

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
February 26, 2023



Devotional Christian

Matthew 4:1-11 ~Temptation~

Jesus is not teaching a spirituality which overlooks physical need. Jesus declared that man does not live by bread "alone." It is good that He includes, as does Deuteronomy, the word "alone." Certainly, man does require food. So did Jesus. We must eat or we will die. We can broaden the scope of temptation to all material things. Satan tempts us with money, automobiles, boats, furniture, prestige, and many other things. All of these things are fine in themselves. It is our attitude toward them that counts.

Jesus sets the right priority. Doing the Will of God and being obedient to His every word is more important than food or any other material thing. Even though our want may lead to our death, the will of God is still more important. Most of the time, however, we are simply called upon to trust God to provide our needs in His time, in His way, and with His result.

We must be careful in our application of the promises of God. The temptation is to call upon God for some immediate benefit. It may be benefits of any kind. We use the promises to buttress our request for God's help. At times, we become presumptuous. We may unwittingly fall prey to temptation.

I like the way the story ends... "Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him." This gives us great assurance. Our God will never leave us alone. In the middle of all the trials and tests He is with us. He may seem to be unseen, but He is there. His angels will minister to us. Let us put our trust in God today!

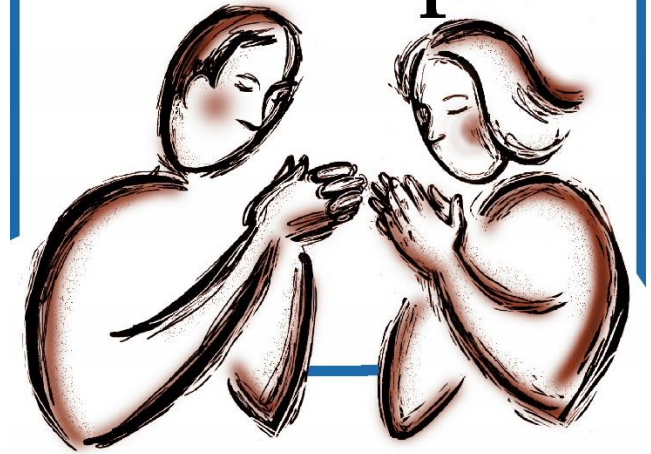
Prayer

May I keep the eyes of my heart on Christ's earthly example and resist the temptation to act independently of You..

Help me to depend on You in every eventuality of life.

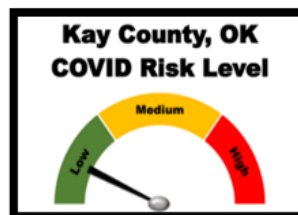
Amen.

Prayer Group



Now that offering trays are being passed again, there are cards for gathering contact information and prayer requests in the sanctuary pew backs and on the information table in the rear of the chapel. These cards allow visitors to provide us with their contact information and anyone to write a prayer request. One of the options on the prayer side of the card is to have the prayer request shared with our prayer group. About now, most of you are asking yourself, what prayer group? Beginning, Monday, February 27th, at 1:30 PM, those who would like are invited to join me in the chapel to pray for those in our community that have known joys or concerns. I hope this new communication option allows us to form stronger bonds of connection as a community of faith.

Pastor Stephen



Giving in Review

As of January 31, 2022

Budgeted Expenses
\$27,375.00

Actual Expenses
\$24,065.84

Income Received
\$28,241.65



Talking About Teenage Guy Stuff

the masculinity workbook for teens
discover what being a guy means to you
cracking the guy code to become an authentic self

CHRISTOPHER S. REBELETTI, Ph.D.
Author of *Cracking the Guy Code*

**Tuesdays
5:30 - 7:00 PM**

Begins Feb. 28th

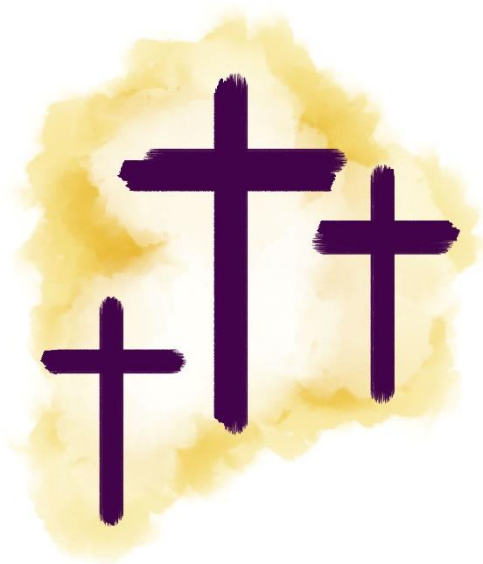
**Pizza, Tacos,
Burgers & Fries**

First Christian Church - 210 N 5th Street
Please let Pastor Stephen know if you plan to attend



**You have heard that
it was said...**
A Lenten Discussion Series

- March 1, 2023 ... You shall not murder
- March 8, 2023 ... You shall not commit adultery
- March 15, 2023 ... Whoever divorces his wife
- March 22, 2023 ... You shall not swear falsely
- March 29, 2023 ... An eye for an eye
- April 5, 2023 ... You shall love your neighbor



Wednesdays at Noon

(Bring Your Own Brown Bag Lunch)

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facebook.com/FCCPCOK YouTube @fccponcacity

2023 Lenten Calendar			Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			22 – Ash Wednesday Talk about the meaning of ashes on this day	23 Write 10 things you are grateful for and carry it with you this lent	24 Today, try not to eat any meat! 	25 Collect spare change in your house and give it away
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	March 1 Go for a walk. What beauty do you notice? 	2 Pray for people who help other people and animals 	3 Today, try not to eat sweets! 	4 Pray for children around the world
4 If you had to give away a million dollars, who would you give it to? 	5 Lead grace at dinner 	6 Make a card for someone who needs extra love 	7 Think about a person you love. Do something nice for them 	8 Pray for your classmates 	9 Today, try not to eat bread or nuts! 	10 Go through your toys and find a few you are ready to give away
5 What are you most grateful for? 	6 Imagine what it would be like to be in the desert 40 days 	7 Chat with someone at school you don't normally talk to 	11 Pray for the poor 	12 Today, try not to play with toys that require batteries or electricity! 	13 Go through your clothes and find some that you are ready to give away 	
11 Donate food to your local food pantry 	12 When you hear a siren, pray for the people who might be in trouble 	13 Pray for clean water around the world 	14 Pray for the Government 	15 Pray for peace in the world 	16 Pray for your minister. Draw a picture and send it to them 	
18 What was the best hymn at church today? 	19 Pray for your parents 	20 Pray for the old people in your life 	21 Notice when you are talking about someone in a bad way and stop 	22 Write down 3 nice things about someone you struggle with 	23 Pray for the poor 	
25 Discuss with your parents: How was Jesus a king? 	26 Pray for the sick. Make a card for someone who is sick in your church 	27 Pray for the homeless. Say hello to them! 	28 Write down 3 things that make you happy 	29 Pray for your grandparents (and then call them) 	24 Sit with new people at lunch 	
2 – Palm Sunday Apologize for something you wish you did differently. 	3 Write down 3 ways you could be more helpful and then start doing them 	4 Pray for all those that have died in the past year 	30 When you shower or take a bath, think about your baptism. 	6 – Maundy Thurs Talk to your parents about Passover and Jesus 	25 Pray for your minister. Draw a picture and send it to them 	
				7 – Good Friday Discuss with your parents: Why did Jesus die? 	26 Set aside part of your allowance or piggy bank to donate to church 	
					8 – Holy Saturday Write what you have learned about yourself this lent 	