



# FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

September 16, 2025

Volume 63

Number 12

### God Can Handle Our Crisis

“The world often feels like it is spinning out of control. Nations rise and fall, conflicts escalate, and uncertainty spreads. Yet, this passage reminds us that God is sovereign over all things. With a single word, He can bring down nations or bring peace to the earth. No amount of human power or chaos can override His divine plan. He is in control, even when life seems unpredictable.

Resting in God’s sovereignty means trusting that He knows what He is doing. When we feel overwhelmed by the state of the world or our personal struggles, we can take refuge in Him. The Lord of hosts—Commander of Heaven’s armies—is on our side. He is not distant, but present with us in every trial. Instead of living in fear, we can rest in the assurance that our powerful God reigns.”

*Devotionals for Today*

### Dianna Jackson - 30 years

Dianna Jackson was honored at the ice cream social for her 30 years of service to our church. A video showed snippets of musical offerings over the years. Click here to view the video <https://youtu.be/KzcYCM6Lfpw>.

### With Heartfelt Gratitude

Dear First Christian Church, Personnel Committee, Chancel Choir, Disciples’ Bells, Children’s and Youth Choirs, Mary Beth Oliver, Ellis Robinson, and all who have participated in the Music Ministry over the years,

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for honoring me Sunday in worship and at the social event. Over the last 30 years, I have been blessed to have worked with so many talented, dedicated, beautiful people. It has been a true honor and privilege to be able to help them work together to praise God through music ministry. Jack and I have raised our girls in this church, we have worshipped with you, we have lived life with you, and you are our family. It is a true honor to serve in this family at First Christian Church. You have brought us so much joy. Thirty years have gone by so fast. We have celebrated our many joys and blessings together, raised our families together, grieved together for the loss of our loved ones, weathered a pandemic and other trials together, and remained together, strong and faithful throughout. It is my honor to serve this church. Mary Beth picked one of my favorite hymns for worship whose fifth verse reminds us all: “*Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!*” Thanks for sharing your talents with us through the years. I love you all!! Keep making a joyful noise for the Lord!!

*Dianna Jackson*

### In the Life of the Church

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Sunday, September 21, 5:00 pm    | Youth Group                                     |
| • Tuesday, September 23, 11:30 am  | Lunch Bunch at Diamond Head, 1901 Midland Blvd. |
| • Tuesday, September 23, 5:15 pm   | Chancel Choir Rehearsal                         |
| • Wednesday, September 24, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study                    |
| • Wednesday, September 24          | Pastor’s Bible Classes (12:00 & 6:00 pm)        |
| • Thursday, September 25, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters                                  |
| • Thursday, September 25, 1:00 pm  | Disciples of Music                              |

Dianna's Notes

Special Music

September 21 Solo: Walter Ahart  
September 28 Disciples Bells Quintet  
October 12 Solo: DeJon Jordan  
Chancel Choir, Disciples Bells

Elder for September

John Mundy

Deacons for September

Ginger Jefferies (Foreman), Walter Ahart,  
Tim Fleming, Max File, Terry Hales,  
Floyd Hamm, Barbara Lynch,  
Sabrina Robinson

Greeters for September

Walter Ahart, Barbara Lynch  
Disciples Hall Entrance: Floyd Hamm

Prepare Communion for September

Terry Hales

Book Club News

Book club will meet **Thursday, September 18,**  
**at 2:00 pm** to discuss *No Tears in Ireland* by  
Sylvia Couturie'.  
  
October's book will be: *The Girl Behind the Gates*  
by Brenda Davies.  
  
All are welcome the third Thursday of the month  
at 2:00 pm in the Administration Building.

Hope Campus News

We are collecting sacks or boxes of penne pasta.  
There are containers in the Administration  
Building marked Hope Campus.

You are invited to celebrate  
**Human Rights Day with  
Church Women United**

**Friday, September 19**  
10:00 a.m. (refreshments served at 9:30 a.m.)  
Mission United Methodist Church  
1301 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Come celebrate the end of summer with your  
CWU family, enjoy Rev. LaToya Shepherd's  
inspiring program, and celebrate this year's  
Valiant Woman honoree. We love our community  
get together!

Prayer Concerns

- **Mike Cowne**
- **Clyde Gudermuth family**
- **Ginger Jefferies** in the passing of her brother,  
Digby Brooke West
- **Ben Maxey**

**MEMORIALS:** We gratefully acknowledge the  
following gifts:  

- In memory of **Clyde Gudermuth** by John  
Foster, Glenda Musset, Elizabeth Vaughn
- In memory of **Kathy Rogers** by David &  
Judy Trent, Elizabeth Vaughn

First Christian Church

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FOR THE RECORD September 14, 2025	
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 3,835.18 11,284.18
Endowment To date	310.00 565.00
Children's Building Offerings Balance Due	42,610.48 51,389.52
Monthly Budgeted Needs	\$30,065.30

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