



Congregation Responds to National State of Emergency

Our nation continues in a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus and the number of people testing positive is skyrocketing. To lower its spread, and to protect ourselves, the First Christian Church will honor the direction of the President of the United States until we hear word otherwise. We appreciate your support of our church and our nation. Stay safe!

Kathy Snider, FCC Board Moderator

OFFERING

Mail-In

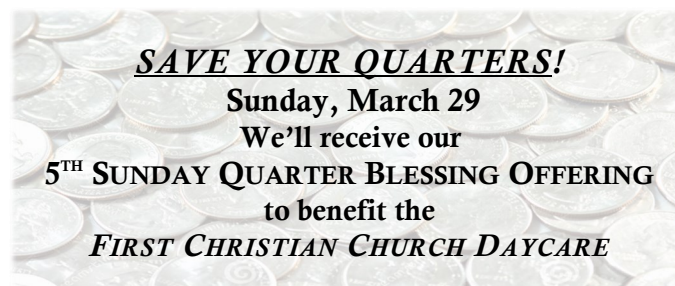
This week, I was surprised when someone asked me how to make his offering while we're not meeting in person. I'll share what I said: send it to the church, and thanks! 912 W. Walnut Ave. Duncan, OK 73533. You might personalize it by adding Reba Ford's name. Thanks for asking! —Arnold

Text-to-Give

During this time, we've made available a new way to give. Out of the abundance our God has given to you, now you can give back through "Text-to-Give". All you must do is text the word "Give" to (833)868-2068. After sending this text, you'll receive a reply with a link attached. Click on the link and follow the instructions. After completing the instructions, you'll be able to text the desired amount you'd like to give from then on, without going through the hassle of typing in your card info or going to the bank.

ACH (Automatic Deposits)

FCC offers ACH (automatic deposits). To sign up for automatic deposits, please contact Reba and she will send you a form to fill out and return with a voided check. ACH is processed on the 1st and 15th of each month. You may elect to have your contribution withdrawn from your account on either of those days or split so that equal amounts are withdrawn on each. ACH is a convenient way to make your monthly contributions and initial set-up is easy. Additionally, ACH can be discontinued by notifying Reba, should your situation change. If you have any questions relative to ACH, please call Reba.



The Amen Corner

On Sunday morning, I came down to the church, and for a couple of reasons. One was to be here in case someone didn't get the word and showed up. The other is because there are few other places I'd rather be on a Sunday. On the way, I noted most all the church parking lots were empty, but not all. Days ago, the President of the United States called on Americans to gather in no numbers of 10 or more. Since then, the pandemic has only gotten worse.

Around the country, churches have gone to great lengths to be faithful to God and demonstrate a new patriotic duty, yet some still met. I know of one church that issued a statement that they were exempt from any such expectation, so they were going ahead. No touching, but breathing each other's air in a closed space. Worse was the preacher in Texas who bragged, "I'm raising up revivalists, not pansies!" Then, in the face of all the science and historical precedent and national need, he claimed they could continue to meet and do everything as they've done it before because they were a people of faith. Uh huh, sure. Then, he showed his hand. Rev. Big Talk talked about the churches that would close for several weeks and then come back together only to discover the congregations were gone and they were out of business. Well, looky there. I'm not thinking he continued with church business as usual in an unprecedented crises because he had faith, but because he had none. I appreciate the problem, but there are risks involved.

We've done well over the last few years in part because we've had no snow days, Sunday services canceled due to weather. Any time that happens, a church loses some momentum and the resources needed to operate and be in ministry. Now we face the Mother of All Snow Days. People could wander off to churches still gathering and regular offerings could decline a lot. I'm having faith this won't happen. My faith is in God and it's in each of us. We won't meet during this crises until we get word it's okay. We'll do this out of national solidarity, but more because we don't want to risk any of us, especially the most vulnerable of us, becoming ill. I'm always impressed faith is a two way street. We have faith in a God we can count on but God counts on being able to put faith in us. Now is not a time to fail on this. Stay indoors. Wash your hands. Pray for us all. Don't hoard anything!

Glad to be your pastor,
Arnold

FCC People & Happenings



Coming Up...



Birthdays and Anniversaries

March 29 – April 4

- 29 Reba Ford
- 30 Charles Boyd
Teresa Brown
Honor Vaughn
- 1 Jared Schasteen
- 2 Courtney Cronk
- 3 Keith Welsh
- 4 Trisha Pinckney
Cole Woods
Kevin Zinn

29 Benny & Jo Fuller

In Christian Sympathy

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Whitfield and family, upon the death of her husband, **Chuck Whitfield** on Friday, March 20. Chuck was a member of our church for over 50 years. A memorial service in the Sanctuary will be scheduled when pandemic restrictions are lifted.

We send our condolences to Charles & Fran Boyd, Bob & Suzy Bruner, and family upon the death of Fran's sister, **Pauline Alice Mullins**, of Edmond, OK. Pauline passed away on Sunday, March 22. Interment is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, at 2:00 PM in Diamond, Missouri.

I HAVE 2020 VISION

Dear First Christian Friends,

The April 7 date has been postponed to an undetermined time due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus, so let's not go down to our polling places that day, okay? In the meantime, I ask you to think about the many buses in the Duncan School District with over 200,000 miles on them. Some are so old, the district has to go on eBay in search of parts no longer made. None of these are as safe as newer models. I hope this will help us remember to vote for 2020 Vision when the time finally closes. And remember, it doesn't increase our taxes! In the meantime, the administrative staff of our schools are at our building preparing sack lunches for our kiddos. Pray for us.

Thank you,
Koree K. Goldsmith, Principal
Emerson Elementary School



Thank You Notes

First Christian:

Thank you for the care package delivered to us on Monday. It was a great gift for the elderly. And, thanks for reminding us we are among those. Just to know we can call on you if needed is heartwarming. Keep those phones handy!

Love,
Charles & Fran Boyd

Thanks to the angel(s) that left the goody bag at my door. I finally feel 'elderly' and it is a very wonderful feeling!!

Mary Frances Cox

The lunches delivered to our home during our illnesses were so good. The teams that prepared and delivered them to our home did so with love. Thanks to all who were involved. To the members who prepared and delivered the snack sacks, a big thanks for now but a hug when this virus scare is over. The snacks were so much appreciated by us. It made our hearts and tummies so warm and fuzzy. FCC members are so wonderful!

Love,
Charles & Bettye Hunt

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE

For the next couple of weeks, I will mostly be working from home. It's possible my 8-month-old has asthma, so I don't want to take any risks with this virus. I hope you all understand. I will still be available by phone, as all calls to the Church Office (255-6116) will be forwarded to my cellphone during normal business hours (Monday–Thursday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM). You may also email me at erica@fccduncan.com. If you absolutely need to come by the office, please call or email me ahead of time to make sure someone will be there. If you would rather drop off your offering than mail it, feel free to place it in the drop slot on the side door of the office. I apologize for any inconvenience.

Erica Hancock Bennett

TOY SHOP RUMMAGE SALE POSTPONED

The Toy Shop's Spring Rummage Sale has been postponed for now. We plan to reschedule at a later date, and will let everyone know when that happens.

Kathy Snider

FCC News & Activities



A-YIP-I-O-E-AY!

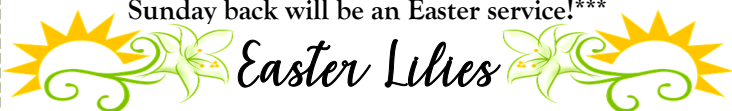


- ★ Ellie Welborn safely returned from Peace Corp service in Indonesia and is quarantined in Moore.
- ★ Our thanks to our Daycare teachers as they deal with multiple children with runny noses and boredom during the pandemic.

A nation under God puts:

**Science over politics
Truth over spin
Service over self
People over money**

Every Sunday is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. If we are kept from meeting on Easter Sunday, our very first Sunday back will be an Easter service!



If you'd like to provide a lily for worship on Easter Sunday, please turn in the following information to the Church Office **no later than Monday, April 6.** You may take the lily home on April 12 following the 10:45 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary or @ the Well. Cost is \$35.

Number of Lilies: _____

Sanctuary ___ Well ___

Given by _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

To the Glory of God _____



CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Cancelled until further notice.

COMING EVENTS

March 29 – April 4

Sunday, March 29

Online Worship in the Sanctuary 10:45 AM

Facebook: @FirstChristianChurchDuncan

Website: www.FCCDuncan.com

Online Worship @ the Well 10:45 AM

Facebook: @theWellFCC

MINDSET SHIFT DURING A PANDEMIC

I'm stuck at home. → I get to be SAFE in my home and spend time with my family.

I will get sick. → I will self-isolate and wash my hands, this will significantly DECREASE my chances of getting sick.

I will run out of items at home during self-isolation. → I have prepared for this and will use my items wisely. I have everything I NEED for now.

Everything is shutting down, I'm panicking. → The most IMPORTANT places, such as medical centers, pharmacies, and grocery stores remain open.

There is too much uncertainty right now. → While I can't control the situation around me, I CAN control my actions. Doing breathwork, calling loved ones, getting enough sleep and proper nutrition, prayer, and doing activities I love at home will all help during this time.

An Officer came to my house and asked me where I was between 5 and 6, I replied, "Kindergarten."

In Our Prayers

Larry Albin
 Steve Bolt
 Scotty Elliott
 Richard Herndon
 Paula Sue Hightower
 Herb Lang
 Ronnie & Kathy Thompson
 Alan Toler
 Honor Vaughn
 Larry Weeks
 Eddie Wiggins

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Sermon

Arnold Nelson

Jesus Wept

John 11:1-6, 32-44

Scripture Reader

Mary Frances Cox

Tune in on Facebook

@FirstChristianChurchDuncan

or at www.FCCDuncan.com

WORSHIP @ THE WELL

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Message

Trevor Evans

Tune in on Facebook

@theWellFCC

Nursing Home / Assisted Living

Jane Aldridge – Canoe Brook
 Sally Anderson – Elk Crossing
 Esther Coker Bolding – Canoe Brook
 Pat Elam – Canoe Brook
 Carlyle & Lynda Galloway – Chisholm Trail
 Billie Phagans – Elk Crossing
 Carl & Evelyn Slifer – Ashbrook Village
 Jackie Van Alstine – St. Simeon's Senior Community

Included in this issue
Order of Service for in
Home Christian Worship
Sunday, March 22, 2020

Ministers of First Christian Church

	Arnold Nelson, Jr.
	Trevor Evans
Staff Secretary	Erica Hancock Bennett
Business Secretary	Reba Ford
Organist	Patty Jennings
Sanctuary Choir Director	Kevin Zinn
A.V. Manager, Sanctuary	Richard Herndon
A.V. Manager, Well	Bruce Bailey
Praise Leader @ the Well	Jared Smith
Kitchen Hostess	LaDonna Brown
Head Custodian	Frank Timmins
Custodian	Stephen Stapp
Daycare Executive Director	Stephanie Wiggins
Daycare Programs Manager	Tosha Matheny
Nursery Director	Lacey Myers

God's Love...it's Cookin'!
 March 28 – Team Elliott

	March 22, 2020	
Online Worship in the Sanctuary		755
Online Worship @ the Well		1,100
Total Worship Attendance		1,855
General Budget		\$ 5,081.80



Come to Worship, Nurture, and Share

Published weekly, except Thanksgiving & Christmas weeks

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@FirstChristianChurchDuncan
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