

## All Church News

### Minister's Message - General Assembly Report

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

I just returned from the 2017 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of the United States and Canada. In the next few weeks, we will hold a forum where I can share in more detail what is happening with the General Church. But at this moment, I think it is important you hear some of the message shared on the final evening from our new General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens:

*Our striving for unity is perhaps the most powerful way in which we bear witness that the love of God is real and present in the world. If we can hold one another in community, even in the presence of tensions that result from human differences of various dimensions of identity, socio-economic status, geography, theology and politics, we can be an example to the world to say that we believe the gospel of Jesus Christ and his church are so important that we can work together despite those differences to ensure that God's message of love is shared and lived out in the world. This is, I believe, what Jesus prayed for, and it is what I believe we are called to live out as disciples/Disciples of Christ.*

*Imagine what it can look like---looking at a community of believers who have placed the love of God and neighbor above all else, who do not demonize differences as deficient but seek to understand one another in light of our uniqueness and diversity; who are willing for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ to stand shoulder to shoulder, working through differences in priorities, opinions, methods and goals—always yielding to the vision of how the world might be able to see real love among us and through us. This is not an easy vision, and it will take not just the best of what is in us, but it will also take the best of what God can do in and through us. It is a beautiful, gritty, necessary vision that we must pursue, empowered by the love of God, led by the example of Jesus Christ, and guided by the Holy Spirit. We will need to learn how to have difficult conversations, to go beyond the standard training sessions, to sit with one another, be uncomfortable at times, and learn how to hear one another fully, to place ourselves in one another's shoes and honor each other's identity and lived experiences.*

I was, as I hope you will be, convicted by her commitment to unity amongst diversity. I was inspired by her recognition that our movement was not monolithic and that it includes a multitude of perspectives and attitudes, some of which continues to be in tension. I left the worship that evening hopeful for the future of the church and of the denomination as we move into the next few years. We have a great opportunity to be a unique community where diversity is welcome, conversation is valued, and love is paramount.

### Summer Sunday School Series Resumes July 23

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

Our Summer Sunday School Series resumes this Sunday, July 23 with Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner leading our 10am discussion in the Chapel and the 8:15am, 9am, and 11am worship services.

**July 23 - The Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner:** Sunday School Topic Summary: "Starlight, Moonlight, Sunlight" - Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth, The Legacy of Alexander Campbell's Bible on the Disciples; Preaching Title: "Did Jesus Preach Paul's Gospel?" Luke 15:11-24

**July 30 - Kris Steele:** Kris Steele is Executive Director of TEEM (The Education and Employment Ministry), a nonprofit dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and incarceration in Oklahoma.

**August 27 - Commissioner Terri White:** Terri White is the current Commissioner for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

## Leadership Development Workshops

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

This summer, in addition to our Summer Sunday School Series, the Adult Education team is offering Leadership Development Workshops. Each workshop will include instruction, discussion, and a light dinner for \$5. Please RSVP to Rev. Micah James, [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org). Workshops are on Wednesday evenings and will begin at 5:30 pm and conclude by 7:30 pm. Childcare available by request. We hope you will join us for these leadership development opportunities:

7/26/2017 Facilitate Conversations on Controversial Topics

8/02/2017 Trying to Find a Class/Small Group?

8/09/2017 Spiritual Disciplines for Beginners

8/16/2017 Trying to Find a Class/Small Group?

8/23/2017 Considering Leading a Small Group/Class?

8/30/2017 Considering Leading a Small Group/Class?

## Save the Date - UNITE Begins September 6!

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

**UNITE Orientation** – *Wednesday, August 30 at 6pm* in Fellowship Hall. Come find out what's new about our Wednesday evening UNITE! Pizza will be provided. There will also be a new leader/small group leader training and information session immediately following the orientation.

**UNITE Kickoff** – *Wednesday, September 6* at First Christian Church for all Children, Youth, and Adults!

## Women's Connections Bible Study Begins in August

**CONTACT: Monday Evening – Jenny Wiechmann [unibrow1948@aol.com](mailto:unibrow1948@aol.com) 405.340.3816; Thursday Morning – Tana Stufflebean [mstufflebean@cox.net](mailto:mstufflebean@cox.net) 405.341.4742; or Iris Muno Jordan [ijordan@fcedmond.org](mailto:ijordan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

*Beginning Monday, August 28 at 7pm; and Thursday, August 31 at 9:30am*

Join us for a great opportunity to study God's word, grow spiritually, and fellowship with each other as we experience the greatness and power of God in the study of *The Gospel of Mark: The Jesus We're Aching For* by Lisa Harper. This 7-session study has you following Jesus through His days of early ministry all the way to the cross. It's there we discover what it means to be the recipients of His excessive compassion and the very reason for His all-consuming passion. Join us as we discover how Jesus' ministry on earth still impacts us today!

There are two sessions for this study: Monday nights at 7pm taught by Jenny Wiechmann and Thursday mornings at 9:30am taught by Tana Stufflebean. Books are \$16 (including DVD cost) and are available in the Pastoral Office. Please make checks payable to First Christian Church and note Connections Bible Study on the memo line.

## Dollars and Cents

**CONTACT: Karla Mahan [kmahan@fcedmond.org](mailto:kmahan@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

### General Fund, as of June 30, 2017:

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Difference
Revenue	\$598,096.44	\$615,276.93	\$17,180.49
Expenses	\$597,887.16	\$588,198.04	\$9,689.12

### Strategic Campaign, as of June 30, 2017:

Pledged	Received to Date	Expenses Paid	Balance
\$774,238.00	\$286,176.00	-\$249,997.00	\$36,179.00

## Summer Stewardship!

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.35644**

Heading out for a fun summer vacation? Don't forget your pledge! Continue your support of the ministries and programs of First Christian Church during the summer months through automated giving. Set up your contribution at [www.pushpay.com/pay/fcedmond](http://www.pushpay.com/pay/fcedmond) or click on the icon on the First Christian Church Edmond Home Page. If you would like help setting up your gift, please contact Karla Mahan at [kmahan@fcedmond.org](mailto:kmahan@fcedmond.org) or 405.341.3544.

## Summer Devotional Series

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

Join us for "Praying for our Kids" – devotionals written to encourage summer moments in prayer for our children and youth. I invite you to pray for not only the children and youth you know by name, but also for all the children and youth of our church community. "Praying for our Kids" offers stories and prayers for our children and youth and prompts personal reflection of your own spiritual practices, as we model these characteristics of faith. To receive these devotionals, sign up [www.fcedmond.org/register](http://www.fcedmond.org/register)

## Writers Needed!

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405-341.3544**

Writers are needed to share personal messages of faith as part of our **Praying for Our Kids** series. These stories will be used in our e-mail Devotional Series, shared to subscribers for a moment of prayer for our children and youth and to inspire us, the adults, to be models of these attributes in our faith practices. Contact Micah James (above) or click [here](#) to sign up.

## Congratulations to Our Strategic Campaign Contest Winners!

**CONTACT: Rev. Micah James [mjames@fcedmond.org](mailto:mjames@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

At our recent Strategic Campaign, we had a contest to guess the number of available parking spots on Sunday morning... the correct answer is 333! Congratulations to our winners – Nick James and Tana Stufflebean! Please come by Rev. Micah James' office to collect your prize!

## Dates to Remember

*July 20 – Lunch Bunch, 1pm for Games/Fellowship*

*July 23 – Board Meeting, 12:15pm, Room 116 – All are invited to attend*

*July 23 – Life After Loss, 4:30pm, Room 130*

*July 24 & 26 – Tai Chi Class, 10am, Fellowship Hall NE*

*August 2 & 16 – Lunch Bunch, 1pm for Games/Fellowship*

*August 7 & 9 – Tai Chi Class, Advanced 10am, Beginner 11am, Fellowship Hall NE*

# Worship News

## On the Worship Schedule

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

**July 23, 2017** - Guest Minister: Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner; Scripture: Luke 15:11-24

**July 30, 2017** - Minister: Rev. Dr. John Regan; Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

**August 6, 2017** - Minister: Rev. Chris Shorow; Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

## 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.fcedmond.org/live](http://www.fcedmond.org/live). To listen, visit our [Sermons](#) page at [www.fcedmond.org](http://www.fcedmond.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 "fcedmond".

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

## Serve News

### School Supplies Needed

**CONTACT: Heather Portillo [hportillo@fcedmond.org](mailto:hportillo@fcedmond.org) 405.341.3544**

First Christian Church is collecting school supplies for children living in the Rolling Green Apartments, here in Edmond. Your support will allow 50 children to receive a backpack full of all the supplies needed to have a successful 2017-18 school year. We will be supporting local Title I schools as well. Financial contributions are appreciated and make it possible to buy school supplies in bulk or at wholesale pricing. Please click on the link [https://fcedmond.ccbchurch.com/need\\_detail.php?need\\_id=245](https://fcedmond.ccbchurch.com/need_detail.php?need_id=245) and select the items you are able to provide. The items can be brought to the collection box in Fellowship Hall by Sunday, August 6. Thank you for your support and generous contributions!

### Refuge Ministry Needs

**CONTACT: Robbi Kinnaid [robbi@kinnaid.com](mailto:robbi@kinnaid.com) 405.340.2427**

On August 7, the Seekers Sunday School Class, along with the Outreach Ministry of First Christian Church, will provide the worship service meal for the Refuge Ministry for the homeless in downtown Oklahoma City. While the class is providing the food, your help is needed with donations of toiletries such as soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, mouthwash, etc. Also needed are gently used t-shirts of all sizes.

Please place all donations in the marked box in the Seekers classroom #113. Your donations and support of this Outreach ministry are truly appreciated.

*"Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon." Isaiah 58:10*

### Thank You for a Successful Freedom Sunday and Freedom Fest!

**CONTACT: Jacqueline Gregory, [jacqueline\\_gregory@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jacqueline_gregory@sbcglobal.net)**

Freedom Sunday and Freedom Fest were both a great success! The indoor Freedom Sunday picnic on July 2 was truly an enjoyable event. Thank you to all of our volunteers that helped decorate, set up, serve, and clean up!

Our July 4<sup>th</sup> Freedom Fest was another great success! We heard several comments that people enjoyed the hot dogs, food, and were appreciative of the service and facility use the church offered to the community. In all, we served 1,056 hot dogs, 870 bags of chips, 995 bottles of water, and sliced and served a total of 23 watermelons.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and donated items. This outreach to our community was a success because of each of you! We appreciate your dedication and really enjoyed working with you. -Dian, Jacqui and Your Hospitality Team

### We Need YOU at Breakfast on Boulevard!

**CONTACT: Judy Griffis 405.348.1443**

Breakfast on Boulevard (BOB), a ministry of First Christian Church, serves breakfast and offers a sack lunch each weekday morning to those in our community in need. This ministry is possible only through the generous support and time given by its volunteers. Currently, BOB is experiencing record numbers and is in need of additional volunteers! The hours are early, but the reward is great. Please contact Judy Griffis today and answer this call to serve.

*...He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus said, "Then feed my sheep." John 21:17*

## Children's News

### Save the Dates!

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

**Sunday, August 13:** *Children Worship & Wonder Orientation - 10am in the CW&W room in the basement - For all CW&W children - 3 years old through 1st grade.*

*Rehearsal for Service of Welcome - 10am in the Sanctuary - For all incoming 2nd graders for their orientation to Sanctuary worship from CW&W.*

**Sunday, August 20:** *Children Worship & Wonder starts back at the 9 & 11am services*

*Service of Welcome - 9 & 11am Services - Graduation for all incoming 2nd Graders to be oriented to Sanctuary worship from Children Worship & Wonder.*

*Promotion Sunday & Bible Presentation - 10am in the Chapel - For all Children's Sunday school participants and their families. Bibles will be given to all 3 year olds and 1st Graders.*

## Ways to Serve our Children and Families

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

Love God and love kids? Be a **Children's Sunday School or Unite (Wednesday Nights) Leader!** One of the most rewarding opportunities in Children's Ministry is to teach or lead. As a Sunday school or Unite Small Group leader, you have the ability to open the door for a child to encounter or re-encounter God. By being a consistent leader, a child will find another adult with whom he/she can connect and trust within our church family. By offering to teach on Sundays or Wednesdays, you are offering a key that unlocks the door to faith development. All curriculum is provided and no previous experience is required. What IS required - commitment, patience, and a love for children! Join in the fun of working together with other families as we serve the littlest among us. *Commitment: Sunday mornings, every other Sunday, or Wednesday nights, during Unite - 1 year commitment*

*"Children are a gift from the LORD" - Psalm 127:3. Thanks be to God!*

## Children's Ministries Events

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

Children ages 3 years - 5 grade, join us each Sunday morning at 10am in the Children's Education Building for Sunday school.

# Student Ministries News

## Calendar of Events

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

*Join us each Sunday morning at 10am in the Family Life Center for breakfast and Bible study!*

**July 24 - Breakfast with Mark**, 10 - 11:30am. We will meet at Mark's house (7969 Lindsay Lane, Edmond) for coffee, a light breakfast, and faith-building conversation. This is a great way to build your faith, talk about the weird God-questions you don't know how to ask, and participate in community. Come hang out, drink some coffee, and have fun! We will meet each Monday through August 7.

**July 26 - Bible Study at Hafer Park**, 5:30 - 7:30pm, Hafer Park - Each Wednesday night we will eat, have some fun, and have Bible Study at Hafer Park at Ninth and Bryant. Bring a hammock or chair if you'd like, and Frisbee or ball to toss around and join us for food, fun, and conversation about how to live faithfully as God's people. We will meet in the grassy area near the pond. We will start June 21 and end August 9.

**July 28-29 - Lock-in!** 9pm-9am, registration required! Register at [fcedmond.org/register](http://fcedmond.org/register).

**July 31 - Breakfast with Mark**, 10 - 11:30am. See details above!

**August 2 - Bible Study at Hafer Park**, 5:30 - 7:30pm. See details above!

**August 7 - Breakfast with Mark**, 10 - 11:30am. See details above!

**August 9 - Bible Study at Hafer Park**, 5:30 - 7:30pm. See details above!

**August 20 - Fall Kickoff** - Watch for details!

# Care News

## Tai Chi Classes

**CONTACT: Donna Clark [tdsc15@gmail.com](mailto:tdsc15@gmail.com) 405.413.1954**

The **Advanced** Tai Chi class will continue for another six weeks, August 7 through September 13. The class will be on Monday and Wednesday from 10am to 11am. There will also be a **Beginner** Tai Chi class the same days from 11am to 12. If you have never done Tai Chi, you will enjoy this class. It is easy to learn, helps with balance and if you are unable to stand, you may sit and do the class!

## In Our Prayers This Week

**THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER** Roger Banks (Jennifer McGrew's father), Bill & Connie LaRue, Shala Kosir, John Hammond, Opal McGough, Clella Adams, Charles Cone, Laura Harris, Jane Ward (daughter of Gene & Demaris Burleson)

**OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS TO** Erin Robertson & Family in the passing of her aunt, Michele Bowen. Services were held on July 18.

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.

## Faith Community Nurse – Medicare Questions?

**CONTACT: Donna Clark [dsc15@gmail.com](mailto:dsc15@gmail.com) 405.413.1954**

Will you or a loved one soon be eligible for Medicare? Mike Felice and Harley Ballew will answer the many questions about Medicare to help you pick out a Plan to best fit your needs. They can help in determining the best Medicare Supplement to enroll in or to compare with, as well as help in enrolling in Medicare parts A, B and D.

Meeting on Tuesdays, July 25, Aug 29 and Sept 26 at 6pm.

All meetings will be held in room 117 and will start promptly at 6pm. Please enter the church before 6pm as the doors to the entrance will lock after 6pm.

## Happy Birthday FCC Friends!

**7/23** Dee Ann Anderson, Meredith Davis, Nina Daylor, Norma Jean Kirsch, Lauren VanOsdol

**7/24** DeWayne Sutton, Missy Wilkinson

**7/25** Darcy Biby, Jacki Miller, Treyson Queen, Zach Rodr, Elaine Warner

**7/26** Destiny Banuet, Blake Davis, Paul Dobson, Leah Johns

**7/27** Brian Cain, Terry Dillon

**7/28** Colton Carrington, Cathi Carroll, Gary Clopton, Cara Dutton, Emy Lawson

**7/29** Mac McElvany, Ed Walker

**7/30** Slater Fondren, Mark Hammond, Cooper Kious, Judy Peterson, Carol Wilson

**7/31** Cole Stanley

**8/1** Kyeler Benear, Jett Humphrey

**8/2** Diane King, Avery Portillo

**8/3** Don DeSpain, Kelsey Gable

**8/4** Wes Combs, Debby Gresh, Lisa Long, Rob Ryland, Jessica Sauls, Gigi Schwabe

**8/5** Francis Albee, Jared Allison, Terri Dunn, Greg Hall, Judy Metcalf, Erin Robertson, Lyla Vazquez, Ryan Watts

**8/6** Steve Blevins, Nick James, David Spence