

## All Church News

### Minister's Message - Finding Wonder

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fcedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544 ext. 111**

*"Always be on the lookout for the presence of wonder." E.B. White as quoted in 365 Days of Wonder*

I know it is the new year because I have a brand new 2019 calendar! In recent years I have received some great calendars from family and friends. But this year's might be the best—it is inspired by R. J. Palacio's book *Wonder*. I first learned of *Wonder* during our Fall book drive for Ida Freeman Elementary as it was the book we gave every child in their fifth-grade classes. *Wonder* tells the story of a 10-year-old boy named August Pullman who, because of a genetic defect, has undergone multiple surgeries so he can see, hear, and have a more "normal" face. Auggie's unusual appearance and frequent surgeries have made him a kind, compassionate, and a fairly self-aware kid.

Shelley and I got a copy and on several delightful evenings, we took turns reading to each other about the adventures of Auggie attending school for the first time and entering fifth-grade. I guess between raising children and grandchildren most of us never think about reading children's books, I mean what will people say about us? So, I was quite surprised by the emotional insights and poignant moments that came pouring out of every chapter and unexpected characters. I was sometimes shocked by the honesty of the book. On a number of occasions, I thought "is this too much for an elementary kid to read?"

One of the great themes of the books is learning how to become a compassionate human being which is not something that one is naturally good at; but compassion and kindness are learned in relationships with all kinds of people.

In 2019, I hope all of us resolve to seek out new relationships outside our familiar circles of connection. Meeting new people in our congregation, neighborhood, school, and our favorite restaurant offers hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered! The next time you attend worship try another pew, another time of worship, or a different table in the fellowship hall. Here is all you have to say, "I wonder if I could sit with you today?" Who knew that magical life-changing words were so simple and easy to say?

A few final suggestions— if you have not read the book, stop by my office, if you haven't seen the movie invite a friend to see it with you, but hey, if you don't have a new calendar, I'm sorry—don't even think about borrowing mine!

### NEXT 90+ Town Hall Meeting January 20

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fcedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

Join us Sunday, January 20, at 9am or 10am - in Fellowship Hall to hear what's NEXT for our vision to impact the next generation! We'll provide updates on our partnership with Ida Freeman Elementary School, and our focus on family ministry and supporting parents. Our Finance Committee will present the proposed 2019 ministry budget and respond to questions about the congregation's finances. Come hear and see what's NEXT!

### Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 27

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fcedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

All members are encouraged to attend our January 27, 2019, Congregational Meeting at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary where we will consider the 2019 General Fund Budget. Following the Church Board meeting on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

copies of our proposed budget will be available at the welcome desk, the pastoral office, or can be sent via email upon request.

## **Experience Family Camp 2019!**

**CONTACT: Susan Huffer [susan.huffer@outlook.com](mailto:susan.huffer@outlook.com) 405.623.2185**

Our annual trip to Estes Park, CO, for a week of adventure in the mountains, will be Sunday, June 23, through Saturday, June 29. Family Camp will be at Wind River Lodge on the YMCA of the Rockies campus. There are many activities including hiking, mini-golf, tennis, outdoor chess and more! Family Camp Sunday will be January 27 - if you have been to Family Camp and have a Family Camp t-shirt, wear it! Starting Sunday, January 27, information packets will be available at the table in the rotunda. Sign up begins that day, as well.

## **Grow in Your Faith at UNITE!**

**CONTACT: Jennifer Humphrey [jhumphrey@fcedmond.org](mailto:jhumphrey@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

Join us Wednesday, January 16, 2019, as we kick off our Spring Semester of UNITE with food, fellowship, learning and fun! Adults, children, and students can UNITE for a delicious meal, share meaningful conversation, and experience faith development in one of our classes or small groups.

### **Children's Schedule: Children - 3 years old through 5th Grade**

(Nursery available 5pm to 8pm, for children under 3 - Room E11 in the Children's Hallway)

5:00 Music (Kindergarten-5th Grades) - Music Room

5:30 Cherub Choir (3 yrs old-PreK) - Room 115

6:00 Check-in/Dinner - Fellowship Hall

6:30 Small Groups - Children's Hallway

7:15 Large Group Worship - Chapel

7:30 Check-out/Pick-up - Chapel

### **Student's Schedule: Youth - 6th Grade through 12th Grade**

5:15 Youth Ensemble - Room 131

5:45 Dinner - Family Life Center

6:30 Chapel

7:10 Small Groups

7:45 Pick-up - Rotunda

### **Adult's Schedule:**

#### **5:30 Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University - Led by Cameron Woods, Rm 117**

Dave Ramsey and his team of financial experts will teach you how to beat debt and build wealth with the most powerful tool there is...your income. This course offers video teaching, by Dave Ramsey, and discussions and interactive activities coordinated, in person, by Cameron Woods. Class starts at 5:30 pm and goes until 7:45pm with dinner at 6pm. Meets Wednesday evenings for nine weeks, excluding March 20 (EPS Spring Break), in Rm 117. Course kits are \$50. Register at [www.financialpeace.com/groups/1079385](http://www.financialpeace.com/groups/1079385)

#### **6:00 All Church Dinner - Fellowship Hall**

#### **6:30 Jesus and Paul Bible Study - Led by Rev. Dr. Chris Shorow, Rm 116**

One scholar of Christianity has said that we modern Christians are really followers of Paul, not of Jesus. Certainly, Paul and Jesus spoke to different times and different people, but what are the similarities and differences in what Paul and Jesus tell us about our faith in scripture? Paul was interested in starting churches and reaching out, especially to Gentiles. Jesus, on the other hand, preached of the Kingdom of God and our calling as children of God, with little emphasis on becoming church. This semester we'll take an in-depth look at what Jesus and Paul have to say to us about being a follower of Jesus Christ.

#### **6:45 Chancel Choir - Led by Diane Ball, Sanctuary**

Choir meets Wednesday nights to practice for services and special events. Through the Choir, you can offer your musical gifts through the year in the 11am worship service and on special occasions. Come share your gift of song!

### **Spring 2019 Dates:**

January 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27; March 6, 13, 27 (No Unite March 20 due to Spring Break); April 3, 10, 17, 24 (Children and Youth Party Night)

### Meal Options:

\$4.00 per person per week; \$40.00 per person per semester; \$15.00 per family of 4+ per week; \$160 per family of 4+ per semester

You may pay by cash or check (payable to First Christian Church of Edmond) or pay online via our Unite Payment Form. Go to <http://www.fccedmond.org/unite> anytime to find the complete list of adult, children and student activities.

## Spring Sessions of Women's Bible Study "Connections" Beginning February 11

**CONTACT: Monday Evenings – Jenny Wiechmann [unibrow1948@aol.com](mailto:unibrow1948@aol.com) 405.340.3816; Thursday Mornings – Tana Stufflebean [mstufflebean@cox.net](mailto:mstufflebean@cox.net) 405.341.4742**

Our women's Bible Study "Connections" for spring 2019 is "The Faithful: Heroes of the Old Testament." Join us to discover how God uses the lives of ordinary people for good, be inspired to live a bold, faithful life. This six-session study is presented by inspiring authors Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Lisa Harper, Kelly Minter, and Jennifer Rothschild and explores pivotal moments in the lives of ordinary people in the Old Testament - Gideon, Nehemiah, Ester, Hosea, and Malachi.

Monday 7pm evening classes (Led by Jenny Wiechmann) will meet February 11 and 25; March 11 and 25; April 8 and 22. Thursday 9:30am morning classes (led by Tana Stufflebean) will meet February 14 and 28; March 14 and 28; April 11 and 25.

Books are \$16 and available in the Pastoral Office. Make checks payable to First Christian Church and note Connections Bible Study on the memo line.

## Results of December Congregational Meeting

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fccedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fccedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

On Sunday, December 16, 2018, a congregational meeting was held in the Sanctuary following the 11am service. By a vote of 93 yes votes to 1 no vote the congregation approved proposed changes to the Constitution. In early 2018 the Church Board appointed a By-laws Task Force (Mark Nash, Kay Sullins, and Don Wiechmann) to review our controlling documents. This was necessary because of changes in operations, newly adopted policies, and new realities in planning, budgeting, and coordination of ministries in the congregation. For example, the Church Board approved two new policies for the Endowment Investment Committee and the Endowment Allocation Committee. These implications of these new policies needed to be reflected in the By-Laws. By a vote of 79 to 1, the proposed changes to the By-Laws were approved. The last action of the congregational meeting was to approve the slate of leaders for the 2019 Church Year by a vote of 68 yes to 1 no votes.

## Dates to Remember

**January 15, 22 & 29 and February 5 – Tai Chi**, 10am, Sanctuary Hallway

**January 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 & 31 and February 5 & 7 – Tai Chi**, 6:30pm, Basement B02

**January 16 – UNITE** resumes, see [www.fccedmond.org/unite](http://www.fccedmond.org/unite)

**January 17 – Lunch Bunch**, 10am games, lunch served at 11:30am

**January 17, 24 & 31 and February 7 – Tai Chi**, 10am, Fellowship Hall North

**January 20 – NEXT 90 + Townhall Presentation**, 9am or 10am, Fellowship Hall

**January 20 – Board Meeting – Budget Adoption**, 12:15pm Room 116. All are invited to attend.

**January 27 – Congregational Meeting – Budget Adoption**, 12pm following worship. All members are encouraged to attend and vote.

**January 27 – Pastors Class Parent Information Meeting**, 12:15pm Fellowship Hall

**January 27 – Life After Loss**, 4:30pm Room 130

**February 3 – Youth Super Bowl Subs Fundraiser**, 8am-12pm Kitchen

**February 7 & 21 – Lunch Bunch**, 10am games, lunch served at 11:30am

## Worship News

## On the Worship Schedule

Worship at First Christian – Sundays at 8:15, 9 & 11am

**January 13, 2019** - Minister: Rev. Dr. John Regan; Scripture: Proverbs 8:32-34; Children Worship & Wonder Story: Jesus is Baptized

**January 20, 2019** - Minister: Rev. Dr. Chris Shorow; Scripture: Acts 6:1-7; Children Worship & Wonder Story: Jesus in the Wilderness

**January 27, 2019** - Minister: Rev. Dr. Chris Shorow; Scripture: Luke 19:1-10; Children Worship & Wonder Story: Parable of the Mustard Seed

**February 3, 2019** - Minister: Rev. Dr. Chris Shorow; Scripture: I Corinthians 10:23; Children Worship & Wonder Story: Parable of the Leaven

## Watch and Listen to Sermons Online

Watch and listen to sermons from our worship services anytime! To watch live streaming of our services, follow the link at [www.fccedmond.org/live](http://www.fccedmond.org/live) To listen, visit our Sermons page at [www.fccedmond.org](http://www.fccedmond.org) Tell your friends, neighbors, family, and co-workers about First Christian Church, point them to our website, and encourage them to watch and listen online!

Need Wifi? Be our guest! Public wifi access is available at First Christian Church. Use password "fccedmond".

"Like" our Facebook page - First Christian Church of Edmond - and stay up-to-date on all the latest events!

## Serve News

### Christmas Eve Offering Supported Breakfast on Boulevard

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fccedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fccedmond.org) 405.341.3544 ext. 111**

We are grateful for the generosity shown during our Christmas Eve Services. Through those offerings, we raised \$4,337 to help us continue to reduce hunger in our community through our long-standing ministry, Breakfast on Boulevard. Each weekday we serve a hot breakfast and provide a sack lunch for anyone who shows up. We know that we serve all kinds of citizens. Some who work two jobs but struggle to make ends meet, some single parents trying to provide for their families as best they can, and still others are living on the margins without permanent, safe housing. This long-standing hospitality ministry welcomes people with hot coffee and a warm smile. Without words or preaching, we trust that our patrons will know that we care about them and that God loves them. Breakfast on Boulevard draws on over 100 volunteers from the community to grocery shop, cook, serve, clean, and engage in relationships with those who come for nourishment.

Help us spread the word about Breakfast on Boulevard to someone who might not know where the next meal is coming from. There are small cards available at the Welcome Center that you can carry with you and share when you meet someone in need.

If you are interested in doing more, you can volunteer to serve once or more each month. Volunteer Coordinators are Don & Gayle Keeton at 405.348.7888 or [gayle.keeton@gmail.com](mailto:gayle.keeton@gmail.com)

### Outreach Ministry Committee Report

**Contact: Rev. Dr. Chris Shorow [cshorow@fccedmond.org](mailto:cshorow@fccedmond.org) 405.341.3544 ext. 110**

The project to raise awareness and funds for our Outreach partners concluded Sunday, December 16. We had a fantastic response with Jellies and Jams! There was over \$2,000 raised for ten of our Outreach partners. Thank you to Stan Steele for donating 12 different kinds of jelly and 8 different kinds of jams and preserves. 233 jars of jellies and 144 jars of jams and preserves went home with the congregation to fill someone's Christmas stocking. The funds raised will benefit the Boy Scouts, Breakfast on Boulevard, Central OK Habitat for Humanity, Disciples Retirement Community, Edmond Family Counseling, Edmond Mobile Meals, the Refuge Fellowship Church OKC, Faith Community Nurse, FCC Benevolence Fund, Operation Christmas Child, and the FCC Child Care Center. Earlier donations also sponsored a jar for each of the staff of Ida Freeman Elementary, which they received at an appreciation breakfast in December. Thank you to everyone who helped us spread good!

## Children's News

## Welcoming Our New Child Care Center Director – Bonnie Miller

**CONTACT: Rev. Dr. John Regan [jregan@fcedmond.org](mailto:jregan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544 ext. 111**

Our Child Care Director Search Committee and Personnel Committee are pleased to announce that Bonnie Miller accepted the position of the Director of the Child Care Center, and began January 1. Bonnie holds the Platinum level director's credentials and has served in various capacities in our center for over 29 years, including classroom teacher, assistant director, interim director, and financial director. She has a BA in Education and has done graduate-level studies in Education at UCO.

During the search process, which yielded more than sixty applicants and included interviews with five candidates, we've also taken significant steps to enhance the future of the center. Some of the tasks included updating the Director job description, crafting a future vision for the Center, and developing long term financial strategies to enhance funding and expansion of the Center's mission in our community.

Kelisha Snoddy, who served faithfully as the Acting Director during the interim period, resumed her position as Assistant Director on January 1. Kelisha and the management staff did a remarkable job facilitating day-to-day operations until the Search Committee and Personnel Committee could complete their work. Their effectiveness allowed us to take the needed time for our search, and to lay some important groundwork that will enhance the center and the nurture and care we provide your children and those children who will come.

We are expecting great things in 2019 as Bonnie and her staff lead us to an even brighter future!

## 2019 Pastors' Class Begins in February – Parents Meeting January 27

**CONTACT: Jennifer Humphrey [jhumphrey@fcedmond.org](mailto:jhumphrey@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

Our community of faith supports parents and children as they make the developmental transition to adolescence by offering what we call the "Pastors' Class." This course is an important part of a student's journey as they explore Christian beliefs and the decision to follow the ways of Jesus. Pastors' Class students are usually 5th graders, but parents of 6<sup>th</sup> graders who have never participated in Pastors' Class are also welcome.

Each student is paired with a youth mentor and an elder mentor who provide support and encouragement during their journey. Pastors' Class begins with an overnight retreat, followed by six Sunday morning sessions taught by our ordained staff.

To answer any questions parents may have, there is a **Parent Information Meeting on Sunday, January 27 at 12:15pm in Fellowship Hall**. Contact Jennifer (above) to let us know your child will participate or with any questions.

## Children's Ministries Upcoming Events

**CONTACT: Jennifer Humphrey [jhumphrey@fcedmond.org](mailto:jhumphrey@fcedmond.org) or 405.341.3544**

Ages 3 years old through 5th grade - join us each Sunday morning at 10am in the Children's Education Hallway for Sunday school.

- Preschool & PreK (3, 4 & 5-year-olds) - Room E12 (Children's Hallway)
- K & 1st Grade - Room E19 (Children's Hallway)
- 2nd & 3rd Grade - Room E17 (Children's Hallway)
- 4th & 5th Grade - Room A23 (Family Life Center)

**UNITE starts back Wednesday, January 16!** Go to [www.fcedmond.org/unite](http://www.fcedmond.org/unite) for more.

# Student Ministries News

## Super Bowl Sub Sandwiches Fundraiser

**CONTACT: Rev. Mark Taylor [mtaylor@fcedmond.org](mailto:mtaylor@fcedmond.org) or 405.341.3544 ext. 102**

It's that time of year again - Super Bowl football and super good eats! Support the Youth of First Christian Church and order your Super Bowl Sub Sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday, February 3. Enjoy 6-inch submarine sandwiches for just \$8 each. Choose from ham, turkey, roast beef, cheese, and all the fixings! And what's a sub without a bag of chips, a canned soda and a delicious homemade brownie? Order forms available now, or, stop by the Rotunda table and place your order January 20 & 27. Proceeds from Sub sales support ongoing youth mission trips and activities. Thank you for your support!

## Student Ministries Calendar of Events

**CONTACT: Rev. Mark Taylor [mtaylor@fcedmond.org](mailto:mtaylor@fcedmond.org) or 405.341.3544**

Join us each Sunday morning at 10am in the Family Life Center for breakfast, announcements and Sunday School classes!  
Go to [www.fcedmond.org/studentprograms](http://www.fcedmond.org/studentprograms) for all Youth event details.

**UNITE starts back Wednesday, January 16!** Go to [www.fcedmond.org/unite](http://www.fcedmond.org/unite) for more.

## Care News

### In Our Prayers This Week

**THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER** Ed & Mary Walker

**OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS TO** Brenda Dodson in the passing of her father, Darrell Dilks, on December 18. Services held December 22 in Guthrie AND TO Bill LaRue in the passing of his wife, Connie LaRue, on December 29. Graveside service held on January 4 in Orlando, OK.

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** Denise York joined on December 9 AND Suzy Stevenson joined January 6.

*Please share your prayer requests with us so we can pray for you. Contact Pastoral Assistant, Iris Muno Jordan at [ijordan@fcedmond.org](mailto:ijordan@fcedmond.org) or 341-3544, ext. 110.*

### Happy Birthday FCC Friends!

**1/6** Keven Cody, Jimmy King

**1/7** Tim Clark, Lori Fuller, Heather Galyon, Katie King

**1/8** Madelynn Bartley

**1/9** Michael Grant, Amanda Smith, Connie Westhof, Becky Winn

**1/10** Traci Bartley, Kelly Black, Bill Dobson, Jo Anne Hatley, Kate Kerr, Wayne Prewitt

**1/11** George Hauser, Lance Orendorff, Patrick Palmer, Kathy Thomas

**1/12** Cherrie Steele

**1/13** Gifford Parkhurst

**1/14** Erin O'Donnell, Vicki Snow

**1/15** Kayla Clark, Bill Hof, Karen Killackey

**1/16** Richard Bernard, Jo Jackson, Seth O'Hagan, Joshua Riester, Emily Tompkins

**1/17** Carole Fields, Willa Hill

**1/18** Stephanie Anderson, Justin Hoppe, Joy Quinn

**1/19** Amy Hepler, Luanne Howell, Linda McElvany, Karen Perrin, Natalie Rychecky

**1/20** Marion Bates, Arvil Flippin, Kathy Stilwell

**1/21** Garry Dowell, Amber Jones, Logan Loucks

**1/22** Kaitlyn Palmer

**1/23** Mike Moore

**1/24** Bernie McNickle, Melissa VanOsdol

**1/25** Jacqueline Gregory, Jackson Moffatt, Jenny Wiechmann

**1/26** J.B. Foster, Evelyn Kelley, Frank Moore, Bettye Sherwood

**1/28** James Albee, Paula Bailey, Peggy Cornelius, Charles Stout

**1/29** Sam Roberts

**1/30** Patsy Corrigan, Tracy Hastings

**1/31** Doyle O'Hagan, Dian Sill

**2/3** Robyn Ellison, Larry Griffin, Avery Hendricks, Joe McDonald, Lucas Peterson, Kingsley Sutch, Luke Wilkinson