



# FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

March 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

- March 3  
Board Meeting
- March 11  
Women's Bible Study and Lunch
- March 24  
Palm Sunday  
Egg Hunt and Luncheon
- March 31  
Easter
- April 21  
Luncheon honoring  
Danielle Chamberlin and  
Colton Raper

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Dear beloved First Christian Church family,

As the vibrant hues of spring begin to grace us with their presence, I find my heart overflowing with gratitude and warmth for the beautiful season that lies ahead. I trust this message finds each of you in high spirits, eagerly anticipating the wonders that God's creations are about to unfold. Spring, with its bright and warm days, brings a renewed sense of joy and energy. The invigorating scent of an early spring rain cleanses the air, ushering in happier thoughts and a desire to embark on the rejuvenating journey of spring-cleaning. It is a season of transformation, both in nature and in our lives.

Speaking of renewal, I wanted to share some exciting news with you. In the spirit of refreshing our church environment, we are embarking on the removal of our old storage shed to make way for a new one. I extend an invitation to all willing hearts to lend a helping hand in this endeavor. If you feel compelled to contribute your time and energy, please reach out to Marilyn or Ken, who will guide you on how you can be part of this uplifting project.

As we draw nearer to the most significant events of the year, the anticipation for Resurrection Sunday fills our hearts. On March 31st, we will come together to celebrate the triumph of hope and the promise of eternal life. Our March Sermon Series, titled the "Road to Calvary," will unravel the profound journey of Jesus, his relentless motivation, and unwavering commitment to fulfilling His Father God's mission and purpose. I invite each of you to join us every Sunday morning as we walk this sacred path together. Additionally, our Adult Bible study will resume on the 10th of March. If you have been seeking a deeper understanding of the teachings of Scripture or are in search of a meaningful study group, I warmly invite you to spend 30 minutes with us, starting at 10:15 am.

Before I conclude, my family and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming support we have received during the challenging time of my father's passing. Your prayers, calls, text messages, cards, and flowers have been a source of strength, and Ginger and I find comfort in knowing that we will be reunited with him in our Father's Kingdom.

Thank you all once again for your love and support. I eagerly anticipate the coming Sundays as we embark on this meaningful journey together, walking the Road to Calvary.

With love and blessings,

Pastor Doc & Family

## MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

### Surrender Brings Victory

*“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”*

*Hebrews 11:1*

At precisely 9:04 am on September 2, 1945, aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, World War II officially ended. Signing on behalf of Emperor Hirohito, the Japanese foreign minister inked his signature to the document acknowledging Japan's complete and unconditional surrender to the Allied powers. It was an awesome sight for those few that attended. I have a good friend whose father was a sailor on the USS Mississippi, which was anchored not too far away, who was able to see the ceremony take place through binoculars.

General MacArthur punctuated the ceremony by expressing the deep desire of all who witnessed this moment: “It is my earnest hope—indeed the hope of all mankind—that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the carnage of the past.” If you follow history, you know what emerged from this moment: a U.S.-led economic recovery plan. It fostered a slow but steady recovery from the ashes of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, enabling the last half of the twentieth century to become one of the most productive and peaceful periods in the history of the world.

By all accounts, placing itself at the mercy of the prevailing powers allowed Japan to renew itself, rebuild, and recover. But first the Japanese military and government had to completely give up, lay down its arms, and surrender unconditionally. This is certainly a great illustration of what is necessary for us as men to experience the love that God has provided for us his children.

Imagine Japan's coming to the formal table on the USS Missouri and saying to General MacArthur, “We'll sign, but we want to strike through the ‘unconditional’ part. We will agree, however, to using the phrase ‘mostly surrender.’” That wouldn't have cut it with MacArthur or the leaders back in Washington, D.C. And neither is it acceptable for us as men, to not completely surrender to God, but want His grace, wisdom, guidance, and love. Your Father will provide the faith that you need to surrender to Him.



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



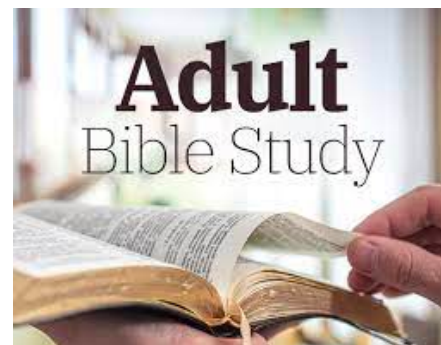
This month we will be discussing *Adam and Eve: The Original Love Story* (beginning on page 55).

After our bible study, we will be gathering at La Madeleine (McKinney) for lunch.

We hope that all women in our congregation will plan to join us in this time of bible study and fellowship. Bring a friend! Bible Study begins at 9:30 with lunch beginning around 11:00.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Our adult bible study will begin again on March 10. We will start at 10:15. Come a little early and fellowship before this time of study.



**SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR MARCH**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Main Scripture</u>	<u>Additional Scripture</u>
March 3rd	The Emmaus Road	Luke 24:13-20	Luke 24:21-35, Isaiah. 53:1-12
March 10th	The Narrow Road	Matt. 7:13-14	John 10:10, Jeremiah 6:16
March 17th	The Damascus Road	Acts 9:1-6; 17-21	Acts 9:7-16 John 3:19-20
March 24th	The Passover	Luke 22:7-20	
March 31st	From Locked Doors to Joyful Praise	John 20:20; Luke 24:52-53	

**FINANCIAL REPORT - January**

**Income**

Sunday Offerings: \$5,668.00  
 Memorial Gift Fund: 100.00  
 Special Offering: .00  
 Building Fund Offering: 3,500.00  
 Miscellaneous: 6.89

**Expenses**

Salaries: 1,600.00  
 Utilities: 500.00  
 Supplies & Food: 141.91  
 Insurance: .00  
 Taxes: 30.45  
 Maintenance: 205.00  
 Miscellaneous: .00

**Total Income:**  
**\$5,774.89**

**Total Expenses:**  
**\$2,477.36**



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.



**MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR MARCH - Canned Fruit**

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

# happy birthday

- 03/07 David Ferguson
- 03/10 Yvonne Heistand
- 03/26 Amy Davey
- 03/27 Cade Ferguson

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 03/16 Ivy and Laura Latham
- 03/28 David and Holly Ferguson
- 03/29 Jerry and Mary Smith



## Celebrations

On February 24, we celebrated **Brie Janusz and Trevor Dimock** and their upcoming marriage. A bridal shower was held for them at the home of Karen Chilton. We are very happy for this sweet couple and pray for God's richest blessings in their life together.



**VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON**



**COMMUNITY LIFELINE DISTRIBUTION**



**First Christian Church of Weston**

100 Chicken Street  
P.O. Box 7  
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Facebook: First Christian Church,  
Weston, Texas  
Website: [firstchristianweston.com](http://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  
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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](mailto:kdchilton85@gmail.com).



## Join Us

March 24, after services, for our annual  
egg hunt and luncheon.

