



# FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

May 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

May 5  
Board Meeting 9:30

May 12  
Mother's Day

May 13  
Women's Bible Study and  
Lunch 9:30/11:00  
Olive Garden - Prosper

May 12 and 19  
Disciples Mission Fund  
Pentecost Offering

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Dear Church,

Here comes Summer but I have to say that this has been a crazy Spring! Rain, rain, and more rain. Many say we have had enough, but most know that when summer arrives and the temperature's rise we will be praying for that precious water to return. It is hard to believe that the official start of summer is on June 21<sup>st</sup> and it will soon be upon us, and that half of the year will soon be over.

I am looking forward to our Mother's Day service on the 12<sup>th</sup>, when we have the opportunity to celebrate those who have done so much and sacrificed for their children and families as a whole. Many may not know but Mothers Day t was established by Anna Jarvis, with the first official Mother's Day celebrated through a service of worship at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, on May 10, 1908. Let's take a moment to celebrate mothers everywhere, not just on this particular day but every day, because they seldom were able to take a day off from their responsibilities as a mom!

Also, I want to mention that July 4th will be upon us soon and that we are still looking for volunteers to assist with this year's float. It has been a tradition that this church has been involved with for many years and we would like to continue with that practice for many more. Our deepest thanks and gratitude to everyone who made FCC a well-known and predictable participation in this wonderful celebration. We have to take back 1st place again. I know we can do it with everyone's help.

Ginger and I are so excited about the upcoming activities and potential opportunities for the FCC to come together this summer. Please know that we are praying for each of you and your families and hope and pray to see each of you at church. Be blessed!

In Christ,

Doc Gardner and Family

## **MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL**

**I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. —Psalm 116:1-2**

For David, intimacy with the Father was a two-way street. I think that's why there are 139 psalms and songs in the Book of Psalms, 73 of which David himself wrote. A lot of the language is David conversing with the Lord. For example, in Psalm 10:1 he asks, "Why do you hide in times of trouble?" Or in Psalm 6:3: "My soul is in deep anguish. How long, Lord, how long?"



I imagine David in the fields as a teenager tending the sheep. His dad, Jesse, thought so little of David that he didn't even insert him into the line-up when Samuel came in search of the new king. Perhaps David's relationship with his heavenly Father was so deep because the one he had with his earthly dad was so shallow. I know some of you can relate to that, and you long for a deeper relationship with the Father.

Not only did David love the Father, he grasped the fact that the Father loved Him. For many of us, this is really tough ground because we've had zero models of this in real life. How can we grasp a concept if we've never seen it in practice? Or never had a dad who expressed love in either word or deed? Some ideas:

- Ask God to bring a spiritual father/mentor into your life.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to deal with those things in your life that leave the father's wound unhealed.
- Read scriptures that talk about the Father's love for His children. Journal some of them and meditate on them.

In the Psalms, David's tough questions reveal a unique level of trust. We typically don't pour our hearts out to strangers; we don't fully open up to just anyone. In Psalm 6 above, David's tough questions are answered when he says, "Away from me, all you who do evil, for the Lord has heard my weeping. The Lord has heard my cry for mercy; the Lord accepts my prayer" (Psalm 6:8-9).

That's a real, raw, two-way relationship.

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Our study of *The Love Stories of the Bible Speak* continues with a look into the relationship between Esther and Xerxes. The Chapter we will be discussing begins on page 93 of our book. Our Women's Bible Study is a time to grow in God's Word and also grow our relationships with each other.

Our next meeting will be May 13 at 9:30. Plans are to have lunch at Olive Garden in Prosper after our time of study.



**SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR MAY**

Date	Title	Scripture	Additional Scriptures
May 5	Rest Area	Matthew 11:28-30	
May 12	Honoring Mom	Ephesians 5:15-17	Exodus 20:12, John 13:34, 1 John 3:16
May 19	Construction Zone	Ephesians 6:1-14	Hebrews 12:5-11, 1 Cor. 3:10-11, Matthew 7:24-27
May 26	Stop Sign	Acts 2:22-28	Acts 2:29-44, Acts 1:13-14, Acts 1:4-5, Acts 2:17-21, Genesis 11, John 21:15-17

**FINANCIAL REPORT - March****Income**

Sunday Offerings: \$6,384.00  
 Memorial Gift Fund: .00  
 Special Offering: 100 .00  
 Building Fund Offering: 250.00  
 Miscellaneous: 9.07

**Expenses**

Salaries: \$2,000.00  
 Utilities: 470.76  
 Supplies & Food: 263.26  
 Insurance: .00  
 Taxes: .00  
 Maintenance: 130.00  
 Miscellaneous: .00

**Total Income:**

\$6,643.07

**Total Expenses:**

\$2,864.02



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 Rippy, Clark and John Neill, Amy Davey, Mary and Jerry Smith, Melanie Starr, Doc and Ginger Gardner, Blaise Ramer.

**MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR MARCH - Breakfast Cereal**

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



happy  
birthday

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY

05/12 Connor Gardner

05/19 Ryan & Jenna Jacques

05/17 Louis Cave

05/20 Mike Rippy

05/24 Jim Mitlyng

### **SHOWER FOR DANIELLE AND COLTON**

On Sunday, April 28, a shower was held for Danielle Chamberlin and Colton Raper. A luncheon was held in their honor. Those who brought dishes also brought the recipe for that dish that Danielle will add to her recipe collection. Congratulations and best wishes to this sweet couple.





## APRIL HAPPENINGS



Foundation for the new shed has been installed. Thank you to the men who helped deliver materials and who helped build the foundation. The new shed should be built in the coming weeks. The new fence was also built.

Board members were installed in April. Danielle Raper will be acting as deacon along with her role as treasurer. Pictured are Larry Lambert, Danielle Raper, Ken Bean and Laura Latham. Other Board members are Jim Mitlyng, Scott Franklin and Shirley Larsen.



A Celebration of Life service was held for Daisy Nicodemus. She went to be with the Lord on January 18, 2024 but her family wanted to honor her as they would all be together on April 28. Many shared stories of Daisy and how she impacted their life.



Scooter Cave shared these sweet words with those in attendance - "Daisy's life was filled with kindness and caring. She scattered lots of seeds filled with love. Daisy was loved beyond words and we are going to miss her. All the times we shared with Daisy will keep her near us forever."

**First Christian Church of Weston**

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Weston, Texas  
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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  
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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.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

Food and clothing were collected for our annual spring Food and Clothing Drive. These were donated to Grace Bridge in Celina.



First Christian Church - Weston will help with the Community Lifeline Center distribution for June. This will be on June 8 from 9:30 - 12:00. Distribution location is at Calvary Chapel Honey Creek in Weston. All distributions are being held at the Calvary Chapel site to keep the location consistent. We will need volunteers that day to help with loading food for clients and possibly delivery of food items.