



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

February 2026

Through Ashes Toward Light

As the dust of Advent, Epiphany and the ensuing Ordinary time of the Christian calendar settles, we prepare our hearts for the season of Lent. I find myself reflecting on the profound beauty of the “wilderness”.

Often, we view Lent as a season of “giving up”—a period of religious grit and self-denial. But the forty days of Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 18, are not intended to be a test of will-power; they are a gift of **holy recalibration**. They are an invitation to step away from the noise of a crowded world and rediscover the voice of the One who calls us “Beloved.”

The Call to the Wilderness: In the Gospel accounts, the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Yes, it was a place of hunger and temptation, but it was also a place of singular focus.

In our modern lives, we are rarely “hungry” for information or distraction, yet we are often starving for **presence**. Lent asks us to create an intentional void so that God might fill it. Whether you are fasting from a specific food, a digital habit, or a spirit of busyness, remember the goal: we empty ourselves not to stay empty, but to make room for the One who calls us “Beloved.”

The Lenten Pillars

During the Lenten season, I invite our congregation to lean into the three traditional pillars of Lenten devotion, viewed through a lens of grace:

☐ **Prayer:** Not as duty, but as dialogue. Find five minutes of physical and mental silence daily. Let God look inside you.

☐ **Fasting:** Not as a diet, but as a “remembering.” When you feel the pang of that given up, let it be a

prompt to pray for those whose pangs are real and not choice.

☐ **Almsgiving:** Not as a tax, but as an overflow. Let the resources (time or money) you save through fasting be directed toward the vulnerable in our community.

A Journey Toward the Light

In Lent, we must remember that as we walk toward Jerusalem with Christ, we do not walk toward a tomb, but through one. The ashes we received at the start of this journey on Ash Wednesday are a reminder of our mortality, but they are applied in the shape of a cross—the ultimate sign of victory.

I encourage you: do not be afraid of quiet. Do not be discouraged if you stumble in your Lenten disciplines. God is not looking for perfection; God is looking for the contrition found within an open heart.

May this season be for you a time of refreshment, a time of shedding what is heavy, and a time of drawing nearer to the heart of the Father.

Peace and every good,

Rev. Colby



Inside...February Birthdays, Events, News and Announcements, Prayer Requests and more!

FCC KIDS CORNER

Kid's Club February Schedule

Feb 1st-Destination Unknown

Feb 8th-NO Kid's Club-Souper Bowl Sunday

Feb 15-Lent: It's Not Just in Your Dryer

Feb 22nd-Kid's Club on the Go-Get Air

March 1-Lent: It's Not Just in Your Dryer



Lent: It's Not Just in the Dryer!

We will focus on some of Jesus' last teachings through reading, play and prayer during Lent.



Kid's Club Donuts and Disciples

With object lessons featuring donut holes, donuts and even a dozen donuts, we had a lot of fun learning that being a disciple means we put God and Others ahead of ourselves.



We are blessed to have two new babies in our church family and two new toddlers!

Mary McKitric is in the nursery every week and needs at least one extra person to care for the youngest in our congregation. Please contact Patti if you can help one Sunday a month



FCC Sunday Morning Children's Programs

During Worship, Children Birth-5th grade are invited to leave the sanctuary after the Children's Chat to worship in a way that is developmentally appropriate to their age. All programs are staffed with background checked volunteers.

Church Nursery -Newborns through age 4

Worship & Wonder-Children age 4-2nd Grade

Children's Church-Children in 3rd-5th Grade

After Worship, children K-5th grade are invited to Kid's Club. We eat lunch together and then explore a bible story through games, art, science experiments, and more. For questions about FCC Children's programs, contact Patti.

Email patti@firstchristiandanville.com or text (812) 483-9004

News & Announcements

Book Connections will meet on February 1st in the Fellowship Hall right after worship. The book in discussion will be **Midwives by Chris Bohjalian**, a book about a dedicated midwife in a rural community in the winter of 1981.

Anyone who wishes to join this group is always welcome. Enjoy a light lunch, some lively and intelligent discussion of really good books. Hope to see you there!



Jan Bradshaw



Sunday, February 8th

Plan to support our Youth Program by baking a Dessert for the Auction, by making Chili or Soup, and by attending!

As we enter Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 18th, Holy Week is just around the corner. Mark your calendar and plan to celebrate with FCC.

Palm Sunday– March 29th

Maundy Thursday–April 2nd

Good Friday/ Church Wide prayer Vigil–
April 3rd- 7a-7p– Prayer Vigil

Easter Sunday– April 5th

Want to get to know our wonderful FCC children?

Consider providing lunch one Sunday for Kid's Club!

Contact Patti for more information .

Office & Walking Track Hours

Monday– Friday

8:00 a.m.– Noon & 1:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday February 18th

There are two ways and times for you to begin the season of Lent:

6:30am-8am– Drive up and receive the imposition of ashes, blessings and a cup of coffee. Come to the Family Life Center covered entrance at the east end of the building.

7pm– Imposition of ashes, music and a message in the FCC sanctuary. Invite friends, family and neighbors.



The Music Ministry at First Christian is back in full swing! The Sanctuary Choir meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 and Handbells will begin with the first Wednesday of February. Individuals interested in joining either ensemble may speak to Tim or Harry anytime!

We are also pleased to invite all members and community to our next two recital events at the church. **Friday, January 30th** we will welcome renowned organist Timothy Lee Baker to accompany Silent Movies on the sanctuary organ at 7:00-- with real Movie Popcorn! Come join us!

Next is our portion of the Community Lenten recital series on **Sunday March 22nd** at 3:00 pm when *The Bellarmine Schola cantorum* will present a recital of vocal solos, organ selections by organist Owen Sammons and will culminate with a premiere of Tim Glasscock's newly composed "*Te Deum*" for chorus, soloists, piano, and organ.

Donations to support the ongoing Recital Series are always welcome. Simply drop your check in the collection basket or drop it by the office to Yvonne anytime during business hours. Just write "recital series" in the memo slot. We hope to keep a steady stream of musical events happening at First Christian into the foreseeable future to serve our church and community.

-Tim Glasscock





Give From the Heart Food Drive

Throughout the month of **February**, place a food items in your box. Bring the box to the Narthex when you come to church on or before **March 1st**. The items listed represent the current food pantry needs of our community.

February 1– Canned fruit

February 2- Canned black or pinto beans

February 3– Oatmeal

February 4– Cereal

February 5– Muffin Mix

February 6- Pancake mix

February 7– Syrup

February 8– Pasta

February 9– Pasta Sauce

February 10– Corn Bread Mix

February 11– Dry milk/ Shelf stable milk

February 12– Hamburger Helper

February 13– Pop-Tarts

February 14– Granola bars

February 15– Instant Mashed Potatoes

February 16– Rice

February 17– Peanut Butter

February 18– Jelly

February 19– Cooking Oil

February 20– Crackers

February 21– Ramen Noodles

February 22– Canned Soup

February 23– Canned Mixed Vegetables

February 24– Canned Meat

February 25– Instant Mac & Cheese

Bonus Items:

Please consider adding a few of these much needed personal hygiene items to your box:

Soap, deodorant, Dish soap, Shampoo/conditioner, Diapers/wipes, toothbrush/toothpaste, laundry detergent.

OUTREACH is as easy as A B C....

A for Action

B for Being aware of others' needs

C for Community focused

It's no coincidence that our Outreach Ministry's first projects for 2026 start off in February with an "extra dose" of heart and everyone is invited to share from theirs!

Our "Food from the heart" collection begins with a simple list, but when multiplied, provides a helping hand & nourishment to those in our community who find themselves needing extra help.

Our "Fun from the heart" takes place at Parkview Assisted Living on Friday 2/20 @ 1:30p. We'll be having an Olympics– themed party with games, refreshments and prizes (maybe medals). Join us and fill your heart with joy.

Our next meeting of Community Faith Leaders will take place in early February (date to confirmed soon and anyone can participate). The outpouring of love from over 20+ churches continues to show the commitment to our community's vulnerable and a determined spirit towards real solutions with shared sources.

Finally, DOC's Week of Compassion offering will be 2/15/26. The theme "A New Way," totally mirrors what we are hoping to accomplish in 2026.

Whether it's devoting budgeted or Maxine Maxey funds to support recurring projects we hold dear or discovering new projects to champion, our love for service will continue to find "new ways" to serve.



Dear Outreach Team,

Thank you all for continually supporting the DHS Youth Services Center! Your contributions assist with supplies, clothing, and snacks for our hungry students! We are all so appreciative!

Best,

Jenny Clark

YSC Coordinator @ DHS

Please Keep the following in your Prayers

Gary Gibson
John Taylor Ross
Jan Sheffield
Bill Morgan
Darell Rickmers
Lauren Newman
Wanda Huffman
Mary Sebring
Mary Lou Withers
Jim Routin
Janet Henson
Bonnie Traschel
Butch Pass
David & Nancy Robertson

Mindy Carter
Barb Webie
Ben Guerrant
Lucille Lemmon
Patsy McClure
Ann Pennington
Gibson Family

Remember our Shut-ins

Martha Akin
Pat & Steve Bruce
Mindy Carter
Hugh & Mary Jo Coomer

Lucille Lemmon
Bonnie Wilson
Georgianne Smith



February Worship Roster

February 1

Worship Leader– Terry Dachenhaus
Elder– Brian Calvert
Elder & Counter– Patricia Calvert
Children's Chat– Debbie Baker
Worship & Wonder– Debbie Baker/Sherri Horn
Children's Church– Kendra Funkhouser
Nursery Volunteer– Mary McKitric
Kid's Club Asst.– Kendra Funkhouser
Parkview– Julie Jones
Greeters– Rodger & Wendy Ross

February 8

Worship Leader– Larry Scott
Elder– Vince Pennington
Elder & Counter– Margaret Clark
Children's Chat– Rev. Colby
Worship & Wonder– Patti/ Jenna Walker
Children's Church– Linda Dachenhaus
Nursery Volunteer– Enda Prall
Kid's Club Asst– NO KID'S CLUB
Greeters– Jeff & Libby Joiner

February 15

Worship Leader– Julie Jones
Elder– Tom Huckleberry
Elder & Counter– Julie Jones
Children's Chat– Scott Walker
Worship & Wonder– Martha Bryant/ Sueann Rice
Children's Church– Patricia Calvert
Nursery – Kris Hamlin
Kid's Club Asst/Lunch Penny Vaught/ Welch
Shut In Communion– Elmer & Suzi Jackson
Greeters– Edna Prall & Becky Whited

February 22

Worship Leader– Jacob Cooper
Elder–Brent Williams
Elder & Counter– Martha Caywood
Children's Chat– Patti Wright
Worship/Wonder– Connie McVicker/Sherri Horn
Children's Church– Penny Vaught
Nursery– Trista Hinkle
Kid's Club Asst/Lunch– Suzy Smith/Parson
Cook / Devotion– Doug & Nancy McMurry
Greeters– Terry & Linda Dachenhaus

Even MORE Cans for Others

76 cans were donated during January. Keep bringing those cans so we can beat our total for 2025 of 1994 cans.



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