



FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

August 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

August 4
Board Meeting 9:30

August 11
Back to School Luncheon

August 12
Women's Bible Study and Lunch

In this Issue

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Upcoming Events | 1 |
| Minister's Message | |
| Men's Devotional | 2 |
| Women's Bible Study | |
| Financial Report | 3 |
| Sermons and Texts | |
| Prayer List | |
| Celebrations | 4-5 |
| Contact Info | 6 |
| Pantry Item | |

Hello First Christian Church Family,

First of all, congratulations and thank you to everyone that helped with the 4th of July float. We won 1st place!!!! To all that worked on the float and participated, you brought the BLUE RIBBON back to where it belongs! Again, thank you to all for everything. Also a big congratulations to Ken for winning a blue ribbon for his vintage car. Next year I will bring a portable fan, so you have some air flow.

During this month we will be starting a new sermon series called "Revival: Stronger Than Ever". Revival is not something to be taken lightly. Over the history of our faith, we can point to many instances of genuine revival amongst communities of faith. As diverse as the specific instances may be, there are generally similar circumstances surrounding these occurrences. Hunger for God, desperation, stagnancy in the faith, adverse situations, etc... All that to say, is there any reason why revival couldn't happen now?

The Revival: Stronger Than Ever series will have us look at current events through the lens of the Old Testament book of Chronicles. Each week we will learn to remain strong in the face of adversity, hope-filled in the midst of scarcity, and determined in the face of opposition. I pray that these timeless principles, along with many others, will encourage and strengthen each of us over the course of this six-week sermon series.

As the children begin preparations to start school, this is a great time for us to begin looking for ways we can support our local children and those teachers that may need some additional supplies or resources to assist in their education or teaching activities. If you know of any child or teacher that is in need, please reach out to either me or the Elders of the church, so we can see how we can assist. Our children are our future and though it has been said so many times, it does take a village.

Please remember those of our church family that have been out due to physical issues, so please keep them in your prayers. Also, I would encourage you to reach out to them either by phone or even a card can make a huge difference. Let them know they are missed, and we are always there if they need us.

As I close, I would like to announce that Adult Bible study will be starting back on August 18th and I would like to encourage everyone to come so we can explore this book together. The study starts at 10:15 am. Please come and join us. It is always great to gather and learn and glean from each other as we explore the Word of God.

I look forward to seeing each of you and as always, Ginger and I are always praying for each and every one of you. Let us live out 2 Corinthians 4:18 loud and proud!

In Christ,

Doc Gardner Sr.

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

“What do people gain from all their labors at which they toil under the sun? Generations come and generations go, but the earth remains forever.”

—Ecclesiastes 1:3-4

Second Timothy 2:3-6 speaks of a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer. The soldier is tempted by civilian life, the athlete is tempted not to compete, and the farmer is tempted to sleep in. Each example speaks of hard choices each one has to make. Each has their battle, but what else do they have? They have a strong hope waiting for them on the other side of their discipline.



The soldier's hope is to please his commanding officer, the athlete's hope is to win the prize, the farmer's hope is a harvest that he can't get if he sleeps in. Each one has a hope that's stronger than their desire to give in to self, and that helps them win the battle.

Motivation demands hope. If you do not have hope in life, you have no motivation. A good question to ask ourselves is, “What is my hope?” When times are tough, we can get more specific: What is my hope today—this minute, this hour? Sometimes that's all we can do—focus on the very next moment and decision.

Ask yourself what you are placing your hope in. Is it to get married? Get a new car? Have a ribeye steak? Play golf every day? Ecclesiastes 1:3-4 (above) was written by Solomon, the richest man who ever lived. He had it all, and his words reveal the insanity of his efforts.

Solomon's life reminds us that it is impossible to replace the God-shaped vacuum within us by acting like a dog chasing its tail. Our only hope is for all that God has provided by His perfect love and forgiveness for each of us: the promise of our ultimate satisfaction of living forever with our every desire fulfilled. Life's battle, as we know it, is over.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



This month, our bible study will discuss the friendship of David and Jonathan. So far, our discussions have focused more on romantic love but our future studies will involve love between friends. Proverbs 18:24 tells us “there are friends who destroy each other, a real friend sticks closer than a brother.” (NLT) This month's chapter, *Brothers in Arms*, begins on page 155.

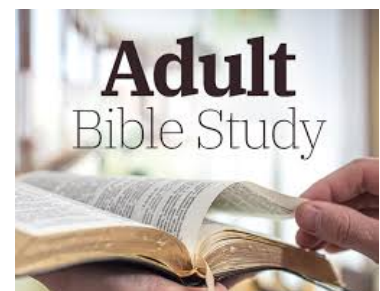
In upcoming months, we will take a look at the following friendships:

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, the friendships of Paul, Job and his friends, Jesus and John.

Plan to join us on August 12 at 9:30 for our bible study and lunch afterwards.

Adult Bible Class

Beginning August 18 at 10:15 a.m.



SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR AUGUST

| Date | Title | Scripture Text |
|------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 8/4 | The Plague Was Cut Short | 1 Chronicles 21:9-28 |
| 8/11 | The Gift of Wisdom | 2 Chronicles 1:7-12 |
| 8/18 | Increasing God's Power in Your Life | 2 Chronicles 14:8-13 |
| 8/25 | Where to Turn in Your Darkest Moment | 2 Chronicles 17:3-6 |

**FINANCIAL REPORT - June****Income**

Sunday Offerings: \$8,349.00
 Building Fund Offering: 350.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: 135.00
 Special Offering: .00
 Miscellaneous: 24.15

Expenses

Salaries: \$4,400.00
 Utilities: 200.50
 Supplies & Food: 299.01
 Insurance: .00
 Taxes: .00
 Maintenance: 6,080.00
 Miscellaneous: 19.78

Total Income: \$8,858.15**Total Expenses: \$10,999.29**

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, Tessa Kautz, family of Arlis Parish.



happy
birthday

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

08/01 Brad Chilton
08/17 Mary Smith
08/21 Gayle Strange
08/22 Laura Latham
08/28 Trevor Dimock
08/31 Holly Franklin

08/18 Scott & Kim Tingle

CELEBRATE

Luncheon
August 11
After services



Back-to-School
BLESSINGS

We're praying for you!

DO ALL THE
GOOD
YOU CAN

THE LORD YOUR GOD
WILL BE WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO.

- Joshua 1:9

FOURTH OF JULY

We had great participation this year and appreciate all the help with the float. We reclaimed our **First Place** spot for our float this year! Thanks to all the helpers and riders for braving the hot weather and supporting our church!



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
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.



Psalm 145:18

**MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR AUGUST - Pasta Sauce**

This month we will continue to collect Pasta Sauce for our Food Pantry item. Items can be placed in the baskets in the fellowship hall. Collected items are being donated to Grace Bridge in Celina.