



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.*



UPCOMING events

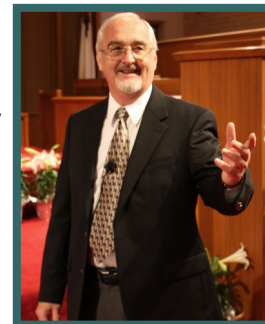
- Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM
- Children's Sunday School
 - During service
- January 12 - Board Meeting 9:30am
- February 2 - Board Meeting 9:30 am
- February 9 - Valentine's Luncheon

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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

My oldest daughter Adrienne and her husband Patrick bought a Tesla 3. It was delivered in Dallas last week and they stayed with us when they came to drive it back to Big Sandy. I had trouble getting my head around sitting at the wheel of a beautiful five passenger sedan with no instrument panel, but a large monitor (like a computer) with all kinds of unfamiliar data. With no engine noises (no starter, generator, fan belts, radiator, coolant tank, fuel tank, etc.), I sat for a moment in silence before easing through the neighborhood in awe. Then out onto the highway. The powerful electric motor with direct-to-the-wheel torque yields zero to sixty miles per hour in four seconds, capable of 145 miles-per-hour with a range of 320 miles or more before recharging. I put my foot down, and said out loud, "Wow! It's a whole new world."



Certainly, each New Year brings all of us adventures into the unknown. It's just that 2020 sounds a little more challenging than 2019. I remember how foreboding the year 2000 seemed, because it launched us into the Twenty-First Century. Now, with Elon Musk in the news constantly, Space X launching rockets every couple of months, Virgin Galactic almost ready to offer commercial flights into space, and countries and private corporations around the world determined to build research stations on the moon and establish colonies on Mars, we feel as if we ourselves have been launched into a brave new world.

So, for First Christian Church Weston, 2020 marks another great adventure in its 100-plus-years in this community. Our little white church building has witnessed a great deal of change and transition over the years, and certainly there is more to come. The sleepy little town of Weston is suddenly a place of development and growth. In the past two years, five couples have joined the church here, one already serving as our song leader, another is a deacon, and two others are about to be installed as deacons. So, as a small church going forward into a new year, in search of a new minister, with a few new methods and procedures, newly amended Constitution and by-Laws, with eyes full of optimism and hearts full of faith, the year 2020 looks both exciting and promising. The famous poem by Joaquin Miller that begins with these lines describes the spirit behind all great adventures of discovery and exploration, whether the Americas or Mars, the peak of Mount Everest or the Marianas Trench in the Pacific Ocean, or a church moving forward in faith.

*Behind him lay the gray Azores,
Behind the Gates of Hercules;
Before him not the ghost of shores,
Before him only shoreless seas.
The good mate said: "Now must we pray,
For lo! the very stars are gone.
Brave Admiral, speak, what shall I say?"
"Why, say, 'Sail on! sail on! and on!"*

My fondest wishes and heartfelt prayers remain with you all.

Brother Les

HANGING OF THE GREENS



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- The minutes were approved from the November board meeting.
- Financial report: \$4,000 was paid for the leveling of the church.
- Marilyn Chamberlin presented the updated Constitution and Bylaws for the church. The updated bylaws and constitution were adopted on this day, December 1, 2019. The constitution and by-laws will be emailed to the congregation and the congregation will take an official vote on the constitution changes on December 15, 2019.
- Now that the foundation work is complete, our walkways need to be looked at. Jason Miller will be presenting the board a quote on various remodeling including walkways, painting, enclosing the tabernacle, drop down steps for baptistry and kitchen remodel.
- Nominating Committee has selected new members for 2020: Mike Poen and Jenna Jacques. Rotating off the board will be Yvonne Heistand, Marilyn Chamberlin and Andy Dimock. Jim Mitlyng is resigning his elder board member position in order to create the new board member numbers. Daniel Tisserand will move to the elder position.
- The New Minister Committee met with Larry Ross and is working on the parishioner survey.

LIVE NATIVITY

We had two wonderful nights for our Live Nativity!
Thank you to everyone who came and played parts, set up, decorated,
brought food and drinks and helped make this event one to remember!

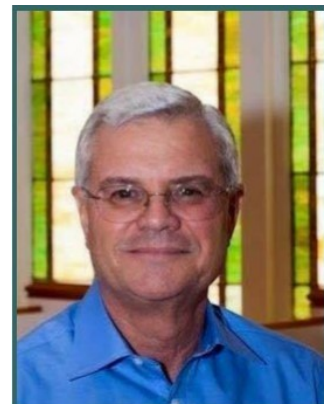


CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



RAY OWENS GUEST PREACHER FOR JANUARY

Thank you to Ray Owens for being our guest preacher for the month of January while our New Minister Committee searches for a permanent preacher for our church.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thank you to Brad & Karen Chilton for hosting a Christmas party for the children of the church!



HYMN OF THE MONTH - "THY WORD"

Amy Grant and Christian singer-songwriter Michael W. Smith wrote this song. It was released in 1984 on the album *Straight Ahead*. This was the first Christian set ever to chart on the Billboard pop chart. It is a worshipful hymn based on Psalm 119 v 105. The song was recorded at Caribou Ranch recording studio high in the Rocky Mountains. Michael originally came up with the song's melody and some words for the chorus straight from David's Psalms about being a light into my path. Amy fell in love with his demo, but as Michael had no idea what the verses were supposed to say, he gave it to her and told her she could finish the tune. "So later that night she starts walking back to her cabin," Michael told us. "And you have to understand Caribou Ranch is an 8,000 acre ranch and it's very dark, and you're in the middle of nowhere. And she got lost. There's bears and all that sort of thing. You've got to really know where you're going. She finally saw a lamp and started walking towards that light, didn't realize that it was her cabin," he continued. "And she walked into that little cabin and sat down with a notebook and pen and wrote the verses to 'Thy Word.'"



Thank You
Dr. Les Massey

**for 4 years of wonderful leadership, full of
faithfulness and heart! You will be missed!**

First Christian Church of Weston

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Find us on Facebook!

Service: Sundays at 11:00 am
Sunday School: 10:15 am

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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 Kimberly Tisserand at tisserand@outlook.com

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

01/09 Traylyn Molinar	01/20 Paul Zimmerebner
01/10 Brad Cave	01/22 Jean Young
01/12 Daniel Mitlyng	01/23 Nancy Neill
01/14 Carl Winnette	01/26 Emma Dimock
01/16 Linda Waco	01/29 Jessica Ploch
01/18 Danielle Chamberlin	01/31 David Stiles

Anniversaries

01/01 David & Delzie Stiles



Please keep Heather Carter, Lester and Jeannie Greenwald, Michael and Linda Waco, Christian Dimock, Kyle Schindler, Brian Larson, Kim Rogers, Nancy Neill, Amy Davey, Les & Marge Massey, Austin Daughtery, Jerry & Mary Smith, Louis Cave and Catherine Worsham in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a pew card or let Kimberly Tisserand know.