



Congregational Budget Meeting & Christmas Lunch

Sunday, December 17th, 2023 following morning Worship!



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To the Congregation of First Christian Church

Your Worship Committee has been working the past several months on changes that will help us in our call and purpose of the Church: To bring people to Christ. We must reach out to people where they are, and the younger people are not, for the most part, attracted to Traditional Practices of Worship. Where there still remain many people who long for the Traditional Worship, we have a Blended Service today that many of us love, but it is not growing our church and meeting everyone where they are.

After reviewing statistics and study of best practices for attracting all people to Christ, your Worship Committee has worked to establish and begin two Worship services beginning **January 7th, 2024. A Praise Service with Praise Band, lighting and service changes is scheduled for 9:45-10:30. Fellowship/Rehearsal from 10:30-11:00 am and Traditional Service 11:00 am—noon.** An emphasis in outreach/local projects will be part of both services. This is something that the younger people engage in and want, and should be a part of all our lives.

You may have noticed our Blended Service has already undergone some changes. We partake Communion as we used to (during the Communion Scripture). And we have eliminated the Gloria Patri and Doxology from the service—too many stands and sits.

The Worship Committee is prayerful this is where the Lord is leading us to reach others. Please be excited with us and invite people to come worship with us. We ask you to give these programs a chance to succeed and meet your Worship needs. We, of course, will be evaluating and tweaking, if necessary.

May the Lord be with you and yours this Christmas Season and looking forward to the New Year of Worship!

Your Worship Committee:
Clara Chilcote—Chair, Delaine Baughtman, Annette Hawkins, Gregg Tharel, Diana Hopper, Fred Chilcote, Mary Lou Chilcote, Lynne Spinks, Abbey Tharel, Peggy Pratt, Lois Roberto, David Chilcote, Brad Chilcote, Rev. Vanessa Bostick

- ### Our Mission

To Speak, Teach and Witness to All,
the Gospel of the Christ.
- ### Our Message

 - We are committed to bringing all people into God's love.
 - We are Disciples of Christ, which means we overlook lines separating different denominations and beliefs to work with others to accomplish God's overarching plan.
 - We are a Community of Believers that has existed for nearly two centuries, and we continue to draw strength from God by following the example of our many spiritual ancestors.
 - We serve our community however we can, opening our doors to ALL of God's Children.
 - We optimistically look forward to what we can accomplish in our next century together as we continue to follow Jesus' teachings and show our love for all of God's children through service to our community.
- ### Vision & Values

To equip the Saints to be the Hands and Feet of Jesus the Christ in our community and throughout the World.

Prayer Vigil

**January 1, 2024 -
12:00 pm New Year's Eve—12:00 Year's Day**
Pastor Vanessa will be at the church from
9am—6pm if you would like to join her.

Christmas Fund

It has been the tradition for many years for the congregation to present our Staff with a **LOVE OFFERING** at Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please indicate on your check **"Staff Christmas."** We will be accepting contributions through **Wednesday, December 20, 2023.**

Lynne Spinks, Treasurer

You're invited to a
COOKIE exchange party

DATE: December 16, 2023
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: At the home of Vanessa Bostick, Val, Lauren, Addison & Matthew Axelrad & Bear 2 Talmage Drive Little Rock, AR 72204
RSVP: Adults Only



"Celebrate God's great Christmas gift—salvation."



Looking Ahead

Tuesday—12/12/23

6:30—Scouts for Girls and Boys

Wednesday—12/13/23

6:00—Bells

Thursday—12/14/23

10:00—Arts & Crafts

Saturday—12/16/23

2:00—Cookie Exchange at Pastor Vanessa's home

Sunday—12/17/23

10:00—Sunday School

11:00—Combined Worship

Congregational Budget Meeting & Christmas Lunch following Worship

3:30—Christmas Caroling

Monday—12/18/23

11:00—All Church Bible Study

6:30—Cub Scouts

Tuesday—12/19/23

6:30—Scouts for Girls and Boys

Wednesday—12/20/23

6:00—Bells

Elders Dinner

Thursday—12/21/23

10:00—Arts & Crafts

Sunday—12/24/23

11:00—Combined Worship

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 12/25—1/2/24



PRAYER REQUEST

Ethel Curry	Charley Bryels
Luetta Danforth	Fred Danforth
Grant Dunlap	Lynn Penn
(Lyn Curtis' Grandson	Carol Strong
Carol Swindell -	Bill Godfrey
(brother passed away)	Annette Hawkins

Happy December Birthdays!

Bob Halderman

12/4

Bill Godfrey

12/6

Alison Brown

12/8

Hope Skinner

12/15

Brad Chilcote

12/15

Mary Sue Gray

12/15

Margie Godfrey

12/15

Carol Strong

12/18

Wanda Torbett

12/22

Lynne Haubenreich

12/23

Joyce Alley

12/28



"Come On Down"

First Christian Church Little Rock

Men's & Friends Breakfast

8:30 am

Saturday, December 16th, 2023

Home's Kitchen Table

11121 N. Rodney Parham Rd.

All dads, grandads, stepdads, sad daddy's, sons, stepsons, uncles, nephews, cousins, brothers, brothers-in-laws, male friends, and others are welcome! All ages welcomed. The 3rd Saturday of the month is our permanent date. Bring your appetite!

Note from Brad: I will be participating in laying wreaths at the Little Rock National Cemetery this year if anyone wishes to join me afterwards. We are usually done before 1:00 pm.

Ceremony: 12/16/23 at 11:00 am (Placement: Immediately Following Ceremony)
Little Rock National Cemetery
2523 Springer Blvd. Little Rock, AR 72206

For more info:

<https://wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages22812/Overview/>



GOLD BALLS

Each year we have Gold Balls that decorate one of the trees in the sanctuary. The money (\$10/ball) goes to mission projects. As with the poinsettias, you may purchase one or more of the balls in honor or memory of someone. A list of the memorials and honorariums will be posted in a special bulletin insert. If you would like to order one or more Gold Balls, please complete the form below, including payment, and return it to the church office.

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ for as follows:

1. In Honor___/In Memory___ of:_____
2. In Honor___/ In Memory___ of:_____
3. In Honor___/ In Memory___ of:_____
4. In Honor___/ In Memory___ of:_____
5. In Honor___/ In Memory___ of:_____

Money from the Gold Balls will go to the Compassion Center. Our Christmas Eve money will go to Jericho Way.

Your Name:_____