

FINANCIAL REPORT - February

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$16,490.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: 300.00
 Special Offering: 100.00
 Building Fund Offering: .00
 Miscellaneous: 7.72

Expenses

Salaries: \$5,200.00
 Utilities: 889.98
 Supplies & Food: 273.60
 Insurance: 2,168.49
 Taxes: .00
 Maintenance: 614.67
 Miscellaneous: 121.78

Total Income:

\$16,897.72

Total Expenses:

\$9,268.52



Please keep the following in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort: Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Scooter and Louis Cave, Sandra Zimmerebner, Laura Latham, Janet Rippey, Clark and John Neill, Amy Davey, Mary and Jerry Smith, Melanie Starr, Doc and Ginger Gardner, Blaise Ramer.



MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR MARCH - Canned Tuna

Please buy an extra can or two of canned tuna the next time you are at the grocery store. Items can be placed in the baskets in the fellowship hall. Collected cans are being donated to Grace Bridge in Celina.



04/14 Betty Fowler
04/18 Marilyn Chamberlin
04/23 Kim Tingle

04/22 Andy and Kristie Dimock

A decorative banner for a bridal luncheon featuring a watercolor-style illustration of white and yellow roses with green leaves and stems.

BRIDAL LUNCHEON

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A LUNCHEON HONORING

Danielle Chamberlin and Cotten Raper

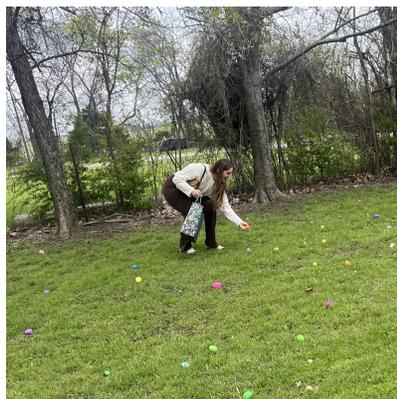
SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024 FOLLOWING OUR CHURCH SERVICE
First Christian Church of Weston

REGISTRY ONLINE AT [ZOLA](#)

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE ALONG WITH A
PRINT OUT OF YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES TO GIVE TO THE NEW COUPLE

PALM SUNDAY

We had a great day on Palm Sunday with the processional during service, and our luncheon and egg hunt after service.. Resurrection Sunday was also a wonderful service with many guests in attendance.



First Christian Church of Weston

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Weston, TX 75097

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Weston, Texas
Website: firstchristianweston.com

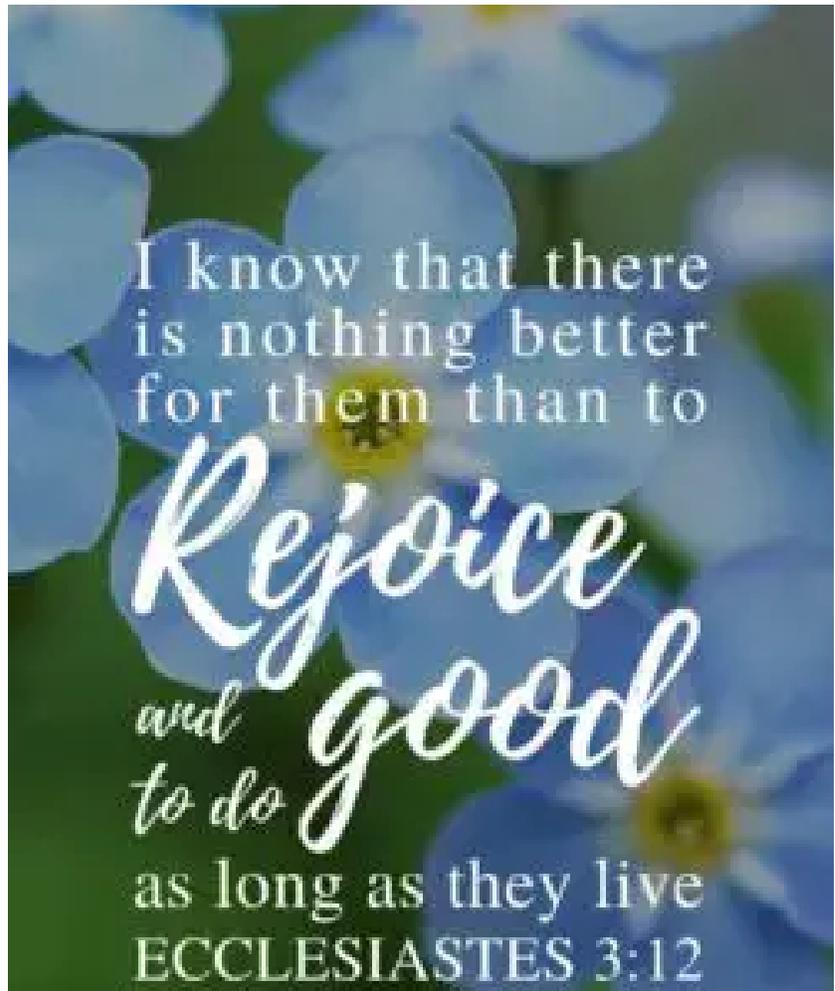
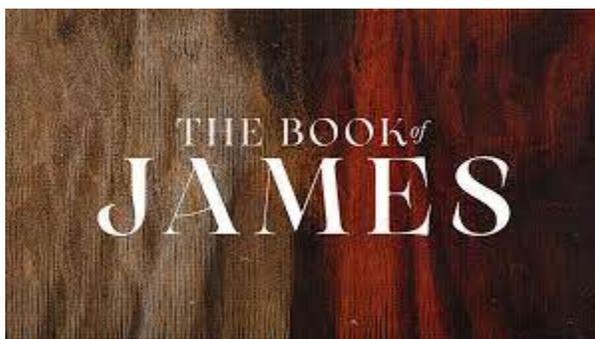
Service: Sundays 11 a.m.
Adult Bible Class: 10:15 a.m.
Children's Sunday School: during
Service

Dr. Damon "Doc" Gardner, Pastor
Cell: 469-417-8431
Email: dagardnersr@gmail.com

Karen Chilton, Secretary
Cell: 972-849-9084
Email: kdchilton85@gmail.com

Newsletter Information Needed

To make the newsletter more personal,
please send pictures or information on
achievements, births, awards, or anything
else of interest to Karen Chilton at
kdchilton85@gmail.com.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Our adult bible study starts at 10:15 Sunday mornings. Come a little early, have some coffee and fellowship before this time of study. We are currently studying the book of James. Make plans to be a part of this time of bible study.