

The Messenger



facebook <http://facebook.com/FCCGarland>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVGPNXkThBvrfgMHsEOsHbg>

March 3, 2021

Congratulations to our 2021 Rusk Scholarship winners



Maeve Benson is a senior at Garland High School where she plays harp in the school's top orchestra. Maeve also is a dancer, and plays piano & guitar. She ranks 84th in this year's graduating class of 536 and holds a GPA of 4.24. She volunteers at Help for the Homeless, 5 Loaves Food Pantry and assisted in the 2017 Tornado Relief Program. In her references, her teachers and counselor says this of her:

"Maeve adds insight to discussions, she participates enthusiastically, is extremely conscientious, compassionate and hardworking."

Maeve plans to enroll at Brigham Young University in the fall to double major in architecture and music with a goal of perhaps someday of being a music therapist.

Faith Ethridge is a four-year member of the Garland High School choir program where she has served as a choir president, soprano section leader and member of "Celebration". Additionally, Faith is a dancer, plays piano, is active in musical theater productions and hopes to be a professional performer upon graduation. She ranks 52nd in her graduating class of 536 and has a GPA of 4.68.

Teachers and counselors say this about Faith Ethridge:

"Faith is at home in front of an audience. She is sweet but strong and an ambassador of the fine arts. During this past year of COVID, Faith rallied her fellow choir students to create at-home singing videos for other students and staff members. Her dedication to her craft is evident and I am sad to miss watching her perform at school and community events."

Though her choice of school next fall is still undecided, she is planning to pursue a degree and career in musical theater.



Holy Week Services

MAUNDY

THURSDAY

REMEMBERING HIS SACRIFICE

April 1st

7:00pm

EASTER

10:00AM

APRIL 4TH

Orders Due By

3/21/2021

Easter Lily Order Form

Please mail your order form to the church office or fill out our online form at www.fccgarland.org/2021lily

Name: _____

In Memory of : _____

In Honor of: _____

Cost: \$15 per plant

(please submit payment at the same time as order form)

Number of Plants Ordered _____

Amount Paid \$ _____

Pick-Up

Deliver to Shut-In

Adult Sunday School Classes Update

The Building Review Committee recently conducted a fact-finding mission to discover when the church would be ready to safely resume in-person Adult Sunday School classes. Of the possible 144 Sunday School Class members, we had 93 to respond to at least one of the questions. The results were gathered, reviewed by the Building Review Committee, and then shared with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has met and approved the below recommendations.

The results are: the majority of respondents stated that they would return to in-person Adult Sunday School Class after being vaccinated and waiting a period of time thereafter. Based on this feedback, **the Review Committee is recommending that the church look toward a June 6th date for resuming in-person Adult Sunday School Classes.** This timeline is based on assuming that church members would get their first vaccine shot in February, are waiting in March, get their second shot in April, are waiting in May before coming to the church by June 1st. **However**, the Review Committee will meet again after Easter to re-visit this date. An increase in attendance at in-person worship services may be an indicator that people could be ready to attend Sunday School classes in person as well. If so, we will move the date up.

There was indication that some members would be interested in Zoom Meetings with their fellow Sunday School Class members. If your class is interested in pursuing Zoom Meetings, the factors are:

- Each class would need to have a “host” for the Zoom Meetings
- Each class would need a teacher with lesson for the Zoom Meetings
- Each class would need to designate a date and time for the Zoom Meetings
- Each class would need to communicate with Leslee (church office) on dates and times of Zoom Meetings so this information could be communicated to all church members
- Each class would need to have their Zoom Meeting details added to the church calendar via Leslee so that others could attend
- Each class would need to have access to a Zoom Meeting “line”

Things to consider:

- the church has access to one Zoom Meeting line. It has limited time (40 minutes). This one line could be used for all Sunday School classes if scheduled appropriately
- the church *might* be able to purchase another Zoom Meeting line (about \$15.00 per month for unlimited time) – the line would still need to be scheduled between the classes.
- Each classroom could purchase their own Zoom Meeting line.

If your Sunday School class is interested in pursuing Zoom Meetings, please contact the church office. Leslee will alert the Building Review Committee and we will assist in the scheduling process.



A note from Journey of Hope

This week, we received a kind note from the Journey of Hope Grief Support Center. It reads in part:

On behalf of Journey of Hope, I would like to thank you for your generous donation...in support of the families we serve. Your commitment to support some of the most vulnerable children in our community is sincerely appreciated.

Last year, you helped us provide 935 children and family members in North Texas find hope and healing and develop resilience as they learned to mourn the death of a loved one. Please know how grateful we are for your continued belief in the value of what we do!

Our families, as well as our Board of Directors and staff, join me in extending our heartfelt appreciation for your support!

Sincerely,
Kerri Newman
Chief Program Officer



A note from Week of Compassion

We also received this handwritten card from a board member representing Week of Compassion. Thank you for your generosity.



*Dear Pastor Jones and friends of
First Christian Church,
I celebrate with you your continued and
powerful commitment to Week of Compassion.
First Christian Church is one of the top 100
donors for 2020. Through your generosity lives
are changed, fulfilling our mission of transforming
suffering into hope. You are present with
refugees, those impacted by disease and
disaster, and through your support of food
security, health, and community
empowerment programs.*

*We know all churches faced challenges
related to the pandemic as well as multiple
disasters in 2020. Your generous gifts
assured a Christian response to those in
need. I also celebrate with you all the
ministries you support in your community.
Sharing compassion is a blessing that
never ends.*

*As a board member I want to express
our thanks to you all. Together, we have
been, and will be, the hands and heart
of Christ on earth.*

*Sincerely,
Judith Frost*

Disciples Crossing



Introducing:

DC Camp - Family Edition

March 11-12 & March 12-13

\$300 per family

The ultimate overnight getaway! Lodging, meals, and all the FUN activities camp has to offer included.

[*Sign up by March 4th.](#)



Learn more at disciplescrossing.org

Celebrations



We celebrate the birth of
Aurora Johnson

Born February 6th to Arianna Johnson
& Mark Eicke of Denton, Texas
Proud great-grandparents Larry & Sally
Johnson



We celebrate the birth of
Carter Thomas Roeger

Born February 25th to Melissa & Rusty
Roeger.
Proud big brother Grayson and grand-
mother Elaine Roeger

Outreach Update

We have our annual Outreach Emphasis for three weeks beginning March 21 and ending Easter Sunday, April 4.

For these Sundays, we're emphasizing "The Gift of Life!"

The theme will be the basis of thinking about how our outreach giving supports new beginnings, new life, for those who have faced misfortune. Close to home. Around the world. Watch for news this month on how to give and reach out to the community.



Youth News

Sunday School classes are now available for children, youth, and adults. All classes meet from 11:00 to 11:45 am. We are hoping you will attend!

March Youth Meetings

March 7th—JYF

4:00-5:30pm

March 14—No Youth

4:00-5:30pm

March 21—Chi Rho

4:00-5:30pm

March 28—CYF

4:00-5:30pm

April 11 - All youth service project at Good Samaritan.

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship. We will walk to Good Samaritan and join their worship service. We'll then serve lunch and stock their pantry. We will walk back to the church and be ready for pick up by 2:00 pm. Youth sponsors are needed to assist.



Good Samaritans of Garland

Feeding · Helping · Serving

Spiritual Development Offerings

Looking for a way to stay connected to your church? Log on to some of our spiritual development courses. Have questions? Confused about how to get the Zoom link to work? Contact the church office.

Study of Ephesians

Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner, member of our congregation, invites you to a Bible Study. The class will meet weekly, Thursday at noon. Check your email each week for the link to the Zoom meeting.

Study of Ephesians

Meeting Thursdays at 12:00pm
Via Zoom

Lenten Study continues through March

Let Pastor Dave know if you'd like to be a part of this study group. This is not a series, so you can join on any Monday that you are available. Look for a Zoom link and a reminder of the text each week.

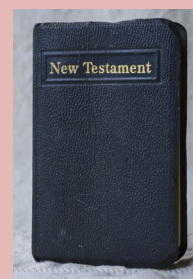
A Gospel Journey through Lent

Mondays, 7pm on Zoom—Led by Pastor Dave Hargrave

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday, March 8 | John 2.13-22 | "I'm Mad as Hell"...(Jesus) |
| Monday, March 15 | John 3.14-21 | The Gospel in a Nutshell |
| Monday, March 22 | John 12.20-33 | Jesus' Premonition |
| Monday, March 29 | Mark 14.1 – 15.47 | Jesus' Final Words |

Covenant Group

Pastor Dan is leading a covenant group studying the New Testament on Sunday evenings, which will continue through the Lenten season until Easter. If you are interested in joining a future covenant group of this kind, please contact Pastor Dan.



Mid-Week Pause

Midweek
Pause

Each
Wednesday at
3:00pm

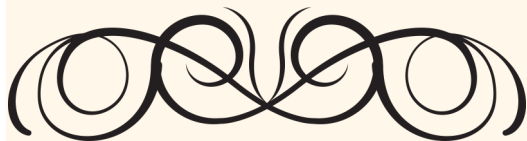
Be sure to check out Dr. Dan and Rev. Dave every Wednesday at 3:00pm for their **Mid-Week Pause**. Watch on the [FCC Garland Facebook page](#) or on the [FCC Garland YouTube channel](#).

Communion Elements



If you have exhausted your supply of pre-filled communion cups and wafers and would like some more as you take part in worship at home, please contact the church office 972-272-5423 or officeadmin@fccgarland.org.

There are kits assembled and we'll make an arrangement for you to come to the church to pick some up.



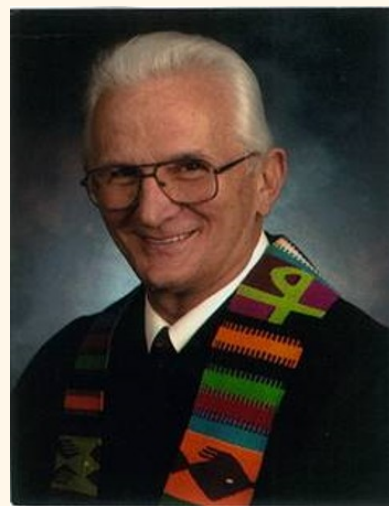
IN SYMPATHY

We give our sympathy to the family and friends of
John Gilbert,
who passed away on
February 2, 2021



Dear Member, you are invited to share a memory of Rev. David Worden.

Because of COVID restrictions, the family has decided not to have a memorial service. The family gathered for a graveside at Grove Hill Cemetery, November 21, 2020. The following note was received from Rev. Eddie Hill of Monica Park Christian Church. Eddie writes, on the behalf of the family:



*There is a **David J. Worden Memorial page** on Facebook that the family would really like remembrances shared of David. Any stories or kind thoughts or pictures. There will not be a memorial in addition to the burial service for David. The plan is to turn this into a book for Nancy and the family. You can also just send them to me teameddiehill@gmail.com, or to his daughter Lori Storm loristrom@gmail.com, or regular mail 508 Meadowmist Court, Encinitas, California 92024. Even small sentences of memories would be appreciated!*

Rev. David Worden, long time member and life-time clergy in the Christian Church, passed away October 8, 2020.

WHEN IS IT SAFE FOR ME TO RETURN TO CHURCH?

When determining whether to attend an in-person worship service, we understand it is a personal decision that each of us must make based on our comfort level. We understand that while everyone may not have the same level of comfort in returning to the building, some are comfortable and ready. Therefore, we will continue offering online services while we add in-person services.

Steve Sutton has provided the following guidance which we believe may be helpful to you in making your decision.

It is suggested to evaluate your health-status by:

- Communicating with your Primary Care Physician's office regarding your medical history and risk factors for high-risk illness associated with contracting COVID-19.
- Is it safe for you to risk herding and exposure to COVID-19 in public specific with your medical history?
- Do you have any of the following known high-risks for hospitalization associated with COVID-19?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ◇ Coronary Artery Disease | ◇ Immune Deficiency (HIV/AIDS, Auto-Immune Disease(s), others, etc.) |
| ◇ Heart Disease | ◇ History of Deep Vein Thrombosis |
| ◇ Blood Clotting / Embolism History | ◇ Cancer and Risk for Hypercoagulable (Blood Clotting) Disorder |
| ◇ Stroke History | ◇ Pregnancy |
| ◇ Congestive Heart Failure | ◇ Obesity |
| ◇ Cardiac Arrhythmias | ◇ African American |
| ◇ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease | ◇ Sickle Cell Disease |
| ◇ Respiratory history, Reactive Airway Disease / Inflammatory Diseases | ◇ Immobilization |
| ◇ Diabetic | ◇ Prolonged Travel |
| ◇ Advanced Age | |

High-risk individuals based on age or predisposed health conditions may decide to not to attend the in-person service and wait a little longer before coming to the church. We are dedicated to making sure all members have access to a weekly service whether in person or online. Please reach out to the church office (officeadmin@fccgarland.org) if you need assistance connecting with the church.



IS IT SAFE?