

# First Christian Visitor

*“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”*

[www.fcc-bhm.org](http://www.fcc-bhm.org)

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## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 at 6:30 pm

Lent begins Wednesday, March 9. Lent is the season when we reflect on the suffering and passion of our Lord. A season to consider ways we can suffer for our Lord and carry our personal cross for His glory. We will gather in the sanctuary on Wednesday, March 9 at 6:30 pm. The service will have special music, a meditation on “A Return to the Holy City,” a time to walk forward to receive the Mark of the Cross on our foreheads. Invite a friend to this service and all of our Lenten services as we proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior. The nursery will be open for childcare.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SUPPERS AND WORSHIP

Every Wednesday night during Lent we will have the opportunity to gather in the Family Life Center at 6:00 pm for supper. The Fellowship Mission will provide the meals, with the cost being \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 4-11, and children under 4 are free. Following the meal at 6:30, we will have a thirty-minute Lenten worship in the Farkas room. The youth will assist the ministers in leading the worship services.

The worship services this year will focus on places in the Holy Land where powerful things happened.

*Wednesday, March 16:*

The Fields of Bethlehem – His Birth

*Wednesday, March 23:*

The Mountains of The Wilderness – His Temptations

*Wednesday, March 30:*

The Sea of Galilee – His Greatest Sermon

*Wednesday, April 6:*

The City of Jerusalem – His Suffering

*Wednesday, April 13:*

The Hill of Calvary – His Death

The meal and service have become a wonderful Lenten tradition at First Christian.

Reservations for the meal can be made on the envelopes in the pews on Sunday mornings. If you can't come to the meal, please attend the Lenten worship service at 6:30 pm. The nursery will be open for childcare.

## SERMON SERIES FOR LENT

Edd and Mary Pat will share a series of sermons during Lent on the people who made the objects and symbols for The Passion of Jesus in the last forty days of His life.

Sunday, March 13 “The Potter for the Lord's Cup”

Sunday, March 20 “The Whip Maker”

Sunday, March 27 “The Cross Maker”

Sunday, April 3 “The One Who Made the Tomb”

Sunday, April 10 “The Linen Maker”

## WEEK OF COMPASSION 2011 March 13<sup>th</sup>

For over 65 years, following in Jesus' footsteps, we have given our hard-earned resources through **Week of Compassion** to bring help and blessing to hurting lives. Sharing invites God more fully into our lives. As we reach out in love, we open the way for God to reach more deeply into us. Sharing will joyfully transform you as you help transform the world. You may support this essential mission of the church by giving to our Week of Compassion offering on March 13. Our goal this year is \$3500, or \$35 per church family. Perhaps you or someone you know has been affected by a natural or manmade disaster, or perhaps you and your loved ones have been lucky. Please give generously to the Week of Compassion, and help us, “carry each other's burdens”.

*The Outreach Mission*

## CANTATA PRACTICE WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30pm

Music is an integral element of our worship here at FCC, and I was reminded of that this past Sunday as I listened to our congregation joyfully and beautifully raise their voices in praise & worship of our Lord. Our Easter Cantata this year will be on Palm Sunday, April 17. Anyone who would like to sing in the Cantata is welcome to come at 7:30 pm on Wednesday evening. Also, the Bell Choir is playing during the Easter Sunday service. Bell practice is on Sunday afternoons at 1:30 pm. *Jan Watts*

## GOT SPIRIT???

### Traditional Camps at YMCA Hargis

Dates: June 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011

- CYF Conference (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Chi Rho (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Junior (4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Traditional Week-Long Camps:

\$225.00 before June 1<sup>st</sup> & \$265.00 after June 1<sup>st</sup>

### Discovery Camp: June 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011

(2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

\$135.00 before June 1<sup>st</sup> & \$150.00 after June 1<sup>st</sup>

### Beach Camp

(formerly Fine Arts Camp)

For Youth in Grades 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>

June 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> at Noah's Ark in Panama City, FL

Beach Camp: \$225.00 before June 1<sup>st</sup>

\$265.00 after June 1<sup>st</sup>

## CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

“What In The World Is Going On?”

Islamic Terrorism (Part 2) Ezekiel 38: 1-6

## New Sunday School Class

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

1 Timothy 3: 1-13

Qualifications of Worship Leaders

SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP

158

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### **Life In Our Community This Week**

#### Sunday, March 13

9:00 Sunday School  
9:45-10:15 Fellowship Moment  
10:15 Worship-Week of Compassion  
10:30 Worship & Wonder  
11:30 Ona/Ruth w/Virginia Guthrie  
No Youth Groups - Spring Break

#### Monday, March 14

7:00 Men's Bible Study  
10:00 Staff Meeting

#### Tuesday, March 15

10:00 Women's Bible Study  
7:00 Elders Calls

#### Wednesday, March 16

6:00 Lenten Dinner  
6:30 Lenten Worship  
7:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, March 17

##### St. Patrick's Day

7:00 Women's Bible Study  
7:00 Advocates Bible Study

#### Friday, March 18 – Saturday March 19

Men's Retreat at Hargis

### **GRACE NOTES**

- † Our prayers are with Cece Roberts who is recovering from a procedure.
- † Our prayers are with Carole Rudd, Lois Conwell, Mac and Linda Heaton.
- † Please see Edd if you are interested in being baptized on Easter Sunday.

### **LOOKING AHEAD TO WORSHIP IN LENT**

*Wed., March 9* Ash Wednesday Worship 6:30  
The Beginning of Lent  
*Sun., March 13* First Sunday of Lent  
Extinguish the Lenten Candle  
*Wed., March. 16, 23, 30* The Lenten Dinners at  
6:00 pm and Lenten Worship  
at 6:30 pm during Lent  
*Sun., April 17* Palm Sunday  
*Thurs., April 21* Maundy Thursday Seder  
*Thurs., April 21 –* 24-Hour Prayer Vigil  
*Fri., April 22* 24-Hour Prayer Vigil  
*Sun., April 24* Easter Sunday  
Easter Sunrise Worship and  
Breakfast at Hargis

Dear First Christian Family,

Thank you for your love and kindness. We are so happy to share this new addition with you. Our baby boy will love the gifts and prayers that he has received once he arrives. My family and I are so blessed to have such wonderful people like you in our lives. With Gratitude and Love.

*Christina, Charles, Ally and Baby Alijah*

### **CHURCH HISTORY**

In February, 1994, our 21 year-old pipe organ developed major electrical/mechanical problems, so the Steinway grand piano was used frequently until necessary repairs could be made. Organ companies were contacted for estimates and a special fund was started to help with the cost of repairs, estimated to be about \$50,000.

The Chain of Prayer began immediately after the Maundy Thursday service on March 31 and continued through Friday. The youth had their annual Lock-in, Rock-a-thon on Saturday evening at Hargis, rocking until 5:30 a.m. Easter morning to raise funds for Youth Outreach in Action and other projects. The Sunrise Service was led by the Singles Adult Ministry and was followed by breakfast in the dining hall. There was one worship service at church after Sunday School.

On the first two Saturdays in April volunteer work crews from church met at the homes of Pat and Mike Shaw and Georgia and Carl Flock to clean up downed trees and debris caused by the Palm Sunday tornado.

Dr. Rankin and 17 "Arkansas Travelers" enjoyed a five-day trip to Hot Springs in May. They put 1100 miles on the church bus and had a good time doing it. Activities included a dinner cruise on Lake Hamilton and attendance at the Music Mountain Jamboree show.

CWF reported that proceeds from the March fashion show and auction were enough to purchase a new refrigerator for the kitchen and also to sponsor Camp High Hopes in June.

The regional assembly of the Christian Church in AL/NWFL took place in Pensacola June 3-5. Dr. Rankin was installed as moderator after serving as moderator-elect for the past two years. Eleanor Stembridge was honored for her years of work in the regional office. Rev. Brooks was also honored recently by being named president-elect of the Association of Christian Church Educators. After serving in that capacity for a year, he would then become president.

Hargis Christian Retreat invited everyone to come for Summer Sunday Dinner once a month in June, July and August. June was a busy month at the Retreat with two junior camps, Chi Rho camp and CYF conference. Another successful Camp High Hopes was held the last weekend in June. Independence Day was celebrated with barbecue, hot dogs, swimming, softball and horseback riding. Worship at church on July 3 featured all patriotic music, and veterans were asked to proudly wear their uniforms.

Jim Brooks led a group of volunteers to the island of Andros in July where they helped some 300 children have a wonderful Bible school experience. In August 55 children from our church rode the mini-bus to the Retreat each day for a week of Vacation Bible School with the theme "God Made Me". They enjoyed music, art and all of the usual recreational activities.