

The Messenger



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Oct 6, 2021

Stewardship 2022

Dear Member,

It's been an unusual period of time. With the changing patterns of a COVID landscape, we've adjusted to living our lives, being the church, in ways we couldn't have imagined a few months ago.

Sometimes the changes have been overwhelming, but we have been a resourceful people. We've found new ways to be a community. In calling Rev. Dr. Shaun Brown to be Associate Minister, we've anticipated the future. In unpredictable times, our giving has been consistently faithful!

But as much as we celebrate our resourcefulness, we also pause to thank God who has given us the capacity for such extraordinary strength.

This year's stewardship theme, "**A Future with Hope**" challenges us to remember that our strength is a gift of God. Centuries ago, back in day when our Bible ancestors were forced to change comfortable patterns of living, and wondered if they could meet the challenge, God sent the prophet Jeremiah to give them a word of hope. *"Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope"* (Jeremiah 29: 11).

Then and now, Jeremiah's message still speaks. Through every challenging time, we're freshly reminded God is present and continues to bless us. In the church we sing this great hope. Great is Thy Faithfulness." This is our hope for the future.

On October 17th, during morning worship, we celebrate our annual Consecration Sunday. On this Sunday, we invite you to make a commitment of financial support to the church's ministry in the coming year.

As you think about your financial commitment to First Christian Church in the coming year, remember the hope God promises us for the future. Give with confidence, give with a generous spirit, believing the words of the song, echoed in the words of Jeremiah: *"Great is their faithfulness . . . morning by morning, new mercies we see."*

Please indicate your continued support for the church's ministry in 2022 by completing the pledge card which you may find online at fccgarland.org/stewardship2022 or by planning to attend in-person Consecration Sunday, October 17. You may also send it in by mail.

Thank you. Thank you for your continued love and generosity and faithfulness.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Preskitt".

Randy Preskitt, Stewardship Ministry Chair 2021



Calling All Volunteers

As more parts of our church become available, there are new responsibilities that we need your help with. Please explore the volunteer opportunities here and contact Cyndy Smith if you'd like to lend a helping hand.

Coffee Fellowship

Volunteers are needed to deliver this service to the church. There are four tasks which must be performed each week— Coffee Fellowship Prep on Friday or Saturday, 9:00am Coffee & Ice Setup, Donut Pickup, and Coffee Fellowship Cleanup. Multiple volunteers would be nice and would spread the work among many hands.



UV Lamps

UV lamps are used in various parts of the church as an added layer of protection. These lamps are set out on Thursday nights (after dark) and picked up and returned to their boxes on Friday mornings. Volunteers are needed to rotate these responsibilities.

Narthex and Avenue A Supply Tables and Kitchen Counter

For the added protection of our church members, supplies are set out each week in three locations: the Narthex, Avenue A entrance and the kitchen counter. These supplies are masks, tissues, water bottles, gloves, and take home communion elements.

Scout Program

This month, the Scouts resumed their pack and den meetings here at our church. A protocol guideline has been added for the protection of the scouts, our church members, and the church building. We will be having a church member available on the nights the scouts are using the building. Their meetings are usually on Tuesday nights throughout the school year. The main job of the church member is to answer questions the scout leaders may have about the church, but to also help with ensuring scouts keep to their designated areas.

Save the Date: Volunteer Training

According to FCCG Bylaws, it is mandatory for volunteers and employees working with children and youth in any capacity to attend education seminars covering topics about sexual abuse, prevention, and mandatory reporting procedures. Training must also include CPR/AED/first aid training for infants, children and youth. The Education Ministry has confirmed November 13th for these trainings. Please plan to attend.



November 13, 2021 from 8:00 to 11:00 am – CPR/AED/first aid training for infants, children and youth

This training must be renewed every two years. Most likely everyone will also need to renew their CPR certification since we did not have a class last year during the pandemic. Please check the expiration date on your certification card.

November 13, 2021 from 11:00 to 12:00 pm – Safe Church Training

CPR training will be open to the entire congregation. The church will cover the cost of mandatory training for employees and volunteers only. Other individuals wishing to attend must pay \$40.00 each. More information and reservations will be made available as we get closer to the November 13 date.

DWM Meeting

You are a vital part of our Disciples Women Ministry.

Jeremiah a prophet in despair: people in anguish
**Recognizing Counterfeit and Real Deal—Study of
 Jeremiah chapters 10-16**

Speaker: Laurie Dodd

Spiritual Color: Green: New life we have in Jesus

Memorabilia: God's bag: Give to God our talents

November 1	9:30am	Morning Circle
November 2	6:45pm*	Evening Circle
*Childcare will be available for this session		

Come have fun, fellowship, and weave us together.

2022 Nominating Committee

Don Smith	214-535-6004
Tod Wolf	214-480-4450
Billie Bliss	469-847-6271
Laurie Owens	214-499-6810
Janis Armstrong	972-495-1707
Debbie Fetzer	214-395-3888
Ben Hill	469-471-8995
Travis Brock	214-924-3197

Youthful Pursuits



We kicked off youth on September 19th! The kids played against the youth outside at volleyball and then Pastor Shaun gave the lesson that evening on how we can manage our time and make room for God in everything we do.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Oct 10 @ 4:00pm—Youth groups

Oct 17 @ 4:00pm—Youth groups

Oct 23 @ 7:00pm—Faith & Family
night with Allen Americans
Hockey

Oct 24 @ 10:00am—Youth

Sunday Youth will participate in leading the worship service. Dr. Shaun Brown will be preaching.



Spiritual Development Offerings

Looking for a way to stay connected to your church? Log on to some of our spiritual development courses. Have questions? Confused about how to get the Zoom link to work? Contact the church office at 972-272-5423.

Study the Gospel of Mark - Thursdays at 12pm

Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner invites you to join his continuing bible study. Having completed a study of the Book of Ephesians, the course will continue with a study of the Gospel of Mark.

The class will meet weekly, Thursdays at noon. Check your email each week for the link to the Zoom meeting.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MARK

Thank You

To all my friends/family of FCC—
thank you for the shower of cards—
we made it—105 as of today. I've
enjoyed the many visits as well as
invitations to your homes. I am truly
blessed—God is good. I miss you—
hope I'll be back soon.

Love and blessings,

Lee MacDonald

Streams of Living Water: A Seven Week Study in Christian Spirituality

Based on Richard Foster's *Streams of Living Water:
Celebrating the Great Traditions of the Christian Faith*

The Contemplative Tradition: The Prayer-Filled Life
The Holiness Tradition: The Virtuous Life
The Charismatic Tradition: The Spirit-Empowered Life
The Social Justice Tradition: The Compassionate Life
The Evangelical Tradition: The Word-Centered Life
The Incarnational Tradition: The Sacramental Life

Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM on
Zoom

October 6–November 17

Led by Shaun Brown

shaun@fccgarland.org

You are welcome to read the book as we go
through the study, but it is not required.

Celebrations



We celebrate the birth of

River Lee Wolf,

born to Montana and Jack Wolf on August 16th.

Proud grandparents are Tod & Leasa Wolf.

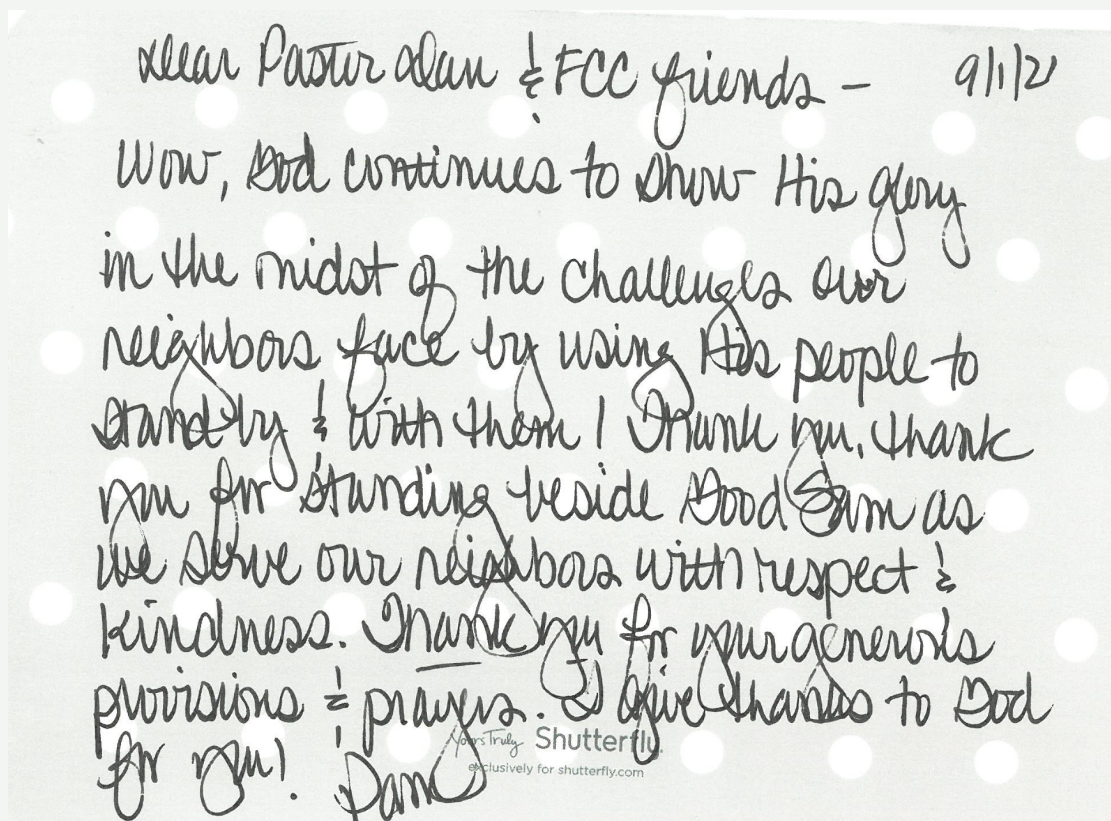
We celebrate the birth of

Winston Charles Brown ,

born to Laura and Patrick Brown on August 26th. He joins brothers, Everett and Davis. Proud grandparents are Kim and James Schnitker. Happy uncles and aunts are Andrew and Madison Schnitker and Michael and Ellie Schnitker. Great grandmother is Doris Cooper.



A Note from Good Samaritans of Garland



prayer REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Stan McGill
Fonda Thomas

Fishers of Families

Bill & Jeanne Dunn
Stan & Judy Shwartz

God's Messengers

Shirley Miller

Hands of Faith

Gerry Cooper

Shepherds

Linda Rowell

The Handbell Choir is looking for some new members. If you're interested, please contact Virginia McBee at mvmcb0453@aol.com

Handbell Choir



IN SYMPATHY

We give our sympathy to Gail Greene and the family of
Howard Greene,
who passed away on September 3, 2021.

We give our condolences also to Joanna Jewett and family upon the loss of
her mother,

Martha Ferrell,

who passed away October 1st.