



# 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

- Children's Sunday School - during service
- Adult Sunday School - 10:15 am
- May 9 - Mother's Day Celebration
- May 16 - Spring Luncheon
- May 16 - Gloria Kautz's Piano Recital 3:00pm
- June 20 - Father's Day Celebration
- July 4 - Weston 4th of July Parade

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## THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Greetings in Christ!

As we continue to navigate through these difficult times in our Nation and world, we wanted to take a few moments to give a "shout-out" to all Mothers. We often hear appreciation for those who are on the front lines making sure we have food in the stores, in addition to people responding to emergencies and other professions that are such a blessing to all of us.



One of the things we hear is that because someone is an "essential worker" then they not only can go to work but are expected to go to work! The pressures on all of these people must be profound at this time, so keep them in prayer in the weeks and months ahead.

When I hear the term "essential workers," it doesn't take long to consider the work that a Mother does, especially at this time! Yes, they are far more than this, but for sure, they are ESSENTIAL! With changes in school schedules and even cancellations, many Mothers have added to their job description in ways they never thought possible! Some are now teaching or at least facilitating a learning environment for their children. While some have already been home-schooling their children, many others have not. This educational experience is all a brand new situation for both Mother and Child. It would be impossible to cover all the new challenges you are facing in one short letter, but rest assured, YOU are appreciated and quite ESSENTIAL both to your children and our Nation and your church family!!! Homes that are healthy in spiritual, physical, and emotional ways are so needed as we move on to hope and healing in the days and weeks ahead.

I would encourage you somehow to make sure to take some time for yourself to get alone with God at least for a few moments each day for encouragement and renewal. While that may seem impossible, it is essential to allow the Holy Spirit to keep you sharp spiritually as you navigate these times.

*Isaiah 40:31 – But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*

I realize even Mother's Day for this year will most likely be much different. You may have to endure overcooked, or undercooked steaks or burgers by your "grillmaster" husband. Your gifts might seem a bit different as stores, and even flower shops might be closed or running behind. We WILL get through this together!

Whatever the case, remember that we love and appreciate you and are so thankful for you as you continue to work on the "front of the front lines." God Blessings on you and yours and Happy Mother's Day!

Pastor Dr. Damon "Doc" Gardner

# HONORING GAYLE STRANGE

On April 18, 2021, we had the opportunity to honor Gayle Strange as Elder Emeritus. After years of being a faithful member of our congregation, Gayle Strange joined the board in 2011. She served as our first female chairperson in 2013 and spent 6 years as a devoted board member.

**Thank you, Gayle, for all you have done for our church.  
We are blessed to have you as a faithful member.**



## SPRING LUNCHEON - MAY 16TH

### **Please join us May 16, 2021 for our Spring Luncheon!**

It has been over a year since we were all able to come together for a fellowship luncheon and we are excited to be able to start this tradition back up! Weather permitting, our luncheon will be outside and each family can sit at their own 6 foot table so we will be properly social distanced. We will also have servers at the buffet table with masks and gloves.

### **We hope you can join us!**

## MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL

In my daily Bible reading plan, there was a wonderful short story that was very powerful, and I wanted to share it with you:

A century or so ago, a ship in a storm was dashed against the rocks in Cornwall, at the South West corner of England. A fifteen-year-old sailor swam to safety on an offshore rock. He climbed up and waited all night until he was rescued the next morning. A reporter interviewed him and commented, 'You must have been shaking all night as you clung to that rock.' 'Yes,' the young sailor replied, 'I trembled all night with fear and cold.' Then he added, 'But the rock never trembled once.'

But the rock never trembled once.

While we go through very trying times in America and the World, we can know beyond a shadow of a doubt that if we continue to put our trust in Jesus Christ, we will know great victory.

Isn't it wonderful to serve the ONE TRUE GOD?

There is an old song that comes to my mind written by George Beverly Shea titled: "In Times Like These", and here are the lyrics:

In times like these you need a Savior  
 In times like these you need an anchor  
 Be very sure, be very sure  
 Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

This Rock is Jesus, Yes He's the One  
 This Rock is Jesus, the only One  
 Be very sure, be very sure  
 Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

Hold strong to our Rock Jesus and He too will give you the strength needed during these trying times.

Blessings in Christ!



## HYMN OF THE MONTH - "ALL THE WAY MY SAVIOR LEADS ME"

The hymn was written in 1875 by Fanny Crosby.

"A frequently told story about this hymn relates that it came to Fanny as a result of a prayer. Struggling financially, she desperately needed some money. As her usual custom, Fanny began to pray. A few minutes later, a gentleman offered her five dollars, the exact amount she needed. Later recalling the incident, she said, "I have no way of accounting for this except to believe that God put it into the heart of this good man to bring the money." The poem she wrote afterward became "*All The Way My Savior Leads Me*."

The tune was written by Dr. Robert Lowry. In her autobiography, Crosby wrote that this was her first hymn to be set to music by Lowry.

The hymn was first published in *Brightest and best hymnal* in 1875. The song is considered one of Crosby's best known hymns and has been published in over 250 hymnals.



## SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR MAY

May 2	<b>Into the Death Zone</b>	Luke 9:23
May 9	<b>A Unity That Guides Our Steps</b>	Acts 2:42-47
May 16	<b>Shoes of Peace</b>	Ephesians 6:15
May 23	<b>He Comes</b>	Acts 2:1-14
May 30	<b>One</b>	Ephesians 4:3-6

## MARCH TREASURY REPORT

### Income

Sunday Offerings: \$5,748.00  
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00  
 Special Offering: \$25.00  
 Miscellaneous: \$2.32

**Monthly Total:**  
**\$5,775.32**

### Expenses

Salaries: \$4,225.00  
 Utilities: \$653.62  
 Supplies & Food: \$77.35  
 Insurance: \$0.00  
 Miscellaneous: \$0.00  
 Taxes: \$0.00  
 Maintenance: \$130.00

**Monthly Total:**  
**\$5,085.97**

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays

05/06 Jeff Harlow  
 05/10 Alyson Cave  
 05/12 Connor Gardner  
 05/17 Louis Cave  
 05/18 Keelan Dimock  
 05/20 Mike Rippy  
 05/20 Dayton Poen  
 05/24 Jim Mitlyng  
 05/29 Mathew Mitlyng  
 05/30 Shelly Cave

### Anniversaries

05/01 Clark & Nancy Neill  
 05/19 Ryan & Jenna Jacques



## APRIL BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- The minutes were approved as amended for the February Board Meeting.
- Mike Rippy presented the financial report. Income was \$5,775.32 and expenses were \$5,085.97. Under special projects, that \$1,000.00 expense was the check sent to Tralyn Tadlock to help with her medical expenses.
- Doc Gardner stated that 6-8 people are interested in doing the virtual bible study. Most of those people attend church regularly and we were hoping to target those that are not attending church. We will revisit this in July and see if the virtual bible study is something we feel we should offer.
- Ken Bean stated that the church fence between the church property and the neighbors on the east and north side needs to be replaced. Mike Poen said he would have a crew out in May for a 1/2 day, to start the clean out "at no cost to the church." They may not be able to complete it in 1/2 day. After Mike Poen's crew starts the clean up then we will assess if more clean up is needed and when to put up a new fence.
- The city of Weston is doing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. We will have a float and will need a truck to pull it. Marilyn Chamberlin and Danielle Chamberlin will coordinate decorating the float.
- We will celebrate Mother's Day on May 9, 2021. Gifts have already been purchased to give to each mother.
- Gloria Kautz will have a recital here at the church on May 16, 2021.
- Doc Gardner has been our preacher 6 months. The board will meet on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in person at the Fellowship Hall to discuss the 6-month review.
- Daniel Tisserand met with the executive director of Community Lifeline of McKinney and they are interested in setting up a food pantry in Weston. Their target area is US highway 380 and the surrounding Northern area. The board would like to invite Scott Elliott to attend the May 2, 2021 board meeting and talk to the board about Community Lifeline's needs. Mike Poen presented the idea to go into the Celina schools at the end of the year and pay off school lunch balances of kids that owe money for school lunches. Ken Bean stated that the Boy and Girls Scouts of America reached out to him about sponsoring scout packs. We could sponsor and be a charter organization for a pack. If we agreed to do it, then it would probably be a year before the pack would be started.
- Scooter Cave brought up that some congregation members would like to see the minutes in a more timely manner. Ken Bean stated that our board meetings are not closed meetings, and anyone is welcome to attend if they are interested in what we discuss. Kimberly Tisserand will print out copies of the minutes and place them inside, near the front door of the church for congregation members to take if they so wish.
- The board decided to add in the responsive reading each Sunday. We will wait on passing communion and offering plates. When we determine masks are not needed, then we will discuss adding those back in.



*Mothers are God's beautiful jewels created to grace humanity.  
 Their constant love and encouragement are a reflection  
 of the love of Christ that guide children's every step.  
 Thank you to all the Mothers in our congregation.  
 We pray the Lord blesses you richly this Mother's Day!*

## First Christian Church of Weston

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Find us on Facebook!

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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



## Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Jeannie Greenwald, Michael and Linda Waco, Nancy Neill, Louis Cave, and Tralyn Tadlock 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.