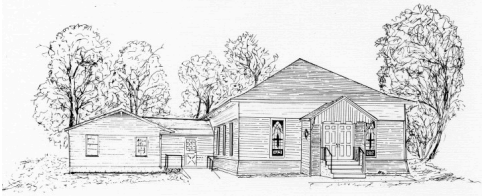




FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

November 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

- November 3
Board Meeting 9:30
Day of Remembrance

- November 11
Women's Bible Study and
Lunch

- November 17 and 24
Clothing and Food Drive

- November 17
Community Thanksgiving
Service 5:30 First Baptist

- November 30
Decorate Building

- December 14
Live Nativity

In this Issue

- Upcoming Events 1
- Minister's Message 1

- Men's Devotional 2
- Women's Bible Study 2

- Financial Report 3
- Sermons and Texts 3
- Prayer List 3

- Celebrations 4-5

- Contact Info 6
- Pantry Item 6

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many blessings we've experienced this year. Our congregation continues to be a source of light and strength in the Weston community, and I am deeply grateful for the love and fellowship we share as a church family.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I invite you all to join us for our Community Thanksgiving Service. This year, the service will be held at Baptist Church where we will gather with other local congregations to offer our thanks and praise for God's abundant blessings. It's always a meaningful opportunity to come together with fellow believers, and I encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to participate.

As we celebrate this season of gratitude, we are also looking ahead to the Christmas season with anticipation. Our Annual Live Nativity Event will take place in December, and we are eagerly preparing for this beautiful tradition. This event is not only a cherished part of our church's calendar but also a meaningful outreach to the community, sharing the story of Christ's birth. To make this event a success, we need volunteers to assist in various areas, including set design, costuming, organizing, and hospitality. Whether you have a specific skill or just a willingness to help, there is a place for you to serve. If you feel led to contribute, please contact Karen Chilton. Your involvement is essential to making this Live Nativity event a memorable and impactful experience for all who attend.

As we prepare for both Thanksgiving and the Christmas season, let us continue to hold fast to the spirit of giving and service. I look forward to celebrating these joyous occasions with all of you, and I thank you in advance for your time, effort, and prayers.

May you and your loved ones enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving, filled with the peace and joy that only God can provide.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Doc and Family

MEN'S TOOLBOX DEVOTIONAL**Say the Word**

“I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells me. Therefore, my judgment is just, because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will.” —Jesus (John 5:30, NLT)



There is something about understanding authority that assures God when He approves His representatives. His willingness to advance His authority through a man depends on the man's willingness to accept His authority. It's not so much confidence in oneself as in God's ability to work through the man—and He believes it. Here's a great contrast between a man who fully understands God's authority, and one who doesn't. The Apostle Paul tells us:

But God removed Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom God said, “I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.” —Acts 13:22

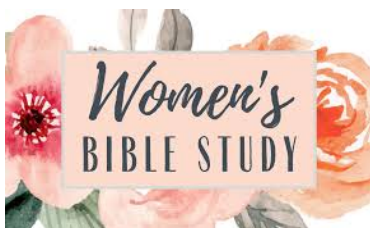
The transactional phrase is “everything I want him to do.” Saul was removed because he obeyed God selectively, when it was convenient. Saul got into the bad habit of “mostly obeying,” but David demonstrated that he understood God's overriding authority. Saul was ineffective because he hadn't surrendered. David was operating out of “want to” and Saul still hadn't settled the fact that it is all about God's authority, not his own.

Asa, who was a descendant of David, was a good king, but his effectiveness in battle was compromised because he could not surrender full control of his life to God's authority. There was a trust issue in play. When God told him to go for it, he did, but his eyes drifted off of God and onto the enemy. His faith was replaced by fear, and fear moved him to hire mercenaries to help him win in his battles. God was offended, and Asa stopped winning.

Whereas most of us can't relate to Saul, and we strive to have a heart after God like David, we can probably relate most with Asa: A good man with good intentions who sometimes took his eye off the ball. For all of us, then, the goal is to avoid being Saul, move past being Asa, and embrace the type of reverence and respect David had for God's authority.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our Bible Study as we continue to discuss *The Love Stories of the Bible Speak*. We will be looking at the chapter Job and His Friends, beginning on page 219, and how they were his companions in grief.



Our next study will be *Parables* by John MacArthur. There is an accompanying workbook as well. Make plans to be a part of this great study.

November 11 9:30 class 11:00 lunch

SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR OCTOBER

Date	Title	Scripture Text
11/3	If You Love Me	John 14:15-21
11/10	If The World Hates You	John 15:18-25
11/17	If You Remain in Me	John 15:1-8
11/24	Praise Worship	



FINANCIAL REPORT - September

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$7,225.16
 Building Fund Offering: 300.00
 Memorial Gift Fund: .00
 Special Offering: .00
 Miscellaneous: 8.37

Expenses

Salaries: \$4,155.00
 Utilities: 440.25
 Supplies & Food: 603.10
 Insurance: .00
 Taxes: .00
 Maintenance: 130.00
 Miscellaneous: 75.66

Total Income: \$7,533.53

Total Expenses: \$5,404.01



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 Rippy, Amy Davey, Mary and Jerry Smith, Blaise Ramer, Tessa Kautz, Ginger Gardner, Vera Gardner, family of Ann Fleet.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE - NOVEMBER 3, 2024

Sunday, November 3rd, we will observe our annual Day of Remembrance for those members or friends and loved ones of our church family who have passed away during the preceding year. This year we will be lighting a candle to honor the following:

Margaret Marlar Daisy Nicodemus Damon Gardner, Sr. Arlis Parish Vernon Fleet

happy
biRthday

HAPPY
Anniversary

11/14 Colton Raper

11/26 Janet Rippy

11/26 John Neill

11/23 Jim & Susan Mitlyng

11/27 Larry & Brenda Lambert

OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

Dawson and Shanna Bean and family are serving as missionaries in Prague, Czech Republic. They are raising funds to buy new bibles.

Dawson writes:

We serve a community full of people often encountering the Scriptures for the first time - native Czechs, international expats, students, immigrants, asylum seekers, and others. As we frequently have new faces each week alongside our members and regulars, we are reaching out to you to help us seize this opportunity to put God's Word into the hands of those eager to know Him.

You can give toward the purchase of Bibles at www.mtw.org/bean.

Please include Bibles for Prague in the comments to ensure your contribution goes toward the purchase of the bibles.



NEW MEMBERS AND BAPTISM

Sunday, October 27, **Jeff, Pamela and Brady Herzberg** made it known they wish to join the First Christian Church Weston. We are so blessed to have the Herzberg's be a part of our congregation. Brady was also baptized that day. We are very proud of Brady and his desire to be baptized. Brady was presented with a bible and a certificate of baptism.



CHILI COOK OFF October 27 was the 17th Annual Chili Cook Off. We held the luncheon outside in the Tabernacle. It was a beautiful day and everyone enjoyed eating and fellowshiping together. There were 10 crock pots of chili that were judged. Thanks to all who brought chili and the other side items and desserts. Thanks also to our judges, Doc Gardner, Brad Chilton and Collin Heistand for sampling all the chili!



This year's winners!
 Pamela Herzberg - People's Choice
 Karen Chilton - Best Nontraditional
 Holly Franklin - Best Traditional Chili



COMMUNITY LIFELINE CENTER MOBILE DISTRIBUTION



The food distribution was held October 12 at Calvary Chapel Honey Creek in Weston. Thanks to those who helped that morning. We appreciate your willingness to serve!

WESTON CHILI SUPPER

The Weston Chili Supper was a great time. The church setup a booth with bookmarks to pass out and signs advertising our live nativity. It was nice enjoying some chili with fellow members and the Weston community. Thanks to Mary Smith, Yvonne Heistand, Ken and Marikay Bean, Brian and Shirley Larsen, Doc and Ginger Gardner and Colton and Danielle Raper for manning the booth and reaching out to our Weston neighbors.



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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



The **Community Thanksgiving Service**
 will be held at the First Baptist Church in
 Weston. This is a special time to worship
 with other members of our community.
November 17, 2024 5:30 - 8:30 pm

LIVE NATIVITY
A Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Saturday, December 14, 2024
 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm *Come & Go*
 In conjunction with Miracle on Chicken Street
Live animals and actors
Refreshments served

FREE to the Public
 100 Chicken Street, Weston
 Near FM 455 & FM 543 Intersection
Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm

First Christian Church
 (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
 WESTON
 (972) 382-3347 | FCCWeston@outlook.com | www.firstchristianweston.com

MONTHLY PANTRY ITEM FOR NOVEMBER - TOOTHPASTE

This month we will collect toothpaste 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.



November 17 and 24 we will also be having our Fall Clothing and Food Drive. Donations can be brought to the building.