

Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
210 North Fifth Street
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Seeking, Serving, Sharing
August 13, 2023



Devotional Christian

Matthew 14:22-33

I think this section of the gospel teaches us 4 important lessons...

- **Jesus knows about our storms.**
- ❖ **We don't always recognize Jesus.**
- **Doubt will only cause us to sink.**
- ❖ **Jesus will help us complete our journey.**

Sometimes when we go through "storms" we think Jesus has forsaken us. We may not recognize Him but Jesus is always there helping us brave the storm. Doubting Him is what "sinks us" into despair. No matter how rough the seas get Jesus can bring us through it.

We are not destroyed because of the circumstances in our life. We must have faith! Having faith in God and His Son will not fail us. We are often encouraged to reach for the stars, reach for things that seem too difficult to obtain. But all we have to do is take that first step. Make that step towards Jesus. We will succeed because for every one step we take towards Him, He is taking two steps towards us. Jesus knows that we need to be saved. Just when it feels like you're not going to make it, He is there to take hold of us and guide us down the right path.

Prayer

Dear Lord, help us remember to trust in you for strength and power. Amen.

Giving in Review

As of July 31, 2023

Income Received YTD	\$177,117.49
Actual Expenses YTD	\$193,049.65
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$191,625.00

Thank You

Thank you everyone for the birthday wishes, cards,

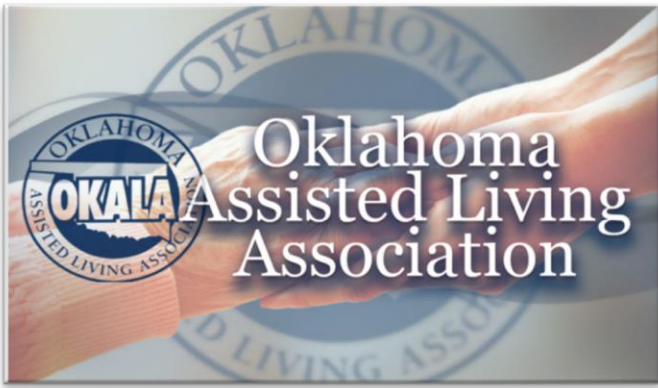
and for singing Happy Birthday to me, even though I was away. On my birthday, I worshiped at Shawnee Community Christian Church, which is about 15 minutes from Angela's house. We had a great lunch in downtown Kansas City and spent the afternoon at the Kansas City Zoo. Angela treated me to a great steak and salmon dinner and a delicious slice of carrot cake. We rounded out the evening watching some good old sci-fi (Stargate). It was a great birthday for me. Thanks to everyone who took on some extra responsibilities while I was at the General Assembly and got away for a few days after!



Following two recent Bike Cave Open Days, **Friendship Bikes has now given 258 bikes** to our Neighbors! We gave 5 bikes in July, plus Pastor Stephen sent a Neighbor off with a bike during the workweek! Last Saturday, 8 more Neighbors received bikes. Our traditional Bike Team of Earl & Jody Ball, Jerry & Becky Helems, Mike & Andrea Morriss, and Robert Vaughn has been blessed with the addition of Richard Himbury and Charles Smith.

After our upcoming Open Days on August 26 and September 30, Friendship Bikes will end the current way of ministering to the transportation needs of Neighbors. We have been honored and uplifted by the support of our FCC Congregation, Council, and Ministers from our first Open Day in August 2017. This ministry was made possible by a myriad of individuals who also caught the vision of giving wheels and hope to people, we call Neighbors, needing bicycles but could not afford them. Our ministry has been inspired and undergirded by the scripture to "Love Your Neighbor as Yourself." With deep lament, due to age, abilities and priorities, the Team needs to attend to ourselves.

- Andrea Morriss, Co-Spokesperson, Friendship Bikes.



Please follow the link below to share your thoughts on what you liked about the feel of worship in the fellowship hall.
www.fccponcacity.com/feedback

CENTURION AWARD

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS goes out to the 2023 CENTURION AWARD WINNER, MAXINE SCHNEIDER! She will receive this honor during the Oklahoma Assisted Living Association annual convention on August 22, 2023, in Oklahoma City. All her children will be there to celebrate with her.

