



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.*



THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE



American Family Day on the first Sunday in August, on August 1 this year, is a time for, you guessed it, family. More specifically, this day celebrates the bonds that laid the foundation for our lives, be it blood or otherwise. Unlike other holidays, however, this day discourages gift-giving, unless your present is the gift of time. The makers of this day intended for it to be all about the relationships built in a family and cherishing them in person.

Despite the corruptions it has suffered throughout humanity's past, the family has generally remained the most dependable bond of human togetherness. Typically speaking, a person's family is his or her support in life in ways no one else can or desires to be. From humankind's beginning, God made it clear that He wanted man and woman to come together to build a family: *"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it'"* (Genesis 1:27-28).

God also instructed that Adam and Eve be joined in physical union and living together to become one: *"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh"* (Genesis 2:24).

God gives a husband and wife a family: *"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him. Children born to a young man are like sharp arrows in a warrior's hands. How happy is the man whose quiver is full of them!"* (Psalms 127:3-5, New Living Translation).

The family as God intended is a preeminent joy and an ongoing pleasure. Therefore, the ultimate purpose for the family on earth is *to provide a great spiritual, divine family for God forever*. This is why the physical family is so vitally important to God and to us. When we understand the ultimate purpose for which God established our human families, it provides us with peace and security, allowing us to rise above selfish tendencies. We can also then more easily accept the opportunities God gives us for daily dedication to the better welfare of our families. This will bring us joy and other rewards—some immediate and some later on. But all human beings have human nature that fights against us as an enemy to overcome. And overcome we must—through prayer to God, meditation on His Word and the resultant strength and comfort that comes from the Father and Christ through the Holy Spirit.

The family unit helps to secure the marriage relationship. There is an ultimate purpose to the family relationship, and that is for all who are willing to become a part of the divine family of God. Now you know God's ultimate purpose for the family unit. And with that glorious knowledge, spend time together. Not just on the 1st but make a night each week to spend time together. Maybe have someone in the home pick a random movie from the Wal Mart discounted movie bin, and another pick the snacks. Regardless of what you do, make it special and memorable!

Happy American Family Day all August long!

God Bless,
Pastor Gardner & Family

UPCOMING events

- Children's Sunday School - during service
- Adult Sunday School - 10:15 am
- August 8, 2021 - Honoring all Educators and Back to School Luncheon following service
- September 5, 2021 - Board Meeting 9:30am
- September 26, 2021 - Reconciliation Special Offering Collected

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WESTON 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Another 1st place win at the Weston 4th of July parade!

Third year in a row that our float has won! Over 3,000 pieces of candy thrown by the adorable kids to those watching the parade. Thank you to Marilyn and Danielle Chamberlin for all their hard work making our float!



MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

In 1962, four Russian submarines sailed to the coast of Florida. The submarines had been on a long, rough journey, and the men inside were tired. They had hit a hurricane that caused them to ride fifty-foot waves. They sailed through warm ocean waters that caused the temperature in their submarines to rise to 120 degrees.

The Russian men were exhausted, anxious, and tired of being cooped up inside hot submarines. Then, they found out American ships were following them. The Russians thought they were under attack.

The captain of the submarine fleet lost his cool. He gathered his staff and pounded the table with his fists.

“We’re going to blast them now! We will die, but we will sink them all — we will not disgrace our Navy!”

During this time, Russia and the United States did not get along. An attack could have caused a third world war. But then an officer named Vasili Arkhipov asked for a moment with the captain. The two men stepped to the side. Vasili urged the captain to reconsider. He suggested they talk to the Americans before reacting. The captain listened.

His anger cooled.

The Russian submarines eventually dove down deep underwater where the American ships couldn’t see them. Then they sailed safely home to Russia.

That day, one calm man stopped a war from starting. His calm affected his captain, and countless lives were saved. One historian said, “The lesson from this [event] is that a guy named [Vasili] Arkhipov saved the world.”

You might be wondering why I’m sharing this story with you. You may not have been in the navy. You probably never been on a submarine. But you know what it’s like to be stressed. You know what it’s like to have a hard class or a boss who yells at you or a spouse or child who is sick. You know what it’s like to be under pressure with the daily grind.

When we’re in situations like this, it’s tempting to lose our temper and get angry. Or to make decisions too quickly like the Russian captain tried to do. It’s tempting to lose our calm, lose control, and do something we regret. Have you ever done this? Maybe you were stressed about work, school, family issues and snapped at your spouse when she asked you a question. Or maybe you said something mean to a friend or yelled at your children or were disrespectful to a friend. We all do things we regret when we’re stressed and anxious. But we can learn to be calm like Vasili Arkhipov, even when life around us is not.

Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. — James 1:19 NIV



Thank You Educators!

Sunday, August 8, 2021

We will be honoring all the educators
in our congregation during our service.

Following our service we will enjoy a
BACK TO SCHOOL POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Bring your favorite dish to share with the congregation!



HYMN OF THE MONTH - "IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL"

Great things often come out of tragedy. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

The story of this hymn, It is Well With My Soul, is the story of a tragedy that God used to bless many thousands of people. The author, Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) was a successful businessman from Chicago. He had a wife named Anna, a son and four daughters. He was a strong Christian and was good friends with evangelist D.L. Moody and hymn writer and singer Ira D. Sankey. In the Chicago fire of 1871 the Spaffords lost everything. They had also just lost their young son.

In 1873 the Spaffords decided to sail to England and spend some time there on vacation. Mr. Spafford sent his wife and four daughters ahead while he stayed behind to sort out some last minute business matters. It was his intention to follow as soon as he could. However, while crossing the Atlantic, the ship his wife and daughters was on had a collision and went down. Back in Chicago, Mr. Spafford received a telegram from his wife with the words, "Saved Alone." All four of his daughters had been drowned.

Mr. Spafford sailed for England as soon as he could. When the ship reached the spot where his daughters had died, Mr. Spafford went into his cabin, sat down and penned the words to this hymn.

After the tragedy in the Atlantic, the Lord blessed the Spaffords with three more children. They moved to Israel where they set up a ministry to help the poor and needy. Later, one of their daughters set up an orphanage for unwanted babies. Their ministry still continues in Jerusalem to this day. If it hadn't been for the suffering the Spaffords went through, this ministry may not have come about, and we definitely wouldn't have this amazing song. And so we see once again that what is meant for evil, God uses for good.

Sorrows cannot shake the faith of those who have fully placed their trust in Jesus Christ. Not only do we have the full assurance of salvation, but we also have a glorious hope that one day all the sorrows and trials of life will be over, and we will be with Jesus for eternity. It is with this assurance and hope that I can truly say, "It is well with my soul."

IT IS
well
WITH MY
Soul

MAY TREASURY REPORT

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$8,927.00
Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00
Special Offering: \$0.00
Miscellaneous: \$1.76

Monthly Total:
\$8,928.76

Expenses

Salaries: \$4,300.00
Utilities: \$159.66
Supplies & Food: \$13.23
Insurance: \$0.00
Miscellaneous: \$0.00
Taxes: \$0.00
Maintenance: \$2,630.00

Monthly Total:
\$7,102.89

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

08/01 Sandra Zimmerebner
08/01 Brad Chilton
08/17 Mary Smith
08/19 Maggie Tingle
08/21 Gayle Strange
08/22 Levi Cave
08/22 Laura Latham
08/29 Daisy Nicodemus
08/31 Holly Franklin

Anniversaries

08/18 Scott & Kim Tingle



JULY BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- The minutes from the June board meeting were approved via email three days after the June board meeting.
- Mike Rippy presented the financial report to the board. Income was \$8,928.76 and expenses were \$7,102.89 for the month of June.
- Church fence update: Mike Poen's crew was going to come and clean out around the current fence. He and his family moved to Iowa before the work could be done, so he generously donated \$500 to go towards the clean up process. Ken Bean will contact companies to do the work.
- Community Lifeline of McKinney will send us a start up packet so we know what to do to get ready to become a distribution center. We will ask Community Lifeline of McKinney if the third Sunday of each month from 3-5 pm is available. The hope is to begin on August 15, 2021.
- The marquee needs to be replaced/redone. The racks that hold the letters have warped, so the letters will not stay in place. Kimberly Tisserand will research marquee companies that could come out and give us a bid.
- Gloria Kautz let the board know that she will be out of town beginning August 22nd through the end of September. Gloria Kautz will contact Carolyn Biggio to see if she could play piano during that time.
- Marilyn Chamberlin motioned to give Daniel Tisserand a budget of \$1,000 to spend to purchase a new laptop for the church. Jenna Jacques seconded. Motion passed.
- We will honor all the educators (past and present) in our congregation on Sunday, August 8, 2021. We will have our back to school church luncheon following the service.
- Ken Bean put together a list of different committees that the church might want to start. Those include Building and Grounds; Worship, Music & Christian Education; and Membership, Finance and Christian Outreach. The board would like to get the congregation more involved in order to share the work load among members of the congregation. A small group cannot do it all.

Committees will be as follows:

Building & Grounds and Finance – Daniel Tisserand, Scooter Cave, Mike Rippy (ex officio) possibly Brian Larsen

Worship, Music & Christian Education – Karen Chilton, Brad Chilton (ex officio) and Gloria Kautz (ex officio)

Membership and Christian Outreach – Jenna Jacques, Marilyn Chamberlin and Shirley Larsen

The chairman of board (Ken Bean) and the preacher (Doc Gardner) are both ex officio on all committees.

- The Board will wait until the Nominating Committee recommends a replacement to start in January 2022 for Mike Poen's open deacon position.
- Danielle Chamberlin will be stepping down as Sunday School teacher at the end of the year. We will need to look for a replacement.
- Our next board meeting will be on August 1, 2021 at 9:30 am.



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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Email: dagardnersr@gmail.com

Kimberly Tisserand, Secretary
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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

Jesus
is the
same
YESTERDAY
and
TODAY
and
FOREVER.
HEBREWS 13:8

Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Nancy Neill, Louis Cave, Tralyn Tadlock, Doc Gardner, Margaret Marlar, Linda Waco, and Clark Neill 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.