



### Leadership

Board Chair - Norma Savage  
Vice Chair - Gary Dunn  
Secretary - Ken Hicks  
Treasurer - John Billingsley  
Worship - Ronda Park  
Outreach - Rick Herring  
Stewardship - Jim Pegg  
Membership - Lynn Wiseman  
Fellowship - Barbie Oakes  
Education - Carey Roberts  
Property - Adrian Park  
Evangelism - Gary Dunn  
Technology - Hannaphen Park  
Elder Chair - Mark Muller  
Deacon Chair - Helen Scribner



### February 01

**Birthday Lunch**

**Vedder Memorial Service**

### February 07

**Men's Breakfast**

### February 15

**Week of Compassion**

**Cabinet Meeting**

### February 18

**Ash Wednesday**

### February 22

**Birthday Luncheon**

### REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS

#### **Adult Sunday School**

9:15 am Faith Keepers

9:30 am Loyal Fellowship

#### **Children's Sunday School**

9:30 am Crossroads Kids age 3 & 4

*Lesson: David and the Giant*

Group A - Kinder - 5th grade

Group B - 6th - 12th grade

*Study: Feeding of the 5,000*

10:15 am Choir Rehearsal

10:50 am Worship Service

12 - 2:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

8:45 am Elders Meet (1st Sunday)

### January 25, 2026

**Minister - Rick Truitt**

**Service on ZOOM see  
article at top of the page.**

# **First Christian Church Fort Worth, Texas**

*Embracing ALL by loving, serving, and growing disciples downtown.*

**Volume 34 Issue 04 - January 21, 2026**



## **ATTENTION CONGREGATION!**

Due to the forecasted winter weather approaching our area this weekend you will not be coming in the doors to worship in person. This Sunday's worship service will be by ZOOM. Remember ZOOM a little blast from the past. So make sure you are prepared to log in and show up from the safety and comfort of your home. Currently plans are still being finalized but I am sure you will be surprised and delighted. Rick and Keith are putting in a lot of time, energy and effort to make sure you are able to hear a word from God. Trisha will deliver an email blast to the congregation on or before Friday with all the information you need. We are not sure at this time if the service will be able to be recorded so please check your email and don't miss this opportunity to fellowship online. Stay safe and be blessed. We will come together next week.



## **Birthday Lunch will be celebrated next Sunday February 1**

Again this has been moved due to the winter storm. In addition to the rescheduled birthday luncheon next Sunday we are inviting the Vedder friends and family to join us at this event before the Memorial service is at 2:00 pm. So when you bring your covered dish to share please bring a little extra. We will fellowship together next

## **Vedder Memorial Service**

The Memorial Service for Charlea Vedder was originally set for this Sunday, January 25. Due to the impending bad weather it has also been moved to next Sunday, February 1, 2026. The plan will be the same as previously scheduled. Rick Truitt will conduct the service at 2:00 pm after the Birthday Lunch.

## Kind Words Spoken

Every Sunday morning, our Regional Minister, Andy Mangum, posts a prayer on Facebook. Last Sunday's prayer was about ministry, those at the beginning through ordination, those in the middle being installed in a new place, and those who are concluding their ministry in retirement. He wrote some very kind words about our retired minister, Tom. I wanted to share it with you, Church Family. Gary Dunn

He writes: "As I write this morning's prayer, I'm mindful of how much is happening in the world that deserves both pastoral and prophetic attention. Yet, before I am anything else, I am a child of the Church—and today is a good day for the Church.

Finally, today marks the retirement of Rev. Tom Plumbly at First Christian Church of Fort Worth. I first spoke with Tom by phone while in seminary. At the time, he was pastor of one of the first—and then one of the few—Open and Affirming congregations in Texas. He shared with me the story of that journey while I was working on a research project about preaching and congregational identity. Tom said that, in some sense, every sermon he preached addressed the question of who we are becoming as a congregation.

As a new Disciple, I had grown up in a tradition where proclamation focused primarily on the individual believer—who they are becoming as maturing

Christians. That conversation opened my eyes to something distinctive about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We believe the Church—locally, regionally, generally, universally—is something in God's eyes. The Church is not merely a mechanism for making more Christians. The Church in every manifestation is an act of God. I have returned to and built on that reality for 30 years, but I first heard it articulated by my friend Tom. When I was called to FCC Irving, Tom was still at Midway Hills. From then on, I considered him an older brother in ministry, someone whose patterns and practices were aspirational to me. Tom's voice for justice and his understanding that pastors help shape the city and county (not just the nation) should serve as a model for us all. His retirement is well deserved, and I pray it is life-giving and restorative. But we will miss him.

Linnea, recently ordained, Bill, recently named senior minister and Tom would each remind us not to turn away from the realities before us, but to face them realistically and courageously. I agree. Still, today is a good day for the Church. And it is good to give thanks to God.

Holy One, God and Savior of us all, every good and perfect gift, every generous act of sharing, every charism of ministry, every true word proclaimed, every kind act of service, every bold witness for life in the face of this world's threatening patterns of death comes from You. You are the origin, ground, and horizon of our

being as persons, as the Church, the Christian Church, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Christian Church in the Southwest, and our local congregational families.

Today, we give thanks for the gift of ministry and consecrate the energy of new beginnings, the faithfulness of mid-journey vistas, and the celebration of ministries reaching blessed, yet never final, trails end. We thank You for allowing our paths to walk alongside fellow sojourners like Linnea, Bill, and Tom. Each brings to our shared ministry the gifts and graces You have granted, joining together with those special representatives, the ministers, within this mendicant collective we call the Church.

Your ministers, O God, have both lazed new trails and taught us how to walk the well-worn paths of faith. They have set a pace that sometimes felt too fast, yet they have also prioritized rest and sabbath. They have led us toward shade when the sunlight threatened our strength and given us courage when the moon drove us to despair. They have been the hands and feet through whom You have fulfilled Your promise to lead, guide, and protect us.

When we looked to the hills and acknowledged that our help comes from You, time and again You have sent Your faithful ministers to us. Each time we remember them, we give thanks to You. Amen."

*This IS THE DAY THE Lord HAS MADE LET US Rejoice and BE Glad* PSALM 118:24

### Disciple Women's Ministry



All ladies are invited to attend our meetings and activities.

Need information please contact:  
Ronda Park 817-825-2693  
Terri Benepe 817-852-5988  
Janice Whisenand 817-988-8358

### Lectionary - January 25

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9



1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

### COMMUNION PREP & CLEAN UP

February 01 - Carrie Moffett  
February 08 - Nancie Thomas  
February 15 - Jasper Ausec





# PRAYER REQUESTS

## NEW CONCERNS

Lisetta Thomas  
 Jamie Carper  
 Cheryl Beach  
 The Gelvin Family  
 Kristi Smith (Beach family)  
 Brookelynn Cherry (Oakes family)

**Members:** Barbara Batts, George Brady, Dawn Edwards, Emma Gardner, Cookie Hargrave, Herbert Johnson, Ted Klein, Maddison Mason, Anita McNew, Jim Malmberg, Adrian Park, Jan Ragland, Harold Recer, Marcia Recer, John Smith, Rickey Sneed, Jack Whisenand, Mary Wilcox

**Non-Members:** Maria Balderas, Bobby Barker & family, Loree Behymer, Hannah Cobe Campbell, Douglas Carnley, Cindy Crezier, Jeremy Dailey family, Jerald Davis, Dino De La Cruz, John Disch, Aurora Dodd, Heather Glenn, Olivia Johnson, Rozlyn Kohl, Robin McCarty, Troy Miller, Bob Parrish, Diane Scalling Pegg, Garrett Perales, Kyle Pierson, John Rotelsdorf, Ronnie & Jeanie, Debbie Sanders, Jerry Sanders, Jeanne Wagner, George Warner, John Whisenand, Justin Woods, Amy Yaws

## Joys and Accolades



- Thanks to Rick Truitt for stepping up to the pulpit and delivering the sermon last Sunday. We are blessed to have your assistance during this time of transition.
- Congratulations to Ken Hicks he has a new grandson! Bowie Hicks arrived at 6:00 am on Tuesday January 20th. (proud father pictured right)
- So as not to be outdone, Rick Herring had a new grandson arrive on the exact same day, Tuesday, January 20 at 1:00 pm. His name is Grayson. WOW Congratulations!!! (Pictures of both proud Grand dad's below)



The 2026 Chancel flower calendar is on the bulletin board in the church office.

It is available for you to sign up to provide the flowers for a Sunday worship service.

You can use the opportunity to honor a family or friend, celebrate a special event or to remember a loved one.

## Chancel Flower Calendar



*Thank You*

*Mike! so loved this magnificent building and those who greeted him upon arrival.*

*May God continue to shower FCC with blessings beyond measure.*

*Anita*



First Christian Church  
612 Throckmorton  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

**OFFICE HOURS**

*Tuesday thru Thursday 9 am to 5 pm - Friday 9 am to 1 pm*



**Global Ministries**

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
and the United Church of Christ

**Global Ministries Weekly Prayer**

Pray for **Argentina** on Sunday - January 25, 2026  
[www.globalministries.org/topic/weekly\\_prayers](http://www.globalministries.org/topic/weekly_prayers)

**What Kind of Church Are We? Well, We're This Kind:**

**OUR VALUES:** We value worship – attributing worth to God

We value fellowship – relating to and enjoying one another.

We value preaching and teaching – communicating God's word to people.

We value community – caring about and addressing the needs of others.

**OUR MISSION:** Embracing **ALL** by loving, serving, and growing disciples downtown.

**PROFILE OF A DISCIPLE:** Unconditional love, prayer, reflection on scripture, service  
and sharing, openness to the spirit of God and giving of our time and talents

**IDENTITY STATEMENT OF OUR DENOMINATION:** 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.



Senior Minister

Keith Critcher - Minister of Music

Jan Shelton - Dir. of Music - Children & Youth

Mary Mason - Dir. Burnside Handbell Choir

Carey Williams - Financial Secretary

Trisha Bell - Church Administrator

Rickey Sneed - Custodian

**Embracing ALL by  
loving, serving,  
and growing  
disciples downtown.**

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Website: [fortworthdisciples.org](http://fortworthdisciples.org)

[facebook.com/FortWorthFCC](https://facebook.com/FortWorthFCC)