

The Insight



September 12, 2023



Your Prayers
don't have to be perfect
God hears your heart.



First Christian Church
Men & Friend's Breakfast
September 16th, 2023
8:30 a.m.
Homer's Kitchen Table
11121 Rodney Parham
Little Rock, AR



Rev. Vanessa L. Bostick
Senior Minister
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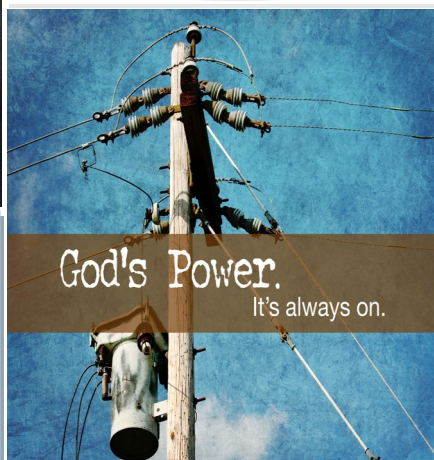
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Andrew Skinner
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Linda Sanders
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Sermon Series for September
9/17— "4 Very Special Reasons
to Forgive"—Exodus 34:6-7
9/24—"Is Forgiveness Real?"
Micah 6:1-8, Matthew 5:1-12

Please be in prayer for our
Worship Services



Life Lessons ...

Don't just go through life ..

Grow through life.

2 Timothy 1:7



For God hath not given us the spirit
of fear; but of power, and of love, and
of a sound mind.

Stewardship Moment ...

Treasure

"Matthew 6:21 says, 'Where your treasure is, there your heart is also.' That means wherever I put my money shows my priorities. If I put my money in my house, that is where my heart is. If I put my money in eating out, ... if I put my money in my clothes, if I put my money into a hobby, that's where my heart is. So the question then becomes, where do you want your heart to be? Wherever you want your heart to be, that is where you need to put your money. Every time you give back to God, you draw closer to him." [Discovering Spiritual Maturity, Rick Warren, audio tape]



Website: www.fcclr.live
Church Office: 501-225-5656

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.

"God gave us two ears and one mouth, so listen twice as much as you speak."



Looking Ahead

Tuesday-9/12/23

11:30—DWF Luncheon

6:30—Scouts for Boys and Girls

Wednesday—9/13/23

6:00—Bell Choir

Thursday—9/14/23

10:00—Arts and Crafts

Saturday—9/16/23

8:30—Men's Breakfast

Sunday—9/17/23

10:00—Sunday School

11:00—Combined Worship

Monday—9/18/23

11:00—All Church Bible Study

6:30—Cub Scouts

Tuesday-9/19/23

6:30—Scouts for Boys and Girls

Wednesday—9/20/23

6:00—Bell Choir

Thursday—9/21/23

10:00—Arts and Crafts

Sunday—9/24/23

10:00—Sunday School

11:00—Combined Worship

Monday—9/25/23

11:00—All Church Bible Study

6:30—Cub Scouts

Tuesday-9/26/23

6:30—Scouts for Boys and Girls

Wednesday—9/27/23

6:00—Bell Choir

Thursday—9/28/23

10:00—Arts and Crafts

Sunday—10/1/23

10:00—Sunday School

11:00—Combined Worship



PRAYER REQUEST

Ethel Curry
Fred Danforth
Luetta Danforth
Grant Dunlap—(Lyn Curtis' Grandson)
Lynn Penn
Carol Strong
Rev. Vanessa Bostick



Don't Worry



LOOK AT THE BIRDS...
THEY DO NOT SOW OR REAP,
YET YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER
FEEDS THEM. ARE YOU NOT
MUCH MORE VALUABLE
THAN THEY?

- MATTHEW 6:26

Happy September Birthday!

<i>Emily Dickinson</i>	9/7
<i>Fred Chilcote</i>	9/12
<i>Luetta Danforth</i>	9/22
<i>Harmony Skinner</i>	9/24
<i>Charley Bryels</i>	9/25
<i>Jim Gee</i>	9/26

Faith is daring the soul to go beyond what the eyes can see.

Often it is our past that plays a big part in our sense of defeat in life. We can become gripped with memories of failures from the past, or we can become stifled by earlier mistakes. Hurts, pains, and disappointments can grow into bitterness, anger, and frustration and serve to keep us on the bench rather than in the game. Paul recognized the importance of letting go of the past and leaning in toward what is ahead. He needed to do it in his own life, not only to forget the regrettable things he had done (like persecuting the church) but also to let go of the pride of the accomplishments he had achieved in the past. Either one would slow him down.

One of the disciplines every sprinter is taught early on in training is to never glance back at competitors during the race. This one simple move can slow her down and cause her to miss out on winning the race. In the same way, we must keep our focus forward and on the goal of knowing Christ and growing in Him. We must relinquish the power that the past holds on us, let go of the past hurts, defeats, embarrassments, mistakes, and even the past accomplishments in which we may tend to wallow. Living with our eyes looking back will only discourage us and trip us up. We are told in Scripture to look back at one thing, and that is the goodness of the Lord and what He has done for us.

Thanking God for His blessings will strengthen us, but rehearsing wounds, mistakes, and miseries will only serve to weaken us. Now, I know it is impossible to erase all the memories from your life. Paul wasn't talking about voiding every memory from your brain. He was basically saying he was no longer affected or influenced by the past. A runner stays focused on where she is going, not where she has been. Whether we are being burdened by regrets of things we did in the past or glorying in things we did in the past, it is time to move forward.

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7