

*Here to Worship, Nurture, and Share*



# The Duncan Christian

**THE WELL**  
A MINISTRY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Volume 67, Issue 48

Thursday, December 5, 2019

*It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas...*

## Church-Wide Christmas Extravaganza

Sunday, December 15

Sanctuary

6:00 PM

Christmas Carols Sing-A-Long

Reception will follow, sponsored by  
the Fellowship Committee.

Plus a Special Appearance by St. Nicholas!

## Christmas Sunday, Children Singing

Sunday, December 22

10:45 AM in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM at the Well (at the end of the Service)

## *Just Married* ~❤~

Congratulations to Trevor & Shannon (Motz) Evans who were married on Saturday, November 30, 2019.. We wish Trevor & Shannon a lifetime of love and happiness.

## **BOY SCOUT TROOP #4434 PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Saturday, December 7

6:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Gathering Hall



**Advance tickets (\$7) available in the Church Office or  
from your friendly neighborhood Boy Scout!**

*Tickets are \$8 at the door.*

## The Amen Corner

This morning I wanted to kick myself. I blame Fred Rogers. For the first time in awhile, I was at coffee at R & S and one of the guys said something inane. This is not unusual. Truth is, he says unnecessary nonsense often enough, it's just so much low hanging fruit. I could have/should have ignored it but in a nanosecond I said something smart at his expense. Everyone laughed, him included but me. Instead, I immediately thought of Fred Rogers and I was ashamed of myself.

This weekend I went to see Tom Hanks portray his 6th cousin in Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood. What I witnessed was a person better than I. Rogers' low key, nonstop, Christian witness was sincere and gentle. He was kind and it wasn't just for show. Watching the film, I wept as I involuntarily compared myself to him.

Time was I specialized in self-deprecating humor, the kind of joke one tells on oneself, "How were the restaurants you visited in New Orleans? I'm fat and I care," or "Oh, he's 6'7" and that's why he has such a fast swing weight. That must be my problem!" Stuff like that, get it? A comment like these doesn't make anyone else look foolish, doesn't hurt their feelings, and doesn't make them feel any blush of shame. Yet, somewhere along the line I started hearing cutting jabs in my head when people said whatever they're saying, and out like a shot comes some unnecessary stinging remark. An hour and 49 minutes in Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood awakened me to this change that's come over me. I don't like it. Rogers was an ordained Presbyterian preacher and a better educated crop of preachers is not to be found. Still, it's a sobering moment to encounter one as a better person, a better Christian. I won't count equality with this modest saint a thing to be grasped, but I'd prefer the chasm not be as wide as what I must confess to have discovered.

Upon further painful reflection it occurred to me that when Jesus was enduring the passion of the Cross, it included the temple guards making fun of him, ridiculing him. That was part of the package of evil done to him. I don't want to be like those guys. I'm acutely aware that our lives regularly are arguments for Jesus to go to the Cross for us, but I hadn't placed myself in Jerusalem making fun of my Savior. Still, to do it to anyone is to do it to him.

So, if I've ever made a joke at your expense, I apologize from my heart. Regardless, if I've done so to you, you deserve better from your pastor as Christ deserves better from anyone of us who wears his name.

At lunch today a friend did something and I could have ignored it, but the chance to be a smart aleck reared its ugly head and I shot off my mouth. Everyone laughed. This is going to be tough. Go see the movie; I promise you'll be glad!

Glad to be your pastor,  
Arnold

## FCC People & Happenings



### Coming Up...

#### Birthdays and Anniversaries

December 8 – 14

- 8 Linda Hutson
- 9 Aubree Chastain  
Jessica Hooker
- 10 Paula Pace
- 11 Andrea Daughtrey  
Susan Frantzis  
Karen Scott
- 12 Donna Marks
- 14 Shannon Riley

8 Karl & Cathy Jacobs



The FCC Chancel Choir will be presenting their Christmas Cantata "Bethlehem Joy" at the 10:45 AM service on Sunday, December 15th. Please come and join us as you don't want to miss it as it will be great! Bring a friend and enjoy beautiful music together!



F.O.C.U.S. of CWF will gather on Monday, December 9 at 5:30 PM for a Christmas Party in the home of Debbie Savage, 1004 Alpine, Duncan. Dinner will be provided. Bring a wrapped gift (Suggest an edible or drinkable gift valued at \$10 ~ \$20) for an exchange game. Be A Friend..... Bring A Friend (and a gift for them too!)

## In Christian Sympathy



Our deepest sympathy is extended to Margaret Newport and family upon the death of their father, **Leo Newport**. On Wednesday, November 27th, Leo Newport died after a long and hard fight. Leo, like his wife, Margaret Brown Newport, were at Phillips University together when I wondered why on earth anyone majored in geology. Leo was successful in the oil industry in Dallas for many years. He will be cremated and a family service is planned during the Christmas holidays when all the Brown family can be together. We send our condolences to Margaret and her family.



Thank you to everyone that has donated to the Toy Shop. We appreciate you so very much! We will be delivering toys on Friday, December 24. Donations may be left in the church "Toy Box" in the Gathering Hall or taken to the Toy Shop at 111 S. 9th Street, M-F, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Financial donations may be left in the Church Office, mailed to PO Box 206, Duncan, OK 73534 or taken to the Toy Shop. Again, we are so grateful for your support!

Kathy Snider  
Toy Shop Board President

## Women of the Word

Bible Study Group

**NOT MEETING FOR THE  
REMAINDER OF 2019**

*We will begin again on January 5th.*



# FCC News & Activities



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**Practice:**  
December 4, 11, & 18  
5:30-6:30 PM

*Food will be provided!*



Please contact the Church Office  
if your child needs a ride.

**Program:**  
Sunday, December 22  
*We hope to see you there!*

Dear Friends in Christ,

This is the season when we are thankful for the many blessings that we have received. We at Christians Concerned thank you for your continued support whether donating food and other items to our food pantry or the much needed financial commitment. It is caring Christians, like your church family, who make life better for families in need, in our community. We appreciate your generous giving throughout the year.



Sincerely,

Penny Gardner  
Executive Director & Board Members of  
Christian Concerned

Sunday, December 8

Leader: Melissa Weathers

### COMING EVENTS

December 8 – 14

#### Sunday, December 8

Good Morning Service in the Sanctuary	8:30 AM
Sunday School	9:30 AM
Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary	10:45 AM
Contemporary Worship at the Well	10:45 AM

#### Monday, December 9

F.O.C.U.S. Christmas Party at the Home of Debbie Savage	5:30 PM
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#### Tuesday, December 10

Staff Meeting, Office Conference Room	10:00 AM
Duncan Chamber of Commerce Leadership Duncan	
Social Services Day at the Well	11:00 AM
Elder Meeting in the Koinonia Room	6:00 PM

#### Thursday, December 12

Cancer Group Meets in the Church Parlor	5:30 PM
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#### Friday, December 13

Church Staff Christmas Party, @Patty Jennings	6:00 PM
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#### Saturday, December 14

Men's Net Group @The Well	8:30 AM
Day Care Staff Christmas Party, Gathering Hall	6:00 PM



This coming Thursday, December 5, 2019, Arnold's Bible Study Group will meet at 12:00 PM for lunch and Bible Study on the Book of Mark. This will be the last Bible Study meeting for 2019. We will resume again on Thursday, January 16, 2020.

### *Poinsettias for Our Worship*

To provide Poinsettias for our worship during Advent @ ~~\$30.00~~, please turn in the following information to the church office no later than, Monday, December 16.

Number of Poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like the Poinsettia placed?

- Sanctuary
- Well

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) as you'd wish to be listed in the bulletin.

- In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_
- In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- To the Glory of God

*You may take your Poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve Services.*





8:30—WORSHIP  
SERVING SCHEDULE  
Sunday, December 8, 2019  
Sanctuary  
Sermon  
Arnold Nelson  
*The Attraction of Painful Truth*  
Matthew 3: 1–12  
Scripture Reader  
Suzy Bruner  
Communion Prayer  
A. L. Hutson  
Greeters  
*Narthex*  
Janie Fitzgerald & Bob Jones  
Assistant Treasurer  
A. L. Hutson  
Communion Preparation  
A. L. Hutson  
Sunday School Superintendent  
Trent Cronk

*God's Love...it's Cookin'!*  
December 7 – Team Pace

Ministers of First Christian Church  
Arnold Nelson, Jr.  
Trevor Evans  
Staff Secretary  
Erica Hancock  
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 Director  
Stephanie Wiggins  
Nursery Director  
Lacey Myers



10:45—WORSHIP  
SERVING SCHEDULE  
Sunday, December 8, 2019  
Sanctuary  
Sermon  
Arnold Nelson  
*The Attraction of Painful Truth*  
Matthew 3: 1–12  
Scripture Reader  
Kassie Gilmore  
Serving Elders  
Communion Prayer:  
Rod Smith  
Invocation & Lord's Prayer &  
Dedication of Offering:  
Terry Snider  
Serving Deacons  
Max Daughtrey  
Tom Freeman  
Marcia Harlow  
Kelly Nelson (Head)  
Cecelia Richey  
Anthony Scott  
Gary Scott  
Karen Scott  
Charles Young

Greeters  
*Narthex*  
Paul & Linda Craig  
*Sanctuary Doors from G.H.*  
North: Glynis Johns  
South: Sharleen Johns  
Assistant Treasurer  
David Herndon  
Communion Preparation  
A. L. Hutson  
Communion Clean Up  
Kelly Nelson

LABEL

10:45—WORSHIP  
SERVING SCHEDULE  
Sunday, December 8, 2019  
Well  
Message  
Trevor Evans  
Serving Elder: Karl Jacobs  
Hostess: Leigh Tetlow & Esther Wylie  
Assistant Treasurer: Trent Cronk

*In Our Prayers*  
Nursing Home / Assisted Living  
Jane Aldridge – Canoe Brook  
Sally Anderson – Elk Crossing  
Esther Coker – Canoe Brook  
Betty Eby – Gregston's  
Pat Elam – Canoe Brook  
Lynda Galloway – Chisholm Trail  
Billie Phagans – Elk Crossing  
Marvene & Louie Schumacher – Wilkins  
Others  
Herb Lang  
Traci Miller  
Phil Pace  
Ronnie & Kathy Thompson  
Honor Vaughn  
Vicki Vermedahl  
Colleen Whitfield

December 1, 2019

8:30 AM Worship in the Sanctuary	35
10:45 AM Worship in the Sanctuary	72
10:45 AM Worship at the Well	71
Children Worship & Wonder	5
Total Worship Attendance	183
Sunday School	33
General Budget	\$ 11,317.69
Benevolent Fund	\$21.00

## Come to Worship, Nurture, and Share

Published weekly, except Thanksgiving & Christmas weeks

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@theWellFCC  
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