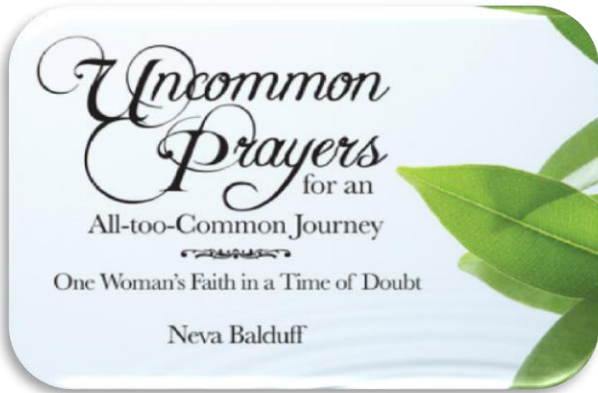


# Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
210 North Fifth Street  
Ponca City, OK 74601  
580.762.1667 www.fccponcacity.com

Seeking, Serving, Sharing  
April 7, 2024



## ↔↔ **NEW RENDITION** ↔↔

I know for some it's difficult  
to see him as he is now,  
compared to the way he used to be.  
His personality has changed.  
He's not the same as before.  
His brain has been "rearranged,"  
but not his core!  
Inside, his heart is still big and giving—  
his soul is good and pure.  
We're lucky he's still among the living,  
and I'm so very sure  
that God can still use him for his work—  
or he would already be gone.  
He's never been one to shirk his duty.  
He'll stay at it 'til he's done.  
So, don't write him off or sell him short  
because his thinking might be slow.  
His logic may be of a different sort,  
but he still knows more  
than some will ever know.  
He knows he loves his family and friends.  
He's concerned about our welfare,  
and, though on others he depends,  
he still has wisdom to share.  
So don't pity him, and let it be said  
about his present condition:  
"He's still the same old loveable Fred—  
just a different rendition!"

~Neva Balduff

### Giving in Review

As of February 29, 2024

Income Received YTD	\$71,893.85
Actual Expenses YTD	\$49,282.51
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$51,345.89

### Easter Service Attendance, March 31, 2024

In Person: 132 Live Online: 12  
Social Media Hits: 117

### Sunday, April 7 Service Information

Luke 24:36-49

"His powerful word is always clear."

Sunday School @ 9:30 ~ Fellowship Time @ 10:30  
Services @ 8:30 & 11:00

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, PONCA CITY, OK CELEBRATING 100 YEARS**

On August 19, 1893, President Grover Cleveland issued the long-awaited proclamation which opened the Cherokee Outlet for settlement. On September 16, 1893, the official run for free land was on.

The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Ponca City, Oklahoma, had its beginning in October 1893, when a small group began to meet in a store building. However, early in 1894, they made arrangements to meet regularly in the school building on Grand and Sixth. It was there that the first organization was formed with a charter membership of less than twenty members.

Early in 1895, a church building, 32 X 40 feet, was purchased from the Congregationalist in Cross (two miles north of Ponca City) and moved to Third and Central where it remained until 1905 and was known as the Central Avenue Christian Church. In October of 1905 the members decided to move the little frame church to Fifth and Grand. (The Third and Central location was sold to church member John Kroller to build his hardware store.) The church was enlarged, redecorated and a spire was added. In 1912 a basement was added.

In 1920 the church has grown to = over 300. A Unique Plan was organized by Judge William H. England, to raise money for a new church. 1922 the site of Fifth and Grand was sold to E. W. Marland for \$28,000.00 and lots at Fifth and Cleveland purchased for \$17,000.00 from Mr. Waring. Mr. Clyde Woodruff, Ft. Worth, Texas and D. C. Bass and sons, Enid, Oklahoma, were engaged as the architect and contractors, respectively.

On April 9, 1923, the groundbreaking services were held. On July 8, 1923, the cornerstone to the new \$100,000.00 church was held with Judge England digging the first shovel full of dirt. The church had grown to 800 and had the largest Bible school in the city. Membership grew to 1200 in April of 1923.

### **DEDICATION DAY APRIL 6, 1924**

One thousand people filled the sanctuary to overflowing for the three services Sunday. Rev. I. V. McCash, president of Phillips University, delivered the first sermon and delivered the dedication address at the evening service. Twenty new members were baptized. Mrs. Paddock being the first to be baptized in the new building.

Groundbreaking for a new education building was held July 22, 1951. Cornerstone was laid on December 2, 1951. The dedication of the building was June 29, 1952. On April 22, 1979, remodeling of the building and its new facilities were dedicated.

***PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER OF  
HISTORIC PLACES MARCH 21, 2011***

First Christian Church, 210 N 5th. 1923. Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival. Van Slyke and Woodruff, architects. Two story with basement buff brick building with a tile roof. Originally cruciform in plan, the building has an addition on the north side making it irregular in shape. The roof has flat and gabled sections. The building has a cast stone belt line and cast stone coping.

The original church was dominated by a two-story sanctuary with a south facing curvilinear parapet. On the east side of the sanctuary, was a single-story arcaded portico with an elaborate, three-story bell tower with dome located on the northeast corner. To the north of the bell tower, is an additional curvilinear parapet that serves as the cross gable and short leg of the t-shaped original church. The windows in the original church feature elaborate stained glass and contrasting brick that was used for window surrounds. The addition was sympathetically done, with similar materials in terms of brick and tile roofing, and in a similar style. The only obvious difference is the use of aluminum windows. The addition includes an educational center, a three-story rectangular building built in 1952. In 1995, new copper shingles were installed on the dome of the church. *-Becky Helems*

