



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

July 21, 2026

Volume 64

Number 3

The High Cost of Being a Leader

“Matthew 16: 24-28 emphasizes the idea of self-denial, sacrifice, and total devotion to following Jesus. It speaks about the importance of putting aside our own desires, comfort, and selfish ambitions in order to truly commit ourselves to a life of discipleship. When we take up our cross, we are acknowledging the burdens and challenges that come with following Christ, yet choosing to carry them willingly for the sake of our faith. We are promised not only eternal life but also the reward of being in a close relationship with Him by following Jesus wholeheartedly and surrendering our own will to His. This verse challenges us to consider what it truly means to follow Christ. Are we willing to let go of our own agendas and fully submit to His will, even if it means facing difficulty or opposition? It reminds us that true fulfillment and purpose come from aligning our lives with the teachings and example of Jesus, even when it requires sacrifice on our part.”

God’s Blessing

Welcome New Member

Welcome to **Andelyn “Ande” Sherman**, who joined our church family on Sunday, July 19. Ande is enrolled in the doctorate program at ACHE (Arkansas Colleges of Health Education) Health & Wellness Center, working on her degree in physical therapy. Ande’s contact information is: Ande Sherman, 7010 Chad Colley Blvd., Apt. 406, Fort Smith, 72916; phone 573-231-8130; andelyns Sherman@gmail.com.

Christian Education Workshop

There will be a Christian Education Workshop on **Saturday, August 15, from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.**
Ann Jordan, Christian Education Chair

Church Directory

I am in the process of updating the church directory. If any of your information needs to be changed for the new book, please send that information to Barbara at barbara@fccdoc.org.

In the Life of the Church

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| • Saturday, July 25, 11:00 am | Funeral Service for Kaden Watson, First Christian Church |
| • Sunday, July 26, 9:00 am | Intergenerational Sunday School Class |
| • Tuesday, July 28, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Bruce Terri Drive In, 1102 Fort St., Barling |
| • Wednesday, July 29, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, July 29 | NO Pastor’s Bible Study |
| • Thursday, July 30, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, July 30, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |
| • Saturday, August 22, 11:00 am | Memorial Service for Bill Acord |

Dianna's Notes

Special Music

July 26

August 2

August 9

August 16

Mary Beth Oliver

Amber Kirkendoll

Amber Kirkendoll and
DeJon Jordan

Chancel Choir

Rehearsals Resume!

Chancel Choir

Tuesday, August 11, 5:15 pm
(Music Building)

Disciples Bells

Sunday, August 16, 11:15 am
(Music Building)

**Please come and join
our Music Ministry!**

Elder for July

Connie Alexander

Deacons for July

Paula Friday (Foreman), Walter Ahart,
Max File, Terry Hales, Barbara Lynch,
Calvin Reed, Jennifer Sanchez,
David Williamson

Greeters for July

Walter Ahart, Calvin Reed
Disciples Hall Entrance: Max File

Prepare Communion for July

Jennifer Sanchez

Hope Campus News

We are collecting ground coffee. Unused plasticware from takeout food is also appreciated.

DWF Yearbook

Disciples Women are updating their yearbook. If any of your information needs to be changed for the new book, please send that information to Lula Hanson at 479-646-5852 or lulajane@cox.net **before August**. Thank you.

- Prayer Concerns**
- Bill Acord family
 - Walter Ahart
 - Ruth Carson
 - Betty Cashin
 - Linda Creekmore
 - Joy Jackson
 - The Robinson family

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

- **Bill Acord** by Hardie & Ginger Jefferies, Glenda Musset, Dewayne & Greta Pryor, Carl & Evelyn Warrington, David & Kristi Williamson
- **Kaden Watson** by Hardie & Ginger Jefferies, Glenda Musset, Dewayne & Greta Pryor, David & Kristi Williamson

First Christian Church

3501 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
Phone: 479.783.1139

FOR THE RECORD
July 19, 2026

Operating Receipts To date	\$ 6,267.00 20,162.00
Endowment To date	335.00 1,825.00
Children's Building Offerings Balance Due	51,117.00 42,883.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs	\$ 29,990.00

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