



# FORT SMITH DISCIPLE

February 18, 2025

Volume 62

Number 34

## The More Excellent Way, Part 4

The inspired word of God teaches us the importance of love throughout the entire Bible, as the story unfolds from the beginning to the end of Scripture. John tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). This is by far the greatest scripture in the entire Holy Bible because it defines the love of God in only one verse. All the gifts and talents bestowed on us by a gracious God have eternal value and should be safeguarded as sacred. Now abides faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is Love!

*Ellis*



## Week of Compassion Offering

This Sunday is the second and final opportunity to give to our special offering for the Week of Compassion. These offerings support communities ravaged by weather events, war, poverty and injustice, both here and globally, to bring hope and light in the face of tragedy. All donations are helpful. Please give as you feel led.

## Volunteers Needed

The Fort Smith Women's Shelter is recruiting volunteers to mentor and provide spiritual support to the women and children at the shelter. If you are interested in helping out for one day a month or just a few hours, please contact **Darlene Brees at 479-739-8245**.

## Pastor's Bible Class

Pastor's Bible Class **will not meet Wednesday, February 19.**

## Office News

The office will be closed if Fort Smith Public Schools are closed because of inclement weather.

## Disciples of Christ Ordination for Rev. Dr. Ellis Robinson

On Friday, February 14, Pastor Ellis Robinson met with the Great River Region Commission on Ministry in Shreveport, LA and was officially ordained as a minister of the Disciples of Christ.

Pastor Robinson successfully completed a two-year process and satisfactorily met all requirements. His ordination as a Baptist minister has been transferred. He is now an ordained minister of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ!

Sometime in March (date to be determined), the Interim Minister for the Great River Region, Alison Roebuck, will visit our congregation on a Sunday morning to preach an ordination sermon. A reception will follow the service.

Congratulations, Pastor Robinson, and congratulations, First Christian Church, Fort Smith.

## In the Life of the Church

- Sunday, February 23, 11:00 am Elders' Meeting
- Sunday, February 23, 4:00 pm Disciples Bells Rehearsal
- Tuesday, February 25, 11:30 am Lunch Bunch at Whippoorwill Restaurant, 509 Garrison
- Tuesday, February 25, 4:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Wednesday, February 26, 8:00 am Ecumenical Men's Bible Study
- Wednesday, February 26 Pastor's Bible Class (12:00 and 6:00 pm)
- Thursday, February 27, 10:00 am Crazy Crafters
- Thursday, February 27, 1:00 pm Disciples of Music

**Dianna's Notes**

**Special Music**

- February 23** Chancel Choir  
Solo: Linda Creekmore
- March 2** Disciples Bells  
Duet: Mary Beth & Nick Oliver
- March 5** Ash Wednesday  
Solo: Carl Warrington
- March 9** Bell Solo: Randy Alexander
- March 16** Chancel Choir  
Solo: Carl Warrington

**Chancel Choir will meet at 9:20 am to rehearse.**

**Choir practice time change:**

Starting **March 4**, choir practice will begin at **5:15 pm**. I hope this will allow some of you to join the choir. Please come and join our music family.

**Elder for February**

John Mundy

**Deacons for February**

Allen Hales (Foreman), Tim Fleming, Terry Hales, Jimmy Hudlow, Ginger Jefferies, Kim Kidder, Nick Oliver, LaBeth Riggs

**Greeters for February**

Ginger Jefferies, LaBeth Riggs  
Disciples Hall Entrance: Allen Hales, Jr.

**Prepare Communion for February**

Kim Kidder

**Hope Campus**

Item needed at Hope Campus is ground coffee.

**Prayer Concerns**

- **Carolyn Heyroth** is at home.
- **Abby Musset**
- **Clayton Carson**
- **Jim Creekmore**

**MEMORIALS:** We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

- In Memory of **Don White** by Glenda Musset, David & Judy Trent
- In Memory of **Will Featherston** by Nina Abernathy

**Women's Shelter Donations Requested**

**DWF Group 3** will be accepting donations for the Crisis Intervention Center at our **March 11** meeting. Items requested are:

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Kitchen trash bags
- Bleach
- Multi-purpose spray cleaner
- Baby wipes
- Bottles
- Baby/toddler snacks

**Thank You**

A big thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the Valentine Dinner. A great time was had by all, and the food was delicious. Thanks for all your support towards our youth.

**First Christian Church**

3501 Rogers Avenue  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903  
Phone: 479.783.1139

FOR THE RECORD February 16, 2025	
Operating Receipts To date	\$ 3,751.00 35,233.35
Endowment To date	725.00 1,975.00
Week of Compassion	450.00
Monthly Budgeted Needs	\$27,571.00

**OFFICE HOURS**

9:00 am-3:00 pm - Monday-Thursday

**SERVICE TIMES**

Sunday School at 9:00 am; Worship at 10:00 am

**CHURCH STAFF**

- Rev. Dr. Ellis Robinson**, Senior Pastor, 479-651-0456
- Dianna Jackson**, Director of Music Ministry
- Mary Beth Oliver**, Organist
- Barbara Brown**, Office Administrator
- Pam Shelby**, Financial Administrator
- Lesley Fleming**, Nursery Attendant
- Rev. Howard Marshall**, Pastor Emeritus (1990-2022)
- Rev. Randy Jay**, Pastor Emeritus