

# THE LAWTON CHRISTIAN

The official newsletter of the First Christian Church of Lawton



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## Marching Into Lent

Lent is typically a season of repentance, where we examine our hearts and our lives to find out what our attempts at goodness are covering up (to paraphrase a classic Ash Wednesday prayer). Repentance, the turning around of one's heart, mind, and efforts is right at the center of worship during this time. This Lent, we acknowledge that so often we are "lookin' for love in all the wrong places", in comfort, in power, in all those things that never truly satisfy. So, we will be turning out hearts toward the source of all love, God. We will look to Jesus's example, to see those things that can truly satisfy. We will turn from our futile search and turn toward the cross as we commit to look for love in all the right places.

### The Second Sunday of Lent (3/5): Look for the Helper

This week, Deacon Amber Delger will lead our service as we turn toward God our helper and the source of our salvation

**Scriptures:** Psalm 121; John 3:1-17

**Songs:** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"; "What Love Can Do"; "I Surrender All"

**Elders:** David Aubrey, John Adair

**Worship Leader:** Joe Bailey

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### The Third Sunday of Lent (3/12): Look for the Thirst Quencher

This week, Rev. Appleby will use the stories of the woman at the well, and the Israelites' search for water in the desert as a way to orient our hearts toward the soul-quenching love of Christ.

**Scriptures:** Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42

**Songs:** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"; "For You My Soul is Thirsting"; "Fill My Cup, Lord"

**Elders:** John Adair, JoJo Aubrey

**Worship Leader:** Jane Springli

### The Fourth Sunday of Lent (3/19): Look for the Liberator

Sometimes the things we think offer love actually seek to bind us, preventing us from being full, whole, and offering our best selves to the world. This week, Deacon Joseph Vanpool will help us turn toward a God whose love brings more into our lives, more freedom, more of ourselves, more love to share with the world.

**Scriptures:** Psalm 130; John 11:1-45

**Songs:** "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"; "He's Never Failed Me Yet"; "Love Lifted Me"

**Elders:** Lori Anderson, Becky Tannery

**Worship Leader:** John Adair

### The Fifth Sunday of Lent (3/26): Look for the Shepherd

Using some of the best-known passages in the Scriptures, Rev. Appleby will warn us about the dangers of looking for powerful figures to fix all that ails us, and will guide us to turn instead toward Christ our Shepherd, the one who shows us what it means to truly love and care (and isn't afraid to break a few rules to do it!).

**Scriptures:** Psalm 23; John 9:1-41

**Songs:** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"; "Open My Eyes"; "Spirit Song"

**Elders:** Becky Tannery, Lori Anderson

**Worship Leader:** Brian Birdwell

**Deacons for March:** Rick Van Horn (Team captain), Janice Logan, Joseph Vanpool

## February By the Numbers

February Tithes and Offerings (General Fund)	<b>\$ 8,364.02</b>
February Expenses to Date for General Fund	<b>\$ 19,813.68</b>
Difference	<b>-\$11,449.66</b>
Balance Transfers for February from Special to General	<b>\$ 8,500.00</b>

February Average Sunday In-Person Worship Attendance was **42**.

In February, **458 meals** were served at the Wednesday Agape Meals (**41** were served to children), and **264 meals** were served through our Outdoor Food Pantry.



# March 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Noon - Book Study At Buffalo Grove 5 pm Clothes Closet Open 5:30 pm Agape Meal and Study 6 pm Choir	2	3 Noon - Just Games With Friends 5 pm Girl Scouts	4
5 10:30 am Worship	6 Monday Morn- ing Minute on FCC YouTube Channel 6 pm Boy Scouts	7 Noon - Taco Tuesday at Julio's Mexican Restaurant 1 pm CWF Business Mtg.	8 Noon - Book Study At Buffalo Grove 5 pm Clothes Closet Open 5:30 pm Agape Meal and Study 6 pm Choir	9 7 pm Anna Group Meets	10 5 pm Girl Scouts	11
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins 10:30 am Worship	13 Monday Morn- ing Minute on FCC YouTube Channel 6 pm Boy Scouts	14 Noon - Taco Tuesday at Julio's Mexican Restaurant 1 pm Ruth Group at Fusion Buffet	15 Noon - Book Study At Buffalo Grove 5 pm Clothes Closet Open 5:30 pm Agape Meal and Study 6 pm Choir	16 6:30 pm Board Meeting	17 St. Patrick's Day 5 pm Girl Scouts	18
19 10:30 am Worship Potato Pile-On Fundraiser after Worship in Fellowship Hall	20 Monday Morn- ing Minute on FCC YouTube Channel 6 pm Boy Scouts	21 Noon - Taco Tuesday at Julio's Mexican Restaurant	22 5 pm Clothes Closet Open 5:30 pm Agape Meal and Study 6 pm Choir	23	24 5 pm Girl Scouts	25
26 10:30 am Worship	27 Monday Morn- ing Minute on FCC YouTube Channel 6 pm Boy Scouts	28 Noon - Taco Tuesday at Julio's Mexican Restaurant	29 Noon - Book Study At Buffalo Grove 5 pm Clothes Closet Open 5:30 pm Agape Meal and Study 6 pm Choir	30	31 5 pm Girl Scouts	

## March Birthdays



3/2	Teresa Sherrill	3/22	Klint Fountain
3/4	Chuck Russell	3/23	Patsy Bassel
3/14	Erika Whittenberg	3/25	Theresa Aubrey
3/15	Delana Huggins	3/25	David Pratt
3/19	Cyndel Denning	3/27	Payne Davis
3/21	Jane Springli	3/28	Julie Davis
3/21	Judy Bailey	3/31	Nicole Wernette

## Joys and Concerns Thank you for Praying!

### We praise God and rejoice with the following:

- Amber Delger's MRI was clear! No cancer!
- Amber Delger is retiring from massage therapy
- Beverly Honeycutt thanks everyone for their prayers for her brother-in-law Larry Salmon who did well during his recent dental procedure.
- Bill Kindt has made a lot of progress in his journey of healing.
- Lily Rose Wernette was born to Nicole and Mark Wernette on Feb. 7th. She weighed 7 pounds 2 ozs. and was 21 inches long. Nicole and baby are both doing well.
- Michelle Henke, Joe Bailey's daughter's co-worker has improved significantly.
- Sofia, daughter of Amber Delger's deceased friend is better and home from the hospital.

### These appreciate your ongoing prayers:

- Carolyn (Jane Springli's friend)
- Helma Blackburn's son
- Hilde Bilvais and other friends of Joyce
- Kerrie Oates
- Melanie (Joe Bailey's daughter)
- Shelley Forrester
- Wendi Lindley

### These with ongoing health concerns and their families appreciate your continued prayers:

- Aaron (Ursula Asuncion's son)
- Axel, Jazzy, and Dillon Noland
- Baby Mila (friend of Ann Werner)
- Betty Aliff (Joe Bailey's wife)
- Beverly Honeycutt
- Blaise Bailey (Joe Bailey's granddaughter)
- Braydon, Hilde Bilvais's friend
- Carmine (Becky Tannery's brother-in-law)
- Connie Phillips
- Coy Citron
- Darlene Miller
- Fran Herring (Brian Herring's grandmother)
- Joanna Price (co-worker of Joe Bailey's daughter)
- Joyce (friend of Hilde Bilvais)
- Lori Anderson
- Lynda Trapp
- Mel Cassidy
- Michelle Henke (friends of Joe Bailey's granddaughter)
- Nancy Davis
- Paul Anastacio
- Rev. Wayne Ashlock (former FCC pastor)
- Ronnie Bagwell (friend of Glenda Brown)





## Agape/Outreach Ministry



### March Wednesday Agape Meal Menu (served at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall).

#### March Menu:

**Mar. 1** - Macaroni and cheese with ham

**Mar. 8** - Biscuits & gravy, fried potatoes, sausage patty

**Mar. 15** - Egg rolls with fried rice

**Mar. 22** - Tortilla soup with chips and salsa

**Mar. 29** - Chicken patty sandwiches, salad, chips

**Our Dannie and Rafie Clothes Closet is open each Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm prior to the meal.** For more information regarding the clothes closet or if you have clothing donations, please call the church office or Denise Smith.

**Our Outdoor Food Pantry on the south side of our church building is always in need of donations.** You may either bring them to the church office or place them directly in the Outdoor Pantry (please mark out the UPC codes). These donations go quickly! Useful non-perishable items include the following:

- Canned ravioli or spaghetti
- Other canned meats with easy-open tops
- Packages of ramen noodles
- Pop-Tarts
- Easy-open canned fruit or pudding
- Bread
- Cheese and Crackers
- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Bottled Water

## Christian Women's Fellowship/ OK Disciples Women News



**Mark your calendars for March 19th !!!** CWF will be hosting a potato pile-on as a fund raiser to support our outreach activities. A donation will be collected at the door for your meal of a potato with tons of toppings, salad, beverage, and dessert. Take-out containers will be available. Along with the meal, our beloved leprechaun, David Anderson, will be entertaining us with an Irish melody sing-a-long. Please come in your finest green attire, and join us for a great meal and wonderful entertainment on March 19th directly after the worship service. See you there!!!

Jane Springli, CWF President

## Spring Forward



Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 12th. **When you go to bed on Saturday, March 11, set your clocks forward one hour,** and you will be on time to church!

# Church Staff and Contact Information

**Pastor- Rev. Paul Appleby/pastor@fcclawton.org**

**Administrative Assistant/Financial Secretary - Piper Saville/office@fcclawton.org**

**Director of Music - David C. Anderson/davidtunespianos@gmail.com**

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**Sound Technician - Brian Herring**

**Nursery - Beverly Watson**

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## **First Christian Church**

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