



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

April 7, 2026

Volume 63

Number 41

Facing Life's Bitter Waters

“The Israelites’ lives often show how God’s provision and testing go hand in hand in this verse. Through providing water and healing, God is demonstrating His care and compassion for His people while also testing their faithfulness and obedience. The Israelites, who had faced numerous trials and challenges in the wilderness, are once again being put to the test to see if they will remain faithful and trust in God’s plan for them. Exodus 15:22-27

Imagine the scene unfolding before us – the Israelites, weary and thirsty, are presented with water and healing by God. It serves as a reminder that God is always there to provide for our needs and offer us comfort and restoration. At the same time, this act also serves as a test of the Israelites’ faithfulness and willingness to follow God’s guidance without wavering. Will they remain steadfast in their belief despite the hardships they have faced? Will they continue to trust in God’s plan for them, even when faced with uncertainty? Let us reflect on how God’s provision and testing are intertwined in our own lives. Just like the Israelites, we too face challenges and difficulties that test our faith and obedience. We find strength in God’s provision and trust in His plan for us, knowing that He is always there to provide for our needs and guide us through the trials we face. We should strive to remain faithful and unwavering in our belief, knowing that God’s love and care will always sustain us.”

God's Blessing

Prayer Concerns

- **Walter Ahart**
- **Ruth Carson**
- **Jim Creekmore's family**
Celebration of life for **Chris Creekmore**
Saturday, April 18, 2:00 pm
4074 SW H Street, Cave Springs, AR
Gather with the family in a casual setting
with music, words, and snacks.
- **Joy Jackson**
- **The Maxeys**
- **Jo Miller**
- **Marcus Robinson**
- **Shirley Farmer Russell**

Wedding Shower

FCC ladies are invited to a wedding shower honoring **Ashley Maxey** and **Chasen Thibodeaux** on **Sunday, April 12, at 1:00 pm** in the parlor. Ashley is the granddaughter of Ben and Marilyn Maxey and is a longtime member of our church. Ashley and Chasen will be married on May 14. They are registered at walmart.com.

In the Life of the Church

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| • Sunday, April 12, 9:00 am | Intergenerational Sunday School Class |
| • Sunday, April 12, 11:15 am | Disciples Bells Rehearsal |
| • Sunday, April 12, 6:00 pm | Cabinet/Board Meeting |
| • Monday, April 13, 9:30 am | Serve at Hope Campus |
| • Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 am | DWF Group 4 |
| • Tuesday, April 14, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Art's BBQ, 8203 Rogers Avenue |
| • Tuesday, April 14, 5:15 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| • Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 pm | DWF Group 3 |
| • Wednesday, April 15, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men's Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, April 15 | Pastor's Bible Study (12:00 and 6:00 pm) |
| • Thursday, April 16, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, April 16, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |
| • Thursday, April 16, 2:00 pm | Book Club |

Dianna's Notes

Special Music

- April 12** Chancel Choir
- April 19** DeJon Jordan
- April 26** Amber Kirdendoll

Chancel Choir will meet at 9:20 am Sunday to rehearse. Wear white stoles. Thanks for your ministry.

Elder for April

Hardie Jefferies

Deacons for April

Max File (Foreman), Todd Friday, Floyd Hamm, Ginger Jefferies, Barbara Lynch, Sabrina Robinson, Jennnifer Sanchez, David Williamson

Greeters for April

Barbara Lynch and Todd Friday
Disciples Hall Entrance: Ginger Jefferies

Prepare Communion for April

Sabrina Robinson

DWF Group 3

DWF Group 3 will meet **Tuesday, April 14, at 6:00 pm** in Disciples Hall. Please bring your dinner. Dessert and lemonade will be provided. The speaker for the evening will be Fort Smith Police Officer Robyn Shoptaw. She will speak about "Scams." Anyone in the church is invited to attend.

Darlene Brees and Nina Abernathy

Book Club News

Book Club meets the third Thursday of the month at **2:00 pm** in the Administration Building. We will discuss *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom at our **April 16** gathering.

- May 21** *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes
- June 18** *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

All are welcome!

Hope Campus News

We are collecting large boxes of breakfast cereal. Unused plasticware from takeout food is also appreciated.

MEMORIALS: We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts, given as a thoughtful expression of sympathy and of care...

- In Memory of **Roberta Williams** by John & Margot Mundy, Elizabeth Vaughn
- In Memory of **Regina Foley** by Nina Abernathy, John & Margot Mundy, Connie Slater, Elizabeth Vaughn, David & Kristi Williamson
- In Memory of **Chris Creekmore** by Nina Abernathy, Glenda Musset, Elizabeth Vaughn, David & Kristi Williamson
- In Memory of **Sam Miller** by Nina Abernathy, Glenda Musset, David & Kristi Williamson

First Christian Church

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Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
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FOR THE RECORD April 5, 2026	
Operating Receipts	\$ 6,578.28
Endowment	435.00
Easter Offering To date	165.00 505.00
Children's Building Offerings Balance Due	46,567.00 47,433.00
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