



Why Do Christians Celebrate Easter?

“Easter marks the triumphant victory of Jesus Christ over death and the grave, demonstrating His power to conquer sin and offer eternal life to all who believe in Him. We celebrate Easter because not only did our Lord conquer death, but without the Resurrection, we have no foundation for our faith.

1 Corinthians 15:13-15 says, “If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.”

In other words, Christianity has no point if the Resurrection didn’t happen. Christians would’ve been martyred for nothing and place their faith in false hope.

Thankfully the Resurrection did occur, and for those reasons, we have immense hope and assurance. It is through the Resurrection that we find assurance of our redemption and the promise of new life in Christ. Furthermore, the Resurrection validates Jesus’ identity as the Son of God and confirms His authority to grant forgiveness of sins and reconcile humanity with God. Therefore, Easter is not merely a celebration of an event in history, but a proclamation of the foundational truth that shapes our entire faith journey and offers hope for the future.”

Christianity Today



At the break of dawn, the women came to the tomb, expecting to find the lifeless body of Jesus. Inside the tomb, the story takes an unexpected turn and invites us inside the story. In the solemn silence where death was presumed to dwell, the disciples instead encounter awe — a wonder that stirs their hearts and shifts their understanding. The resurrection ignites in us that same wonder, the wonder that gripped the first witnesses of the empty tomb — the wonder of love that conquers death, of hope that defies despair, and of a risen Christ whose presence transforms the world forever.

The Easter Offering, received on **April 20**, provides vital support for the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your generous gift helps equip college students for leadership, strengthens global mission partnerships, sustains health and social service ministries, supports the formation of new congregations, cares for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

Your gift has the power to transform lives and extend the love of Christ around the world. Thank you for making a difference.

First Christian Church Easter Egg Hunt

Please mark your calendar for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 19, at 11:00 am.**

Come have fun and fellowship. A light lunch will be provided. Bring your Easter baskets and a blanket or chairs for seating. Invite family and friends.

There will be three hunting areas provided:
toddler area, special needs area, and an area for the older children.

Event is sponsored by our FCC Youth, Community Outreach, and our friends from Elks Lodge 341.

Thank you to everyone who donated candy.

In the Life of the Church

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| • Monday, April 21, 6:30 pm | Disciples Men’s Fellowship |
| • Tuesday, April 22, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Western Sizzlin’, 5200 Towson Avenue |
| • Tuesday, April 22, 5:15 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| • Wednesday, April 23, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, April 23 | Pastor’s Bible Classes (12:00 pm & 6:00 pm) |
| • Thursday, April 24, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, April 24, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |
| • Sunday, April 27, 11:00 am | Elder’s Meeting |
| • Sunday, April 27, 4:00 pm | Disciples Bells Rehearsal |
| • Thursday, May 1, 12:00 pm | National Day of Prayer, Sebastian County Courthouse |

Dianna’s Notes
Special Music

April 20 Disciples Bells; Chancel Choir

April 27 Chancel Choir

May 4 Disciples Bells Quintet

Disciples Bells will meet at 8:30 am Sunday in the Sanctuary to rehearse.

Chancel Choir will meet Sunday at 9:20 am to rehearse.

There will be no Disciples Bells rehearsal after Worship on Sunday, April 20.

Elder for April
Jack Jackson

Deacons for April
David Williamson (Foreman), Tim Fleming, Terry Hales, Barbara Lynch, Margot Mundy, Nick Oliver, Calvin Reed, Audrey Stewart

Greeters for April
Margot Mundy, David Williamson
Disciples Hall Entrance: Audrey Stewart

Prepare Communion for April
Audrey Stewart

Book Club meets **Thursday, April 17, at 2:00 pm.** We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm. All are welcome. Any questions, contact Julie Jay.

April *The Great Divide* by Cristina Henriquez

Hope Campus News

We are collecting bags of pasta to take to Hope Campus.

Office News

The office will close at 12:00 pm on **Thursday, April 17.**

If you have an article for next week’s newsletter, please submit it by **10:00 am Monday, April 21.**

Prayer Concerns

- **Abby Musset**
- **Doris Clifton**, Glenda Musset’s sister
- **Clayton Carson**
- **Ben Maxey**
- **Lisa Fillmore**, the Hendrickson’s daughter
- **Becky Eggers**

A big thank you for showering us with so much love and generosity at our bridal brunch/shower on Sunday! We are blessed to have such a beautiful, loving, and caring church family. We can’t wait to get married at First Christian Church next month!

With Love,
Stacey Riggs & Trevor Hodge

First Christian Church
3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
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FOR THE RECORD April 13, 2025	
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 2,242.90 10,120.03
Endowment To date	50.00 190.00
Easter Offering	274.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs	\$27,571.00

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, 479-651-0456
Dianna Jackson, Director of Music Ministry
Mary Beth Oliver, Organist
Barbara Brown, Office Administrator
Pam Shelby, Financial Administrator
Lesley Fleming, Nursery Attendant
Rev. Howard Marshall, Pastor Emeritus (1990-2022)
Rev. Randy Jay, Pastor Emeritus