



FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

September 2023

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

September 9
Community Lifeline Center
Food Distribution @ FCC
10:00 - 12:00

September 10
Board Meeting 9:30

September 11
Women's Bible Study 9:30
and Lunch 11:00 at
Cotton Patch in McKinney

September 24 and October 1
Special Mission Fund Offering
Reconciliation Ministry

October 29
Chili Cookoff

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Hello First Christian Church,

Many view Labor Day as the unofficial mark of the end of the summer and the beginning of fall. For some, we welcome the lower temperatures and more rainfall, but as we look back to summer, there have been some very enjoyable times. Meeting new people, seeing old friends, and most of all enjoying more fellowship together.

As we begin to wind up for the coming fall activities and festive holidays, I would invite everyone to come and enter our annual Chili Cook-Off and see who will walk away as the champion this year. Last year we enjoyed several different types of chili types and styles and I can't wait to see what is on the judging table this year. I think I have a new recipe that might be a contender.

As we have every year, we will be performing our live nativity scene, and we will be working to coordinate performing our nativity in conjunction with the town of Weston's holiday activities. Regardless of the rain last year, we had many visitors to this special and wonderful event that spotlights the birth of our Lord Jesus. So, we look forward to seeing everyone come out and we definitely need volunteers this year. Please spread the news and bring some friends and family. It is always a special time and one that many look forward to attending. There will be more information coming so please keep an eye out.

Happy Labor Day to everyone.

In Christ,

Pastor Doc Gardner and family

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

Beneath the Surface

Jesus appreciated the fragility of the human heart. With great discernment, discretion, and love above all, He made it his aim to connect. In biblical terms, the heart represents a person's beliefs, passions, emotions, will, drives, ambitions, and desires — all the spiritual hard-wiring.

Jesus knew this was what He was seeing — in painful, prideful, and fearful forms — below the waterline. The good news is that He wants to give us His ability to see those issues and help us be motivated to use that ability. This is real love. True discernment of people without Christ-centered love is not possible. Any other way and we have an agenda.

This is nonnegotiable following in the footsteps and becoming a good spiritual cardiologist. "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God" (Philippians 1:9-11).

Beneath the surface speaks of the hidden unseen things that reside in us and in others. The prayer of Paul was that we grow in knowledge and depth of insight. This is the heart and anticipation of God's Man. God's man is not a surface person.

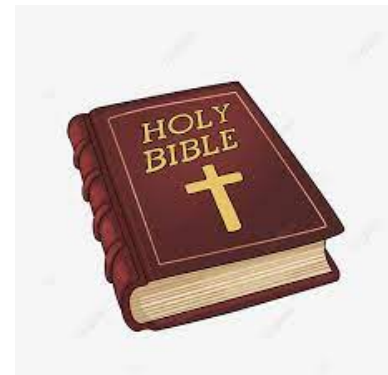


WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY After discussing the life of Esther and how we can learn from her obedience, we ordered food from Haw Creek Tacos in Weston and enjoyed lunch at the church building. This month, we will be taking a look at *Michal* which begins on page 211. **Our next bible study and lunch is September 11.** We hope you can join us!



SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR SEPTEMBER

	Text and Reader	Additional Texts for Study
9/3 Your Life As Bread	Luke 9: 10 - 17 Juliet Dimock	
9/10 Blessed	Genesis 1:1 - 4a, 10 - 12 Maya Jacques	Genesis 1: 16 - 18, 21 - 22, 25 - 28
9/17 Broken	Luke 22:19, Heb. 9:13-14 Daniel Tisserand	
9/24 Given	Luke 24: 30-32 Mary Smith	John 21: 15-18



FINANCIAL REPORT - July

Income

Sunday Offerings:	\$5,780.00
Memorial Gift Fund:	.00
Special Offering:	.00
Building Fund Offering:	1,300.00
Miscellaneous:	13.10

Monthly Total Income:
\$7,093.10

Expenses

Salaries:	\$5,000.00
Utilities:	197.33
Supplies & Food:	268.13
Insurance:	.00
Taxes:	.00
Maintenance:	1,735.08
Miscellaneous:	.00

Monthly Total Expenses:
\$7,200.54



Please keep the following in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort: Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Louis Cave, Daisy Nicodemus, Sandra Zimmerebner, Mary and Jerry Smith, Laura Latham, Janet Rippey, Sharon Olson, Clark and John Neill and family.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Our dear sister, Nancy Neill, went to be with our Lord on August 15, 2023. Services were held at the First Christian Church in Weston and burial was in Oklahoma. She will be remembered as a loving and cheerful person by all. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Clark, John, and the Neill family.



happy
birthday

09/02 Brandon Tisserand
09/03 Holly Ferguson
09/12 Kimberly Tisserand
09/14 Brian Larsen

09/16 Brenda Lambert
09/17 Shirley Larsen
09/17 Ginger Gardner

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

09/03 Doc and Ginger Gardner
09/24 Brian and Shirley Larsen

BACK TO SCHOOL LUNCHEON

We enjoyed food and fellowship during our Back to School Luncheon. We honored the educators of our congregation by making a \$200 donation to five of the Celina schools. As more schools are built, we will rotate the recipients of the donation. We appreciate all our educators and school personnel.



Mark your calendars for our next luncheon which will be our Chili Cook Off on **Sunday, October 29.**

CHILI
COOK OFF

HELPING TO FEED THE HUNGRY

According to FeedingTexas.org, “nearly 4 million Texans struggle with hunger and food insecurity.” First Christian Church of Weston is committed to helping those in our local area in several ways.

COMMUNITY LIFELINE CENTER**MOBILE DISTRIBUTION**

Community Lifeline Center provides this service in partnership with Weston’s local churches and the Women of Weston Texas women’s group. Food distribution will be the second Saturday every month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Area churches will take turns hosting the distribution.



First Christian Church - Weston will host this month on September 9. First Baptist Church of Weston will host October 14 and Bethel Baptist Church of Celina will host November 11 but distribution will be held at the Calvary Chapel Honey Creek Weston location. For more information go to: www.communitylifeline.org or email: admin@womenofwestontexas.org.

MONTHLY FOOD DONATION

The board approved a monthly donation of \$100 to the North Texas Food Bank.



MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM - each month we will announce a pantry item to bring to the church building. These items will then be donated at the end of month to local food banks. Items can be placed in the baskets in the fellowship hall.

Pantry item for this month is macaroni and cheese.

SPECIAL MISSION FUND OFFERING**RECONCILIATION MINISTRY**

September 24 and October 1

For more information on this program, please go to

<https://reconciliationministry.org/2023-give-to-reconciliation-ministry-special-offering/>



**RECONCILIATION
MINISTRY**

First Christian Church of Weston

100 Chicken Street
P.O. Box 7
Weston, TX 75097

Email: fccwestontx@gmail.com
Facebook: First Christian Church,
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
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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.

**DRAW NEAR
TO GOD AND
HE WILL
DRAW NEAR
TO YOU.**

James 4:8

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACTION

We are blessed to have young people in our church
that are willing to participate in leading the worship
service.

Thanks to Maya Jacques for acting as accompanist
on August 13 for the hymn "I Gave My Life For Thee".

Thanks to Brandon Tisserand for doing the
scripture reading during the August 27th service.

