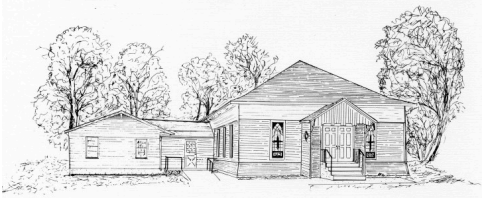




FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

January 2025

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

January 12
Board Meeting 9:30

January 13
Women's Bible Study 9:30 and
Lunch 11:00

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Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year! As we enter 2025, let us embrace the opportunity to seek transformation through the renewing of our minds. Romans 12:2 encourages us to set aside the world's distractions and instead align our thoughts, hearts, and lives with God's perfect will. This new year is an open door for spiritual growth and renewal. A new canvas to allow God to paint. Let us prayerfully examine areas where we can grow closer to God, deepen our relationships with one another, and serve our community more fully. Together, may we pursue the mind of Christ, living as examples of His grace and truth in all we do.

We are overjoyed to announce that our church family continues to grow! This is a testament to the Spirit moving within our congregation and community. Let's extend our love and support to these new members as we journey in faith together. Also, we have lost some beloved members, and we as a family in Christ need to continue to provide love and support the family members of lost loved ones.

We also celebrate the wonderful turnout for our Christmas Eve service. With 72 in attendance, it was a beautiful evening filled with worship, reflection, and the joy of Christ's birth. Thank you to everyone who invited friends, volunteered, and participated to make it such a special occasion. I would like to thank everyone that helped with building it and to those that volunteered with the live Nativity this year. It was an amazing time and a wonderful turn-out from people from other communities. A huge thank you to the Women of Weston for their efforts in coordinating the annual Miracle on West Street activities.

As we begin the year, there are exciting opportunities for worship, service, and fellowship:

- Bible Study Groups: Start the year with a renewed focus on God's Word. The Adult Bible Study will soon begin to return soon, every Sunday morning prior to service. The start date will be sent out to all members.
- Volunteer Opportunities: Serve in our community outreach programs or get involved with church ministries.
- Upcoming Events: Mark your calendars for January 5th, as the congregation will vote on two new Deacon's for service to the church.

My prayer to all this year is for the Lord to guide us as we seek transformation in this new season. Let us all pray for wisdom, unity, and an outpouring of His blessings on our church and community. Together, let's strive to live as Romans 12:2 inspires us—transformed by the renewing of our minds, testifying to God's perfect will in every aspect of our lives.

In Christ's Love,
Dr. Damon "Doc" Gardner Sr.
Pastor, First Christian Church of Weston

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

God's Masterpiece

If you spend your days mumbling, "I'll never make a difference; I'm not worth anything," guess what? You'll be sentencing yourself to a life of gloom without parole! When you do that, you're questioning God's judgment, second-guessing his taste.



Psalm 139:14 says you were "fearfully and wonderfully made." He can't stop thinking about you. Psalm 139:18 confirms it. If he could count his thoughts of you, "they would be more in number than the sand."

Why does He love you so much? The same reason is that the artist loves his paintings, or the boat builder loves his vessels. You are God's idea. And He has only good ideas. Paul said in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." You matter to God, and you matter to me and your church family.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On December 9, the women of the church celebrated the season with a luncheon held at the church building. There was lots of fun, food and fellowship. Gifts were brought for two foster girls. We appreciate the generosity of our women and the blessing they provided to these two young girls. During our January study time, we will finish our last lesson in the *The Love Stories of the Bible Speak* book that we have been studying. We will start our new bible study of *The Parables* in February.



SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR JANUARY

Date	Title	Primary Scripture	Additional Scripture
1/5/2025	Better Priorities	Matthew 6:33	Matthew 22:34-40; 2 Corinthians 4:18
1/12/2025	Better Relationships	Proverbs 12:26	1 Corinthians 13:4-7; Romans 12:10
1/19/2025	Better Choices	Proverbs 1:7	James 2:10; 1 Corinthians 6:12
1/26/2025	Better Witness	1 Peter 3:15-16	Acts 1:8

FINANCIAL REPORT - November

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$6,575.01
 Building Fund Offering: 250.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: 350.00
 Special Offering: 90.00
 Building Use: .00
 Miscellaneous: 8.60

Expenses

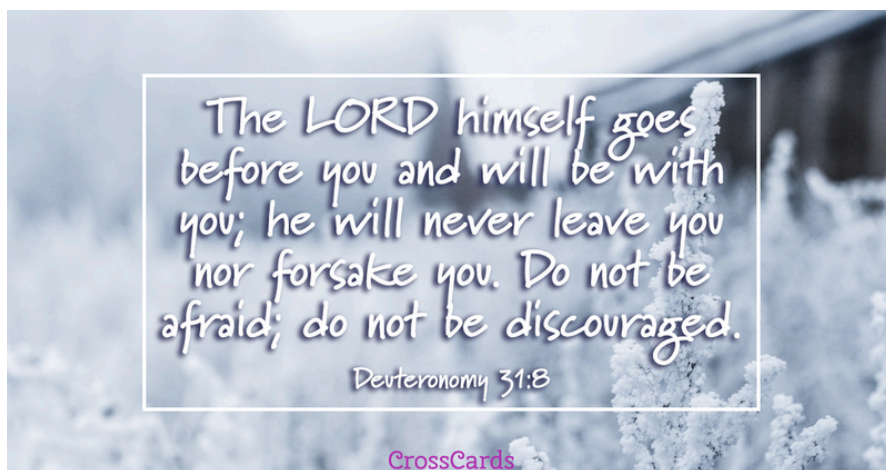
Salaries: \$3,744.00
 Utilities: 219.37
 Supplies & Food: 304.33
 Insurance: .00
 Taxes: .00
 Maintenance: 205.00
 Miscellaneous: 669.25

Total Income: \$7,273.61

Total Expenses: \$5,141.95



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





01/09 Tralyn Molinar
01/11 Bryson Taylor
01/13 Scott Franklin
01/18 Danielle Chamberlin
01/26 Emma Dimock

01/20 Jake and Tina Ramer



We are blessed to have Ann Fleet make First Christian Church her home church once again.

We are also blessed to have the Taylor family join our church. So glad to have Bryson, Bailey, Tate, Tuli, and Townes as a part of our church family.

Ann and the Taylor family have already been busy serving and being a part of activities at the First Christian Church!



IN MEMORY



Jerry Rex Smith of Weston, Texas passed away on December 12, 2024, at the age of 82. He was born on June 5, 1942, in San Pedro, California, to JW Smith and Ruby Perry. Jerry's early years were spent in Weston, Texas, where he graduated from Celina High School in 1960. He went on to live a life full of purpose, service, and love. On March 29, 1963, he married the love of his life, Mary Zimmerebner. Their union was a testament to their enduring love for 61 years. Throughout his life, Jerry exemplified dedication and community spirit. He was an active member of the First Christian Church of Weston, where he served as a deacon, helping guide and support his congregation. His commitment to his community extended beyond the church; Jerry was also a volunteer fireman, always ready to lend a hand in times of need. He served on the Weston City Council, where he worked to improve the lives of those around him. For many years, Jerry worked as the foreman for 7 Spring Farms. This was by far his favorite job because he loved the work he was doing and the people he worked with. Being back with horses, cows, and farming is where he found his joy. His work ethic and leadership were respected by all who knew him and he was most definitely going to find joy in every day.

Funeral services were held Sunday, December 15, 2024, at the First Christian Church of Weston. Interment followed at Cottage Hill Cemetery in Celina. The members of the congregation provided a meal before the service for the family and friends. Jerry will be remembered by all for his infectious smile and joyful spirit.

DECORATING THE BUILDING



LIGHTING OF ADVENT CALENDAR



Colten and Danielle
Raper



Daniel, Kimberly and Brandon
Tisserand



Jim and Sue Mittyng



Brian and Shirley Larsen



Ken and Marikay Bean

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES



Ginger Gardner



Brad Chilton



Brandon Tisserand



William and Margaret
Watson

LIVE NATIVITY



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

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

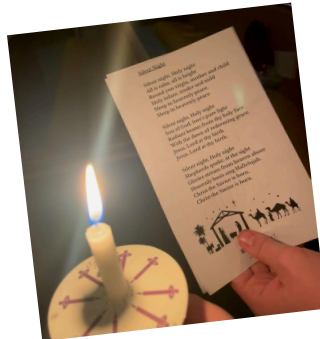
Service: Sundays 11 a.m.
Adult Bible Class: 10:15 a.m.
Children's Sunday School: during
Service

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.



**MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR
JANUARY - 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.

