

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2015

10:45 am

THE GATHERING

Prelude Tyler & Emily Thomas, violins
"Poco Adagio: Cantabile" Haydn
Please be in prayerful meditation as we open our minds and hearts to God.

Welcome and Greeting Renee Hoke
The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Call to Worship
**And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of my hand.**

*Hymn of Praise No. 543
"Blessed Assurance"

*Invocation Justin Dickey
Most holy God, your majesty is exceeded only by your love; grant us, in this our worship of you, penitence at the thought of your holiness, reverence at the thought of your majesty, and confidence in the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 36
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

THE WORD

Children's Message Sarah Cook

125th Anniversary Memory David Hartman

Pastoral Prayer, & Lord's Prayer David Hartman
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Reading of the Scripture Renee Hoke
I John 4:16b-5:5
Pew Bible Page 241

Ministry of Music Hailey Wineinger, piano
"Morning Has Broken" arr. Faber

Sermon David Hartman
"The Attributes of God: Our Defender"

THE SACRAMENT

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together" No. 425
Communion Invitation Ronnie James
Elders' Prayers Andy Wilson & Marjorie Parker
Sharing the Bread and Cup
*All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.
Please partake of the bread as it is passed;
we will share the cup together**,
after sharing our common confession.*
I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Stewardship Renee Hoke
Offertory Jeanette Showalter
*Doxology No. 46
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**
*Prayer of Dedication Renee Hoke

THE GOING FORTH

*Invitation to Discipleship David Hartman
*Hymn of Discipleship No. 638
"Hymn of Promise"
*The Benediction David Hartman
*Postlude Jeanette Showalter

* If you are able, please stand.
** A few cups of water are in the communion tray for those on sugar-free diets.

WELCOME TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Welcome! We're glad you are with us for worship today. We want you to feel right at home. For 125 years First Christian Church has been a place where people come seeking a richer relationship with God and neighbor. No matter what your background or previous experience of church, this is a congregation where you can put down roots and experience true community. Our ministry staff and elders leading in worship today will be available after worship to answer your questions. It is our prayer that any person searching for meaningful relationships and a sense of belonging will find it here at First Christian Church of Wichita Falls.

NURSERY

A quality nursery for infants and young children is available during our worship services. We make available to parents, if they desire, an in-house pager, so they can be reached during the worship service. Also available during the week is our childcare programs of Children Come First and Young Ages Preschool.

"GODLY PLAY"

Children ages 3 years thru 2nd grade may participate in "Godly Play" following the Children's Moment. Godly Play allows children to worship and fellowship together in a special environment. Children may be retrieved from Room 213 immediately following the worship service.

HEARING AID DEVICES

Are available for those in need by asking an usher in the Sanctuary Narthex.

SERMONS

Last week's sermon is available in print form in the Narthex of the Chapel and Sanctuary.

SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING AREA

The church staff parking lot is available every Sunday morning for members and guests with special needs. Please be mindful of those that need extra room to load and unload wheelchairs and make it easier for them to worship on Sunday mornings!

COMMON GROUND RECOVERY MINISTRIES

Adult peer support groups each Sunday afternoon at 6:00 pm (Family Challenges, Women's C.A.R.E., Anger Management, Chemical Addictions Recovery & Parent Groups) For more information contact Rev. Dave Brummett, 613-2112.

MEMORIALS & HONORS

The sunflower arrangement on the stage is symbolic and appropriate for this our 125th Anniversary year. The Centennial Celebration Drama for First Christian Church in 1990 centered around the sunflower as the symbol of its congregation. Quoting from it: "You know how a sunflower knows the source of its Light? It always turns its bright and beautiful face to reflect the Sun...the source of its Light and its Life. Just follows that ole Sun as it moves across the sky. Even in the darkest night, this plain ole flower radiates with the Sun's light...yes, it does...if we have eyes to see it. Well, that's the way it is with our congregation. We know the Source of our Light, Our Life and there hasn't been any darkness dark enough to put it out. No Depression, no wars, no crash of the oil industry, no tornado...nothing. God's light shines on in even that darkness. Sunflowers! God's sunflowers! Reflecting God's love...always. To me that's who we have been, who we are, and who we will continue to be."

Sunday Evening Activities Schedule

- 5:14 CGRM Evening Worship Ministry (Fellowship Hall)
The speaker will be Rev. Dave Brummett.
- 6:00 Common Ground Recovery Ministries (CGRM) Groups:
Anger Recovery (Room 304)
Chemical Addictions Recovery (Room 305)
Parenting (Room 306)
Women's C.A.R.E. (Room 307)
Family Challenges Support (Room 310)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This Week, July 27-31
9:00 am - 12:00 Noon
Ages: 4 Years to 4th Grade

PARENT LUNCH FORUMS

BLAST Parents (Grades K-5):
Today, Sunday, July 26th, 12:00 noon, Room 405

Chi Rho/CYF Parents (Grades 6-12):
Next Sunday, August 2nd, 12:00 noon, Room 405

"We're looking for your input as we plan ministry for the Fall!
Join us for lunch and discussion."

PANTRY SUNDAY - AUGUST 2ND

Pantry Sunday for Interfaith Ministries will be next Sunday, August 2nd. Items for collection will be **cereal and canned meat**. Also needed are the **reusable cloth shopping bags**. IMI and Outreach appreciate your gifts to this project each month.

HHH VOLUNTEERS

The Discovery Class is hosting riders for the HHH again this year. We are expecting to double our number (around 200 total). If you would like to volunteer to help make these cyclists feel welcome here at First Christian, please contact Cindy Hernandez at 642-0167. The Discovery Class will hold an organizational meeting for all volunteers on Thursday, August 13th, at 6:00 pm in the Discovery Classroom, Room 304.

**CHALLENGER TO BE EVERY TWO WEEKS
NO CHALLENGER THIS WEEK!**

During the month of July the "Challenger" will be published every two weeks and will return to weekly publication on August 5th.

AUGUST MSU GARAGE GIVEAWAY

Are you saving for our August Garage Giveaway of housewares and furniture items for MSU international students? If you have questions or need help with ways to help please feel free to call, Sally Hastings, 940-224-4416, or Ann Hunter, 940-631-5661.

First Christian Church
3701 Taft Blvd, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
(940) 692-2282, www.firstchristianwf.com

Dr. David B. Hartman, Jr., *Senior Minister*
Rev. Renee Hoke, *Associate Minister*
Jeanette Showalter, *Director of Music Ministries*
Justin Dickey, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*
Sarah Cook, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Rev. Dave Brummett, *Director of Recovery Ministries*
Heather Dickerson, *Director of Children Come First*
Karen Bivona, *Director of Young Ages School*
Cheryl Appling, *Business Administrator* Susan Marrs, *Executive Secretary*
Tina Williams, *Financial Secretary* Pam Poulos, *Receptionist*
Debbie Watson, *Organist* Glenda & Preston, *Custodians*

OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, July 26, 2015

- 8:40—Worship Fellowship Hall
- 9:30—Sunday School
- 10:45—Worship Fellowship Hall
- 5:14-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities
- 12:00—BLAST (Grades K-5) Parents Lunch Forum Room 405

Monday, July 27, 2015

- 7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)
- 9:00—Vacation Bible School (M-F)
- 10:15—FCC Staff Meeting..... Office
- 7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15 Gym

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

- 2:00—Library Committee..... Library

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

- 7:00—Elders' Breakfast Room 402 & Chapel
- 12:00-2:00—Youth Open Gym (Grades 6-12)..... Gym & Youth Room

Thursday, July 30, 2015

- 1:30—Knit Wits..... Parlor

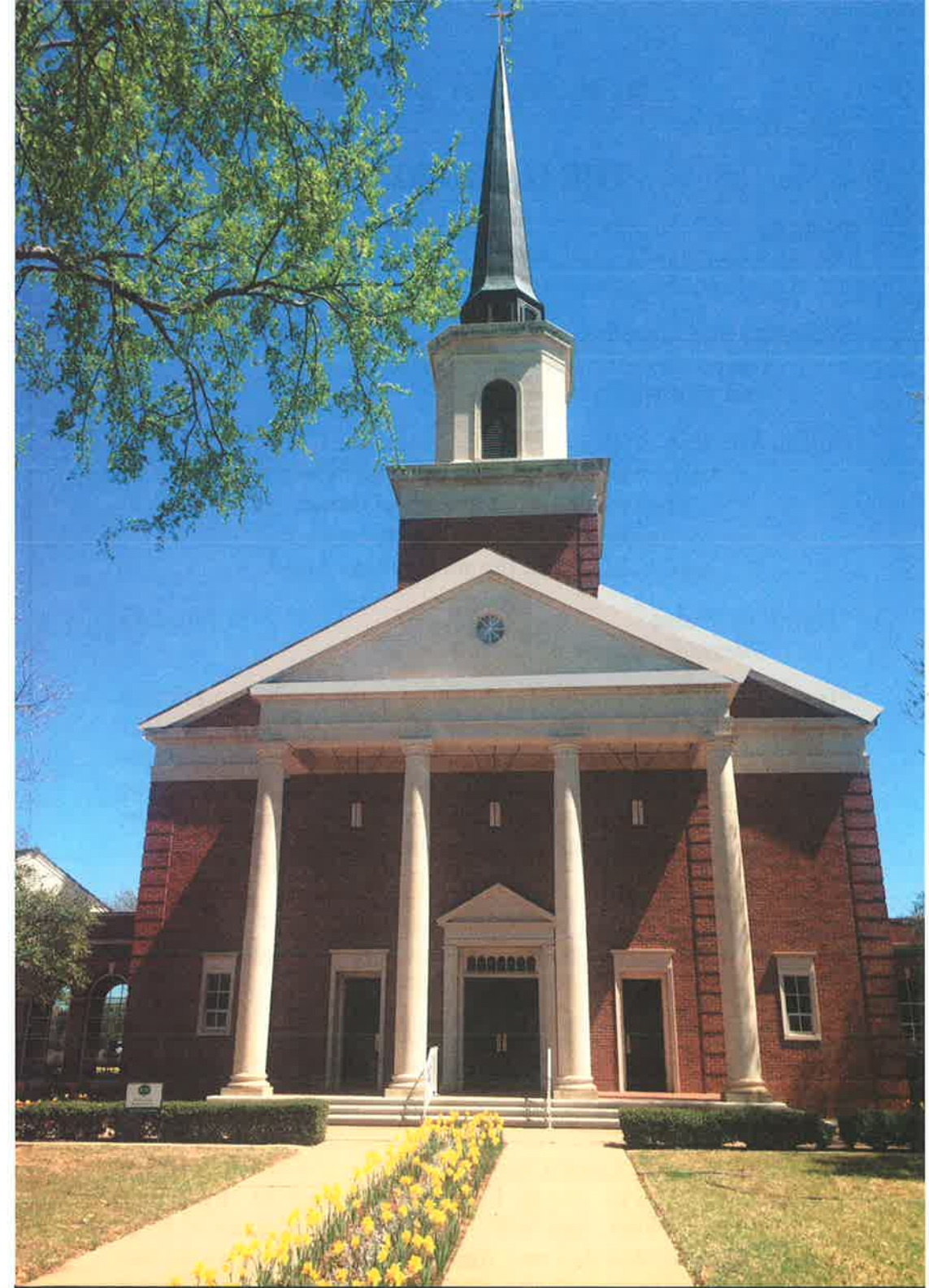
Sunday, August 2, 2015

- PANTRY SUNDAY
- 8:40—Worship Fellowship Hall
 - 9:30—Sunday School
 - 10:45—Worship Fellowship Hall
 - 12:00—Chi Rho/CYF (Grades 6-12) Parents Lunch Forum ... Room 405
 - 5:14-7:30—Sunday Evening Activities

**PROJECT BACK TO SCHOOL &
POWERPAK 4 KIDS (Backpack Project)**

The Project Back to School organization accepts donations to help purchase school supplies for children that qualify for the assistance. The Project Back to School Roundup is an informative and fun family event that provides children in Wichita Falls in Head Start through 12th grade with the essential school supplies and services they need to start the school year ready to learn. The **PowerPak 4 Kids** project accepts donations to help the Food Bank provide take home food for children that are "food insecure" in the WFISD specifically over the weekends.

The FCC Outreach Ministry suggests that both of these projects are worthy projects for the children of Wichita Falls and would like to ask for the support of the congregation. Outreach will accept monetary donations from now thru August 2nd and donations will be divided evenly between Project Back to School and the PowerPak 4 Kids Project.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Wichita Falls, Texas