



# FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

November 29, 2022

Volume 60

Number 22

## Psalm for this Sunday

*Let him judge your people with righteousness and your poor ones with justice.  
Let the mountains bring peace to the people; let the hills bring righteousness.  
Let the king bring justice to people who are poor; let him save the children of those who are  
needy, but let him crush oppressors!  
Let the king live as long as the sun, as long as the moon, generation to generation.  
Let him fall like rain upon fresh-cut grass, like showers that water the earth.  
Let the righteous flourish throughout their lives, and let peace prosper until the moon is no more.*  
**Psalm 72:2-7**

Psalm 72, likely written by David as an aspiration for Solomon, talks about power in a very surprising way - it puts the overlooked folks amongst us front and center. How rare is it to see a leader look beyond the movers and shakers, and truly seek out the dispossessed and disinherited! This Psalm sets a tone for us as we think about God. God is, of course, holy and perfect. God is the Most High. And yet it is this God who shows up meek and lowly in the manger. This should bring us great peace. God is not a God of the big-wigs. And God's story is not the story of power and dominance. We uplift the God who seeks out those on the margins and brings them into unity. Our scripture reading this Sunday will be Romans 15:4-7.

**Nick**

## Advent Special Events

- Gathering of the Greens - **Saturday, December 3**. All are welcome to meet at the church at **8:00 am**. We will take the van to go gather the greens. That afternoon all are welcome to join us at the church to make wreaths and begin decorating. Our hanging of the greens service is **December 4**.
- Christmas in the Park - **Sunday, December 11, at 5:30 pm** (Creekmore Park). Join us and bring some cookies at Creekmore Park. We will share the cookies and some carols with folks in the park.
- Blue Christmas Potluck - **Sunday, December 18, at 5:00 pm**. Membership will be providing a meal and the youth plan to have a special performance of "Blue Christmas."
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - **Saturday, December 24, at 6:00 pm**. Our traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service
- Christmas Day services - **Sunday, December 25**. As Christmas lands on a Sunday this year, we will have a combined Sunday school class and a simple service full of Christmas hymns for Christmas Day.

On Sunday, **December 11**, we will have poinsettias adorning our sanctuary. You can reserve one "In Honor of..." or "In Memory of..." with your payment of \$10.

Your cash / check reserves your poinsettia. Use the small brown envelopes in the pew pockets, or drop your check off in the church office. Please be sure to write out **for whom** and **from whom** the poinsettia is ordered. **December 5** is the last day to order.



**Order forms will be in the bulletins on December 4.**

## In the Life of the Church

- **Saturday, December 3, 8:00 am** Gathering of the Greens
- **Sunday, December 4, 10:00 am** Hanging of the Greens
- **Sunday, December 4, 11:00 am** Disciples Bells Rehearsal
- **Sunday, December 4, 5:00 pm** Youth Group
- **Tuesday, December 6, 10:00 am** DWF Board
- **Tuesday, December 6, 11:30 am** Lunch Bunch at Fried Rice, 3802 Towson Avenue
- **Wednesday, December 7, 10:00 am** Primetime Bells Rehearsal
- **Wednesday, December 7, 12:00 & 6:00 pm** Small Groups
- **Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal

**Dianna's Notes**

**Special Music**

- December 4** Disciples Bells and Chancel Choir
- December 11** Chime Duet: Cannon Hudlow and Cavan Moore
- December 18** Youth Bell Choir and Friends
- December 24** Disciples Bells

*Disciples Bells Quintet meets Sunday at 8:15 am in the Sanctuary to rehearse. Disciples Bells meet at 8:30 am to rehearse. Chancel Choir meets at 9:30 am to rehearse.*

**Friendship Class Christmas Party**

The friendship class invites all past, present and possible class members **Saturday, December 17, 6:30 pm** to a Christmas party. Bring a finger food to share. We will play the "Dirty Santa" gift game. Cliff and Ruth Carson's home, 8010 Oxford Circle, Fort Smith, AR

**Group 3**

DWF Group 3 will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items this month. There will be a collection bin in the Narthex. Hopefully we can help others.

**Community Outreach**

Community Outreach is collecting new or used coats, jackets, gloves, scarves, and hats for the homeless. There is a box in the Narthex for these items.

**Hope Campus News**

We will be collecting any kind of dry pasta to take to Hope Campus. Unused plasticware from take-out food is also appreciated. There are containers for this in the Narthex and in the Church Office.

**Elder for December**

Nina Abernathy – 479-650-9114

**Greeters for December**

Brad & Kim Kidder

**Shut-in Communion for December**

Tim Randolph and Brad Kidder  
Ruth Carson and Kim Kidder

**Love Offering Planned**

Whitney (Foster) Upchurch and husband are in Little Rock while their infant is in ICU. A love offering will be received at the upcoming DWF group meetings. For those not affiliated with a group: Make a check out to First Christian Church with "Whitney" in the memo line. A love offering tree will be in the Narthex for two weeks to receive cash.

Please respect the family's privacy during this complicated time and lift them in your daily prayers.

**Mission Possible Room Need**

New or used electric heaters are needed for Mission Possible Room.

**Youth T-Shirts**

The Youth have four gray t-shirts available for \$20 each: 3-XL and 1-2XL

If you would like to purchase one, please contact Kira Moore at **479-926-4955**.

This Sunday the youth will meet right after church to bake cookies. We will then deliver them to some of our members that are staying in local nursing homes.

**Kira**

**First Christian Church**

3501 Rogers Avenue  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903  
Phone: 479.783.1139

FOR THE RECORD November 27, 2022	
Operating Receipts To Date	\$ 1,987.00 16,990.00
Endowment To Date	35.00 815.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs	26,932.46

**OFFICE HOURS**

9:00 am-3:00 pm-Monday-Thursday

**SERVICE TIMES**

Sunday School at 9:00 am; Worship at 10:00 am

**CHURCH STAFF**

- Rev. Nick Koontz**, Senior Minister
- Dianna Jackson**, Director of Music Ministry
- Mary Beth Oliver**, Organist
- Barbara Brown**, Secretary
- Pam Shelby**, Financial Secretary
- Randy Alexander**, Custodian
- Lesley Fleming**, Nursery Attendant
- Rev. Howard Marshall**, Pastor Emeritus (1990-2022)
- Rev. Randy Jay**, Pastor Emeritus