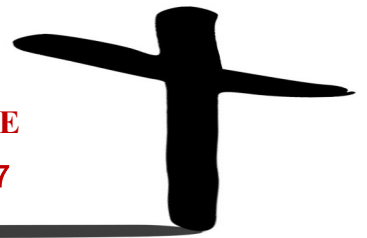


# The Crosswalk

First Christian Church  
2501 N Park Lane  
Altus, OK 73521

JUNE  
2017



## Our Need for Community

A few months ago I realized that if we wanted to effectively reach people in this community with the gospel we needed to create an environment where people felt connected. With the Air Force presence in town much of our community consists of people who are being moved from place to place across the country and don't have a place that is home. For people like this, having a church family, people that care about you and your life, a place that feels like home, even if it is only for two years, is vital. The rest of our community are locals that have grown up in a small town and wouldn't have it any other way. They love this community because of its small-town feel. They love that you can bump into people you know when you're out and about, that people know your kids and what they're involved in, and that feeling that you know everybody or at least know someone who knows them. For this person, attending a church where you aren't connected, where people don't know and love you, is not an option. Period.

So if we want to succeed in reaching this town with the gospel we have to be a place where people can come and connect. Scripture tells us that this is the way that mankind is designed. When God originally created everything he would look at what he created and say, "It is good." However, there was one day that he said that something was not good. Genesis 2:18 says, "It is not good that the man should be alone." There is a primal need within all of us for companionship, for community. God as a trinity exists in community and we, created in his image, have that same need.

So, community is a basic need for humanity and a specific need for our community. Therefore, if we can be a church that provides community, a place to really connect with people our town will love us. So how do we become this kind of church? This is what I've been addressing on Sunday mornings for the past few months. In April I started by preaching through a series called creating community where we talked about how to create community with a common purpose, in your common place, and with your common possessions. And more recently I've been preaching through 2 Timothy looking at the church and how it's designed to be a community of faith.

The reason I've been beating this drum for so long is because when the church is doing what it should, it really is the answer for what our culture is craving. Paul points out in Ephesians 2 that in Christ all that once divided us and isolated us is abolished. "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." We are members of God's household, of His family. In the church we have a good, good father, and because of his example we know how to love one another as he loved us (Jn. 13:34).

I often hear people say things like, "You don't need to go to church to be saved." While I understand what they're saying, and technically it's true, that phrase doesn't make a lot of sense when you think about it. Church is not a place to which you go. The church is a group of believers, it is the body of Christ. You wouldn't say that your hand doesn't need to go to body to be alive. That doesn't make sense. The Church is the family of God. You wouldn't say you don't need to go to family to be alive. That doesn't make sense. When you become a Christian, you become a part of a larger body, you become a member of a family. Hebrews tells us not to forsake meeting together but to encourage one another (Heb. 10:25). We gather together on Sunday mornings to be an encouragement to each other, to be there for each other, to stir up one another to love and good works (Heb. 10:24). By meeting together we give one another a place to belong.

So don't go to church, be the church. Let's be a church that connects with people so that they feel the love that Jesus showed us; so that they know they are a part of a community, a family. Let's show the isolated people of our community that they have a home.

In Him,  
Ben

# JUNE 2017

-SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 MOTHER'S/ FATHER'S DAY DINNER  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	5	6  ADMIN MTG 6:00PM EDUC MTG 6:30PM	7  Service & Action MTG 9:30AM	8 WORSHIP MTG 5:30PM ELDERS MTG 6:00PM DEACONS MTG 6:30PM BOARD MTG 7:00PM	9	10
11  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	12	13  VACATION	14  BIBLE	15  SCHOOL	16	17
18 FATHER'S DAY COOKOUT-5:30  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	19	20  FSG 6:00PM	21	22	23	24
25  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	26	27	28	29	30	



### Serving In June

June 04

**Meditation:** Jerry Gibson  
**Com Servers:** Bob McGuire, Carol Carson  
 \*John Signorelli, ?  
**Nursery:** Sunday School - Ben & Kristen Partin  
 Worship Service - Don & Sarah Skiles  
 Roma Weinkauf  
**Children's Church:**  
**AV Booth:** Jordan Bronson, Robert Crawford  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Com Prep & Clean Up:** Rick & Roma Weinkauf  
 \*Offering Prayer

June 11

**Meditation:** Doug Dalton  
**Com Servers:** Doug Tritle, \*Iris Felix  
 Jane Clark, Matthew Palmer  
**Nursery:** Sunday School - Robert & Crystal Crawford  
 Worship Service - Katie Bronson, ?  
**Children's Church:** Sarah Skiles  
**AV Booth:** Jordan Bronson, Robert Crawford  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Com Prep & Clean Up:** Rick & Roma Weinkauf  
 \*Offering Prayer

June 18

**Meditation:** Jim Jones  
**Com Servers:** Kristen Partin, Tara Coffman  
 \*Wanda Jones, ?  
**Nursery:** Sunday School - Marilynn Wright, Wanda Jones  
 Worship Service - Richard & Christina Barnes  
 Nicole Stanfill  
**Children's Church:**  
**AV Booth:** Jordan Bronson, Robert Crawford  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Com Prep & Clean Up:** Rick & Roma Weinkauf  
 \*Offering Prayer

June 25

**Meditation:** Randall Coffman  
**Com Servers:** Brenda Gibson, Jackie Morey  
 \*John Signorelli, Richard Barnes  
**Nursery:** Sunday School - Jackie Morey, Wendi Noon  
 Worship Service - Brian & Colleen Buss  
 ?  
**Children's Church:**  
**AV Booth:** Jordan Bronson, Robert Crawford  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Com Prep & Clean Up:** Rick & Roma Weinkauf  
 \*Offering Prayer

### In Our Prayers

**Nick Williams - ALS**

(Altus teacher)

**Sherri Merrill - uterine cancer/chemo**

(Rick Weinkauf's sister)

**Amy Dodson - brain cancer**

(Ruth Carson's friend)

**Jo Parnell - inoperable lung cancer**

(Lee Barnes' son-in-law's mother)

**Debbie Cleland - cancer**

(Christina Barnes' co-worker)

**Mike Chase - colon cancer**

(Jimmy Geigle's friend)

Periodically the Prayer List will be updated. If we remove someone that you still want on the list, please let us know and we will be glad to put them back on.

*If you have a prayer need or know of any changes, please contact the church office.*



### Birthdays & Anniversaries

06/02 Dana Yancey

06/10 Aubrey Coffman

06/22 Roma Weinkauf

06/28 Rick & Roma Weinkauf



**"We added our pictures to your new wallet, Daddy. You have to add your own money."**

### Sunday Services

Sunday School	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:30 am

### Secretary's Report

May 2017

Average Attendance	54.75
Average Visitors	2.5
Total Average Attendance	57.25
Total Offerings	\$10,129.00

### Your Elders

Phil Carson, Randall Coffman, Doug Dalton  
 Gene Drechsler, Jerry Gibson, Jim Jones

### Your Deacons

Richard Barnes, Jane Clark, Crystal Crawford,  
 Brenda Gibson, Wanda Jones, Matthew Palmer, Brenda Risner

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 13,14,15



Where kids build,  
explore, and  
discover that they  
were made by  
the Ultimate Creator!

## MEET YOUR VBS FRIENDS:

DECKER



ABBEE



SKYLER



 Happy  
Father's  
Day! 

BRING DAD AND  
JOIN US FOR A  
COOKOUT AT THE  
CHURCH BUILDING

**SUNDAY**  
**JUNE 18**  
**5:30 PM**