



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

August 25, 2026

Volume 64

Number 8

The Tragedy of Being Unprepared

“The parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25 reminds us of the importance of being spiritually prepared for the return of Christ. Ten virgins in the story are waiting for the bridegroom to arrive for a wedding ceremony. Five of them are wise and have brought extra oil for their lamps, while the other five are foolish and have not prepared adequately. When the bridegroom finally arrives, the wise virgins are ready with their lamps lit, but the foolish ones find themselves in darkness because their lamps have run out of oil. The wise virgins are able to enter the wedding feast, while the foolish ones are left outside.

This parable teaches us the importance of readiness and vigilance in our spiritual lives. We must always be prepared for the coming of Christ, as we do not know the day or the hour when it will occur. Just like the wise virgins who were ready with extra oil, we should be diligent in our faith, continually seeking to grow closer to God and live according to His will. We can ensure that we are not caught off guard and can enter into the joy of our Lord’s presence when He returns by staying spiritually alert and prepared.”

God’s Blessing

Website Update

Our church website (<http://fccdoc.org>) has been updated with the new lists and schedules for the 2026–2027 year. This includes deacon and elder schedules as well as ministry and board information.

You can find our Resources page on our website by a link just below the weekly service video or by clicking here <https://www.fccdoc.org/resources/>

In the Life of the Church

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| • Sunday, August 30, 9:00 am | Intergenerational Sunday School Class |
| • Sunday, August 30, 11:00 am | Elders’ Meeting |
| • Sunday, August 30, 4:00 pm | Disciples Bells Rehearsal |
| • Tuesday, September 1, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Patrick’s, 4300 Rogers Avenue |
| • Tuesday, September 1, 5:15 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| • Wednesday, September 2, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, September 2 | Pastor’s Bible Study (12:00 and 6:00 pm) |
| • Thursday, September 3, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, September 3, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |

The Parables of Jesus

August 30 The Tragedy of Being Unprepared Matthew 25:1-13

Dianna's Notes

Special Music

August 30 Chancel Choir
Choir will meet at 9:20 Sunday to rehearse. No robes until September.

No Disciples Bells rehearsal
on Sunday, September 6,
(Labor Day weekend).

Elder for August

Joann Acord

Deacons for August

Jesse Bailey (Foreman),
Stephanie Bailey, Becky Eggers,
Patsy Hendrickson, Glenda Musset,
Audrey Stewart

Greeters for August

Stephanie Bailey, Patsy Hendrickson
Disciples Hall Entrance: Jesse Bailey

Prepare Communion for August

Glenda Musset

Prayer Concerns

- Bill Acord family
- Walter Ahart
- Ruth Carson
- Betty Cashin
- James Chinn
- Rodney Fox family, C. J. Burks' friends
- Joy Jackson
- Mickie Matthews
- Lee Russell, Max File's father-in-law
- Kaitlin Shackelford

Hope Campus News

We are collecting ground coffee. 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...

- Bill Acord by Danny & Barbara Lynch
- Kaden Watson by Danny & Barbara Lynch
- Michael Choate by David & Judy Trent

First Christian Church

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FOR THE RECORD August 16 and 23, 2026	
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 7,357.00 27,860.00
Endowment To date	275.00 815.00
Children's Building Offerings Balance Due	51,587.00 42,413.00
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