

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2015

10:45 am

THE GATHERING

Prelude Debbie Watson & Jeanette Showalter
"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" arr. Page
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
**I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.**

*Hymn of Praise No. 595
"Be Thou My Vision"

*Invocation Justin Dickey
God of the faithful in every time, today you have called us into your church to be one body in Jesus Christ. You have bestowed on us the gifts we need for your service. Grant that we may willingly take our part; that we may support each other and that we may seek the greatest gift, which is love. Knead us together into one loaf through your Spirit. 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 Justin Dickey

125th Anniversary Memory Renee Hoke

Pastoral Prayer, & Lord's Prayer Renee Hoke
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 Justin Dickey
Luke 15:11-24
Pew Bible Page 78

Ministry of Music Andrew Allen, saxophone
Medley of Hymns

Sermon Renee Hoke
"The Attributes of God: The God Who Loves Us"

THE SACRAMENT

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" No. 585
Communion Invitation Susan Buckley
Elders' Prayers Kerry Roach & Gary Ballard
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 Justin Dickey
Offertory Debbie Watson & Jeanette Showalter
"To God Be the Glory" arr. Hayes
*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 Justin Dickey

THE GOING FORTH

*Invitation to Discipleship Renee Hoke

*Hymn of Discipleship No. 477
"Pass It On"

*The Benediction Renee Hoke

*Postlude Debbie Watson

* 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.

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.

MIDWEEK RESPITE SERVICE

We are offering a Wednesday evening period of quiet prayer and respite in our Chapel from 5:30-6:30. Members and visitors are warmly invited to come in and pray for however long or as little as they feel led; from 5:45-6:00, there will be a brief vespers service consisting of scripture, guided prayer and communion.

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)
- 7:00 CGRM Pot Luck Dinner (Room 310)

GOD BLESS TEACHERS!

Join us on Sunday, August 23rd,
during the 10:45 am Worship Service
in the Sanctuary for the
Blessing of Teachers
Everyone welcome!

Please make your reservations in the attendance folders for the
ANNIVERSARY MEMORY PROGRAM & FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON
Sunday, August 23rd, 12:00 noon, Fellowship Hall
Program: "125th Anniversary Memory" by Dr. Hartman
Menu to be announced. Cost is by donation.
Everyone welcome!

CHANCEL CHOIR RESUMES

Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals this Wednesday, August 12, with a kickoff dinner at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The choir fund will provide the meat, and everyone is asked to bring a salad, vegetable, bread, or dessert to share. We'll have rehearsal beginning at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room. Choir is a rewarding way to serve your church and to meet new people. We have a lot of fun while praising God! If you'd like to sing with us, please come to our kickoff dinner! If you have questions, call Jeanette at 692-2282 or email: jeanette@firstchristianwf.com.

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.

AUGUST MSU GARAGE GIVEAWAY

Are you saving for our August Garage Giveaway of housewares and furniture items for MSU international students to be held on Saturday, August 22nd? Items need to be taken to Jerry's Sporting Goods behind McDonald's on Southwest Parkway by Monday, August 17th. See the Challenger for list of items needed. Call Jerry Johnson, 704-1471, if you have furniture that needs a truck pickup. If you have questions 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 & 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

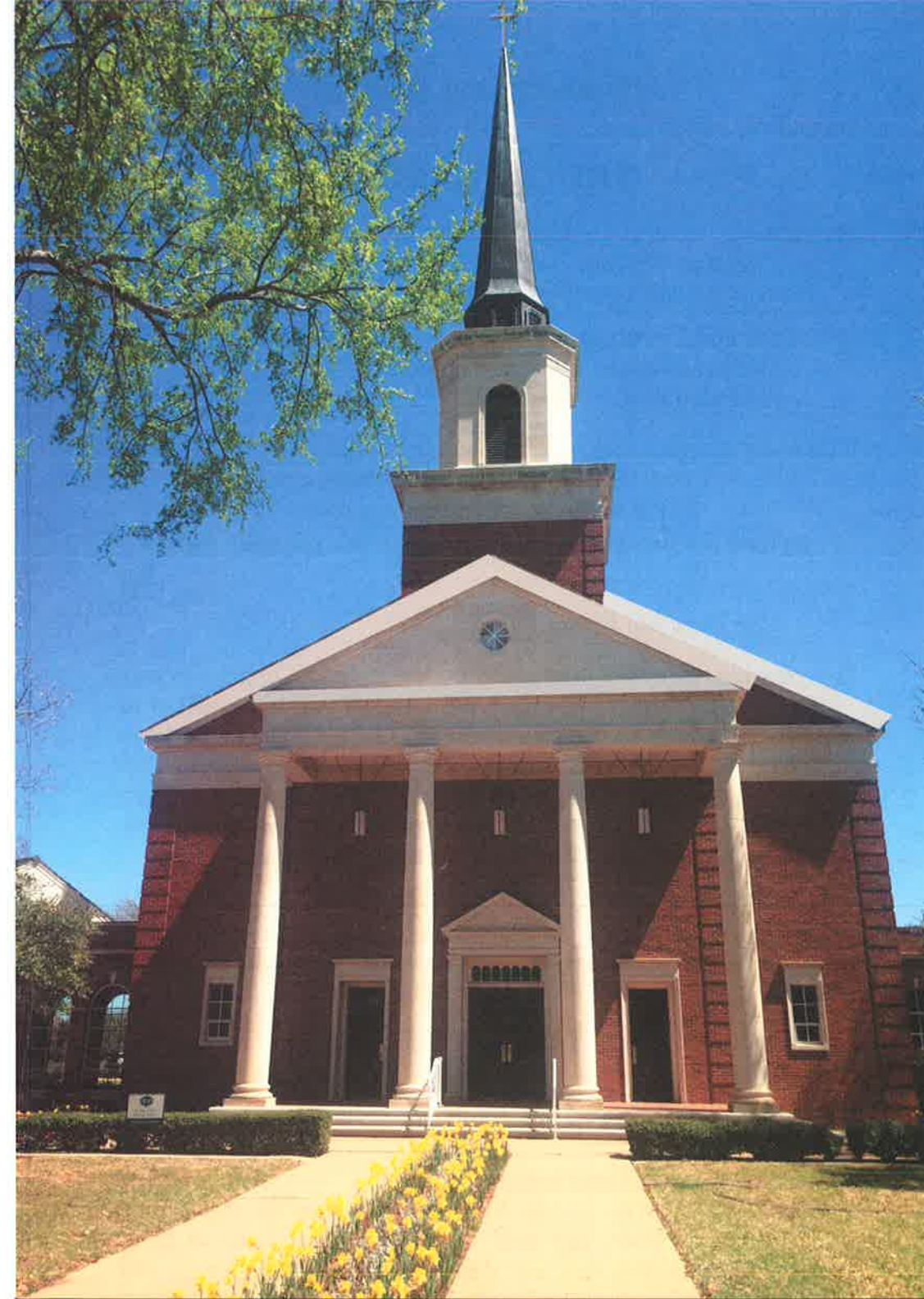
- Sunday, August 9, 2015**
8:40—Worship Fellowship Hall
9:30—Sunday School
10:45—Worship Fellowship Hall
5:14-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities
- Monday, August 10, 2015**
7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)
10:00—Leave for JYF Camp (Grades 4 & 5) (Aug. 10-14)... Athens TX
10:15—FCC Staff Meeting..... Office
7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15 Gym
- Tuesday, August 11, 2015**
2:00—Library Committee..... Library
- Wednesday, August 12, 2015**
7:00—Elders' Breakfast Room 402 & Chapel
12:00-2:00—Youth Open Gym (Grades 6-12)..... Gym & Youth Room
5:30—Respite Service Chapel
6:15—Chancel Choir Dinner Fellowship Hall
7:00—Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) Stratten Hall
- Thursday, August 13, 2015**
12:15—CCF Parent Advisory Committee Meeting..... Room 402
1:30—Knit Wits..... Parlor
6:00—HHH Organizational Meeting..... Room 304
- Sunday, August 16, 2015**
8:40—Worship Fellowship Hall
9:30—Sunday School
10:45—Worship Fellowship Hall
5:14-7:30—Sunday Evening Activities

**PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
IF A CHURCH MEMBER IS HOSPITALIZED**

Due to a policy change and the HIPAA law, United Regional Health Care System's Chaplain's Office has informed the church office that they are no longer allowed to give us a list of the new patient admissions into the hospital each day. They are allowed to give us room numbers if we call and ask about a specific person, and they will notify us if a patient specifically tells the Chaplain to call us.

Therefore if a church member enters any hospital, the church office now needs for either you the patient, a family member, a friend, or another church member to call and tell us.

If in doubt, please, everyone, go ahead and call the church office as we would prefer to receive many calls about someone being hospitalized, than us not knowing at all!



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Wichita Falls, Texas