

THE LAWTON CHRISTIAN

The official newsletter of the First Christian Church of Lawton



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Developing 2020 Vision

by Rev. Paul Appleby

Part of what it means to have faith is to have vision. Not just any vision but a vision that we share with God and our fellow believers. Having a shared vision can do many things for us. It can keep us working toward the same goals. It can help us to see the world from a similar vantage point. It can inspire us when we need lifted up. It can ground us when we get distracted. God has a vision for the world, for the church, and for our lives that we are encouraged to share.

For the world, God's vision is one of verdancy, beauty, justice and equity. It is a vision that is exemplified in Revelation by a city coming down from heaven whose gates are always open, where all the very best that humanity has to offer is constantly flowing in, where wrongs are righted, wounds healed, and tears dried, and where God's being pervades everything.

Continued



A New Look for a New Year

By Rev. Paul Appleby

You may have noticed a little change to the format of our church newsletter, *The Lawton Christian*. Well, it has been a while since the paper got a face-lift, and since our theme this new year is "seeing things differently", what better time could there be to roll-out a new format? Piper has been working tirelessly on this as we have switched not only the layout, but the software we are using to make our newsletter.

Please let the office staff know if you like the changes, or if you have any suggestions to improve future newsletters. Your help, support and readership, are greatly appreciated!

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God's vision for the church is for it to be the mechanism through which God's vision for the world is brought to pass. It is the promise of Christ's presence animating us as we come together to continue the healing and righting of the world. We do this through radical inclusion, feeding bodies, minds, and spirits, and inviting others to be a part of the exciting work that God is doing in and through our community of faith. For us as individuals, God's vision is that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and love our neighbors as ourselves. This involves caring for our whole selves- body, soul, and spirit. It also involves acknowledging that no one of us is alone. We are beholden to one another and are required to actively seek the well-being of all.

This year, we will be working toward those goals, but to get there we will need to share in God's vision and that means getting to understand God's point of view. That's what we will be addressing in our eight-week Epiphany worship series, "2020 Vision". Together, we will be looking with the eyes of faith toward the bright future God has in store for us.



January Worship

Sunday, January 5

Sermon Title: Seeing the Future

Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12

Elders: Joe Bailey, Becky Tannery

Lay Leader: John Adair

Children's Message: Lori Anderson

Communion: Bill Grimes

Sunday, January 12

Sermon Title: Seeing Something New

Scriptures: Isaiah 42:1-9, Acts 10:34-43

Elders: Jay Cooper, Kathy Cooper

Lay Leader: Amber Delger

Children's Message: Jane Springli

Communion: Theresa Aubrey

Sunday, January 19

Sermon Title: Seeing What Lies Beneath

Scriptures: Is. 49:1-7, Ps. 40:1-11; Jn 1:29-42

Elders: John Adair, Joe Bailey

Lay Leader: Sage Appleby

Children's Message: Paul Appleby

Communion: Patsy Bassel

Sunday, January 26

Sermon Title: Seeing the Light

Scriptures: Is. 9:1-4, Ps. 27:1, 4-9, Mt. 4:12-23

Elders: Becky Tannery, John Adair

Lay Leader: Danyle Smith

Children's Message: Lori Anderson

Communion: Evan Aubrey

Deacons Serving in January

Bill Grimes (Team Captain), Theresa Aubrey, Teresa Adair, Evan Aubrey, Patsy Bassel

2020 FCC Phone Directories

Within the next month, the church office plans to publish the 2020 First Christian Church Phone Directory. If you have changes that need to be updated from last year's directory, please email the church office at fccadmin@sbcglobal.net or call at (580)355-2437 between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. There are also forms on the table by the office. You may put the forms in the offering plate on Sunday mornings or bring them in during office hours.

OK Disciple Women/Christian Women's Fellowship

Upcoming Events for ODW/CWF:

Jan. 7th - Business Meeting in Parlor, 10am

Jan. 9th - Anna Circle meets at Piper Saville's Home (call the office for address info.) Joan Van Horn will present the lesson.

Jan. 12th - Installation of 2020 Officers
During Worship Service

Jan. 14th - Noon Nutrition Club followed by Ruth Circle at 1pm in Fellowship West. (Lesson - Marilyn)

Jan. 31st - Heart Sisters Bible Study and Brunch, 10:30 am in the Friends' Classroom

All Women are welcome to all these events!
For more information, please contact the church office or Kathy Cooper, CWF President.

Welcome Our 2020 Church Leaders

Board Officers: David Aubrey (Chair); Brian Birdwell (Vice Chair); Richard Van Horn (Secretary); Janice Logan (Treasurer)

Committee Chairs: Nancy Davis (Education); Jane and Tom Springli (Outreach); Teresa Sherrill (Worship); Sheila Fountain (Property); Sheila Fountain (Stewardship); Becky Tannery (Personnel); Danyle Smith and Alisa Engler (Membership)

Memorial Trust: Teresa Adair, JoJo Aubrey, Joe Bailey, Nancy Davis, Beverly Honeycutt, Sheila Fountain, Tom Springli

Elders: John Adair, Lori Anderson, Joe Bailey, Kathy Cooper, Jay Cooper, Becky Tannery

Deacons: Teresa Adair, Theresa Aubrey, Evan Aubrey, Patsy Bassel, Marilyn Bohlender, Amber Delger, Alisa Engler, Vicky E. Flores, Vickie Johnson Flores, Bill Grimes, Janice Logan, Teresa Sherrill, Jane Springli, Tom Springli, Rick Van Horn

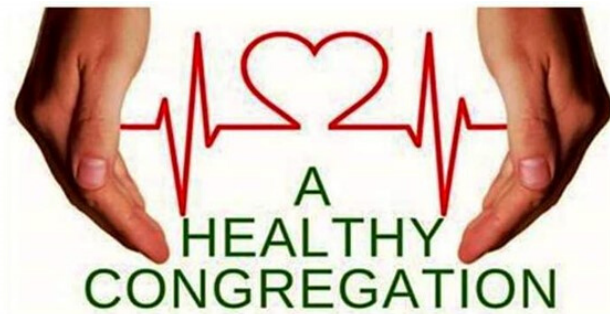
We will celebrate the installation of those coming on new for 2020 during worship on January 12th.

Welcome Our New Member

Please welcome our new member, Mark McClain. Mark joined the church on December 29th. He is shown here with Sage and Paul Appleby.



Healthy Congregation News



Classes Starting in January here at FCC:

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Designed to help family caregivers take better care of themselves while caring for a family member or friend.

- Mondays, 2:00 - 3:30 pm
- January 6 - February 17, 2020 (No class January 20)
- Bring something for taking notes
- To register call Rhonda David at 580-699-3976
- For more information, see flyers by the office.

Diabetes and Beyond

Based on the principles of empowerment and education, the Diabetes and Beyond Education Program was created to provide you with the tools you need to better manage diabetes.

- Wednesdays, 2:00 - 4:00 pm
- January 8 - February 12, 2020
- Bring something for taking notes
- To register, call Rhonda David at 580-699-3976
- For more information, see flyers by the office.

There will be a Healthy Congregation meeting Sunday, January 19th. If you plan to come to the meeting, please RSVP either to Kathy Cooper or the church office.

Classes Starting in January elsewhere:

Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) Classes

SAIL is designed to meet the fitness needs of older adults; each class includes cardio and strength training, plus balance and flexibility exercise.

- Westminster Presbyterian Church, 7110 West Gore
- Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30 am
- January 6 - March 30, 2020
- To register, call Rhonda David at 580-699-3976
- For more information, see flyers by the office.



This Month's Health Tip From Kathy Cooper, RN

Let's keep our brains active in the new year. Have you ever heard of neurobiics for your mind? American researchers coined the term neurobics for tasks which activate the brain's own biochemical pathways and to bring new pathways online that can help strengthen or preserve brain circuits.

Get your brain bubbling with energy by brushing your teeth with "the other hand", pick out your clothes to wear by feel rather than sight, choose a new way to accomplish your routine tasks, or engage in new types of mental activities. People with mental agility tend to have lower rates of Alzheimer's disease and age related mental decline. Happy and Fizzy New Year!!!

Thank You!

We, your church staff, deeply appreciate your generous donations for our Christmas Bonuses! We are so blessed to be able to work with this community of faith!

In Christ's Love,

David C. Anderson, Paul Appleby, Elizabeth Calhoun-Dean, Konrad Delger, Brian Herring, Patty Neuwirth, Piper Saville, and Beverly Watson



Thank you to all who helped with the Children's Christmas Party. Everyone had a lot of fun!



Agape Ministry



Sunday Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Breakfast Helpers for January:

Amber Delger, Rick & Joan Van Horn, Mike, Hilde Bilvais, Virginia Lucas

Sunday Morning Cereal Table:

Jan. 5 - Tom and Jane Springli

Jan. 12 - Helpers Needed

Jan. 19 - Tom and Jane Springli

Jan. 26 - Helpers Needed

Wednesday Agape Meal

6:00 pm Each Wednesday

Bible Study Following

Wednesday Supper Menu/Teams Responsible:

Jan. 1 - Ham (Dave Titus, Virginia Lucas, Vickie Johnson Flores, Joanna Henry)

Jan. 8 - Beef Slices (Phyllis, Sam, and John Bowman)

Jan. 15 - Burgers (Jay and Kathy Cooper, Tom and Jane Springli)

Jan. 22 - Pork Loin (Janice Logan, John Adair, Ro Bielinski, Margaret Williams)

Jan. 29 - TBD (Helpers Needed; probably beef slices)

All are welcome and helpers are appreciated!

Agape Substitute List

If you cannot work your regular team on Wednesday, please call one of these sweet volunteers to take your place: Danyle Smith, Jamie Hennessee, Alisa Engler, Darlene Ramsey, or Paul Appleby

December Agape Ministry Meal Numbers:

Meals Served	717 persons
	(including 43 children)

Year to Date Agape Ministry Meal Numbers:

Meals Served	10,589
	(561 of those to children)

Clothes Closet

Clothes Closet Hours

8:00 - 8:25 am	1st and 3rd Sundays
5:30 - 5:55 pm	1st and 3rd Wednesdays

December Clothes Closet Numbers:

Persons Served	89 persons
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Thank you to all who donate to the clothes closet! Items currently needed are blankets, coats, hats, gloves, hygiene items, men's blue jeans, and men's shoes.

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Birthdays 1/1 Tom Springli 1/10 Vickie Flores 1/16 Adahjean Oates 1/22 David Aubrey 1/24 Jay Cooper 1/25 Marjorie Lutz 1/26 Melinda Lund 1/31 Brian Herring 1/31 Darlene Ramsey		Anniversaries 2/2 Earl and Delana Huggins 2/28 Don and Margaret Littig	1 Office Closed 5:30pm Clothes Closet Open 6pm Agape Meal/ Study	2 5:30pm Elders	3 10:30am Heart Sisters After-Christmas Gathering	4
5 8 - 8:25am Clothes Closet Open Rev. Paul Appleby's Installation Noon - First Sunday Lunch at Mike's	6 1:30pm Pioneer Women 2pm Caregiver Class 6pm Boy Scouts	7 10am CWF Business Mtg 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch 6:30pm Girl Scouts Leader Meeting	8 2pm Diabetes & Beyond Class 5pm Community Health Clinic 6pm Agape Meal/ Study 7:30pm Choir	9 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch 6pm Scouts 7pm Anna Group at Piper's home	10	11
12 FCC Leaders And CWF Officer Installation During Worship	13 2pm Caregiver Class 6pm Boy Scouts	14 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch Noon - Nutrition Club 1pm Ruth Group	15 2pm Diabetes & Beyond Class 5pm Haircuts by Kat 5:30 - 5:55 pm Clothes Closet 6pm Agape Meal/ Study 7:30pm Choir	16 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch 6pm Scouts 6:30pm FCC Board Mtg	17	18 9am Hike in Refuge 1:30pm WUFA
19 8 - 8:25am Clothes Closet Open 12:15pm Healthy Congregation Mtg After Worship	20 2pm Caregiver Class 6pm Boy Scouts	21 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch	22 2pm Diabetes & Beyond Class 6pm Agape Meal/ Study 7:30pm Choir	23 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch 6pm Scouts	24	25
26	27 2pm Caregiver Class 6pm Boy Scouts	28 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch	29 2pm Diabetes & Beyond Class 6pm Agape Meal/ Study 7:30pm Choir	30 11am - 12:30pm Hungry Hearts Lunch 6pm Scouts	31 10:30am Heart Sisters Bible Study & Brunch	