



# FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

April 2, 2024

Volume 61

Number 40

## *The God of Second Chances*

It appeared that the small group of disciples Jesus recruited and trained turned out to be failures. One of them turned Him in to the authorities for monetary gain. The Scriptures inform us that all of them forsook Him as they fled in fear of being arrested themselves when Jesus was apprehended. Except for Judas, none of the disciples had a harder fall or more embarrassing fall than Simon Peter. Peter followed at a distance when Jesus was arrested, and he denied knowing Him three times before he too fled into the cold darkness of the night. But after the resurrection, instead of gathering His disciples to reprimand them for leaving Him, He calls for them to meet Him and bring Peter. Jesus was willing to forgive them all and give them a second chance. We serve a God of second chances. *Ellis*

### *New Members*

Jeanne Stebner  
4801 Rogers Avenue, Apt. 30  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
865-333-0421

Shane Abernathy  
3500 South 74<sup>th</sup> Street, D-1  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
918-413-5926

### *Thank You*

First Christian Youth Group and their sponsors ROCK!!

Thank you so much for making sure everyone was welcomed, well-fed, and went home with more candy than I've ever seen. It was great to see so many members out helping and supporting our youth. A wonderful time was had by all. Thank you so much.

## *The Neighbor Endowment*

The Trustees are pleased to announce a new endowment called "The Neighbor Endowment."

The purpose of this gift is to help residents in need in the River Valley, which includes a 35-mile radius around the city of Fort Smith and its immediate communities. Examples of this need would be urgent home repairs, utility/food insecurities, or any emergency need in which a hand up is essential.

The person in need will contact the church office for an application form and return it to the church office after completion. The Trustees will review the form and contact the applicant.

### *In the Life of the Church*

- **Sunday, April 7, 11:00 am** Disciples Bells Rehearsal
- **Sunday, April 7, 5:00 pm** Youth Group
- **Monday, April 8, 9:30 am** Serve at Hope Campus
- **Tuesday, April 9, 10:00 am** DWF Group 4
- **Tuesday, April 9, 11:30 am** Lunch Bunch at Western Sizzlin, 5200 Towson Avenue
- **Tuesday, April 9, 4:15 pm** Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- **Tuesday, April 9, 6:00 pm** DWF Group 3
- **Wednesday, April 10, 9:00 am** Ecumenical Men's Bible Study (Disciples Hall)
- **Thursday, April 11, 10:00 am** Crazy Crafters

**Dianna's Notes**

**Special Music**

**April 7** Chancel Choir

*The Chancel Choir will meet at 9:20 in the Sanctuary on Sunday to rehearse. Wear white stoles with robes.*

**Disciples Bells will not meet on April 14 and 21.**

**Elder for April**

Tim Randolph—479-462-1712

**Greeters for April**

Julie Jay and Margot Mundy  
Disciples Hall Entrance: Audrey Stewart

**Prepare Communion for April**

Audrey Stewart

**Homebound Visit/Communion**

Regina Respass and Margot Mundy

**Hope Campus**

We will prepare and serve lunch at Hope Campus Homeless Shelter on **Monday, April 8, from 9:30-12:30**. To sign up, contact Ginger Jefferies at 414-2466 or the church office.

We will be collecting ground coffee to take to Hope Campus. Unused plastic ware from take-out food is also appreciated.

**Wedding Shower**

All the women of the church are invited to a wedding shower in the church parlor for **Gina Cusick & Brannon Riggs, son of Steven & LaBeth Riggs.**

**Sunday, April 7, 2:00 pm**  
Registry: Dillard's and Walmart

**Book Club News**

We will be reading the following books:

**April 18** *Killers of the Flower Moon*  
by David Gann

**May 16** *Bluebird, Bluebird* by Attica Locke

We meet the **third Thursday at 2:00 pm** in the Administration Building. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Julie Jay.

**Prayer Concerns**

- Keep **Jack & Joy Jackson** in your prayers.
- **Sara Bailey, daughter of Jesse and Stephanie Bailey**, had a successful surgery Monday. Keep her in your prayers.

**DWF Group 3 Meeting**

DWF Group 3 will meet **Tuesday, April 9, at 6:00 pm**. Bring your dinner. Remember to bring your donations for the Ronald McDonald house as per Michelle's text message.

**First Christian Church**

3501 Rogers Avenue  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903  
Phone: 479.783.1139

**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. Dr. Ellis Robinson**, Senior Pastor  
**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

**FOR THE RECORD**  
**March 31, 2024**

<b>Operating Receipts To Date</b>	<b>\$ 7,652.00</b> <b>28,954.00</b>
<b>Endowment To Date</b>	<b>75.00</b> <b>930.00</b>
<b>Easter Offering Total</b>	<b>484.00</b> <b>1,370.00</b>
<b>Monthly Budgeted Needs</b>	<b>\$28,024.83</b>