

**A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

Everyone please sign the fellowship roll as it is passed to you. All visitors please include your full address and telephone number so that we might know all who are with us this morning.

**PRELUDE**

"It Pays to Remember"

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Pastor: Deep inside us all – old and young alike,*

**People: There is a place of faith.**

*Pastor: A place of trust and hope and love,*

**People: A place of peace even in the middle of a storm or a fiery furnace.**

**All: Therefore we come this morning as children of God to affirm this place inside all of us. A place we call the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We come now to praise His name.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"

No. 17

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Trespas)**

**GLORIA PATRI**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Call to Stewardship*

*Special Music Offering*

*Doxology*

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

"Jerusalem Town"

Rev. Edd Spencer

Rev. Edd Spencer

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Edd Spencer

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Communion Hymn

"Sanctuary"

No. 5

Invitation to Communion

Kathey Long

Prayer of Communion

Ross Lange

*(This is the Lord's Table. All believers in Christ are invited. As the emblems are passed, partake of the bread and hold the cup, offering your own prayer/meditation until after the congregational response.)*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*(Taken from the New Testament: First Corinthians 11:23-26)*

**ELDER:** *The Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and said; "This is My Body which is given for you."*

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

"Show Us the Dream"

**ELDER:** *In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying; "This cup is the new covenant of My Blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."*

**CONGREGATION:** *As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.*

**SERMON**

"It's Cool in the Furnace"  
by Beryl Red

The Children of First Christian

**\* BENEDICTION**

Rev. Mary Pat Spencer

**POSTLUDE**

"Cool in the Furnace Reprise"

*\* Those that are able please stand*

**LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, August 3**

9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Performing Arts Camp to present  
"It's Cool in the Furnace" Musical & Reception  
7:00 pm Evening Vespers Service and Ice Cream Social

**MONDAY, August 4**

7:00 am Men's Bible Study on Isaiah  
10:00 am Staff Meeting  
7:00 pm Lydia w/Janet Clark

**TUESDAY, August 5**

6:30 pm Columbarium Meeting  
7:00 pm Elders Calls

**WEDNESDAY, August 6**

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, August 7**

6:30 pm Pastor's Cabinet

**FRIDAY, August 8**

6:30 pm Rodriguez-Horne Wedding



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**(Disciples of Christ)**

*Where the Grace of God Awaits You*



*August 3, 2008*

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Rev. Edd Spencer & Rev. Mary Pat Spencer, Co-pastors  
Phone us at: 991-5000  
Email us at: [info@fcc-bhm.org](mailto:info@fcc-bhm.org)  
Visit us at: [fcc-bhm.org](http://fcc-bhm.org)

## IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

- **EVENING VESPERS and ICE CREAM SOCIAL Sunday, August 3**

The Worship Mission is having an Evening Vespers outside in the Prayer Garden this evening at 7:00 pm. The service will be special worship focused around God's beautiful creation of trees. Edd will share a message on trees of the Bible and how they have touched our lives. There will also be special music and Holy Communion. After worship the Fellowship Mission is providing ice cream and all the trimmings in the Family Life Center. It will be a special time of delicious ice cream, fun and Christian fellowship. This is a special day with morning worship of "It's Cool in the Furnace," with our children from the Performing Arts Camp and then Evening Vespers on "Trees" followed by an Ice Cream Social.

- **COLUMBARIUM PLANS-** Committee has now been formed to make plans for the construction of a Columbarium in conjunction with our lovely Outdoor Worship Center. The Columbarium will be a beautiful monument in which the cremated remains of FCC loved ones can be reverently interred. Jim and Ann Langley are chairing the committee. Also involved are Edd, Trustees Ellis Hill and Hugh Henderson, and Elder Co-Chair Clarissa Harms. Anyone else interested in working with us to plan for this long-awaited new ministry at FCC, please plan to attend our organizational meeting Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30 at the church.

- **NEW PEW BIBLES -** We have purchased new LARGE print New International Version Bibles for the pews in the sanctuary. The worship mission hopes the new Bibles will make it easier for the congregation to see and understand the word of God during our worship services. If you would like to purchase a Bible in honor or memory of someone, you may do so with a \$10 donation to the church. Drop the check in the offering plate or mail it directly to the church office. Be sure to write on your check the name of the person for whom the Bible is in honor or memory of. If you are donating more than one Bible, please attach a list to your check listing the names and in honor/memory of. We know many of our current Bibles were given in honor or memory of someone, and we will continue to use those Bibles in our Sunday School classrooms, choir room, and during special services. "Give life by giving the Word of God!"

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

- *Open Communion.* The Lord's Supper or Communion is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all believers.
- *Baptism by immersion.* In baptism the old self-centered life is set aside and a new life of trust in God is made possible. Although we generally practice baptism by immersion, we honor other baptism traditions as well.
- *Importance of church unity.* All Christians should cooperate in ministry wherever possible, affirming each other as sisters and brothers in Christ.
- *The Ministry of all believers.* Both ministers and lay persons lead worship, direct service opportunities and nurture spiritual growth.
- *Freedom of belief.* We are called together around one essential of faith: belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

*WORSHIP LEADERS:*

*Rev. Edd Spencer, Rev. Mary Pat Spencer*

*MINISTER OF MUSIC:*

*Rev. Jan Watts*

*ORGANIST/PIANIST:*

*David Brasher*

*ELDERS ON CALL:*

*Kathey Long, Ross Lange*

*SERVING DIACONATE:*

*Pepper Edwards, Susan Hales, Shane West, Jenny West, Clark Andrich, Brent Beatty, Jacob Beatty, Bobby Boyd,*

*Faye Boyd, Stacy Cason, Luci Colee, Emma Harms,*

*Sherri LaBeau, Allison Mirabito, Barry Storer, Susan Storer*

*WELCOME GREETERS:*

*Bob & Sheila Coupland*

*CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:*

*Allison Mirabito*

*SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETER: Jim Thigpen*

- **OUR WEBSITE IS BEING UPDATED!** - FCC is in the process of updating and revising our website. It will be even more amazing than it is now. We realize that our website is our main communication to our community and members. Jeff Eady and Nick Cotruvo are our webmasters and they are doing an outstanding job. To see event pictures of the Church Work Day, our Adventure Days and the Performing Arts Camp, check out our website at: [www.fcc-bhm.org](http://www.fcc-bhm.org)

**A CELEBRATION OF CREATION**

**Sunday, August 3, 2008**

**A WELCOME**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

*A Psalm of the Forest*

*Pastor: As a tree in the forest becomes tall reaching for the light,*

**People: *May we grow above the shadows of sin, fear, and doubt.***

*Pastor: As it gives shelter and shade to its friends of fur and feather.*

**People: *So may we help those brothers and sisters that are smaller and weaker than ourselves.***

*Pastor: The tree sends down roots deep into the soil that it may be nourished by Mother Earth.*

**People: *May we be as firmly grounded by the love of Christ and sustained by His grace.***

*Pastor: If a tree falls and decays, it provides nourishment for new plants and gives its place in the sun for others.*

**People: *Our Lord and Savior died to make new life and a new place for us.***

*Pastor: When a tree in the forest is cut down, its wood is used for shelter and fuel;*

**Pastor: *Jesus taught that only when life is surrendered, when love is poured out, can we build His kingdom and reflect the warmth of His spirit.***

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*"We Have Come Into His Forest"*

*We have come into His forest,  
And gathered in His Name to worship Him.*

*We have come into His forest,  
And gathered in His Name to worship Him.*

*We have come into His forest,  
And gathered in His Name to worship Jesus the Lord,  
Worship Him, Jesus the Lord.*

*So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him and worship Him,  
So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him and worship Him.*

*So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him  
And worship Jesus the Lord.  
Worship Him, Jesus the Lord.*

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

*The Earth Prayer*

*O Earth, our home  
Hallowed by your name.  
Your kingdom yet endures  
Thus let your will be done  
As it was in days past.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us where we have failed you  
Even as we forgive those who have failed us.  
And let us not be led to betray you  
But deliver us from such temptations.  
For you are our home and our nourishment  
May we thus honor you forever. Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE**

*Psalms 92:12-15*

*The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
planted in the house of the Lord,  
they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
They will still bear fruit in old age  
they will still stay fresh and green,  
proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;  
He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him."*

**SERMON**

*"The Cedar Tree"*

**A CALL TO COMMUNION**

*"Trees "  
by Joyce Kilmer*

*I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;*

*A tree that may in summer wear  
A next of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

“Kum Ba Yah”

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!  
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!  
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord kum ba yah!

Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Come by her my, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Come by here my, Lord, kum ba yah!  
Come by here my, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

## SHARING OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

### A CIRCLE UP

“Holy Ground”

We are standing on holy ground,  
And I know that there are angels all around;  
Let us praise Jesus now, we are standing in His presence on holy ground.

## THE BENEDICTION

Like the water,  
God is flowing within us.  
Like a rock,  
God is under our feet.  
Like the trees  
God is over our heads.  
Like the sun,  
God is beyond us.  
Praise be to God,  
For He is all around us.

*The Palm Tree and The Cedar Tree*

A  
tree  
stands tall  
and proud before  
me. Think, strong  
tree, you will never  
have to hold a crucified  
Savior. Another tree before  
you was sentenced to that  
role. The fiat of that tree  
served, and saved you all  
other trees from serving a  
Good Friday. That Good Friday Tree  
with its heavy burden reached  
up to heaven to hand God the  
Father our atonement. You must  
feel the shame that your fellow  
tree felt as it held up the Savior.  
And yet, you must feel the honor, too,  
your fellow tree felt as it was chosen  
to be a part of the Redemption.  
Iron turned to nails that day;  
tree turned to cross that  
day all be-  
came  
exe-  
cu-  
tion-  
ers  
that  
day.

The Cedar Tree

Many  
trees are  
growing close  
together here with-  
in talking distance of one another. In the morn-  
ing, tree awakens tree as the  
morning breezes sway one to another  
in a caress of touching, talking leaves.  
They shade each other from a scorching noon sun,  
and they huddle together at night to sing vespers. Off  
a distance stands a lone tree... very, very alone. Never  
does it feel the loving touch of another tree. Never can it  
lean on a fellow tree for support. It stands lone. But it is  
stronger than the other trees, because it has a need to be. People  
when deprived of the support of others, grow stronger. Do you  
plant people  
away from  
people to  
make them  
stronger?