



Christian Challenger

Vol. 62

October 21, 2015

NO. 37



125 Years of Service

1890-2015

REMEMBER our past. RENEW our commitment.
REJOICE IN OUR LORD.

125th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, October 25, 2015
Celebration Sunday!

10:45 Worship Service in Sanctuary

We will have only one service and have invited members of Park Place Christian Church to join us.
A luncheon will follow in Fellowship Hall with a brief anniversary program.
Cost is by donation. Reservations are needed. Please contact the church office at 692-2282.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25th 2015

6:00-8:00 PM

FCC Gymnasium



JOIN US FOR CARNIVAL

STYLE HALLOWEEN

GAMES, HAY RIDES, A

BOUNCE HOUSE, FOOD,

PRIZES, CANDY, AND

MUCH MORE! COME JOIN

THE FUN!



WEAR YOUR BEST
COSTUME!

FCC DEDICATES MEMORIAL GARDEN COLUMBARIUM



With the dedication on October 18 of the Memorial Garden Columbarium, First Christian Church becomes a place of rest and a sign of resurrection for church members. Dr. David Hartman borrowed from the words of Abraham Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address to seek God's blessing on what now becomes holy ground in the Garden of the Cross. Many thanks to Pat Thacker and the Memorial Garden Columbarium Committee for their tireless efforts to bring this project to completion.

Across Dave's Desk...

Note: The following is adapted from the message given at the dedication for our Columbarium in the Garden of the Cross, done in the 125th year of the life of First Christian Church of Wichita Falls.



**Dedication of the First Christian Church Columbarium
October 18, 2015**

Ancient Christian doctrine says there are seven corporal acts of mercy. Six of them are found in Matthew 25: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, and visit the imprisoned. The seventh is to care for the dead. For Christians, this final act of mercy derives from the Biblical record of Jesus' death and burial. But even before that, Jews considered it the greatest mercy. Unlike feeding the hungry or caring for the sick, tending the dead is a kindness which cannot be repaid by the recipient. For most of Christian history—barring a great plague or other catastrophe—the dead were buried in churchyards as testimony to the assurance of Resurrection in Christ.

A columbarium derives its name from the Latin word *columba*, for “dove,” which throughout Christian history has been a symbol of the Holy Spirit. It is a permanent structure composed of niches designed to hold urns containing cremated human remains, or “cremains.” Theologically, there is no difference between the remains of those who have been cremated and those who have been buried. Dust to dust or ashes to ashes, the Bible declares that at the Resurrection, believers will be given a new spiritual body. Our columbarium, in the Garden of the Cross, testifies to the ancient truth that the Church on earth and the Church in heaven are bound together, generation to generation, in the communion of saints, by the love of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And since we are mindful that the Church endures through time and space, from generation to generation, on earth and in heaven—from conception to Resurrection!—how fitting that we should be in a garden, adjacent to a playground, in view of classrooms, midway between a chapel and a sanctuary. It is all hallowed ground.

Perhaps the most famous address ever given by any American was that of Abraham Lincoln at a cemetery dedication in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He spoke of those who faithfully lived and valiantly died; of hallowed

ground; of work not yet done. And so, at this dedication, we adapt his words:

Six score and five years ago our fathers and mothers brought forth, upon these plains, a new church, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and dedicated to the proposition: “In faith, unity; in opinions, liberty; in all things, love.”

We stand upon hallowed ground, testing whether this church, or any church so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We have come to dedicate a portion of this hallowed ground as a final resting place for the earthly remains of those who lived, and died, as disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate – we cannot consecrate – we cannot hallow – this ground. The men and women who lived by faith, and died in faith, have already consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. We will little note, nor long remember, what is said here, but God Almighty will never forget what they did here.

It is for us, the living, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they, thus far, so faithfully carried on. It is for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these beloved dead we take increased devotion to the Lord for whom they lived, and to whom they have now returned - that we here highly resolve that they shall not have lived in vain; that this church shall have a new birth of life in Jesus Christ our Lord; and that this Body of Christ, created through the power of the Holy Spirit in the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth until the Lord returns in glory.

DAVE

Prayer: God of all consolation, our refuge and strength in sorrow, by dying our Lord Jesus Christ conquered death; by rising from the grave he restored us to life. Enable us to go forward in faith to meet him, that, when our life on earth is ended, we may be united with all who love him in your heavenly kingdom, where every tear will be wiped away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. [Book of Common Prayer]

Sign Up Now For Our Monday Morning Ministry Update

Photos of weekend events, ministry calendar for the week ahead, everything you need to participate in and pray for FCC. All we need is your e-mail address sent to susan@firstchristianwf.com.



*Take advantage of and enjoy your
First Christian Church Library and
its contents any time the church building is open.*

NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR ADULTS BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Join us Wednesday evening as we explore the writings of the New Testament. This 8-week survey course led by Rev. Renee Hoke will help participants engage in a deeper conversation with the writers of the NT and understand how the early church claimed the story of Jesus. The study includes a schedule of daily Bible readings and weekly video presentations by leading New Testament scholars. Room 305, 6-7 pm. Participant book \$12. FEAST family meal at 5:30 pm.

GARDEN OF THE CROSS COLUMBARIUM

Last week we inadvertently left Gretchen and John Bridgman off our list of members. We are so sorry we didn't catch the error before the list went to print. We are grateful for their support and guidance. Thank you!

CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Wednesday, October 28th
6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Program: Mr. Steve Garner giving an update on the Lake Wichita Revitalization Plan

CHURCH BOARD NOMINATIONS

It is time to make your suggestions for nominations to the Church Board. The term of election is a three year term from January 2016 to December 2018. **Persons on the enclosed listing as Current Members of the Church Board MAY NOT be nominated for ANY position.** Those persons going off the Board in 2015 must be off the Board for at least one year before they may be nominated again for any position. For more information you may contact the church office or one of the following members of the nominating committee: David Hartman, John Buckley, Cindy Hernandez, Doug Thompson, Mark Turnbow, Judy Muir, Gidget Pettibon, Elise Allen, Chris Showalter. Please return the enclosed nomination form to the church office by **Sunday, November 1st.**

More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine
"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Luke 6:38



Rev. Dr. Katie Hays, our Commitment Sunday speaker, was a traditional church pastor for almost two decades before exploring the frontier of the growing "spiritual but not religious" demographic with Galileo Christian Church. Galileo seeks spiritual refugees, especially young adults who increasingly identify with Jesus but not the institution of the churches that raised most of us. Educated at Yale (M.Div.) and Princeton (D.Min.), Katie served on the founding board of the Disciples' Center for Faith and Giving. Maybe because her dad is a CPA, she has a special affinity for the ways churches find to fund God's good work in this world. (And, Katie's mom reports that Katie spent her toddler years in Wichita Falls.)

YOUNG AGES SCHOOL KRINGLE FUNDRAISER

We hope you enjoyed the delicious Kringle Pastry samples last Sunday. Thank you to all who have placed your orders already! Flavors available: **Apple, Almond, Apricot, Blueberry, Cherry, Chocolate Pecan, Cream Cheese, Pecan, Pumpkin Caramel and Raspberry.** The cost is \$14.00 each and they will be delivered Fresh (Not Frozen), the beginning of December. They freeze well and only take a few minutes to heat up as they are fully cooked. These delicious pastries make great Christmas gifts. Payment is due at the time the order is placed. All orders, with payment (cash or check), must be placed by Sunday, November 1st.

The money raised will go toward adding an additional 3" of pea gravel to the playground (State Licensing requirement), replacing and/or adding new toys to the classrooms. Please support our school by buying these delicious pastries for your family and/or to give to friends, and neighbors. The order forms will be in the office during the week and in the hall on Sunday mornings in October.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF YOUNG AGES SCHOOL!

MISSING HATS

The Knit Wits are missing approximately 30 hats that they had knitted for this year's Fain Elementary Sock Tree. The knitted hats were being stored in a closet in the Parlor. If you know where the hats are hiding, please let Debbi Schmidt or any member of the Knit Wits or the Church Office know; or help them find their way back to the Parlor. Thanks!

MEMBER NEWS

♥Hospitalized: at Promise Hospital is Inis Dudenhoeffer; at Health South Rehab is Carolyn Ford & Virginia Belcher; at Windmill Rehab is Sherrie Phillips; at Senior Care Rehab is Ruth Skoczen.

♥Congratulations to Shanen Blasi & Brian Jarmakovitz, who were married on October 10th in the Sanctuary by Dr. Hartman. Shanen is the daughter of Terrie & James Blasi.

♥Congratulations to Sarah Tonemah & Jason Lester, who were married on October 17th in the Sanctuary by Dr. Hartman. Sarah is the daughter of Polly & Harry Tonemah.

We want to be as inclusive as possible with our Member News, so if you know about an honor someone received, an important event in someone's life, or about illness or death, please call the church-692-2282. Thanks!



FIRST TIME VISITORS

 We are excited to report that the following persons visited for the first time on Sunday: Brandon Barnett, Kris Gossom, Shellbie Petty, Richard Gutierrez, and Erwin & Margaret Soell.


SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS TRIVIA

What member has written 2 books while serving as the Senior Historian at Sheppard AFB?

Don't Forget to "Like Us" on 

SUGGESTIONS TO NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I/We suggest to the Nominating Committee that the following persons be considered for submission to the Congregation for election to the Church Board for a three year term ending 12/31/2018. **(THOSE PERSONS-- EXCEPT FOR THE YOUTH--LISTED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FORM CANNOT BE NOMINATED FOR ANY POSITION):**

TRUSTEE - One is to be elected. Please suggest only 1. _____

ELDERS - Six are to be elected. You may suggest any number up to 6.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

DIACONATE - Sixteen are to be elected. You may suggest any number up to 16.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

YOUTH DIACONATE - Six **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH** are to be elected for a **one year** term. You may suggest up to 6.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

LIFE-TERM ELDER:

_____	_____
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LIFE-TERM DIACONATE:

_____	_____
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For more information you may contact the church office or one of the following members of the nominating committee: David Hartman, John Buckley, Cindy Hernandez, Doug Thompson, Mark Turnbow, Cathy Gately, Gidget Pettibon, Elise Allen, Chris Showalter. **PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST!**

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH BOARD & THEIR TERMS

Term Ending 12/31/2015

Trustee

Richard Phillips

Elders

Rick Appling
David Gately
Howard Morris
Roma Prassel
Harry Tonemah
Emily Wilson

Diaconate

Ashley Barker
Richard Barker
Diana Collins
Fred Gentry
Robert Hastings
Sally Hastings
Sandy Hay
Jessica Morris
Mike Murdock
Gidget Pettibon
Genie Ratliff
Debbi Schmidt
Liz Thomas
Tim Thomas
Curtis Westbrook
Dottie Westbrook

Youth Diaconate (Term Ending 12/31/15):

John DeVilbiss
Luke Machado
Wendi Miller
Gracie Reynolds
Ben Sabine
Madi Showalter
Luke Ward

Life Term Elders:

Bill & Melba Anastopoulos
Mil Dinnin
Virgil Lee
Judy Muir
Jimmie Stodghill
Glenn Tole

Life Term Diaconate:

Sara Anderson
Alvin & Billie Burge
Lou James
Sue Nunn
Elrhea Williams

Term Ending 12/31/2016

Trustee

Joe Parker Jr.

Elders

Gary Ballard
Cindy Hernandez
Bill Jennings
Marjorie Parker
Kerry Roach
Andy Wilson

Diaconate

Debi Ballard
Larry Ballard
Jody Brannon
Shirley Craft
Kay Jackson
Melody Jennings
Vicki Kunkle
June Lemmon
Donna Long
Robinsue Miller
James Poole
Travis Ralls
Curtis Sullivan
Billy Thacker
Cary Thompson
Sherry Tucker

Ewell & Rita Cason
W.C. Duncan II
Sandrea Marvel
Burl Nowell
Frank Tate
Marilyn Vaughn

Rosie Bearden
Peggy Fitts
Doug Mapes
Jean Puckett
Mary Beth Wyatt

Term Ending 12/31/2017

Trustee

Ted Smith

Elders

Susan Buckley
Kenn Hill
Ronnie James
Ted Lauck
Mike Spiller Jr.
Eddie Tucker

Diaconate

Brandi Brannon
Jerry Caraway
Larry Carr
Linda C. Carr
Philip Dudenhoefter
Catherine Earley
Claudine Farrell
Caitlin Hartman
Amy James
Kathleen Lauck
Jim LaValley
Michael Pettibon
Sarah Stewart
Carly Westbrook
Sandra Whatley

Diana Costello
Anna Hainline
James Irl & Dorothy Montgomery
Jimmie Shirley
Charles Taylor

Ruth Beyer
Carolyn Ford
Sam Maynor
Glorie Steele

Gretchen Bridgman
Helen Jackson
Cora Dell Miller
Ann Watkins

SERVING SUNDAY

ELDERS

Emily Wilson, Eddie Tucker; Kerry Roach, Presiding

DIACONATE COMMUNION VISITATION

Kay Jackson, Curtis Sullivan, Dottie Westbrook

DIACONATE COMMUNION PREPARATION

Carly Westbrook & Jessica Morris

OCTOBER DIACONATE SERVERS

Ashley & Richard Barker, Jessica Morris, Mike Murdock, Curtis & Dottie Westbrook, Kay Jackson, Melody Jennings, Vicki Kunkle, Curtis Sullivan, Cary Thompson, Jerry Caraway, Claudine Farrell, Caitlin Hartman, Jim LaValley, Carly Westbrook, John DeVilbiss, Gracie Reynolds.

THE CHURCH STAFF . . .

Church Number	940-692-2282
Dr. David Hartman, Senior Minister	692-2282
Rev. Renee Hoke, Associate Minister	692-2282
Cheryl Appling, Business Administrator	691-7265
Jeanette Showalter, Director of Music Ministries	763-8515
Justin Dickey, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries	936-645-1215
Rev. Erin Taylor, Director of Recovery Ministries	337-304-3038
Heather Dickerson, Director of Children Come First	687-2231
Karen Bivona, Director of Young Ages School	692-3640
Susan Marrs, Executive Secretary	Tina Williams, Financial Secretary
Pam Poulos, Receptionist	Debbie Watson, Organist
Web Page: www.firstchristianwf.com	Church e-mail: susan@firstchristianwf.com
FAX Number 940-696-3085	

Home Phone Number:

940-692-2282

692-2282

692-2282

691-7265

763-8515

936-645-1215

337-304-3038

687-2231

692-3640

Tina Williams, Financial Secretary

Debbie Watson, Organist

Church e-mail: susan@firstchristianwf.com

FOR THE RECORD . . .

Sunday School	104
8:40 Worship . . . 48	10:45 Worship . . . 205
Total Worship	253
CGRM Evening Ministry	28
Sunday Receipts Needed Per Week	\$16,698.52
Sunday Receipts for 10/18/15	\$7,235.75
Through Oct. 19: Income \$590,553.55	Expenses \$629,377.92

PERSECUTED CHURCH PRAYERS THIS WEEK ARE FOR:

Pray for the 200 Assyrian Christians, thought to be mostly women and children, who are being held hostage.

This Sunday:

8:40 & 10:45 Services:

"Remember Our Past, Renew Our Commitment,
Rejoice in the Lord"

Dr. David B. Hartman, Jr., Rev. Jim Zug, Rev. Alice Hupp

5:14 CGRM Worship Service:

Rev. Erin Taylor

Spotlight Answer: Dwight Tuttle

OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, October 25, 2015

125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY

NO Chapel Worship

9:30 Sunday School

9:45 Journey Through Scripture (Parlor)

10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)

12:00 125th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)

3:45 Chancel Ringers (Stratten Hall)

NO Grow in Grace Choir (Grades K-5) (Stratten Hall)

NO Come As You Are (Grades 6-12) (Room 403C)

5:14 CGRM Evening Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

NO Young Disciples (Grades K-5) (Rm 309 & 311)

6:00 Trunk or Treat (Gym & Parking Lot)

6:00 Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups:

Anger Recovery (Rm 304)

Chemical Addictions Recovery (Rm 305)

Parenting (Rm 306)

Women's C.A.R.E. (Rm 307)

Family Challenges (Rm 310)

Monday, October 26, 2014

7:30-6:00 Children Come First (M-F)

9:00-12:00 Young Ages School (M-F)

10:15 FCC Staff Meeting (Office)

6:00 CGRM Continuing Education (Rm 307)

7:30 Boy Scouts Troop 15 (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

7:30-Noon CCF Picture Day (Parlor)

2:00 Library Committee (Library)

6:30 Executive Council Meeting (Rm 402)

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

7:00 Elders' Breakfast (Rm 402/Chapel)

10:00 Women's Fall Bible Study (Rm 310)

5:00 Mid-Week Communion Service (Chapel)

5:30-6:00 Feast Fellowship Meal (Sm Kitchen/Rooms 402 & 405)

6:00-7:00 Feast Small Groups:

Young Disciples Group (Grades K-5) (Rm 309 & 311)

360 (Grades 6-12) (Rm 403C)

Adult Bible Study: "New Testament Writings" (Rm 305)

6:30 CMF Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

7:00-7:15 Feast Communion & Prayer (Chapel)

7:15-8:00 Feast Open Gym

7:30 Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) (Stratten Hall)

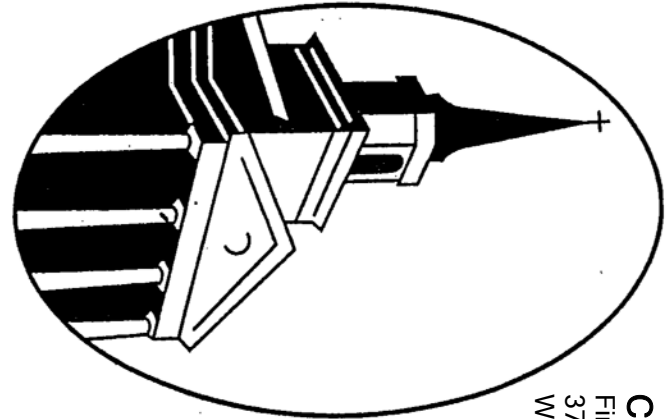
Thursday, October 29, 2015

10:00 YAS T-Th Class Halloween Parade & Party

1:30 Knit Wits (Parlor)

Friday, October 30, 2015

10:00 YAS MWF/M-F Classes Halloween Parade & Parties



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