



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

May 13, 2025

Volume 62

Number 46

The Spiritual Challenges of Having Wealth

“In the story of the rich young ruler, Jesus’ challenge to relinquish wealth for spiritual fulfillment resonates deeply with contemporary issues in Christianity. In today’s society, modern believers encounter similar dilemmas, grappling with the tension between materialism and spiritual devotion. The pursuit of financial success, while not inherently negative, can overshadow spiritual priorities when it becomes an idol, leading to a disconnection from core Christian values.

One of the central challenges faced by modern Christians is maintaining a balance between faith and financial success. In a consumer-driven culture, the acquisition of wealth often stands as a measure of personal achievement and societal status. The struggle lies in ensuring that financial prosperity does not eclipse the quest for spiritual growth and a meaningful relationship with God.”

Rev. Roge, Religion and Spirituality

Stewardship

Dear Church Members,

I look forward to our Stewardship Campaign victory dinner after Sunday’s worship service. If you did not get a pledge card in the mail, there will be cards available in the Narthex. You can place the pledge cards in the offering plate during the worship service or in the basket during the meal. So, join in on the celebration of a successful campaign.

Hardie Jefferies, Board Chairman

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

Community Outreach Project

Please join us at the Community Services Clearinghouse, 4420 Wheeler Avenue, on **Monday, May 19, at 10:30 am**. We will fill bags for the Backpack Program, which benefits school children with food insecurities. Thank you.

Community Outreach

Prayer Concerns

- Callie Anne Cook
- Angelo Dodroe
- Lisa Fillmore, the Hendrickson’s daughter
- Clyde Gudermuth
- Abby Musset

Office News

Barbara will be out of the office next week, **Wednesday, May 21, and Thursday, May 22**. The office will be open until noon those two days.

The office will be closed **Monday, May 26**, in observance of Memorial Day.

In the Life of the Church

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| • Sunday, May 18, 11:00 am | Stewardship Commitment Meal |
| • Monday, May 19, 6:30 pm | Disciples Men’s Fellowship |
| • Tuesday, May 20, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Taste & See, 1401 S. Waldron |
| • Tuesday, May 20, 4:00 pm | Serve at Hope Campus |
| • Wednesday, May 21, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, May 21 | NO Pastor’s Bible Classes |
| • Thursday, May 22, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, May 22, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |

Dianna's Notes
Special Music

May 18

Chancel Choir; Disciples Bells

May 25

Piano and Organ Duet
Dianna Jackson and Mary Beth Oliver

Disciples Bells will meet at 8:30 am 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

Book Club News

Book club will meet **Thursday, May 15, at 2:00 pm** to discuss *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt.

Upcoming reads will be:

June

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robyn Wall
Kimmerer

July

All Creatures Great and Small by James
Herriot

Mr. and Mrs. Steven D. Riggs invite you to the wedding of Stacey Riggs and Trevor Hodge, **Saturday, May 24, 2025, at 5 o'clock in the evening**, First Christian Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Hope Campus News

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

MEMORIAL: We gratefully acknowledge the following gift:
· In memory of **Terry Hilbert**, Jeanne Stebner's daughter, by Hardie & Ginger Jefferies

Thank You

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the entire church community for the wonderful support and kindness you have shown my family and me. We were recently blessed to "go home," and it was a truly memorable experience.

From the beautiful blessing of Blake and Parker to the incredible wedding shower you hosted for Blythe, every moment was heartfelt and special. Being in church that Sunday brought back so many cherished memories of raising my two daughters within this loving community. The love and support we have received over the years have always been overwhelming, and the recent celebrations were beyond words. Thank you also for the many shoutouts to our mother/grandmother, Regina Foley. She enjoyed being back with you all that day.

A special thank you to Kristi Williamson for orchestrating the wedding shower and coordinating with Ellis for the baby blessing. Ellis, your efforts made everything perfect, and we are incredibly grateful for your warm message to our family.

This church will forever hold a special place in our hearts. We feel truly blessed to have you all as part of our lives.

With heartfelt thanks,
Dana Foley-Taylor, (Regina Foley, Scarlett and Aaron Pryor, and Blythe Taylor Aimes)

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FOR THE RECORD May 11, 2025	
Operating Receipts To Date	\$ 4,192.00 10,316.00
Endowment To Date	60.00 245.00
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