One Service Sunday

PALM SUNDAY
COME CELEBRATE THE KING!
10am Sunday School
11am Combined Worship

Without the Cross
Presented by
The Sanctuary Choir
This Sunday, March 25th

Sunday, March 25
Palm Sunday
10am Sunday School
11am Combined Worship
   Choir Musical
3pm Pastors Class
5pm CELEBRATE
5pm SOLID
5pm Stephen Ministry

Monday, March 26
9:30am Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 27
1:15pm Food Pantry Stocking
7:30pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, March 28
7am Men’s Prayer Breakfast
12pm Food Pantry
6pm Elders Meeting
7pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 29
Maundy Thursday
7pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 30
Good Friday
Church & CLC Office Closed

Saturday, March 31
Easter Eggstravaganza
Hill Park

Sunday, April 1
Easter Sunday
9am Contemporary Worship
10am Easter Brunch
11am Traditional Worship
Thoughts...
Rev. Mike Hunter
Senior Minister

Ponder…

We do not pick our calling; we pick what we do with the calling given to us.

In a previous church I served, just about this same season on the calendar, a visitor stopped by my office and chastised me about my musical gifts. She reminded me of the obvious, the years of musical training and God’s gift of a voice. I should sing, she told me…quoted scripture…the Matthew 25 story about talents and the one talent guy that just buried his…and the visitor summarized something about using it or losing it.

It wasn’t more than a week after that creative visit that I lost my voice, and every time I lose my voice since, I remember that visit and what that guest said to me.

Today, I have a better understanding of what she may have meant.

Not only did I study vocal performance but my Master’s thesis is about how weather conditions affect the singing mechanism. I studied what makes you lose your voice!

But study doesn’t make me immune. A couple of weeks ago, I came down with a serious throat bug. More than the usual sinus critter, this was a bad bug. Went to the doctor, got the good drugs and after about 10 days, I felt better…until just a couple of days ago…

When I woke up, I knew the throat bug was back. When I get up in the mornings, I can barely croak.

My singer doesn’t sing. And Sunday, Mary and the choir has some great music prepared for our Palm Sunday…and it is iffy if I will do much more than cough.

I was reminded again of that wacky visitor’s words.

And the quote above I found during that first voiceless seasons has long helped me see the larger picture. God gives a lot of gifts. God has a calling for each of us. All this is a given.

I know what some of you are thinking. “I don’t have any gifts”, is simply not true. We all have gifts. “I don’t feel called”, means we’re not listening for that still, small voice.

We are gifted. We are called.

The unanswered question can only be: What will we do with what God gives?

I’ve been spending time without my voice using other gifts…and for a while…back in the day, when I stopped being so much of a music guy, I learned another great lesson. That God has other plans for that voice. The opportunity to preach, to speak a prophetic word, has been the single most humbling response to any of God’s many gifts. It transcends every musical note my heart has ever known.

As my calling grows, I’ve discovered other gifts. God simply wants me to be aware of a holy presence, have an open attitude, and then take action.


That’s what we’re supposed to do with our gifts.

Each and every one of them.

God and I continue to be in conversation about my vocal chords. The awareness, attitude and action are ongoing.

I pray your conversations with God are ongoing, too.

The next two weeks are special times and many of you will be offering many of your gifts to help make FCC special, to welcome new guests, and to make sure all who enter know their voice, and all their other gifts are cherished and welcome here.
After 4 yrs, 86,112 miles driven in 144 trips, 1,152 hours in the car, 81 credit hours of studying, writing, and reading so. many. books...

He's finally done!

Join us in celebrating TJ's GRADUATION!

From Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University with a Master's of Divinity.

Saturday, May 12th
11: 30am Lunch at Blue Mesa Grill
612 Carrol Street, Fort Worth
2:00pm Hooding Ceremony at University Christian Church
2720 S. University Drive, Fort Worth
No gifts, please

RSVP to Church office at 432-682-2541 by May 8th. If we have enough interest we may take church bus. Please let us know if you are interested.
This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday. The children will be processing waving their Palm Branches, their precious voices shouting Hosanna. Children of all ages are invited to join us for this special moment. We will meet in the Gym (Family Life Center) at 10:40 Sunday morning to get organized.

And let us not forget that this is also the Sunday that the Sanctuary Choir will present *Without the Cross!*, their annual Easter music.

And that’s not all! Children will be coming forward making their Profession of Faith.

What a glorious morning it will be!

But you know what? It doesn’t have to end with the excitement of Palm Sunday. The week is just beginning. There is still so much to do, to be a part of, to see, to feel, to experience. During this week – Holy Week – as we remember the events that took place during that last week of Jesus’ life, there is still much to come. The parade is over and now it is time to face what comes next.

In loving partnership,
**Adult Sunday School**

All of our adult Sunday School classes meet at 10 am. Each class is based on studies of particular scriptures and related topics.

- **Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29**
- **Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16**

- **2 Chronicles 7:14 - Library**
  A class for adults of all ages. This class is doing a series on Extraordinary Women of the Bible and is led by members of the class.

- **Fellowship - Room 306**
  A class for adults in their senior years. They are currently doing a Bible Study of 1 Peter. Jim Mauldin is the leader of this class.

- **Young Disciples – Room 106**
  Parents of children of all ages are welcome to be a part of this class. They are studying 12 Ordinary Men – a study on the Disciples. This Sunday the focus is on John – the Disciple of Love.

- **Genesis - Parlor**
  A class for adults of all ages. The topic for Sunday is “Communication Gaps . . . Times when God’s people just don’t get it!”. Keith Gibbons is the leader of the class.

- **Elder - On Call**
  3/18-3/24 Hill Glover
  3/25-3/31 Kelly McCullough

Elder Schedule online at [http://www.fccmidland.org/publications](http://www.fccmidland.org/publications)

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**Worship Attendance**

March 18, 2018

**Contemporary** 47
**Children’s Church** 3
**Nursery** 3
**Total** 53

**Traditional** 147
**Children’s Church** 16
**Nursery** 4
**Special Needs Sensory Room** 4
**Total** 171

**Total** 224

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**Guests**

March 18, 2018

- Harold Boze
- Valerie Brady
- Lori & Graham Frerman
- Saxton Greer
- Katherine & Michael Grier
- Sandra Hanford
- Stephen & Rose Huskey
- Alvin & Nona Kennedy
- Kosanke Family
- Kubacak Family
- Deborah Lucas
- Susan Marshall
- Catherine McCray
- Aidan Ramsey
- Carol & Roberta SoloRio
- Erika Soltero
- Marisol Valero and Jiovanni
- & Isai Natera

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**Disciples Food Pantry**

March 21

- Families served: 72
- Total People: 287
- New Clients: 16
FCC Welcomes
New Members

On Sunday, March 18, Robert and Janice Rodriguez, daughter Johnna Slone and sons Nicholas & Luciano joined FCC. We are blessed in having them become a part of our church family. Welcome to FCC!

First Christian Church
Easter Lilies and Disciple Rice

Each year our Easter Worship service features Easter Lilies. The lilies are presented by members and friends of the congregation as memorials, or in appreciation of loved ones. The Disciple Rice funds will go to the Disciples Food Pantry.

Please complete the information below:
Easter Lily & Disciple Rice _____$22.00
Easter Lily Only _____$12.00
Disciple Rice Only _____$10.00

Please indicate:
In Memory of:______________________________________
In Honor of:________________________________________
In Appreciation of:__________________________________
Given in Love by:___________________________________

Please make checks payable to First Christian Church for the total and return with form to the church office by Sunday, March 25th. Names will be printed in the worship bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 1st. Lilies not collected will be taken to local nursing homes.

MARCH 29TH
Maundy Thursday
Communion Service
7PM

First Christian's 8th Annual
Easter Eggstravaganza
Saturday, March 31st
Hill Park 10:30am-1pm
Free Family Event
**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**
3/1 Roberta Hurt
3/2 Marco Cardozo
3/3 Jim Morris
3/5 Mary Lightfoot
3/6 Judy Spruell
3/8 Mycah Glover
3/9 Everett Pierce
3/10 Marilyn Craig
3/11 Randy Hicklin
3/11 Kinder McCullough
3/12 Betty Whitmire
3/13 Louise Jones
3/14 Dan O'Grady
3/15 Kobi Strickland
3/15 Bill Terry
3/16 John Schnable
3/17 Kay Hill
3/19 Michael Landrum
3/19 Francisco Cardozo
3/20 Teresa Griffin
3/22 Brecken Hattenbach
3/23 Spencer Armour
3/23 David Davis
3/23 Nicholas Harrison
3/23 Fred Yates
3/24 Mike Stephenson
3/28 Aimsley Lastoka
3/30 Joe Gassie
3/31 Gary Thompson

**Anniversaries**
3/4 Roy & Jeannine Hurst
3/12 Charlie & LuAnn Morgan
3/17 Beau & Barbara Estes
3/17 Joe Gassie & Pat Vincent
3/17 Wayne & Pam Young
3/18 Tom & Kay Hill
3/18 T.J. & Heather Shoop-York
3/19 B.H. & Pat Spaw
3/21 Jon Aaron & Magen House
3/22 Ken & Jo Sneed

**Prayers & Praises**

**Those in need of prayer:**
Carolyn Dixon
Betty Couch
Ralph Miller
Leland Franz
Twila Griffin
Dolores Hodges
Betty Whitmire
June Jarrett
Helen Estes
Faye Casey
Ray & Doris Stewart
Robert & Sheila Crudgington
Clint Hurst
Robert Hurt
Bill Schneider
Mary Mauldin
George Head
Bill & Char Womack

**Military:**
Joe Henderson - son of Holly Moore
Kinder McCullough - daughter of Bill & Kelley McCullough

**Families, Friends Beyond FCC**
Aaron Krauch - friend of Janis Courtney

**Special Notes:**
Our joys, concerns and deepest needs are already on God’s heart long before we put them to paper.

...for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Matthew 6:8

Gloria Brenneman Cocroran - sister of Brenda Nance
Millie Duncan – friend of Butch & Sherry Ladd
Rita Jones - friend of Celia Ambrose
Keith Miller - friend of Anne Schwiening
Patricia Petosky Darby - cousin of Ginny Estes
Kay Kinsey – friend of Vince Curry
Debbie and James Van Stavern - friend of Austella Berry
Butch Broom - friend of Sara Cranford
Jim Crumrine – uncle of Todd Wells
Mark Hendricks - son of Jackie Hendricks
Dick Cranford – uncle of Mark Cranford
Tom Bauer - friend of Jeweli Flores
Margie Singleton - daughter-in-law of Joy Singleton
Barbara Williams – daughter of Ray Stewart
Kairos Conde – nephew of Olivia Espino
Oscar Garcia – brother of Amparo Olguin
Kathy Dunnan - friend of Peggy Jones
Ferrell Powell - friend of Sharon & Bill Boyd
Joe Langford – father of Carol Cook
Martha Pollock – friend of Sara Cranford

Please inform the church office if you or a loved one are admitted into a hospital, so we may be there for you & your family.

For submission to prayer list contact any staff, submit via web, or e-mail prayerchain@fccmidland.org
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