



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

May 6, 2025

Volume 62

Number 45

What Mothers Need

"Like all of us, mothers need to be praised. A mother who knows she is valued can handle almost anything. She has the skill and energy to cook, sew, teach, do business, care for her family, help the needy, and deal with difficulties. But if a woman is never praised, she will feel unloved, unskilled, and useless. A mother needs to be thanked, prized, and praised every day.

A God-fearing woman is to be praised by her children, her husband, and 'in the city gate' by community leaders. A mother will be encouraged if her children stand and say, 'God bless you, Mom, for being such a blessing to us.' She will smile to hear her husband say, 'I love you. Other women might do good things, but you're the best!' The highest praise any woman can receive is praise from God. What counts most is what God thinks: 'The unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit ... is of great worth in God's sight.'"

David Feddes, Christian Leaders Institute

Stewardship Options

As the new church year is about to begin and the stewardship drive is in progress, this is to provide you with information about the options available for making offerings to the church.

The first option is by check or cash as you have been doing. Please keep in mind that if you make offerings with cash, and you do not insert it inside an envelope or something else with your name on it, I have no way of knowing who it is from and, therefore, cannot credit your account with the offering. Also, if the check is to be directed to something other than the general fund, please indicate that in the Memo line.

The second option is through the online portal Tithely. The website is <https://app.tithely.com/login>. If you do not already have an account, you can create one and make offerings through this portal. The charges to use this portal are as follows:

Credit/debit cards:	2.9% + \$.30 per transaction
ACH/Bank	1% + \$.30 per transaction
Amex	3.5% + \$.30 per transaction

You can generously opt to pay the transaction fee or the church will pay the fee, and it will be deducted from what is deposited into the church's account.

The third option is having money sent directly from your bank. Your bank can send a check monthly to the church in any amount you choose. With this option, you don't have to worry about writing a check every month. Just make sure the bank knows to put your name somewhere on the check or check stub.

The fourth option is for anyone over the age of 70 ½. If you have an IRA and would like to use this IRA to make payments for your offerings, it is a tax savings for you. It is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution. The QCD limit is now at \$105,000, meaning you may donate up to \$105,000 each year directly from your IRA to any charitable organization, and that money is not taxed at the end of the year. So instead of withdrawing the money from your IRA, then writing a check to the church (which makes your withdrawal taxable), talk to your financial manager about sending your offerings directly from your IRA to the church. Also, as with the bank, make sure your financial company knows to put your name somewhere on the check or check stub.

I hope this helps to give you some information and helps you decide which option is best for you! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Commitment cards and letters were mailed on Wednesday.

Pam Shelby, Financial Administrator

Pastor's Bible Classes

Beginning in May, Pastor's Bible Classes will not meet the **third Wednesday of each month**.

Graduation Sunday

We will recognize our graduates during the worship service on **Mother's Day, May 11**. Please call the church office if you have a graduate to be recognized.

DWF General Meeting

DWF General meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 13, at 11:30 am**. Please bring a salad or finger food for the potluck lunch. Program will be presented by Laundry of Love. We are collecting liquid laundry detergent, vinegar, dryer sheets, and rolls of quarters to donate. All ladies of the church are invited!

Prayer Concerns

- **Abby Musset**
- **Lisa Fillmore**, the Hendrickson's daughter
- **Terry & Patsy Hendrickson**
- **Clyde Gudermuth**
- **Cliff Carson**
- **Avery Robinson**, Ellis's brother

Dianna's Notes
Special Music

May 11

Youth Bell Choir and Friends
Chancel Choir
Ladies Choir Ensemble

May 18

Chancel Choir

May 25

Piano and Organ Duet
Dianna Jackson and Mary Beth Oliver

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

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

Elder for May
Danny Lynch

Deacons for May
Kim Kidder (Foreman), Stephanie Bailey,
Max File, Jimmy Hudlow, Ginger Jefferies,
Calvin Reed, Sabrina Robinson, Audrey
Stewart

Greeters for May
Terry Hales, Nick Oliver
Disciples Hall Entrance: Connie Slater

Prepare Communion for May
Glenda Musset

DWF Groups 3 and 4 News

DWF Group 3 will not meet in May but will resume in the fall.

DWF Group 4 will not meet in May.

Thank You

I want to thank all those who texted, called, and prayed for me during and after my surgery.

Becky Eggers

Prayers for Callie Anne

Callie Anne Cook, granddaughter of Jim and Linda Creekmore, was born with Apert Syndrome. At age 12, she has had five major surgeries, but the "big one" is May 20. It's a life-changing surgery, drastically changing her appearance, allowing her to breathe safely for the first time, and improving her respiratory health to decrease the intensity of illnesses she gets. It's exciting...and scary...for her, her parents and all of the extended. family. Please keep them all in your prayers. Thank you.

Linda Creekmore

Hope Campus News

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

We are collecting Little Debbie Snacks to take to Hope Campus.

In the Life of the Church

• Sunday, May 11, 11:15 am

• Monday, May 12, 9:30 am

• Tuesday, May 13, 11:30 am

• Tuesday, May 13, 11:30 am

• Tuesday, May 13, 5:15 pm

• Wednesday, May 14, 8:00 am

• Wednesday, May 14

• Thursday, May 15, 10:00 am

• Thursday, May 15, 1:00 pm

• Thursday, May 15, 2:00 pm

Disciples Bells Rehearsal
Serve at Hope Campus
DWF General Meeting
Lunch Bunch at Larry's Pizza, 6400 Hwy 71 S.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ecumenical Men's Bible Study
Pastor's Bible Classes (12:00 pm & 6:00 pm)
Crazy Crafters
Disciples of Music
Book Club

First Christian Church
3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
Phone: 479.783.1139

FOR THE RECORD May 4, 2025	
Operating Receipts	\$ 6,124.00
Endowment	185.00
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