



FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

October 13, 2026

Volume 64

Number 15

The Whole Armor of God

“The powerful verses found in Ephesians 6 urge us to prepare ourselves for the spiritual battles we may face in our lives. It serves as a reminder that we are not alone in our struggles and that God equips us with the necessary tools to face the challenges of the world. We essentially arm ourselves with the strength, protection, and guidance we need to withstand the spiritual forces of evil that may try to harm us by putting on the “full armor of God.”

Imagine yourself getting ready for a battle. You wouldn’t walk onto the battlefield without proper armor and weapons, right? This verse encourages us to equip ourselves with God’s armor – including truth, righteousness, faith, salvation, and the word of God – to protect ourselves from the attacks of the enemy. We can boldly stand against any spiritual forces of evil that may come our way by being steadfast in our faith and relying on God’s strength. So, let us take heed of this message and remember to put on the full armor of God every day, so we can face life’s challenges with courage and faith.”

God’s Blessing

Deacons’ Meeting

The Deacons will meet immediately after service on **Sunday, October 18**, in the Sanctuary.

Hope Campus News

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

DWF Group 3 Meeting

DWF Group 3 will meet next **Tuesday, October 13, at 6:00 pm in Disciples Hall**. Rev. Ellis will present our program on “The Importance of Making Time for Prayer and Meditation in Our Lives.” Supper will be brown bag with dessert and drinks provided. Our mini-mission project will be snacks for our Pre-K through Lower Elementary Sunday School class. Hope to see you there!

Michelle and Connie

Book Club News

Book Club will meet **Thursday, October 15**, to discuss *The Yellowtail Moth* by Margot Shepherd. We meet the **third Thursday at 2:00 pm** in the Administrative Building. All are welcome!

November 19 *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi

There will not be a book to read for December, but we will meet for a celebration gathering at Sweet Bay.

In the Life of the Church

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| • Sunday, October 18, 9:00 am | Sunday School Classes |
| • Sunday, October 18, 11:15 am | Disciples Bells Rehearsal |
| • Tuesday, October 20, 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch at El Lorito, 3105 South 70 th Street |
| • Tuesday, October 20, 4:00 pm | Serve supper at Hope Campus |
| • Tuesday, October 20, 5:15 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| • Wednesday, October 21, 8:00 am | Ecumenical Men’s Bible Study (Disciples Hall) |
| • Wednesday, October 21 | NO Pastor’s Bible Study |
| • Thursday, October 22, 10:00 am | Crazy Crafters (Chalice Hall) |
| • Thursday, October 22, 1:00 pm | Disciples of Music |

Dianna's Notes

Special Music

October 18

Chancel Choir

October 25

Disciples Bells

Chancel Choir

Disciples Bells Quintet

Disciples Bells will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 8:30 am Sunday.

Chancel Choir will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 9:20 am Sunday.

Elder for October

Jack Jackson

Deacons for October

Todd Friday (Foreman),
Calvin Reed, Walter Ahart, Max File,
*Amber Kirkendoll, *Paula Friday

Greeters for October

Calvin Reed, Amber Kirkendoll
Disciples Hall Entrance: Todd Friday

Prepare Communion for October

Paula Friday

*Serving middle section

Prayer Concerns

Walter Ahart

Ruth Carson

Joe Henson, Mary Nelle Hales' brother

Marta Jones, Dr. Greg Jones' wife

Shackelford family

Meredith Taliaferro

It is with my sincere appreciation and gratitude that I thank you all! Your prayers, cards, calls and gifts of food during my prolonged recovery from knee replacement were so loving and supportive. You are indeed a family who really care about each other. I am so grateful! My love to each of you.

Betty Cashin

It has now been six months since my mom's passing, and this thank-you is long overdue.

Words cannot fully describe the emotions surrounding losing her, or how much it meant to have her church family step in and surround our family with love. Thank you to FCC Fort Smith for the gift card that provided our family with a meal before her service, for the many beautiful memorials made in her honor, and most importantly, for simply being there.

FCC Fort Smith was my mom's church, her family, and her home for so many years. It was also an important part of my life and my family's life. I hope everyone there knows just how much the church meant to her and how deeply she appreciated the many blessings and friendships she received throughout the years. Those blessings continued right through the time of her passing, and I will never forget it.

I believe in "God winks," and I had one the morning of her service. The night before, storms came through and the hotel where I was staying lost power. When morning came, I had no electricity to even get ready. My first thought was, "Okay, go to the church."

Thankfully, there was the Easter egg hunt at the church that morning, so I was able to get ready there. And somehow, in that moment, I felt my mom with me. I know she would have loved the fact that on the morning we were gathering to say goodbye to her, the place I needed to go was the place she had called home for so many years.

Of course it was the church.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you, FCC Fort Smith, for loving my mom so well and for loving and supporting our family throughout the years. Your kindness, prayers, friendship, and love have meant more than I can ever adequately put into words. Thank you for being her church family, and for continuing to be ours.

Regina Foley, Dana Foley-Taylor and Family

First Christian Church 3501 Rogers Avenue Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903 Phone: 479.783.1139		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)	
FOR THE RECORD October 11, 2026			
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 1,767.00	11,555.00	
Endowment To date	55.00	330.00	
Children's Building Offerings Balance Due	52,412.00	41,588.00	
Monthly Budgeted Needs	\$ 29,990.00		