



# Christian Challenger

Vol. 63

June 8, 2016

NO. 22



## FCC GOES TO THE MOVIES: STAR WARS

Our feature film this week is the original "Star Wars" which became a pop culture phenomenon after its release in 1977 by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. It is a classic tale of good versus evil, set in a galaxy far, far away. There have been six movies so far in the Star Wars series. All six have been nominated for or won Academy Awards, with a combined box office revenue of \$4.38 billion.

One of the prominent elements of George Lucas' Star Wars saga is "the Force," an omnipresent energy that can be harnessed by those who are sensitive to it. Christian writers who were critical of the eastern influences in the original film suggested that Star Wars was "perfectly adapted to the spiritual confusion of post-modern America."

Join us this week for the Thursday matinee at 3 pm or Saturday night feature at 7 pm, then we'll explore religious themes from the movie on Sunday morning.

Thursday matinee  
3 pm Theater Room  
Saturday night  
7 pm Fellowship Hall

## TOGETHER WE HAVE POWER OVER HUNGER AND POVERTY



In honor of Father's Day, our FCC World Outreach Committee invites you and your family to consider giving a gift in honor/memory of your dad that will change lives. Heifer International provides livestock and agricultural training for families around the world. The animals provide life-sustaining products such as milk, cheese, eggs, honey and wool. And there is a "pay it forward" aspect to Heifer's work. For each animal received, the family agrees to pass on the offspring of that animal to another person in need in their village.

This Father's Day in honor of dear old dad you can provide a family with a flock of chickens for only \$20 or a trio of rabbits for \$60. To find out more about giving options, stop by the Heifer International table before or after worship this Sunday and pick up a "Living Gift List." You can also find the details online at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)

By the numbers:

- For more than **70 years** Heifer International has partnered with and helped farming communities across the globe.
- Heifer International has worked in **125 countries** to help families attain sustainable livelihoods through community-owned agri-business.
- Heifer International has helped **25 million** families lift themselves out of hunger and poverty.



# ODE TO A PORCH



Last weekend was the annual Gingerbread Trail in Waxahachie. I drove down after work on Thursday to spend a couple nights with my mom and be her chauffeur for the Gingerbread home tour. I don't need to tell you that gingerbread is the word for the intricate wood trim that decorates the porches of Victorian homes. Waxahachie has an impressive collection of turn-of-the-century homes. You can admire the exteriors from your car but it's fun to see the inside of these homes that have been so painstakingly restored.

By the time Mom and I climbed the steps to the porch of the third home on Saturday's tour, she was ready to sit and rest. It was an excellent porch, as you can see by the photo I snapped.

I have a thing about porches. They call to me when I drive through an old neighborhood. An inviting front porch speaks to time when folks came outside in the cool of the evening to find an available rocker and pass the time telling stories.

That's how the evenings were spent on visits to my grandparent's farm when I was growing up. When the dishes were clean and put away, we'd make our way from the stuffy kitchen to the cool

front porch. My grandad would light his pipe (he wasn't allowed to smoke in the house), my grandmother would bring out glasses of iced tea, and the grownups would exchange various bits of news concerning friends and neighbors. When everyone was properly updated, it was time for stories. There were stories about animals on the farm, about feats of strength like swinging on vines over the creek, about storms, and family tales of good fortune or misfortune, each followed by an appropriate chorus of approval or disapproval from the audience.

All the while the crickets sang, the stars twinkled, occasionally a cow called to her calf in the pasture, and all was right with the world.

"Be still and know that I am God" we read in Psalm 46:10. Summer is the perfect time to practice that verse. I don't think it works to be still in front of the computer while you update your Facebook page, or to be still in front of your TV as you catch up on new installments of "Game of Thrones." The psalmist is speaking of an intentional stillness that pushes away the distractions and busyness of our lives and calls us to pay attention to something beyond ourselves like the songs of birds and tree branches swaying in the evening breeze.

I'm praying that there will be lots of "porch time" for you this summer. It's time to slow down and just be in God's presence. I'll be thinking about you from the rocker on my patio most evenings, accompanied by an economy size can of mosquito repellent.

May the blessings of summer be yours!

*Renee*

**This Sunday:**

**8:40 & 10:45 Services:**

"May The Force Be With You"

Genesis 1-2

Rev. Renee Hoke



**Disciples Summer Mission 2016**  
**June 25th—July 1st**

This event is the Chi Rho and CYF (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) mission trip to St. Louis, MO along with 300 other disciples from around the United States. Youth will be working closely with poverty stricken areas of St. Louis in a varied of location and capacities! This will be the second year for our youth groups to participate in DSM!



### Young Disciples Swim Party

Join our Young Disciples (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) for a cookout and swim party this Sunday, **June 12th, 1-4 pm**, at Gary & Kim Ballard's home, 5104 Navajo Trail!

### JUNE MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

6:00 pm, Room 402

Evangelism

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

6:00 pm, Room 402

Education

If you will need childcare, please RSVP to the church office, 692-2282, by noon on Mondays, June 13 & 20.

### MEMBER NEWS

♥**Hospitalized:** at URHCS is Gretta Robb; at Promise Hospital is Janine Sibley. Released and back home are Weldon Roberts, Eva Whiting & Mary Beth Wyatt.

♥Our sympathies are extended to David & Doug Collins and Families on learning of the death of their father, Troy Collins, on June 6. Services will be Thursday, June 9, at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

♥Our condolences are extended to Madra & Susan Marrs on learning of the death of their sister and aunt, Katherine Stewart, on June 4 in Mesquite TX.

♥We also extend our sympathies to the family of Jim Belcher, son of James Belcher & brother of Lane Kingcade. Jim passed away on May 27 in Abilene TX. The family requested that memorials be sent to Hendrick Hospice Care, 1682 Hickory St, Abilene TX 79601.

♥Congratulations to Stacie & Ryan Lindemann on the birth of their son, Benjamin Ryan Lindemann, on June 1. He weighed 7 lbs 1 oz and was 20 1/4 inches long. Benjamin is the little brother of Riley Marie, grandson of Phyllis & Richard Hiraki and nephew of Stephanie & Austin Ortiz.

*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 GUESTS

We are excited to report that the following persons visited for the first time on Sunday, May 29th: Jeff Blacklock, Lynette Gill, Scot & Marisa Hafley, and Charlotte Marteney.

### Movie Schedule for June-July

Original "Star Wars"	June 9 at 3 pm/June 11 at 7 pm
"Up"	June 16 at 3 pm/June 18 at 7 pm
"The African Queen"	June 23 at 3 pm/June 25 at 7 pm
"Mr. Smith Goes to Washington"	June 30 at 3 pm/July 2 at 7 pm
"Hoosiers"	July 7 at 3 pm/July 9 at 7 pm
"Chariots of Fire"	July 14 at 3 pm/July 16 at 7 pm
"Inside Out"	July 21 at 3 pm/July 23 at 7 pm

### HAPPY 101ST BIRTHDAY, GLORIE!



Glorie Steele with daughter, Shirley Steele, and son-in-law, Bob Rescorla (hiding behind the balloons), at Glorie's 101st Birthday Celebration.



### Vacation Bible School July 25th-29th 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon

Available for preschool (4yrs) through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This year's VBS will be CAVE QUEST! Come explore all of the ways Jesus leads and guides us

in the right direction! Leadership/Volunteer positions available for anyone interested 5<sup>th</sup> grade all the way to adults! Register or volunteer online at [www.firstchristianwf.com](http://www.firstchristianwf.com).

### CHALLENGER TO BE EVERY TWO WEEKS NO CHALLENGER NEXT WEEK!

During the months of June & July the "Challenger" will be published every two weeks and will return to weekly publication on August 3rd.

The deadline for articles to be placed in the "Challenger" is 5:00 pm on Mondays. Articles may be dropped off in the church office or emailed to Susan at: [susan@firstchristianwf.com](mailto:susan@firstchristianwf.com).



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

## SERVING SUNDAY

### ELDERS

6/12: Gary Ballard, Cathy Gately; Kenn Hill, Presiding  
6/19: Bill Jennings, Ann Hunter; Ronnie James, Presiding

### DIACONATE COMMUNION VISITATION

6/12: Ben Sabine, Twila Boydston, Shirley Craft

6/19: Melody Jennings, Madi Showalter, Colleen James

### DIACONATE COMMUNION PREPARATION

6/12: Slate & Carly Westbrook

6/19: Donna Long & Sarah Stewart

### JUNE DIACONATE SERVERS

Shirley Craft, Melody Jennings, Donna Long, Travis Ralls, Cary Thompson, Jerry & Cheryl Caraway, Larry & Linda Carr, Jim & Karen LaValley, Sarah Stewart, Carly & Slate Westbrook, Twila Boydston, Sharon Roach, Ben Sabine, Madi Showalter..

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Sunday, June 12, 2016

- 8:40 Worship (Chapel)
- 9:30 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 1:00 Young Disciples Swim Party (Grades K-5) (5104 Navajo Trail)
- 5:14 CGRM Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 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, June 13, 2016

- 7:00 Leave for CYF Conference (Grades 10-12) (Athens TX)
- 7:00 Leave for Niner's Youth Conference (Grade 9) (Athens TX)
- 7:30-6:00 Children Come First (M-F)
- 10:15 FCC Staff Meeting (Office)
- 10:30 New 2016-2017 CWF Board Meeting (Rm 310)
- 7:30 Boy Scouts Troop 15 (Fellowship Hall)

#### Tuesday, June 14, 2016

- 2:00 Library Committee (Library)
- 6:00 Evangelism Ministry Meeting (Rm 402)

#### Wednesday, June 15, 2016

- 7:00 Elders' Breakfast (Rm 402/Chapel)
- 10:00 "An Altar in the World" Bible Study (Rm 222)
- 7:00-8:30 Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) (Stratten Hall)

#### Thursday, June 16, 2016

- 9:00 CWF Group 3 Birthday Breakfast (IHOP on SW Pkwy)
- 1:30 Knit Wits (Parlor)
- 3:00 FCC at the Movies: "Up" (Theater Rm)

#### Saturday, June 18, 2016

- 7:00 FCC at the Movies: "Up" (Fellowship Hall)

#### Sunday, June 19, 2016

- FATHER'S DAY
- 8:40 Worship (Chapel)
- 9:30 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- NO Sunday Evening Activities

#### Monday, June 20, 2016

- 7:00 Leave for Chi Rho I Camp (Grades 6-7) (Athens TX)
- 7:30-6:00 Children Come First (M-F)
- 10:15 FCC Staff Meeting (Office)
- 7:30 Boy Scouts Troop 15 (Fellowship Hall)

#### Tuesday, June 21, 2016

- 2:00 Library Committee (Library)
- 6:00 Education Ministry Meeting (Rm 402)

#### Wednesday, June 22, 2016

- 7:00 Elders' Breakfast (Rm 402/Chapel)
- 10:00 "An Altar in the World" Bible Study (Rm 222)
- 7:00-8:30 Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) (Stratten Hall)

#### Thursday, June 23, 2016

- 3:00 FCC at the Movies: "The African Queen" (Theater Rm)

#### Saturday, June 25, 2016

- 7:00 FCC at the Movies: "The African Queen" (Fellowship Hall)

## THE CHURCH STAFF . . .

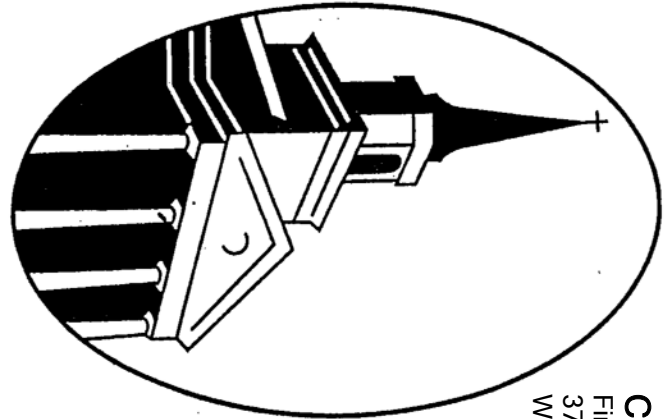
Church Number 940-692-2282  
Dr. David Hartman, Senior Minister 692-2282  
Rev. Renee Hoke, Associate Minister 692-2282  
Cheryl Appling, Business Administrator 691-7265  
Jeanette Showalter, Director of Music Ministries 763-8515  
Justin Dickey, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries 936-645-1215  
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

## FOR THE RECORD . . .

Sunday School . . . . .	86
8:40 Worship . . . 46	10:45 Worship . . .206
Total Worship . . . . . 252	
CGRM: Sunday Evening Ministry . . 32	
Sunday Receipts Needed Per Week	\$15,842.23
Sunday Receipts for 6/5/16	\$14,011.00
Through June 6: Income \$315,139.22	Expenses \$348,451.25

## PERSECUTED CHURCH PRAYERS THIS WEEK ARE FOR:

Pray for unity among Pakistani believers as God uses them to advance His kingdom.



**CHRISTIAN CHALLENGER**  
First Christian Church  
3701 Taft Boulevard  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308

THE CHRISTIAN CHALLENGER  
Pub. No. (USPS 559-820). Published weekly during the school year with exception the last week in December. & in June & July biweekly by First Christian Church, 3701 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls TX 76308-2315. Periodical postage paid at Wichita Falls TX. POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to Christian Challenger, 3701 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls, TX 76308-2315.

Don't Forget to "Like Us" on 