

FCC GUIDE

TO SEASONAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



SEPTEMBER through DECEMBER 2026

Life Together | Service Opportunities
Small Groups | & More!

Welcome to the Season!

from your SMT

Blessings Church,

As we look ahead to the Fall and Advent season, the Seasonal Ministry Team is filled with excitement for all that is to come! This season, our theme is “**We Are the Light**,” reminding us that the light of Christ shines through each of us—in our words, our actions, and the ways we love and serve others.

We have carefully crafted moments that allow us to **gather** together, **celebrate**, **serve** our community, and find meaningful ways to **share** Christ’s light throughout this special season. Our hope is that this calendar will help guide us as we shine brightly together!

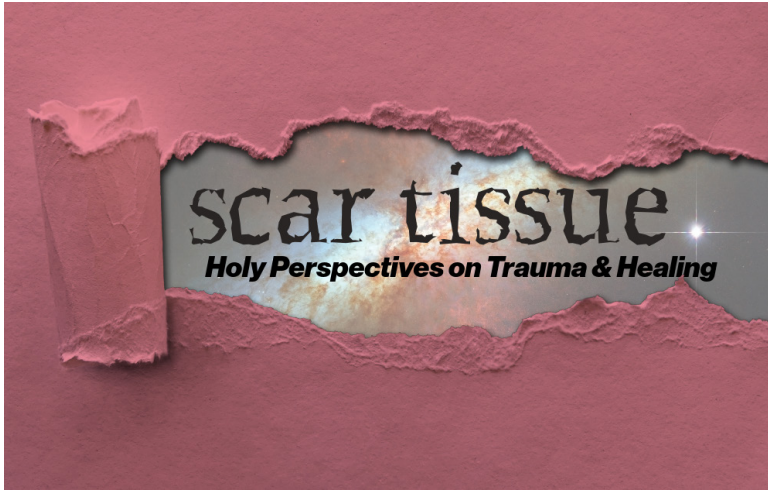
Your Fall/Advent Seasonal Ministry Team 2026

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in this Guide:

SERMON THEMES	4-5
SPECIAL EVENTS	6-7
ADVENT EVENT SCHEDULE	8-9
SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES	10
BIBLE STUDIES	11
FCC 101	12
DUTCH TREAT LUNCH	12
PACK THE PANTRY	13
YOUTH & STUDENTS	14-15
RESOURCES	16

Sermon Themes *for the season*



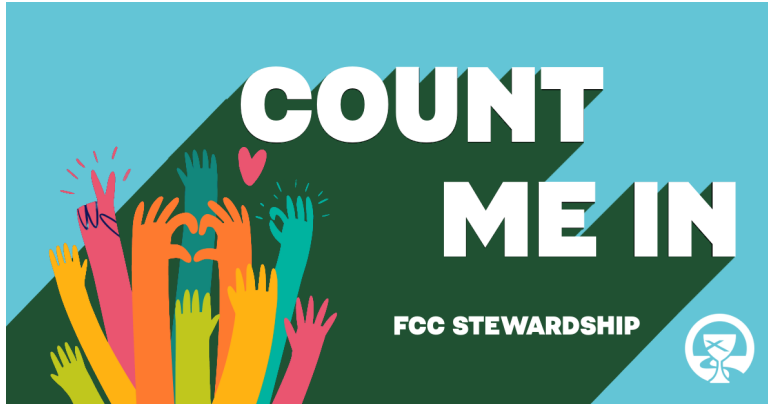
Scar Tissue

Holy Perspectives on Trauma & Healing

We live in a world where suffering exists, and where beloved children of God experience various physical and mental traumas.

Where in scripture do we see these stories told? What does our Bible have to say about the many varied pathways to healing?

What does it mean to be a wounded healer?

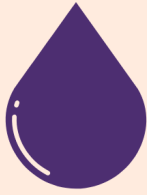


Count Me In

Stewardship Emphasis 2026

How are we each called to the self-giving nature of Christ? How do we respond to that call?

This year's stewardship emphasis theme, 'Count Me In' will invite each of us to explore the ways we give our time, talent & treasure to the church & beyond.



The Essentials

UNITY & GOSPEL LIBERTY
AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The Essentials

**Unity & Gospel Liberty
as Disciples of Christ**

One of the founders of our movement & denomination emphasized ‘Gospel Liberty.’

What does it mean today for us to be allowed freedom in the life of Christ? How are we connected to others who believe differently from us? What is really required to call ourselves Christian?

These aren’t new questions, but we can hold them together.



Celebrate the Light

**Embracing the Rhythms of the
Advent Season**

The four weeks leading up to Christmas are busy in the life of the church!

While we count down the days until the arrival of the Christ-child, we remember the hope, peace, joy and love that Jesus invites each of us to share.

Worship with us as we remember the symbols of the season at Hanging of the Greens, hear the nativity story from our children, and receive the gift of song from our Chancel Choir. See pages 8-9 for more information!

Seasonal Special Events

Each season, we tend to try some new and creative events designed by our Seasonal Ministry Team.



YOUNG ADULTS GAME NIGHT 9/6 @ 5PM

We're going to leave it up to you to decide if you're a 'Young Adult' or not, but if you're looking for some fun & fellowship, come to the FCC game room on Sunday, 9/6 @ 5PM for board game night!

Bring the kids and they will have crafts & a movie set up for them.

4-WEEK LEARN TO PLAY MAH JONGG

Do you want to learn Mah Jongg? We are having a four-week series of lessons offered Mondays & Tuesdays at 2PM, and 5PM Tuesdays to learn the basics of this fun game.



Lessons will start the week of September 14th.



REGIONAL ASSEMBLY DENOMINATION GATHERING IN FORT WORTH

November 6th & 7th, University Christian Church in Fort Worth is hosting our denomination's 'Regional Assembly,' where we will gather to worship and learn with Disciples from across the Southwest Region.

You're invited to attend as well! Talk to the church office.

**Health
Sunday**

**October
18th**



Vaccines Available:
***Flu, Covid, Shingles,
Pneumonia***

HEALTH SUNDAY

VACCINES AVAILABLE @ FCC

On October 18th, a pharmacist will be on-site to give annual vaccines to any who wish to receive them. In addition to flu & covid shots, this year we will also have vaccines for shingles & pneumonia. No charge, but

bring your insurance card if you have one!

GHOST TOUR & CEMETERY THIRD SPACE

Our Third Space opportunity for the season is on October 24th. We will tour area cemeteries, remembering the legacies of those who settled in our area and more recent friends we have lost, beginning at 4PM.

Later, after shared dinner at FCC, we will head to the Square for the Granbury Ghost Tour, led by Brandy Herr. Sign up soon to buy your ticket for the tour!



THANKSGIVING

LIFE TOGETHER

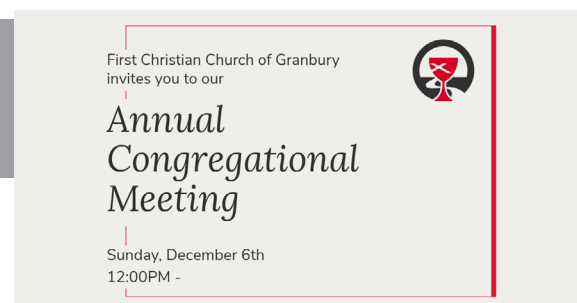


On November 11th, starting at 5:30PM, let's celebrate Thanksgiving with our church family! Bring a holiday favorite to share, and we will celebrate the many blessings in sharing Life Together!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

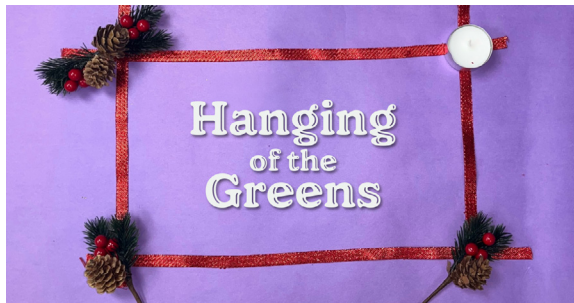
On December 6th following worship, meet in the Sanctuary for our annual meeting.

The nominating committee will present a proposed slate of leaders, and the budget committee will present their 2027 budget to be approved by the congregation.



The Season of Advent

The 4 Sundays leading up to Christmas are known as the season of Advent. During worship each week, we light a candle of the Advent Wreath. During this season, there are also several special worship service opportunities.



HOPE SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 29

HANGING OF THE GREENS

During this special service, we welcome the symbols of the season to our sanctuary. These include the evergreen wreaths, the Chrismons on our Christmas tree, and the advent candles.

We reflect on the meanings of each of these symbols in our shared life of faith. Stick around afterward to decorate the rest of the building (with lunch!)

PEACE SUNDAY: DECEMBER 6 CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

One of the most memorable times of the year is our annual Children's Christmas Pageant, where the kids of our congregation share the story of the nativity with all of us. This year, the pageant will be during the 11AM service on the 6th.



Our annual congregational meeting to approve our leadership slate and 2027 budget will follow the 11AM service. Then, we will have a lunch for all!



JOY SUNDAY: DECEMBER 13

CHORAL CANTATA

At our 11AM worship service, the Chancel Choir, joined by special guest musicians, blesses the congregation with a special service of song, led by our Minister of Music, Josh Newby.

If you are interested in singing with our choir for this event, rehearsals begin in the fall.

LOVE SUNDAY: DECEMBER 20 ADVENT WORSHIP

The Sunday before Christmas, we light the final candle on the advent wreath before the Christ candle. Come celebrate with us in a worship service that will feel a bit more like our 'normal' worship rhythm.



BLUE CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 21 AT 6PM

If you or someone you know is struggling this season due to loss or loneliness, difficulty with family or friends, political weariness, seasonal depression or anxiety, or would just like a quiet space to be in a hectic season, this is a service that will make space for all of it and we would be honored to meet you there.

CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24 AT 5PM & 7PM

Celebrate the arrival of the Christ-child with us!

We will have two services on Christmas Eve: at 5PM and at 7PM.



Opportunities to Serve *with FCC*

These are several of the special opportunities to serve coming up this season. There will also be donation drives announced in November.

YOUTH SERVICE DAY NOVEMBER 7

Our Students & Youth work hard to serve our community!



On the 7th, they will be preparing and serving a meal at Habitat for Humanity.



MIRACLE DAY LA REUNION BUSINESS FAIR

This fall, the kids at La Reunion will be starting small businesses! Mentors from the community will coach them in entrepreneurship, supply them with 'start-up loans' and help with a sales strategy.

Then, on November 14th, we will have a Business Fair for them and some area small businesses. There will be jobs for everyone to help keep the fair running, and serve up lunch for shoppers & the community. Plus, you can do some early Christmas shopping & support our kids! !

THE GIFT OF GIVING MOM & POP SHOP

We also want to share the gift of giving with the kids at the La Reunion Outreach Center.

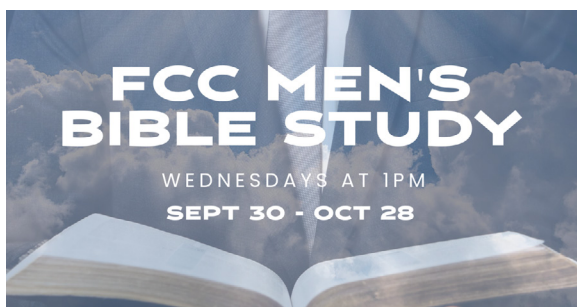


While these children often receive gifts during the holiday season, we will be transforming the gym at FCC into a 'store' for these kids to shop for gifts for their loved ones.

We will be taking donations of new & gently used gifts, and seeking volunteers to set up and coordinate the shopping experience.

Opportunities to Study *with FCC*

We have several lay-led and minister-led opportunities for Bible study this season.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY LA REUNION BUSINESS FAIR

Brad Roseborough is leading a Bible Study group for men this fall, on Wednesdays at 1PM beginning on September 30th and continuing through October 28th.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WITH TANESA MATHIOWETZ

Tanesa Mathiowetz is leading a Bible Study for women on Mondays at 1PM this fall, starting on September 7th.

It will go through November 23rd.



ROME

NOW & THEN



STUDY OF ROMANS WITH AUSTIN & KARLIE

Pastor Austin & Pastor Karlie both (separately) visited Rome early in 2026.

On Sunday evenings this fall, they will co-lead a Bible study on Paul's letter to the Romans where they bring in some of the stories from their trips.

FCC 101

a 4-week series for newcomers

The FCC Staff and Wayfinding Team have designed a 4-week program to help newcomers learn more about the church and find your place in ministry with us. We call it “FCC 101,” and it happens three times per year, in January, May, and September.

Here are the basic details for the September session:

When: Sundays at 10 AM

Where: FCC Room 1

Who: Designed for newcomers, but everyone is welcome!



Session 1 (September 13): FCC's Story & Mission - Who are We?

Session 2 (September 20): How FCC Works, and How You Fit In

Session 3 (September 27): Resources for Growing in Faith and Understanding

Session 4 (October 4): Finding Your Ministry With Us

Let's Go to Lunch!

Dutch Treat!



It's become quite the tradition for us to all gather about once a month (usually at Panchito's on Weatherford Highway) for some tasty Tex-Mex with our church family.

We usually get there at about 12:30PM after the 11AM worship service concludes. Hope you will join us!

This season, we'll go to lunch together on:

sunday
SEPTEMBER
13th

sunday
OCTOBER
11th

sunday
NOVEMBER
8th*

** Veterans On Us!*

sunday
DECEMBER
13th

Pack the Pantry

This season,
our Pack the
Pantry Sunday
dates are:



sunday
**SEPTEMBER
27th**

sunday
**OCTOBER
25th**

sunday
**NOVEMBER
29th**

sunday
**DECEMBER
27th**

FCC has a long history of supporting the Anjelita Best Food Pantry located in Oak Trail Shores at La Reunión. The last Sunday of each month, we collect food donations which we deliver to the food pantry. These items are delivered to the pantry the following Thursday, so you can bring items early in the week if you can't bring them Sunday. You can find the running list here, in our newsletter, or available in the gathering area of the church.

This is an extremely important ministry that feeds many individuals and families who do not have the means to buy groceries. This is a clear, practical way to offer Christ into our world. We hope that you might consider bringing along a copy of the Pantry Shopping List on your next grocery run!

We also have opportunities for volunteers to transport the groceries and/or to distribute them to families. Read more about this in our directory of ministry opportunities at the end of this guide!

Food Pantry Shopping List

- ☐ Dried pinto beans
- ☐ Canned tuna
- ☐ Hot and cold cereal
- ☐ Canned soup
- ☐ Canned corn
- ☐ Canned fruit
- ☐ Ramen noodles
- ☐ Instant potatoes
- ☐ Spaghetti and sauce
- ☐ Box Hamburger or Tuna Helper
- ☐ Mac & Cheese
- ☐ Peanut butter
- ☐ Jelly
- ☐ Powdered Milk

Fall Events *for FCC youth & students*

In addition to Sunday School during the 10 o'clock hour on Sundays & Youth Group on Wednesday evenings at 5:30PM, we have quite a few special events planned for our youth this fall!

Be sure to join the FCC Youth Facebook group to stay up-to-date on Youth Group happenings!

LET'S GO TO CAMP AT DISCIPLES CROSSING!

We support and attend Disciples Crossing Camp in the beautiful piney woods of Athens, Texas.

Registrations for Fall Retreats are open now! Talk to Caylin, or check out <https://disciplescrossing.org/>.

A poster for Fall Retreats 2026. The background is a photograph of a dirt path winding through a pine forest. On the left, there is a circular wooden sign with a green pine tree silhouette and a red chalice with a white 'X' inside. The right side of the poster has a teal background with white and red text.

FALL RETREATS 2026
Disciples Crossing in Athens, Texas

CHI-RHO 6th-8th	November 13-15
CYF 9th-12th	December 4-6

Special Events *for youth & students*

FCC YOUTH OLYMPICS SEPTEMBER 23RD

Go for the gold! There will be some traditional (and some not-so-traditional!) games for us to play.

FCC
Youth
Olympics

September 23rd



youth
Service
day

november 7



YOUTH SERVICE DAY NOVEMBER 7

On the 7th, our youth will be serving our community by preparing and serving a meal at Habitat for Humanity.

CAMPING TRIP WITH RUSH CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We're going to head to Cedar Hill State Park from October 9th to 11th for fun in the great outdoors with our friends from Rush Creek Christian Church!



Bring your hiking shoes & get signed up!

XMAS
XMAS
XMAS
DEC 18 DEC 19
LOCK-IN
FCC GRANBURY &
RUSH CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HOLIDAY LOCK-IN @ RCCC IN ARLINGTON

Come ready for Fun, Adventures, Games & CHRISTMAS with our friends at Rush Creek as we meet together for a lock-in.

Want to Know More?

DIRECTORY OF MINISTRIES

Our website online is the best source of ministries in the church at any time. You can also ask any member of our Wayfinding team about various ministry opportunities to get involved!

Check out fccgranbury.org/ministry-database

CALL (OR STOP BY) THE CHURCH OFFICE

Our church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 to 5. We love to see new faces around the office.

You can also schedule a meeting with a Pastor during those hours.

WANT TO CONTACT A CHURCH MEMBER?

You can get a copy of the directory at the church in the narthex or in the office. There is also a reasonably updated version on the church website (fccgranbury.org, under resources).

Contact the church office for the password if you need access.

The most up-to-date information will be in our church app called 'Breeze' at fccgranbury.breezechms.com or as the 'Breeze ChMS' app in the Apple or Android stores.

CHURCH ACCESS WITH BREEZE

You can update your directory information, view your giving history or make a donation, and contact other church members and groups using our Breeze, our church database app.

Harold Williams has written a collection of articles to help you get more familiar with this tool, and he is available Thursday afternoons for tech support. Check out our newsletter for more information!