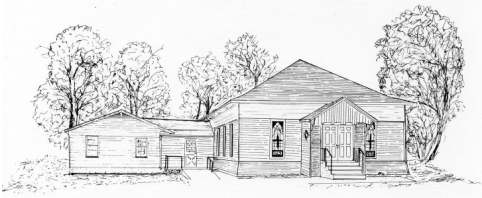




FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

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

- December 6
Women's Bible Study and Luncheon 9:30
- December 9 and 10
Live Nativity 6:00-8:00 pm
- December 24
Christmas Eve Service 6:00

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Dear FCC Family,

I pray that everyone had a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving Holiday. Our Community Thanksgiving Service was a wonderful time of fellowship and worship. As always, we had some extraordinary food and music and I would like to personally thank everyone for their efforts in making this year a success. This year has gone by so quickly, it is hard to believe that Christmas is upon us. I know many of you are like me and are excited that Advent is here, which is a great time to begin bringing us into the spirit of this year's Christmas celebration. As it is tradition, we will be having our Annual Live Nativity on December 9th and 10th. We still need volunteers to play some parts, so please reach out to Karen Chilton if you are interested in participating. This year the Women of Weston are introducing the "Miracle on Chicken Street", in which there will be many community activities and where our Live Nativity will be among one of the many stops during the hayride through the town. This provides us with some great opportunities to reach out to our community, with hope, joy, and love. I look forward to seeing many of our congregational families out to enjoy the festivities during this delightful time as a community.

As I mentioned earlier, many are excited about the arrival of Advent. This is a Christian season of preparation for the Nativity of Christ at Christmas. If you did not already know, the name was adopted from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming; arrival", translating of the Greek word *parousia*. In the New Testament, this is the term used for the Second Coming of Christ. Thus, the season of Advent in the Christian calendar anticipates the "coming of Christ" from three different perspectives: the physical nativity in Bethlehem, the reception of Christ in the heart of the believer, and the eschatological Second Coming. Practices associated with Advent include Advent calendars, lighting an Advent wreath, praying an Advent daily devotional, erecting a Christmas tree, or other ways of preparing for Christmas, such as setting up Christmas decorations, a custom that is sometimes done liturgically through a hanging of the Green's Ceremony which indicates the beginning of Advent. No matter how you prepare your home for this season, let us not forget the reason for the season. As we all know it is our Lord Christ Jesus. Let this beginning of Advent be a time not only to represent our faith but to love as He did. Let this time be in preparation for each of us to express why Jesus is the answer and hope to this world and our community.

From our whole family to you and yours, we would like to pray that each one of you have a wonderful Advent season and a very safe and Merry Christmas!!!

Our prayers go out to all! Let us show Christ to all this season.

In Christ,
The Gardner Family

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

Showing Up

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — John 14:16

Jesus used the word Helper four times in one discussion with His disciples to describe the nature and work of the Holy Spirit (John 14-16, 26; 15:26; 16:7, ESV). The Greek word is paraclete, and at its root are the concepts of advising, encouraging, comforting, strengthening, and intervening.

When Jesus spoke to His men about the Helper, He knew the disciples would soon meet with great distress, trials, difficulties, and persecutions. They would need all the assistance that the Helper could offer to stay loyal, faithful, and productive in the midst of the great changes and challenges in their lives. On the flip side, filled with the Spirit's mighty presence and power, they would become agents of that same help, comfort, and encouragement, producing healing and hope in the lives of others. The disciples would accomplish this by showing up and speaking up in the lives of the people they would encounter.

This is the same mission the Holy Spirit seeks to carry forward in every disciple. Our little family Christmas tradition is a good reminder to me that while big opportunities to help others rarely come, the small ones surround me daily. In baseball, they call it winning by "small ball," which is the strategy of steadily advancing base runners versus relying on the big home-run hitters.

Jesus knew how important it was to show up in our lives after his physical departure, so he provided his Helper the Holy Spirit to help us be involved with others.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY and LUNCHEON



🌲🌲🌲🌲 We will be meeting at 11:30 on Tuesday, December 6, for a luncheon and short bible study. We will be meeting at the home of Kimberly Tisserand. We hope everyone can join us for this wonderful time of bible study and fellowship. 🌲🌲🌲

SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR DECEMBER

December 4	Hope is at the Heart of Christmas	Isaiah 9:2-7, Matthew 1:22-23
December 11	Peace in the Heart of Christmas	Colossians 1:19-22
December 18	The Heart of Christmas is Love	Galatians 4:4-5
December 24	Jesus is the Heart of Christmas	Matthew 1:18-25
December 25	Christmas Day - No Service	

FINANCIAL REPORT - October

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$16,115.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: .00
 Special Offering: 178.00
 Miscellaneous: 5.21

Expenses

Salaries: \$5,000.00
 Utilities: 268.62
 Supplies & Food: 46.90
 Insurance: 1,997.25
 Maintenance: 280.00

Monthly Total Income:

\$16,298.21

Monthly Total Expenses:

\$7,592.77

Hanging of the Greens and Lighting of the Hope Candle - November 27



Community Thanksgiving Service - November 13, 2022

We were blessed to have members of the First Baptist Church and the Calvary Chapel Honey Creek congregations join us for a night of worship and fellowship.



December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 12/05 Doc Gardner
- 12/08 Imogene Poston
- 12/19 Maya Jacques
- 12/17 Clark & Linda Hornbaker





Please keep Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Louis Cave, Tralyn Tadlock, Clark and Nancy Neill, Daisy Nicodemus, Sandra Zimmerebner, Mary and Jerry Smith in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort. Also, prayers for the Harlow family and Ramer family in the loss of loved ones.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE - NOVEMBER 6, 2022

Sunday, November 6th, we observed our annual Service of Remembrance for those members or friends and loved ones of our church family who have passed away during the preceding year. Sonnia Mahar, mother of Kristie Dimock, and Fred Franklin, father of Scott Franklin were honored.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 6:00 PM

Join us for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service beginning at 6:00 pm as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Bring the whole family and invite a friend to this very special service filled with scripture, Christmas carols and ending with lighting candles throughout the congregation.



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Find us on Facebook

Service: Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School during
Service

Doc Gardner, Pastor

Cell: 469-417-8431

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Karen Chilton, Secretary

Cell: 972-849-9084

Email: kdchilton85@gmail.com

LIVE NATIVITY

*A Celebration
of the birth of
Jesus Christ*



December 9 & 10, 2022

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm *Come & Go*

Live animals and actors

Refreshments Served

FREE to the Public

100 Chicken Street, Weston

Near FM 455 & FM 543 Intersection

Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm


**First
Christian Church**
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
WESTON

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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