



# Vision

A publication of **First Christian Church** (Disciples of Christ), **Tulsa** • **September 7, 2018**

913 S. Boulder Ave., Tulsa, OK 918.582.8237 [fctulsa.org](http://fctulsa.org)

## How BIG is Your God?



The Question is not whether we believe in God.  
The Question is ***What Kind of God Do We Believe In?***

Is He present? Is He Observant? Is He ABLE to do what we hope a Living God will do? Wrapped inside those questions is the question – *will we trust and obey Him?*

In these next few weeks Lynn will turn our focus to *What We Believe* when it comes to God.

We'll go beyond the verbiage of a creed or a catechism. Those expressions are profound and worthy of our exploration .. BUT .. we'll evaluate our belief not just by the definitions of words, but also by the metric of our responsiveness.

September 9	<b>He is Our FORCE MULTIPLIER</b>	Ephesians 3:20-21
September 16	<b>He is Our SHIELD &amp; DEFENDER</b>	Hebrews 2:18
September 23	<b>He is Our FAITHFUL SAVIOR</b>	Hebrews 7:25
September 30	<b>He is Our PROVIDER &amp; INVESTMENT GUARANTOR</b>	2 Corinthians 9:8
October 7	<b>He is Our FAITHFUL SHEPHERD</b>	Jude 1:24-25

## Christian Women's Fellowship Resumes

Ladies, mark your calendars for **Thursday, September 20, at 10:30 a.m.** and join your sisters-in-faith for a time of study, prayer, activity and fellowship. We hope you had an enjoyable summer and are ready to re-engage as plans are made for the upcoming 2018-2019 schedule. *Questions?* Call Zenobia Mayo, (918) 000-0000

# All Church Fellowship Dinner

Sunday, September 30, after worship

Good things happen when we allow for a time of conversation and fellowship over a meal. We catch up with each other. We discover things about each other. We share stories and experiences. We realize how God is at work in our lives.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall September 30, after worship. **The Church will provide the Meat, Drinks, Bread and table settings.** Attendees are asked to bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert. This would be great Sunday morning to introduce someone you know to First Christian. Ask them to join you in worship and meet your church family in fellowship.

## Nominating Ministry Team Request

Nominations are now being accepted for 2019 officers, voting members of the Ministry Council.

**Officers** (one-year term, eligible for two years maximum)

**Moderator** - OPEN

**Vice Moderator** – OPEN

Secretary – Karen Williamson 2019

**Treasurer** – OPEN

**Ministry Council** positions (two-year terms, two terms max)

Worship - Mary Ann Hargrove 2019

Administration – OPEN

Nurture and Healing – Currently Elders

Resources – Bill Osteen 2019

Spiritual Growth – OPEN

Outreach – Pattie Gay-Sittler 2019

Hospitality – OPEN

Communications – OPEN

Planning and Evaluation – OPEN

**Deacons by Class Year** (One-Year term, max 3 consecutive years)

OPEN	OPEN	Susan Prabhu
Jack Elswick	Samantha Cox	OPEN
Millie Elswick	OPEN	Ray Wright
OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
OPEN	Dorman Walton	Bob Parker
OPEN	Patti Gay-Sittler	Sue Parker

**Elders by Class Year** (One-Year term, max 3 consecutive years)

2 OPEN places

Kathy Davis	2020
Jean Swanson	2019
James Howard	2020

Mary Ann Hargrove	2020
Charles Hargrove	2020
<b>OPEN</b>	
Joan Hauger	2020
Jay Gibson	2020

**Trustees (3-Year Term). Total of 7 people** serving staggered terms.

Wayne Rumley	2019
Jay Gibson	2020
<b>5 OPEN</b>	positions

According to the FCC Bylaws, qualifications for Officers and Ministry Council members are that the person should be a member of the congregation and have served at least one year as an Elder or Deacon.

**We will accept nominations until September 30, 2019.** Please e-mail or call Nominating chair, **Jean Swanson** at Home- 918 446-8477 OR Cell- 918 740-3626 to nominate members for these positions.

Questions? Contact Jean or Pastor Lynn. Full descriptions of qualifications and expectations of members serving in these positions are in the First Christian Church Constitution and Bylaws, which you may obtain in the church office.

## FCC People News –

### Scholarship Thank You’s

“Thank you so much for selecting me to receive a scholarship. It means so much to me and my education.”

**Maggie Freeny**

“I just wanted to say thank you so much for the generous scholarship. It means so much to me and my family. I’m really looking forward to this year and all the ways God uses me for good at OU. Thank you again! **Gunner Harris**

### Condolences

.. to the family of **Jim Alspaugh** forever member at FCC.

Service was held at Harvard Avenue Monday, August 20.

.. to the family of **Margaret Richardson**, another long time FCC member.

Margaret’s service was conducted by Lynn in our Chapel, Tuesday, August 21.

## Irrevocable Legacy Trust Affirmed by Congregation

On August 26, 2018, the congregation of First Christian Church Tulsa, affirmed by vote the work presented by its Trustees and their legal counsel. This officially puts into place a safeguard authorizing transfer and assignment of certain property into Trust, including such other actions as may be necessary in furtherance of the Trust. **Thank You Trustees and Chairman Clarke Kendall** for your service in bringing this to reality. If you are a member and could not be present at the August 26 meeting, you can request a copy of the resolution.

## 2019 Ministry Vision Plan is starting

A current update. General Fund receipts {not counting designated giving} totaled \$29,038 for July and \$24,055 for August. For 2018 (through August 31) we have used \$24,002.86 from our Contingency Fund. The initial estimate for using Contingency Funds for 2018 was \$96,772. Our people have been very faithful in giving their 2018 pledges. We have also significantly reduced personnel and operational expenses.

Typically the congregation's budget estimate is predicated on three (3) major items:

- ▷ Personnel costs {salaries, allowances, taxes withheld, and other compensation benefits};
- ▷ Operational Costs {keeping the doors open – utilities, maintenance, insurance}
- ▷ Ministry Costs {sustaining or funding worship, education, outreach, membership initiatives}

Our goal is to steward the personnel and operational costs efficiently while targeting as much as we can toward ministry efforts.

We want to gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the congregation in 2018. Specific details of the 2019 Ministry Vision Plan will emerge within the next 45 days. [see **Lynn's special communique** (separate from this newsletter) regarding our Leadership Selection and our Ministry Vision Plan].

August's financials will be available in detail at **September's Ministry Council meeting, September 16.**

## Mission – Vision – Strategy

**Our Mission** is set by The Lord and the Scriptures:

- ▶ Honor {respect & follow} and Worship {exalt and praise} the Character and Kingdom of God  
*Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*
- ▶ Prioritize the Lord's Kingdom {The Church} through faithful Service, Stewardship, and Fellowship
- ▶ Make Disciples of Christ, locally, regionally, internationally
- ▶ Help the Needy

**Our Vision**, the picture of what we want to Be and Do, how we embody our Mission is being edited as we journey forward. More on our Vision in our next newsletter.

**Our Strategy** in implementing both Mission and Vision will also be addressed in our next newsletter but it includes the priority of Wisdom for that which already exists and Faith for that which is yet to be, including '*Outside the Box*' imagination.