



The Norman Christian

First Christian Church 220 S. Webster, Norman, Oklahoma 73069

405/329-2192

www.fccnorman.org

December 16, 2025

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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, December 24th

4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve worship with...

Beautiful music and hymns including—

Once in Royal David's City

Infant Holy, Infant Lowely

Christ Came Down

Solo, Ensemble, and Choir anthems

Scripture readings, candle lighting

Responsive readings and homily

Celebrating the Birth of Christ!

Childcare is available starting at 3:15 for the 4:00 service and 6:15 for the 7:00 service.

YEAR END PLEDGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Tax law dictates that all contributions can be counted as a deduction only within the year in which it is given. Therefore, gifts to First Christian Church for this year (or advanced gifts for 2026 and beyond), to be counted on your 2025 giving statement, must be received and/or postmarked no later than December 31, 2025. If you have questions, please contact our Administrative Assistant Stephanie Gasaway at 405-329-2192 or email stephanie@fccnorman.org. Thank you for your generous support of the church's work.

11 MONTH GIVING STATEMENTS

The January – November 2025 giving statements have been mailed to all who have a record of giving to the ministries of First Christian Church during the year 2025. If you have any questions regarding your statement of giving, please contact the church office (405-329-2192) and ask for Stephanie Gasaway, our Administrative Assistant. Year-end giving statements will be mailed the first week of January. Thank you to all whose giving empowers the mission and ministry of First Christian Church!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 21ST

The church will hold its annual congregational meeting this Sunday, December 21st, immediately following the conclusion of the 8:40 and 10:45 services to approve the 2026 General Fund budget for the daily ministries and operations of the church.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Christmas offering will continue to be collected December 21st and 28th.

Our gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas. Your regional ministry works to: connect congregations to each other, foster faith development, gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies, nurture the development of a new generation of pastors, assist churches in calling new ministers, interpret the global mission of the Church, represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings, counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit, lead the Church to address racism, inspire leaders to experiment and create, witness to the power of God to make things new.

The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:40 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School

10:45 a.m. Worship

Worship will also be livestreamed at 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Isaiah 7: 10-16 & Matthew 1: 18-25

Sermon: *Love Came Down: Into the Thick and Thin of Our Days*

Worship & Wonder: The Shepherds Show the Way to Bethlehem

Evensong

Monday, January 5th, at 5:15 p.m. – Chapel

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We joyfully welcome **Matt and Erika Wright**, along with their children **Charlie and Vivi**, to the First Christian Church family! The Wright family officially joined our congregation on **Sunday, December 14th**, and we are grateful for the spirit, warmth, and faith they bring to our church community. We are also delighted to share that **Martie Buzzard**, Erika's mom, is part of our church family, making this a meaningful connection across generations. Please join us in extending a warm welcome as we celebrate the Wright family and look forward to growing together in faith and fellowship.



CHRISTMAS STORE THANK YOU!

The Christmas Store was able to help over 1860 individuals this season with the help of First Christian Church! Your donations of time, money, and toys helped in every department. A special thanks to Ginger and Fred Martin, Steve and Janet Curtis, Hugh and Barbara Wilson, Michelynn McKnight, Paula and Dutch Albert, Cindy Cash, Linda Holt, Leslie Vennochi, Genny Gordon, and Debbie Steele for volunteering!

- Susan Nelson

POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

As in past years, the sanctuary and church will be decorated with beautiful red poinsettias. The poinsettias have been ordered, and all you need do is contact the church office by phoning (405-329-2192) or emailing stephanie@fccnorman.org to indicate to whom the poinsettia is given (in memory or appreciation) as well as the giver's name. The cost of the poinsettia is \$14 and you may pay by cash, check, or card. Thank you for beautifying the church during this wonderful season of the year!

BOOK CLUB

The Sunday afternoon book club facilitated by Rev. Dr. Catherine Bennett takes place on **January 25th at 4:00 p.m.** meeting in the Study and Share Classroom! The book for November is entitled *The Last Secret of Lily Adams* by Sara Blaydes and can be picked up in the Study and Share Classroom.

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY...

Sympathy is extended to the family of Betty Michael who died Sunday, December 14th.

Susan Blair & Susan Haney are in Norman Regional Hospital.

Congratulations to Charles & Linda Armstrong who will celebrate 60 years of marriage on December 18th.

Congratulations to Stacy and Luke Andrew who welcomed their baby boy, Fletcher Isaac Andrew, on December 11, 2025. Congratulations also to grandparents Susan & Jim Nelson, Uncle Josh Nelson and great grandparents Leroy & Barbara Bugg.

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Michael

November 24, 1936 - December 14, 2025

YOUTH GROUP

Check the youth list email, Facebook, GroupMe, and the iMessage group text for meeting information. Please contact Shannon if you have any questions!

Chi Rho is for youth in 6th-8th grades and CYF is for youth in 9th-12th grades.

All Chi Rho and CYF youth are welcome to join us for any and all events, and friends are always welcome!

School Year Schedule

Chi Rho Service Night—4:00 p.m.

Chi Rho Free Time—4:45-5:15 p.m.

Chi Rho Meeting—5:15-6:30 p.m.

Youth Meal (Chi Rho and CYF)—6:30-7:15 p.m.

CYF Meeting—7:15-8:30 p.m.

December 17, 24, and 31—No Youth

January 7—No Youth

January 14—Return to school year schedule at Hey Day!



Logos is taking a break; we will resume on January 14th. Wishing you all a the hope, peace, joy, and love of this season. Thank you to everyone who takes the time to make a difference in our children's lives during Logos!

PLAYOFF GAME DAY PARKING

The youth group is parking cars for the OU playoff game on December 19! Spots will be \$20 and the lot will open at noon. If you have a season pass for the reserved lot, your pass will work for that game. If you'd like to make a donation for the extra game to the youth mission fund, you may do so the day of the game!

Proposed Budget for 2026
Contributions: \$976,686.76
Additional Funding: \$ 98,739.24

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>		<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
WORLD OUTREACH			MEMBERSHIP		
Disciples Mission Fund	73,310.00	73,000.00	Event Participation	1,000.00	1,500.00
World Council of Churches	500.00	500.00	Membership Rolls-Reengagement	500.00	500.00
National Council of Churches	500.00	500.00	Pictorial Directory	1,000.00	.00
Community & Misc Outreach	1,000.00	.00	New Member Retention	1,500.00	1,000.00
Xenia	2,500.00	2,500.00	Marriage Enrichment Retreats	3,200.00	.00
Church World Service/Crop	2,300.00	2,500.00	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	7,200.00	3,000.00
Habitat for Humanity	3,200.00	3,000.00			
Norman Housing Ministry	10,000.00	10,000.00	PERSONNEL		
CCFI	3,200.00	3,200.00	Salaries and Retirement	570,580.00	550,217.00
Bethesda	3,200.00	3,000.00	Medical Benefits	29,180.98	52,889.00
Christmas Store/Teen Department	3,000.00	3,000.00	Disability and Work Comp	6,083.00	2,920.00
Meals on Wheels	4,000.00	4,000.00	Automobile & Prof Expenses	4,900.00	10,400.00
BRIDGES	3,200.00	3,000.00	TOTAL PERSONNEL	610,703.96	616,226.00
Cent Area of Christ. Ch in OK	700.00	700.00			
CASA	3,200.00	3,000.00	PROPERTY		
Phillips Theological Seminary	1,500.00	1,500.00	Bus Operation & Maintenance	6,800.00	2,000.00
Food and Shelter	5,200.00	5,500.00	Building & Liability Insurance	58,600.00	65,000.00
Variety Care	3,200.00	3,200.00	Janitorial & Cleaning	4,400.00	4,800.00
Full Circle Senior Adults	3,200.00	3,000.00	Unscheduled Equip Repairs	5,900.00	7,000.00
Among Friends	1,700.00	1,400.00	Grounds & Parking Maintenance	10,300.00	7,000.00
Fostering Futures	4,200.00	4,000.00	Utilities	48,200.00	45,000.00
SW Good Samaritan	2,400.00	2,400.00	Fire Insp, Security & Pest Control	4,400.00	4,600.00
ABLE	1,200.00	1,200.00	Elevator Inspections & Maintenance	3,600.00	3,800.00
My Godmother's House	1,700.00	1,000.00	HVAC Repairs & Prev. Maintenance	12,500.00	8,000.00
Emergency Need Fund	4,600.00	4,000.00	Electrical and Lighting	4,200.00	3,000.00
Norman Coalition for Refugee	5,000.00	5,000.00	Maintenance Reserve Fund	2,000.00	2,400.00
Virtue Center	1,500.00	1,500.00	Interior Subcommittee	500.00	500.00
Oklahoma Faith Network	1,600.00	1,000.00	TOTAL PROPERTY	159,200.00	153,100.00
Be The Neighbor	.00	3,000.00			
Undesignated	.00	1,000.00			
TOTAL WORLD OUTREACH	150,810.00	150,600.00			
ADMINISTRATION			STEWARDSHIP		
Administration/Office Supply	16,500.00	16,500.00	Stewardship Education	750.00	500.00
Church Software	10,000.00	10,000.00	Bank Charges	8,200.00	8,200.00
Communication	9,000.00	7,800.00	Envelopes	300.00	300.00
Information Techn/Audio Visual	17,000.00	27,800.00	TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	9,250.00	9,000.00
NXN Printing and Postage	1,000.00	500.00			
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	53,500.00	62,600.00			
EDUCATION			ASSEMBLY EXPENSES		
Adult Curriculum	3,500.00	3,500.00	TOTAL ASSEMBLY EXPENSES	1,200.00	1,500.00
Youth Curriculum	750.00	1,000.00			
Logos	8,000.00	8,000.00	WORSHIP		
Logos Curriculum	1,800.00	1,300.00	Organ Maintenance	1,400.00	1,000.00
Children's Worship	500.00	500.00	Organ Music/Special Music	500.00	500.00
Preschool Curriculum	500.00	500.00	Communion Supplies	2,100.00	2,200.00
Vacation Church School	6,000.00	5,500.00	Piano Maintenance	700.00	700.00
Leadership Education	100.00	200.00	Choir Expenses	6,000.00	5,500.00
Supplies and Equipment	1,000.00	1,000.00	Robe/Equipment Maintenance	500.00	500.00
Youth Activities	11,000.00	11,000.00	Bell Choir Expenses	750.00	750.00
Library	100.00	100.00	Worship Bulletins	600.00	900.00
Camp/Conf Scholarships	7,000.00	7,000.00	Departmental Expenses	1,100.00	1,100.00
Seasonal Activities-Adult	2,000.00	500.00	Children's/Youth Choir	300.00	300.00
Seasonal Activities-Children	3,500.00	3,500.00	Choir Robe R&R	500.00	500.00
Voyage	1,300.00	2,000.00	TOTAL WORSHIP	14,450.00	13,950.00
Youth Mission/Outreach	5,000.00	5,000.00			
Book Club	1,000.00	1,000.00	HOSPITALITY		
Youth Sponsor Training Events	500.00	500.00	TOTAL HOSPITALITY	1,800.00	1,200.00
College Curriculum	300.00	150.00	FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES		
College Lunch	2,250.00	2,000.00	TOTAL FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES	6,000.00	5,500.00
College Mission	2,000.00	2,000.00			
ChARM	1,000.00	500.00			
Millennials	1,000.00	750.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,077,213.96	1,075,426.00
GenX	1,000.00	750.00			
Disciple Men	2,000.00	500.00			
TOTAL EDUCATION	63,100.00	58,750.00			

Church Calendar

December 17, 2025– Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Choir

December 19, 2025– Friday

MDO/NPS Closed

12:00 p.m. Youth Game Day Car
Parking

7:00 p.m. OU vs. Alabama

December 21, 2025– Sunday

Christmas Offering

Congregational Meeting

8:40 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School

10:45 a.m. Worship

December 22, 2025– Monday

MDO/NPS Closed

6:30 p.m. Handbells

INFANTS – PRE-K FROLIC WORSHIP

Wow! The Frolic class sang beautifully during the introit of the Christmas Pageant. The perfect opening of welcome! Each Sunday morning our attendants who care and teach the infant–Pre-K children continue to create a safe and nurturing environment. Through story, play and a craft the children explore a Bible story each week. Kandice, our Nursery Coordinator, and our dedicated nursery staff ensure the children are engaged every Sunday morning.

VOYAGE INTO DISCIPLESHP

Children, kindergarten through 5th grade, gather every Sunday to set sail from the third floor in the children’s education area at 9:30am. The month of December takes on a journey to Bethlehem and Jesus’ birth with themes from the book and movie, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, and this coming Sunday, we celebrate the season with a Voyage Christmas Party!! Please RSVP to Eula (eula@fccnorman.org) to ensure we have plenty of supplies and gifts.

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY

Angels We Have Heard on High (155)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (124)

Hark! The Harold Angels Sing (150)

Sunday Worship will be both video and audio
livestreamed at 10:45 in the morning

WORSHIP PODCAST

The morning prayer, anthem, scripture, and sermon are now available each week in podcast form. Simply search Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or Spotify for “First Christian Church of Norman.” You can also listen right in your browser at podcast.fccnorman.org.

ACCESSING LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

Sunday 10:45 worship will be livestreamed so you can watch or listen from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. Simply search Facebook for “First Christian Church of Norman” or, if you aren’t on Facebook, point your browser to <http://live.fccnorman.org> for links to stream on YouTube and other social media platforms. If you are not able to watch live, the video will be available for later viewing. To access the church homepage please visit <http://fccnorman.org>.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your faithful stewardship that makes possible the excellent work of the church in its many ministries of outreach, education, worship, care, and fellowship. As a reminder, you may send your contributions to the church in one of several ways...

*Checks can be mailed to the church at 220 South Webster Avenue, Norman, OK 73069.

*Calling the church office (329-2192) and charging on a debit or credit card.

*Setting up a recurring weekly or monthly payment from a checking, savings, debit or credit card.

*Givelify—you can give from your computer or mobile device by visiting <http://give.fccnorman.org> to donate online or search your device’s app store for the Givelify app.