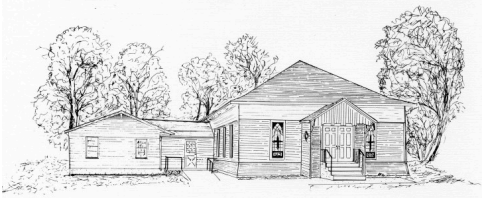




FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

December 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

- December 7
Build Nativity 1:00
- December 8
Board Meeting 9:30
- December 9
Women's Bible Study Christmas Lunch 11:00 at building
- December 14
Live Nativity 5:00-8:00
- December 24
Candlelight Service 6:00

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
- Contact Info 6
- Pantry Item 6

Dear Members of First Christian Church of Weston,

As we enter this sacred season, our hearts are drawn to the awe-inspiring miracle of Christmas—the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This wondrous event reminds us of God's boundless love and His promise of hope for all humanity. It is a season to reflect, rejoice, and share this miraculous story with others.

In the spirit of celebrating Christ's birth, we are excited to present our Live Nativity Scene, a cherished tradition that brings the story of the first Christmas to life. This year's Live Nativity will take place on Thursday, December 14th, and we are eager to create a memorable and meaningful experience for our community. To prepare, we need volunteers on Thursday, December 7th, to help with building the Live Nativity Scene. Whether you have skills in construction, decorating, or simply a willingness to lend a hand, we would be grateful for your assistance. We also need volunteers to participate in the Live Nativity Scene on December 14th. Roles include portraying Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, and the wise men, as well as helping with hospitality, costuming, and guiding visitors. This is a unique opportunity to share the story of Christ's birth with our community in a powerful and tangible way.

Additionally, we warmly invite you, your family, and friends to our Christmas Eve Service on Sunday, December 24th. This beautiful candlelight service will include Scripture readings, carols, and a special message celebrating the joy and hope of Christmas.

As we prepare for these events, let us keep the miracle of Christ's birth at the forefront of our hearts and minds. Through your time, talents, and prayers, you can play a vital role in sharing His light with our community. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact one of the Elders or Karen Chilton at kdchilton85@gmail.com.

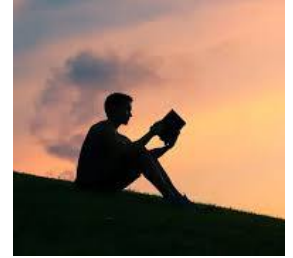
Thank you for your continued dedication and support to the body of Christ and may this Christmas season fill your hearts with peace, joy, and the wonder of God's love.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Doc and Family

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” – Colossians 3:23-24



God has called each of us as Christian men to a life of service—service that reflects His love and glorifies His name. This calling is not limited to one area of life but encompasses every sphere in which He has placed us: our families, communities, jobs, churches, and our relationship with Him.

Service to Your Family - Our families are our first ministry. Leading with love, patience, and humility mirrors Christ’s sacrificial love for His Church. Whether it’s spending quality time with your children, honoring your parents, or supporting your spouse, your service to your family lays a foundation of faith and unity that brings glory to God.

Service to Your Community - Jesus reminded us to be “salt and light” in the world. Serving your community might mean helping a neighbor, volunteering at a local shelter, or standing up for righteousness in your city. When you serve others, you embody Christ’s command to love your neighbor as yourself.

Service in Your Job - Your workplace is a mission field. Excellence, integrity, and kindness in your work testify to your faith and honor God. No matter the task, when you dedicate your work to Him, you transform even the most mundane duties into acts of worship.

Service in the Church - The Church is the body of Christ, and every member has a role to play. Whether you’re serving as a greeter, teaching Sunday school, or joining the prayer team, your contributions build up the Church and advance God’s kingdom. Your service inspires and encourages others to use their gifts for His glory.

Service to God - Above all, our ultimate act of service is to God Himself. This means daily surrender, seeking His will through prayer and Scripture, and allowing Him to guide every aspect of our lives. As we serve Him, He equips us to serve others more fully.

Challenge for this month - Take time to evaluate where God is calling you to serve more faithfully. Is there an area where you’ve been hesitant to step in? Ask Him to give you strength and wisdom to serve with joy, knowing that every act of service brings honor to Him.

Prayer - Heavenly Father, thank You for the example of service we see in Jesus. Teach us to be faithful stewards in every area of our lives. Help us to serve our families, communities, workplaces, church, and You with humility and love. May our lives reflect Your grace and point others to Your goodness. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY - In November, we discussed Job and his friends and then enjoyed a lunch together at The Wick in Celina. This month, we will have our Christmas Luncheon and begin a new study in the new year.



We hope all women of the congregation will make plans to be with us on December 9.

Make plans
to attend
Women’s Christmas Luncheon
December 9 at 11:00am
First Christian Church

SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR DECEMBER

Date	Title	Scripture Text
12/1	Prophets: Preparation and Expectation	Micah 5:2
12/8	Angels: Proclamation	Luke 2:13-14
12/15	Shepherds: Hope and Joy	Luke 2:8-18
12/22	Magi: Adoration and Worship	Matthew 2:1-12
12/24	The Cast of Christmas	Luke 2:6-7
12/29	New Year, New Mind	Romans 12:2



FINANCIAL REPORT - October

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$7,864.00
 Building Fund Offering: 300.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: 250.00
 Special Offering: 450.00
 Building Use: 150.00
 Miscellaneous: 8.99

Expenses

Salaries: \$3,744.00
 Utilities: 384.02
 Supplies & Food: 116.78
 Insurance: 2,503.98
 Taxes: .00
 Maintenance: 280.00
 Miscellaneous: .00

Total Income: \$9,022.99

Total Expenses: \$ 7,028.78



Please keep the following in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort: Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Sandra Zimmerebner, Laura Latham, Janet Rippy, Amy Davey, Mary and Jerry Smith, Blaise Ramer, Tessa Kautz, Vera Gardner, Ann Fleet, Jeff Herzberg, Tralyn Molinar, Paul Zimmerebner, Scooter Cave.



Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14



12/05 Doc Gardner

12/19 Maya Jacques

None

SEWING DAYS

Several sewing days were held to work on new costumes for the Live Nativity. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to work on this project. A HUGE thank you to **Gloria Kautz** for purchasing fabric and leading this effort.



DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 3rd we observed our annual Day of Remembrance for those members or friends and loved ones of our church family who have passed away during the preceding year. This year, a candle was lit to honor the following:

- Margaret Marlar***
- Daisy Nicodemus***
- Damon Gardner, Sr.***
- Arlis Parish***
- Vernon Fleet***



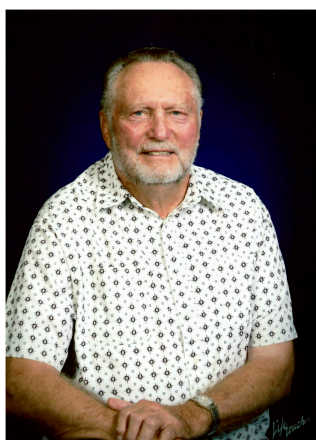
DECORATING BUILDING FOR CHRISTMAS

Several members met at the building to decorate the building for Advent and Christmas. Thanks to all those who came to help. We appreciate you!



THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE

The annual Thanksgiving Community Service was held on November 17 at the First Baptist Church in Weston. First Christian Church participated with the singing of Give Thanks and Just A Closer Walk With Thee. Thanks to Brad, Gloria, Jim and Ginger for their part in leading those present in an uplifting service. Thanks also to Doc and his words of encouragement. Brian Larsen reprised his role as Governor Bradford and read the Thanksgiving Proclamation. We appreciate all those from our congregation who were in attendance.



IN MEMORY

Louis Lee Cave, 85, of Weston, Texas passed away on November 21, 2024. Funeral services were held November 30, 2024 at First Christian Church of Weston. Interment followed at Mugg Cemetery in Weston. The family returned to the church for a meal prepared by members of the congregation, family members and other members of the Weston community.

Louis was born on May 17, 1939, to Ted and Gladys Cave. He graduated from Celina High School in 1957. Louis was a member of FFA where he was selected as Farmer of the year. He also participated in sports. After graduating he attended North Texas University in Denton, Texas. While in college he was drafted into the United States Army. Louis served two years in Korea returning home in 1963. Not knowing what was next he decided to help his family with farming. This was the year he met and married Sharron Roberts who then became "Scooter". Then and forever! Louis was a life-long member of

The First Christian Church of Weston and of Weston, Texas. Other than his military service in Korea, his residence never changed, only his mailing address. Louis went to work at Texas Instruments in Richardson, Texas in November of 1963. He retired in 1998, staying home raising Charolais cattle and grandkids – his happy days! Louis enjoyed the outdoors, hunting with family and friends, canoeing every year down the Rio Grande and many trips with family and friends. These trips came with great hair-raising stories. Louis also enjoyed skiing, most especially if it included as many of his kids that he could pack into the motor home for the trip. Louis was so proud of his family and their life accomplishments. Louis will certainly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Scooter and her family.

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.

LIVE NATIVITY

*A Celebration
 of the birth of
 Jesus Christ*



Saturday, December 14, 2024

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm *Come & Go*

In conjunction with Miracle on Chicken Street

*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



(972) 382-3347 | FCCWeston@outlook.com | www.firstchristianweston.com

**MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR
 DECEMBER - Liquid Hand Soap**

This month we will collect liquid hand soap 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. Thank you to those who have made donations this year. Your generosity is much appreciated.

