

First Christian Church Oklahoma City

Love  LL the People



Welcome to First Christian Church!

Our Vision for Ministry is **Love! Live! Give!**

LOVE God, love self, and love each other unconditionally.

LIVE into our faith journey, shepherding one another.

GIVE of ourselves to make a difference in our world.

Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed!

Join us for some remarkable experiences this spring! On **Easter Sunday, April 1st**, we will begin with **breakfast at 9:30 am**. As we enjoy bagels, fruit, and breakfast casseroles, we will be visited by Joseph of Arimathea who will help us to understand how his life was changed by his encounter with Jesus. At **10:30 am** we will move to the chapel to **tell the story of the resurrection through music and word**.

April 8th will be **Holy Humor Sunday!** Enjoy a laugh or two as we bring back the ancient tradition of joy and hope in the life of the church!

We will celebrate **Heritage Sundays** on **April 15th** and **22nd**. Many people have asked about what it means to be a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These two Sundays are designed to help all of us understand our history, our present beliefs, and maybe our future. On Sunday **April 22nd**, we will enjoy fried chicken at a **Fellowship Dinner** after worship.

April 29th is the **Memorial Marathon** and our day of service. On **May 13th**, we celebrate **Mother's Day** with a **breakfast** and flowers from our children. **Pentecost Sunday, May 20th**, we remember the birth of the church through the Holy Spirit in wind and fire.

Join us on Sundays, and at the Welcome Table each Wednesday evening!



Sunday Mornings
@ FCCOKC

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:30

Fellowship 11:45

Pastoral Staff

John Malget

Senior Minister

Rev.JMalget@fccokc.org

Cell 713-560-3632

Jeff Hamilton

Associate Minister

Hamilton.J@fccokc.org

Cell 405-640-3914

Tom Harrison

Minister of Technology

Harrison.T@fccokc.org

Cell 405-919-5114

Carol McDonald-Walley

Chalice Kids Director

Administrative Assistant

McDonald.C@fccokc.org



www.fccokc.org



First Christian
Church of OKC



@1stChristianOKC



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
3700 N. Walker Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405-525-6551



Rev. John Malget
Senior Minister
RevJMalget@fccokc.org

Malget's Musings: Holy Humor Sunday!

Easter is upon us, and we celebrate by re-telling the story, by singing the songs, and by peering into the empty tomb with Mary and the others. Christ is alive! Alleluia! So now what? After Easter Sunday, do we just go back to our hum drum lives of existence? Do we have to do anything else, because the story ends there, doesn't it?

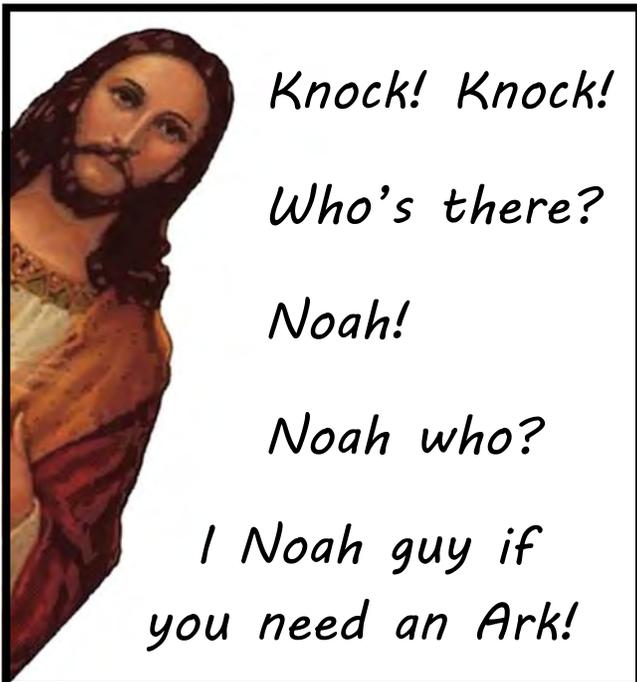
I don't know about you, but I find it humorous when someone comes to church on Easter Sunday, and I haven't seen them in about a year. Some of them tell me that I preach the same sermon every time they come to church. Maybe I should preach something besides resurrection on Easter Sunday. NOT!!!

What those who only come on Easter and Christmas don't get is that the story truly doesn't end there. The Risen Christ calls us to love and to serve, to share our faith in word and in deed, and to care for one another in joy and hope.

So do you think it is ok to laugh in church? Many churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity—the ongoing celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on the Sunday after Easter through laughter. On **HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY**, we will take a moment to realize that the words of the old religious instruction are true: "What is the chief end of human beings? Our chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy God forever." When our worship is filled with playful laughter out of our delight in what God has done, we discover that we not only delight in God, but God also delights in us! Come spend **Sunday, April 8th** with us in merriment and joy!

A man went to the doctor and saw a nun running out of the office in hysterics. He asked the doctor, "Say, doc, what was wrong with that nun? She was running out of your office and looked awfully pale." The doctor says, "Well, after I examined her I told her she was pregnant." The patient looked incredulous. "Was she?" "No," the doctor said, "but it sure cured her hiccups."

We should take a cue from that doctor—our world is running around in hysterics, and now is not the time for us to take ourselves too seriously. We listen for the risen Lord who breaks into our fearful, stale rooms and breathes new life. The disciples were hopeless, locked away in fear—anxious, worried, and uncertain of what was going to happen. There was no joy. No hope. No laughter. But then Jesus shows up. Jesus confronts the disease of their world. It was all a mess—and it is still a mess today. There is little joy. It can feel hopeless. There seems to be no reason at all to laugh. Until Jesus shows up. And when he does, he stands before us, like he stood before the disciples, and says, "Peace be with you!" Jesus breaks in and breathes new life into our world. He breathes the Spirit of joy into our lives—and sends us. He commissions us to be the church, to carry the joy of Easter into the broken world. He fills us with the presence of the Spirit—and then tells us we have work to do. It's pretty funny if you think about it.



The Welcoming Table!

The Welcoming Table is our Wednesday evening fellowship which includes an amazing meal for a suggested donation of \$5, but no one will go hungry if you cannot contribute.

Everyone is welcome!

We know you have heard it before, but we are striving to make this a reality. If you, like so many, have been hurt by church, you are welcome here. We believe that "ALL means ALL!" And ALL includes YOU!

Following dinner, we have a chance to talk about how our faith impacts our lives in a time of informal discussion. There is no pressure to stay and chat.

Please join us on a Wednesday evening for dinner. It is a safe way to get to know us. There is a seat at the Welcoming Table just for you!



Deep Thoughts: Do Saints Hold Grudges?

Those of us who enter the ministry, often feel that we are held to a higher standard of conduct than the rank and file church member. And during the season of Lent, with the call to self-examination, we all can feel that we are expected to be taller than saints. Those stained glass figures in church windows seem to reach out and grab at us like Halloween goblins.

I was relieved to read in our Lenten Devotional, *Finding Peace in Lent*, that Saint Francis had a quarrel with his father early in his life that was never healed. They quarreled over the fact that Francis would not change his life style of almost absolute poverty, which was the opposite of his merchant father's opulent standard of living. Further, Francis said that he would only call God his Father. Although father and son tried, they failed to reconcile, something that Francis regretted.

So if a Saint fails to end a quarrel, I suppose it gives us some room to live with unresolved conflicts in our own lives. But the nature of the quarrel may dictate the ability to resolve the conflict. We may not be able to find common ground to stand on: that may or may not be the case with North Korea and the United States, but let us pray that there is good common ground.

If we look at the mission of the church, we can realize that conflict resolution among people is our goal; but first of all we must work on ourselves! That is why I encourage us to read, even after Lent is over, *Finding Peace in Lent!*



Rev. Jeff Hamilton
Associate Minister
Hamilton.J@fccokc.org



Steve Felton
Board Chair

Board Chair's Perspective

There are still numerous projects taking place at First Christian Church. Keeping the "old ship" afloat is an ongoing process. One of the issues is the bridge that crosses the creek to Trinity School. It is failing and we will start repairs soon.

Your continued support and prayers will see us through. Your church board members and our dedicated staff spend every day making our missions a reality. Revered John is guiding us through some turbulent waters. We will see brighter times with every sunrise. We have a wealth of talent and experience to draw from. Keep all of us in your thoughts and prayers. God Bless!

Chalice Kids

It is spring time and Chalice Kids are busy celebrating the Easter season. We are reading different stories of Easter and are preparing our hearts for the celebration. We will be having an Easter Egg hunt in the dome on Easter Sunday immediately following the service. All are welcome to watch the kids find the treasures. Then in May, we will be once again potting plants for the women in the congregation for Mother's Day. The kids enjoy this activity and the women seem to enjoy receiving the flowers. We absolutely love working with your children. Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, and neighbors and join us in Chalice Kids: 9:30 am to 11:30 am every Sunday in room 301. Come celebrate the season with us!



Carol McDonald
Children's Ministry
Administrative Assistant
McDonald.C@fccokc.org



Jewel Box Theatre

The 60th season has flown by with sold out shows and rave reviews! We end the season with the comedy, *Always a Bridesmaid*, by Jessie Jones, Nicolas Hope, and Jamie Wooten, who brought us the runaway hit, *The Dixie Swim Club*. Come see our own Carol McDonald in the featured role of Sedalia Ellicott!

We salute our 60th season at the annual **GEM Awards Banquet**, which will be held **May 11th** at the Oklahoma History Center. GEM Awards will be presented in six acting categories, Best play, and many, many more. Cost for this elegant evening is \$25. For reservations, call 405-521-1786, Tuesday through Friday between 1-6 pm.

Our 61st season has been announced with five comedies and a thriller. **Season Tickets** are a steal at only **\$50 for six shows**. You can't go to the movies for that. Come enjoy the thrill of theatre-in-the-round! The shows are:

***The Foreigner* ~ August 23 – September 16**

Poor Charlie! He's so afraid to talk to people that his friend tells everyone at the lodge the poor man can't speak English. Big hysterical mistake! Larry Shue's comedy will have you in tears of laughter.

***Wait Until Dark* ~ October 4 – 28, 2018**

Imagine you are a blind woman and alone in your apartment, when three men make plans to terrorize you for a doll full of heroin that you know nothing about. Fredrick Knott's thriller will have you literally on the edge of your seat.

***The Games Afoot* ~ November 15 – December 9, 2018**

This Ken Ludwig comedy (*Lend Me A Tenor, Moon Over Buffalo*) has Broadway star William Gillette, known the world over for his leading role of Sherlock Holmes, inviting fellow cast-members for a weekend of fun. When one turns up dead, Gillette himself must adapt as Holmes to solve the Christmas murder.

***Barefoot in the Park* ~ January 24 – February 17, 2019**

Corie and Paul begin their married life. In Manhattan, in a tiny, 5th floor walk-up, with a lack of heat, and a broken skylight that leaks snow. Paul, a straight-laced attorney must face these obstacles with his free-spirited wife in Neil Simon's romantic comedy hit.

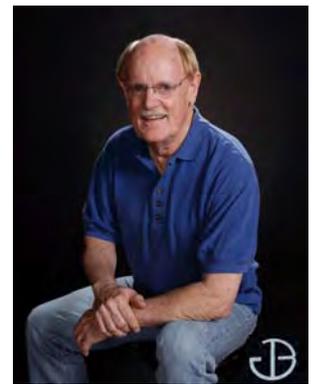
***Wedding Belles* ~ March 7 – 31, 2019**

A young girl comes to a little Texas town to get married to an infantryman before he ships off for World War II. Four garden-club ladies hear of her dilemmas and impulsively decide to throw her a wedding. This Alan Baily and Ronnie Claire Edwards' comedy makes for one fun, frenzied afternoon.

***My Three Angels* ~ April 18 – May 12, 2019**

Two murderers and a swindler turn out to be three angels in this delightful comedy by Sam and Bella Spewack. Add to the mix, a nice family with an evil-minded cousin, and his cold-blooded nephew, and you are in for lots of laughs with real life angels.

To ensure you get your plan, send in your subscription now. For a 61st season brochure, call our box office (405-521-1786), or go online to JewelBoxTheatre.org where you can also enjoy our award winning newsletter. There is a reason we celebrate sixty years: great plays, amazing audiences, our dedicated Board of Advisors, incredible volunteers, and all those who help make us succeed! **Enjoy live theatre!**



Chuck Tweed
Jewel Box Director
info@jewelboxtheatre.org



Memorial Run ~ Sunday April 29, 2017

We all remember the fateful day when the Murrah Building was destroyed by a powerful bomb, housed in a Ryder truck. And we recall that not long after that, Rev. Don Alexander offered our church as a center for the coordination of the services to the families of those who died and those who were injured. Looking back, it may seem like a blur of activity in our building, for every room was in use.

In response, the Memorial Marathon was established on the last Sunday of April. We will again serve as a relay stop for the runners. Members and friends of our congregation will meet at the church around 5 am and begin preparing for the runners to stop by. Because of the run, we will have a day of service, rather than our regular worship service that Sunday! Join us!



Chain Reaction Ministries

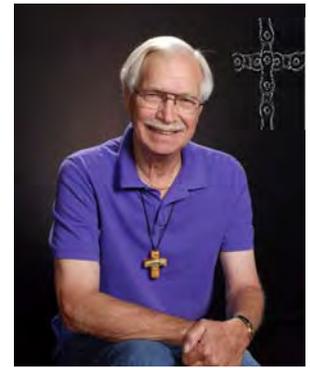
Chain Reaction Ministries serves God by serving the least and the last among God's children. We repair and give away donated bicycles to those in need so they can have life-changing transportation. To that end, we have given away over 2,700 bikes.

Chain Reaction Ministry is moving west! I received an inquiry from Calvary Lutheran Church in Solana Beach, California about Chain Reaction. They heard about us and what we are doing here in Oklahoma City. They want to start a bicycle ministry as an outreach of their church. I have talked to them on several occasions and have sent information about our ministry here. Pray for Calvary Lutheran Church as they reach out to the least of God's children in California with the life changing gift of a bicycle.

God continues to move Chain Reaction-OKC forward. Pictured to the right is Sheila. She has just received our 2700th bicycle. Sheila was sent to us by CityCare. I would have never guessed that we would have given away that many bikes in just over 4 years.

May God continue to bless all those that have given and continue to donate bicycles to this ministry. We have an ever increasing demand for adult bicycles as this ministry continues to grow. If you, your neighbors, your friends, or your family members have any adult bikes that can be donated, please call the church at 405-525-6551 or my cell phone at 405-479-3809.

Still Changing Lives One Bike at a Time!



Larry Batten
Chain Reaction Coordinator
(405) 479-3809



Virginia Nolen
Preschool Director
nolen.v@fccokc.org



Hello everyone! Hello everyone! We had a special Treat for Valentine's Day. Mr. Jack, the music man, and his singing quintet serenaded the preschool children and teachers. It was so much fun! We are looking

forward to our Easter egg hunt on Thursday, March 29th and then celebrating Easter on April 1st.

Our Spring Concert with Mr. Jack is on April 19th at 10 am. We hope you will all attend to see this special performance. Before we know it May will be here! Our last regular day of school is May 24th. What a wonderful year it has been!



Mobile Meals is a vital service that volunteers from First Christian Church provide to senior citizens who desperately need extra meals to help them live independently at home. We deliver hot lunches every Tuesday morning.

Rev. Tom Harrison coordinates Mobile Meals for First Christian Church. We would love to have you involved. There are a couple of ways that you can support this ministry. **First, we need back-up drivers.** If you can volunteer on Tuesday mornings when called upon, please contact Tom at the church.

The second way you can help is financially. You can donate to help underwrite the cost of the meals. **All loose change in the offering trays on Sunday mornings go to support Mobile Meals.** We also take up a special offering every 5th Sunday (or any time you wish to give). Thank you for your generosity.





Rev. Tom Harrison
Minister of Technology
iTomHarrison@gmail.com

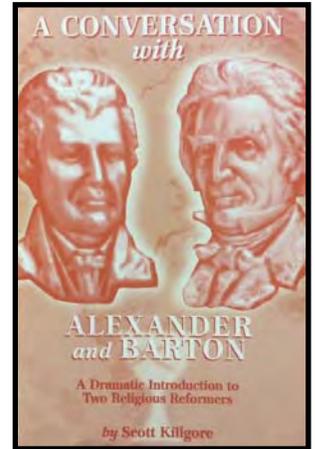
Two Extra-Special Sundays in April!

Did you know that First Christian Church of OKC dates back to 1889, the year of the Oklahoma Run? Yep, it's true. That really takes me back. Farther than I can recall! When we say "First" we kid you not.

I mention this because I'm blessed to report in a similar vein that we have planned a couple of special Sundays coming up on **April 15th and 22nd** which we are calling "**Heritage Sundays.**" On the first of these Sundays, Rev. John Malget will preach on the topic of "**What Disciples Believe.**" Since we are not a movement of heavy dogma and creeds, we should be out for lunch early. Well, we can hope...

On the second Sunday, we'll present **A Conversation with Alexander and Barton** by Scott Killgore. All three of our on-staff Reverends (John, Jeff and I) will participate. Jeff will play the role of Alexander Campbell from Bethany, West Virginia. I will play part of Barton W. Stone from Cane Ridge, Kentucky. John will be interviewing us.

These Heritage Sundays will be a golden opportunity for us to learn, remember, and reflect on who we are as members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as well as recalling how we got here. I plan to have a good time with this, and I invite you to join me. Bring a friend, an enemy, or even a stranger!



Heritage Sunday Fellowship Lunch

Sunday, April 22, 2018



Fried Chicken and Drinks Provided.
Bring Side Dishes and Desserts to Share!



Join us!

May 7, 2018
5:30 pm

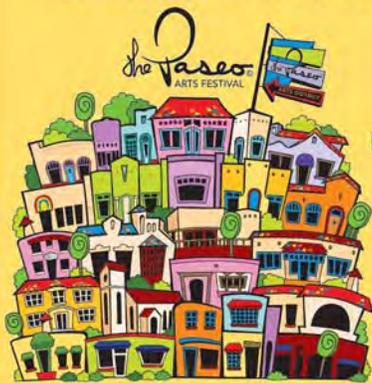
Worship
and
Dinner

Refuge Fellowship Church

Paseo Arts Festival

May 26, 27, and 28

Located between NW 30th & Dewey
and NW 28th & Walker in Oklahoma City



Parking available
at

First Christian Church
3700 N. Walker
OKC, OK

with
Shuttle Service
to the
Festival

Sock - It - To - Refuge

One of the biggest needs for Oklahoma City's homeless population is socks. It sounds so simple. When your socks get dirty, or WET, you just wash them and put them back on. But washing machines are not always easily available if you live in a tent.

Tom Russell, who was for many years the cheerleader around town for Chain Reaction Ministries, passed away late in 2017. He provided socks to Refuge Fellowship members on a regular basis. In memory of Tom, **we are going to try to come up with 250 pairs of socks** that we can give away in May.

You can bring white crew socks to the church, or you can donate and we will pick them up for you. **Pairs of socks run about \$1 each.** We will deliver on May 7th when next provide the meal for Refuge. Thanks!

SYME assembly REQUIRED

connect. empower. equip.

Connect: The Oklahoma Region is excited to invite you to the Leadership Training School and the Regional Assembly — a day of training for laity and clergy, and the biennial business meeting.

Empower: We have invited Rev. Virzola Law as our keynote speaker. Her dynamic enthusiasm for sharing the good news of the Gospel will inspire you and provide plenty to stimulate conversation.

Equip: You'll find a variety of workshops to equip you with new approaches to worship, church administration, stewardship and much more. We've arranged for local and national workshop leaders so be sure to sign up for your preferred workshop.

Participate: Voting delegates and Oklahoma's clergy will participate in the Region's biennial business meeting. We will vote on the slate of new officers for the Regional Board and proposed changes to the Region's Constitution. Highlights from the Region's 2017 activities will also be available. It all begins on Saturday, April 28th at 8:30 am. The good folks at New Covenant Christian Church in OKC are rolling out the red carpet and hospitality for us. So don't delay!



Come Join Us For

GAME NIGHT

April 7, 2018 & May 19, 2018
4 - 7 pm

Bring your favorite board game/card game or plan to play one of the MANY that will already be there. This is planned as a casual relaxed time to play games and have fun fellowshiping. Bring snack food to share. The church will provide tea and lemonade.

All Ages
Teens and Adults ~ Dining Room
Children ~ Chalice Kids' Room

Prayer Corner

Continuing Prayers: Ray Lambert; Max Newland; Dwayne Vallandingham; John Hornbeck; Irene Johnson; Pat Waters; Martha Johnston; Keith Gordon; Peggy O'Neal; Pat Waters; HenryEtta Chaney; Johnny Dodson; Leslie Harrison; June Kinzy; Meredith Lawson; Russell and Louise Linholm; Martha "Peggy" McQuown; Bruce and Geneva Smallwood; Daniel and Laura Tysor; Marilyn Wilhite.

Near and Dear: Melvin Cowden (John Hornbeck); Gayle McKenzie (Carol McDonald-Walley); Michael and Nathan Rivard (Bobby Rivard); Rhonda Culver (Allen Johnson); Jeff Shannon (Cricket Thompson); Lila Williford (Mills); Betty Waters, Jim Waters (Pat Waters); Justin Schnell, (Malget); Ann Reid, Mike Nelms, (Nelms); Sean Blubaugh, Mary Jo Sorrels (Hamilton); Kathy McCarty, Anne Boone and Lara Beth Livingstone (Betty Long); Davalyn Billings (Lucretia Thompson); Barbara Carr (Rogers); Jerry Calcote, Robbie McGruder, Amber Campbell, Michael Stevens (Warrick); Jon Lewin (Lewin)

Birthdays

April 3	Joann Moorehead	May 7	Jeanne (Mills) Huitt
April 5	Betty Hulsopple	May 10	Russell Linholm
April 6	Leslie Harrison	May 15	Gladys Henson (105)
April 11	Shirley Querry	May 16	Elizabeth Newland
April 16	Latasha Giddings	May 18	Sunni Faries
April 17	Jordan Shafer	May 18	Josie Walley
April 18	Lillian Murphy	May 22	Taylor Mills
April 22	Eva Painton	May 23	Cici Goodwin
April 25	HenryEtta Chaney		

June 1st & 2nd
**churchWIDE
RUMMAGE
SALE**

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

3700 North Walker Avenue
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118 - 7031
(405) 525-6551 — FAX (405) 525-6562

email: disciples@fccokc.org

web: www.fccokc.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Oklahoma City, OK

PERMIT No. 426

TIME VALUE PUBLICATION
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Important Dates @ FCC

Weekly Activities

Sunday

Sunday School	9:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Fellowship Coffee	11:45 am

Monday

Staff Meeting	10:30 am
---------------	----------

Tuesday

Mobile Meals	10:00 am
Fellowship Lunch	11:30 am

Wednesday

The Welcoming Table	
Dinner	5:30 pm
Discussion	6:30 pm

For a complete calendar visit our website:
www.fccokc.org

Easter Breakfast with Joseph of Arimathea	April 1—9:30 am
Holy Humor Sunday	April 8
FCC Heritage Sundays Luncheon	April 15 and 22 April 22
Memorial Marathon	April 29
Game Nights	April 7— 4-7 pm May 19—4-7 pm
Church Board Meetings	Apr. 24—10 am May 22—10 am
Jewel Box Performances <i>Always a Bridesmaid</i>	Apr. 12 - May 6 —8:00 pm Sunday Matinee —2:30 pm
Jewel Box GEM Awards	May 12—6:30 pm
Church Yard Sale	June 1-2