



Waiting on Things to Get Better

“In a contemporary context, the themes of Psalm 137 remain relevant as many individuals grapple with feelings of displacement, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. The psalm serves as a reminder of the importance of acknowledging and expressing grief honestly, while also finding strength in one’s faith and community. Just as the Israelites found solace in their shared lament, modern-day communities can draw support from each other in times of hardship, fostering empathy and resilience in the face of adversity. We must anchor ourselves in hope during times of despair by remembering the strength and resilience of those who have faced challenges before us. Despite the sorrow and pain that may surround us, we can draw inspiration from the belief that there is a purpose to our struggles, and that better days may lie ahead. We can find comfort and strength to endure by holding onto the knowledge that even in the darkest of times, there is a possibility for renewal and restoration.”

God’s Blessing

Community Outreach Project

Please join us at the Community Outreach Services Clearinghouse, 4420 Wheeler Avenue, **Monday, September 21, at 10:30 am.** We will fill bags for the Backpack Program which benefits school children with food insecurities. Thank you.

Community Outreach

FCC’s Fifth Annual Day of Giving for the Artemis Project Animal Rescue

On **October 4, from 11:00 am-3:00 pm**, FCC will host a fall festival/adoption event in our parking lot. The Artemis Project plans to have a number of vendors, as well as some dogs and cats available for adoption. We will offer grilled hotdogs, chips, lemonade, and cookies to the congregation for lunch after worship service. The public is invited to stop by at 12 noon.

In preparation for the 4th, we are collecting new and gently used pet supplies, such as kennels, towels, and blankets. We are also encouraging donations of dog and cat food, cat litter, and puppy pads as part of an Artemis “Stuff the Van” donation drive. Monetary donations can be made directly to the Artemis Project the day of the event.

We will offer homemade baked goods for donations, which will go to the Artemis Project. Please bring your favorite homemade baked items to the kitchen before worship on the 4th.

We will have some silent auction items this year, with the money raised split between FCC and the Artemis Project.

The Blood Mobile will be in the parking lot from 11:00 am—3:00 pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to sign up for your appointment. Please sign up and donate blood, if you are able.

Community Outreach Ministry

In the Life of the Church

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| • Sunday, September 20, 9:00 am | Sunday School Classes |
| • Sunday, September 20, 11:15 am | Disciples Bells Rehearsal |
| • Monday, September 21, 10:30 am | Clearinghouse Backpack Program |
| • Monday, September 21, 6:30 pm | Disciples Men’s Fellowship |
| • Tuesday, September 22, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at Jim’s Razorback Pizza, 3501 Old Greenwood |
| • Tuesday, September 22, 5:15 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| • Wednesday, September 23, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study |
| • Wednesday, September 23 | Pastor’s Bible Study (12:00 and 6:00 pm) |
| • Thursday, September 24, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters |
| • Thursday, September 24, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |
| • Sunday, September 27, 6:00 pm | Board Meeting |

Dianna’s Notes

Special Music

September 20 Disciples Bell Quintet
Chancel Choir
September 27 Chancel Choir
October 4 Chancel Choir

Disciples Bells Quintet will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 8:30 am Sunday.
Chancel Choir will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 9:20 am Sunday. No robes.

Elder for September

Randy Alexander

Deacons for September

DeJon Jordan (Foreman), James Chinn,
Stacey Hodge, Tiffany Kirkendoll,
*Keri Martin, *Nick Oliver

Greeters for September

Keri Martin, Nick Oliver
Disciples Hall Entrance: James Chinn

Prepare Communion for September

Tiffany Kirkendoll
*Serving middle section

Book Club News

We will meet Thursday, September 17, to discuss *The Friend of the Family* by Dean Koontz. We meet the third Thursday at 2:00 pm in the Admin. Building. All are welcome!

October *The Yellow Tail Moth*
by Margot Shepherd
November *Theo of Golden*
by Allen Levi

Hope Campus News

We are collecting bulk salt and pepper. Unused plasticware from takeout food is also appreciated.

Church Women United

Friday, September 18
9:30 am: Refreshments
10:00 am: Meeting
Trinity Episcopal Church, Van Buren

If the day is sunny and seasonably cool, we can walk their beautiful labyrinth after the meeting!

Family Photos

Family photos will taken in Disciples Hall immediately following worship service on **Sunday, September 27, and Sunday, October 4.** Direct any questions to Dave Pulliam.

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

- **Tije Musset** by Dewayne & Greta Pryor, Jennifer Sanchez, Connie Slater

Prayer Concerns

- **Walter Ahart**
- **Ruth Carson**
- **Betty Cashin**
- **Micah Hardwick**
- **Mickie Matthews**
- **The Musset family**
- **Lee Russell**, Max File’s father-in-law
- **Shackelford family**

First Christian Church

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Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
Phone: 479.783.1139

FOR THE RECORD September 13, 2026	
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 2,114.55 11,898.55
Endowment To date	100.00 335.00
Children’s Building Offerings Balance Due	51,952.00 42,048.00
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