



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

www.fccabilenetx.com

July 21, 2026 *Volume 77 Number 12*



Vacation Bible School was a huge success! Kids and adults alike had a wonderful time during the week at Cactus Ranch. We had a total of 62 kids in the four days. 16 youth helpers and 32 adults were present during the week. The kids collected an offering each day to be given to BOBS. The offering totaled \$121.18. A big thanks goes out to Double Diamond Diva Boutique and Stephanie McMahon for such a great job on the cute t-shirts, and to Lindsey Baker for so many of the decorating ideas. The donations through the Amazon wish list, as well as other donations, helped tremendously with the many expenses of VBS.

This week would not have been possible without the help of so many volunteers. I cannot mention all of them, but I do want to highlight a few. Barbara Hart and her crew served cute snacks each day. Lindsey Baker and her assistants helped the kids make memorable crafts. Ricky Barringer kept the kids engaged with his fun and energizing songs, while Judi Chaney assisted with the sound and videos. The engaging lessons each day were taught by Muffy Watson, Cathy Clay, Jane Hurley, and Danny Campbell. Meghan Lackey, Sonja Devires, Linda Holmes, Sarah Christopher, Monica Aldridge, Sindi Whitworth, Brittany Paxton and Emily McFall were brave enough to be the group leaders who stayed with the kids each day. Jane Hurley, Mary Ellen Campbell, and Elaine Chapman were there to help with registration each day. Greg Morris kept the kids engaged each morning in our Worship Rally. And our summer interns, Maddy Christopher, Taylor Wofford, and Aileigh Wooten, were helpful in every aspect of VBS. As always, we could not have VBS without our youth helpers. They are always great!

I could go on and on with names of volunteers. We are so blessed in that area. Thanks again to all who made this week so successful. I know it means so much to the kids who were able to attend. Praise God for a wonderful week full of learning and fun at Cactus Ranch!

Cindy Brown

Prayer Concerns

Safe travels to and from Passport Camp –

July 19-22 –Grades 3rd -5th

@ Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat

Dee Hamilton, health recovery at Silver Spring

Michelle W., friend with health concerns, Gale Marden

Dustin McKenzie, health, son of David & Kim McKenzie and grandson of the late Mil Boardman

Millie Smith, mom of Jackie Parker

Lesle Paxton, health concerns

Sharon Dees, undergoing chemo & radiation treatment, mother of Gavin Rutledge

Timothy Lackey Sr.

Boysen family, from Jackie Parker

Jane Milstead, health concerns & relocating to Dripping Springs, TX

Tiffany Martinez & her sons Adrian & Lucas, friend of Greg Morris

Randall Reaves, health concerns, grandfather of Michael Baker

Robert & Kay McCleskey, health issues, Uncle & Aunt of Mel Herweck

Bob Milstead, Jr., health concerns, son of Jane Milstead

Home-Centered Members & Friends

Our Military Families & Friends

**Staff
Meeting**

**THIS SUNDAY,
JULY 26th at 4:00PM**

First Christian Church Summer Kid's Club 2026



When: July 26 & August 2
6:00pm to 7:30pm

Where: FCC WeeCare House

What: Bible Stories, Snacks & Fun

For: 3rd -5th Graders

PASTOR'S PALS CHESS CLUB



Chess Club meeting this Sunday
JULY 26th at 5:00pm

GRADES 3RD – 12TH
ADULT SPONSORS AND
LEARNERS WELCOME



Disciples Men's Breakfast

Thursday, August 6 at 7:00AM
IHOP Restaurant 3705 S. Clack St.
It's pay your own way!



Dear First Christian Church Family,

I want to share with you an important update regarding my upcoming sabbatical. As part of the original terms of my call to serve First Christian Church, our congregation provides its pastor a three-month sabbatical every five years. This rhythm of rest and renewal is a long-standing practice within many churches, and I am deeply grateful for your support of this commitment.

Beginning August 1st and continuing through October 31, 2026, I will be taking my scheduled sabbatical. This time will allow me to step back from the daily responsibilities of ministry, engage in rest, reflection, and study, and return refreshed for the next season of service with you.

I want to assure you that the ongoing ministries of the church will remain in excellent hands. Our staff, lay leaders, and ministry teams are fully prepared to carry forward the day-to-day work of the church with faithfulness and competence. I have complete confidence in their ability to lead, support, and care for our congregation during these months.

Although I will be stepping away from regular duties, **I will remain here in Abilene throughout my sabbatical.** Should a funeral or true emergency arise, I will be available to serve. However, I kindly ask that you refrain from contacting me unless absolutely necessary. This boundary is essential for the sabbatical to be the restorative time it is intended to be.

During these three months, the preaching ministry will be shared among a wonderful variety of voices. You will hear from several of our own ministers, leaders from Disciples of Christ ministries, the TCU chaplain, and the executive director of LBCR—among others. I am excited for the richness and diversity this will bring to our worship life.

Thank you for your understanding, your support, and your continued prayers. It is one of the great blessings of my life to serve as your pastor, and I look forward to returning in November with renewed energy and vision for the work God has called us to do together.

You Are Awesome!!!

Greg
Senior Minister
First Christian Church of Abilene



2026 VBS Cactus Ranch



First Christian Church –Abilene TX General Fund

Monthly Budget Receipts

JUNE 2026 General Budget Receipts

\$ 19,018.85

JUNE 2026 Budget

\$ 29,266.50

Monthly Budget Surplus/Shortfall

\$ 10,247.65

YTD Budget Receipts

Total General Fund Receipts

\$ 189,049.22

Total Budgeted Receipts

\$ 175,599.00

YTD Budget Surplus/Shortfall

\$ 13,450.22

% of Budget Receipt

108%



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P.O. Box 4200 79608
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:30 am - Noon
1:00pm - 4:30 pm

Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00 a.m. - Christian Education
Classes
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
4:00 p.m. - FCC Prayer Time
6:00 p.m. - Youth

Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Christ Known



Our Values

Serving • Growing • Caring • Connecting



First Christian Church Staff

Rev. Greg Morris
Senior Pastor
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Judy Morris
Interim Music Director

Cindy Brown
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2026 VBS Cactus Ranch

