

First Christian Caller

First Christian Church, Baton Rouge

Vol. 82

February 20, 2020

No. 4



IN THIS ISSUE

- ◊ Ash Wednesday Service and Lenten Devotional Booklets
- ◊ One Service and "New Year" Potluck on Sunday, March 1
- ◊ New Adult & Teen Series During March

REV. DWIGHT BAILEY



In my sermon this past Sunday I told the story of a pastor I met last week. His name is Rev. Dwight Bailey, and he is a retired pastor living in Shreveport, and a member of Kings Highway

Christian Church. As I said in my sermon, several months ago while attending a meeting in Mississippi, Rev. Bailey had a bad fall and suffered a "C6 incomplete spinal fracture." That injury is as bad as it sounds: presently Rev. Bailey is paralyzed from the neck down.

As word spread about what happened, many of our churches in the Great River Region, as well as across the nation, have offered prayers for Rev. Bailey. I invite our church to do the same. When I met Rev. Bailey, I was struck by his deep spirituality and patience. Despite the economic and personal struggles this injury is causing, Rev. Bailey was at peace with God and I could see the support of his brothers and sisters daily lifted his spirits.

When I entered his room, I noticed that the walls of his room were covered with cards and pictures sent by individuals and children and families to let him know they were praying for him. I invite you to send a card as well:

Rev. Dwight Bailey
Willis Knighton Progressive Care Center
2715 Albert Bicknell Drive, Room 113
Shreveport, LA 71103



There is some good news to share as well. When Rev. Bailey was first injured, he had no movement at all in any of his limbs. Now, through intensive rehab, he has regained a little motion in both his arms and legs. Hopefully this is a sign that his body will renew and reconnect the nerves that were damaged!

Our Regional Minister, Rev. Nadine Burton, also invites us to send donations to help offset some of the medical expenses. Rev. Bailey will need a custom wheelchair that he can control with whatever limited movement he has, and that wheelchair will cost around \$20,000. Beyond that are so many other out of pocket expenses. For this reason, Rev. Burton has started a Go-Fund-Me campaign: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/rev-dwight-bailey>
So far a little over \$16,000 of the \$50,000

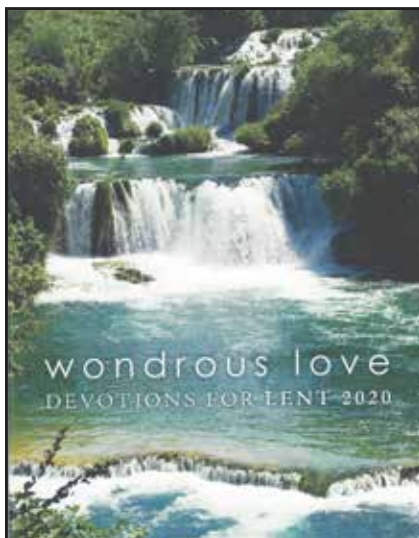
goal has been raised. If you are able to give, please know your generosity will be appreciated.

In my sermon, I mentioned how transformative my meeting with Rev. Bailey was. I was part of a group of ministers who went to minister to him. What we found was that he ministered to us! His words of encouragement were truly from the heart. Whatever pity party I might be throwing for myself, I felt I had to give up. If Rev. Bailey can find God's faithfulness in his situation, certainly I will find God in mine.

Christ's peace,



Rev. Dr. David Chisham
Senior Minister



HANDBELL CHOIR RETURNS

There has been interest indicated in a revival of the First Christian Handbell Choir. This is a musical opportunity open to all interested persons, of any level of musical ability.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m., in the church.

WOMEN'S CHORUS RESUMES

Lucy Cody announces that the Women's Chorus rehearsals will resume **Wednesday, March 4, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Choir Room (behind the choir stall in the sanctuary).

All female voices are invited! Contact Lucy for more information: 318-393-0451 or lucy@fccbrla.org.

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY

We will observe Ash Wednesday with a service at **6:00 p.m., including imposition of ashes.**

Wondrous Love, a beautiful, full-color Lenten devotional, highlights readings from the gospel of Matthew with 46 entries, one for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Each reading is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. This accessible and colorful format makes it easy to incorporate a simple Christian observance into your Lenten journey.

Pick up your copy in the narthex, this Sunday, or [contact the church office](#) about getting a copy sent to you: 225-926-4175.



Annual Potluck on March 1

Mark your calendar for our celebration of our church community, along with the new year of service positions, with **one service at 10:00 a.m.** followed by a potluck luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to all who have served our community over the past year, and **we gratefully acknowledge** all who are stepping up for the coming year, whether for the first time or the fifteenth! Come, be part of our celebration!

New Ministry Assignment Sheets now available!

Thank you! to all who have turned in the 2020 **Welcome • Worship • Serve** brochures with your selections for ministry areas in the coming year. Your responses, from the brochures, emails, phone calls, and word-of-mouth, have been transcribed into a **draft** of 12 monthly assignment sheets, covering March 2020 through February 2021.

Paper copies of these proposed calendars are in the narthex, and [available online, here](#). Please review them for conflicts or errors as soon as you can, and report any problem you find to the [church office](#): 225-926-4175. We begin following these calendars with the Sunday, March 1, assignments!

Did you miss an opportunity to sign up for what you wanted? These sheets are in electrons and ink, not stone, so let us know where you'd like to be plugged in! We'd like to have at least five rotations for each position; Coffee Fellowship and the A/V board have the most significant openings. Please consider these fun, yet so helpful, ministries!

Men's Gathering

Rev. David Chisham will host the "last Sunday of the month" Men's Gathering on **Sunday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m.**, at his residence, 2324 W. Contour Drive.

Women's Bible Study

Carol Madere leads the women's Bible study on the first Sunday of the month at **5:00 p.m. in the library on the west side of the sanctuary building**. Please check the Sunday announcements for further information.

Sunday Classes Starting on March 8 for Adults & Teens:

Mary Thompson's video series facilitation will begin viewing Andy Stanley's *Why Easter Matters* on Sunday, March 8, at 9:45 a.m. This group meets in the library on the west side of the sanctuary building. **All are welcome!**

Carol Madere and Tip Tipton will lead a new *Switch* brief series for middle and high-schoolers in the **Youth Building on Sundays, March 8, 15, 22, and 29, at 9:30 a.m.**, considering **Peer Relationships**. Because of the Internet, relationships are changing. Whether romantic or platonic, the changes are happening faster than most people can keep up with. We are going to explore how to be a friend, set boundaries, and treat others with dignity and respect in our ever-changing world. Both in real life and online.



Zholondzes to present recital here on Sunday, March 22

Vera Zholondz, a regular guest accompanist at First Christian, and her brother, Anton, an accomplished violinist, will present a 50-60 minute recital of tango music by Argentinian composer, Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992), on Sunday afternoon, March 22, at 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. Piazzolla revolutionized traditional tango into a new style termed *nuevo tango*, incorporating elements from jazz and classical music.

Vera and Anton will present solo pieces, as well as a few piano-violin duets. Mark your calendars now for a fun afternoon of music! Free admission. A contribution plate will be available; net proceeds will go to the musicians.



Photos provided

SERVING SCHEDULE February 23, 2020

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

<i>Church Opening</i>	Pam Jones
<i>Sacraments</i>	Lorrinda Dickinson
<i>Accompanist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti
<i>Liturgist</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Adapted Lesson</i>	Aaron Turnipseed
<i>Elder</i>	Paul Thompson
<i>Video Tech</i>	Frank Dickinson
<i>Coffee Fellowship</i>	Lucy Cody

10:50 a.m. Worship Service

<i>Sacraments</i>	Diane Sympton
<i>Accompanist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti
<i>Visitor Host</i>	Ed Atkins
<i>Liturgist</i>	Vicki Krupala
<i>Acolyte</i>	Kinzie McCoy
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	DWC
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Joshua Dotts
<i>Offertory Elder</i>	Yvonne Taylor
<i>Communion Elder</i>	Vicki Krupala
<i>Deacons</i>	Beverly Weselak, Joann Taliaferro, Melanie Cobb, Joni Nickens, Joseph Rabb, James Morgan
<i>Video Tech</i>	Callie Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Shelly Cody
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Lucy Cody
<i>Program Builder</i>	Jill Brian
<i>Attendance Sheets</i>	Phyllis Willis
<i>Church Closing</i>	Jeff Cody

SERVING SCHEDULE March 1, 2020

10:00 a.m. Worship Service ONLY

followed by our Annual New Year Potluck luncheon in Fellowship Hall

<i>Church Opening</i>	Marion Denova
<i>Sacraments</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Accompanist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti
<i>Visitor Host</i>	Leatus Still
<i>Liturgist</i>	Bill Trotter
<i>Acolyte</i>	Jordan Bourgeois
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Pam Comeaux
<i>Youth Reader</i>	Anderson Krupala
<i>Offertory Elder</i>	Cheryl Allain
<i>Communion Elder</i>	Donna Embree
<i>Deacons</i>	Fred Goodspeed David Landry Dak McInnis Sha McInnis Greg Taliaferro Meredith Taliaferro
<i>Video Tech</i>	Jeff Cody
<i>Sound Tech</i>	Joshua Dotts
<i>CW&W Greeter</i>	Judy Lester
<i>CW&W Storyteller</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Attendance Sheets</i>	Nancy Fatta
<i>Program Builder</i>	Carol Madere
<i>Church Closing</i>	Nancy Fatta

CHECK OUT OUR MASTER ASSIGNMENTS SHEET, [HERE](#) or at fccbrla.org

Prayer List

The following people represent some of the current concerns at First Christian Church. If you would like to have a name added, update a current prayer request, or remove someone from the prayer list, please fill out one of the prayer cards in the attendance books and put it in the offering plate, or contact us at churchoffice@fccbrla.org, or 225-926-4175. Names will rotate off after two months without an update.

Members in our prayers:

the family of Kenny Achord, Ann Baskin, Rita Brian, Dora & Ron Blackburn, Linda Burns-Sanders, Norma Carr, Jody Chrisope, Lucy Cody, the Dennis family, the Grigg family, Rich Griswold, George Gullett, Lee Gullett, Ruth Horn, Pam Jones, Barbara Knight, Marie Ladner, Allen Lax, Helen Mitchener, Jerry Moses, Bob & Jennifer Netterville, Helen Rankin, Ruth Riddle, Andy Sobert, Ann Thompson, Bill Trotter, Mary Jon Turner

Friends & Family of Members in our prayers

Rev. Dwight Bailey, David Bass, Donna & Don Bohlcke, Angela Maria Avansi Casarotti, Jeff Day, Jimmie E. Dugas, the family of Bonnie Evans, Judy Heacock, Nancy Hentz, Patty Hubeny, Ray Hutchinson, Mike Keene, Grandma Frances Krupala, Lee Lambert, Chelsey Miguez, the family of Bill Nash, Judy Olson, the family of, and "Wick" Pierce, Cherry Quin, Debbie Riddle, Virginia Spicer, Bill Stevenson, Claudia Wagner

Members in Active Military Service:

Gage Goodspeed, who joined the U.S. Army in November 2019, and has now graduated from basic training.



Our Church Staff

Senior Minister - [Rev. Dr. David Chisham](#)

<i>Director of Music</i>	Aaron Turnipseed	<i>Bookkeeper</i>	Brenda Hilgendorf
<i>Organist</i>	Dr. João Casarotti	<i>Administrative Ass't.</i>	Jo Craddock
<i>Custodian</i>	Charles Riddle	<i>Child Care</i>	Ajha Dortch

• fccbrla.org • churchoffice@fccbrla.org • 225-926-4175 •
• facebook.com/fccbrla • instagram.com/fccbrla • twitter.com/fccbrla •



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

8484 Old Hammond Hwy.

Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1317

225-926-4175 | fccbrla.org