

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 08 FEBRUARY 23, 2010



SERMON SERIES FOR LENT

Edd and Mary Pat will share a series of sermons during Lent on some of the miracles of Jesus. These miracles transform lives from darkness and suffering to light and wholeness. This theme of darkness to light is the symbolic meaning of Lent and Easter. The miracle sermons for Lent are:

Sunday, Feb. 28	Healing of a Leper
Sunday, March 7	A Woman With a Issue of Blood
Sunday, March 14	Healing of Blind Bartimaeus
Sunday, March 21	Raising of Lazarus

SOMETHING NEW

Facilitator-led, dialogue-encouraged Bible Study for women every Tuesday at 10:00 am in The Gandy Room (formerly Genesis Room). We will begin with a study of James. James could be considered a “how-to” book on Christian living. He wrote to Christians living in hostile surroundings. They were tempted to let intellectual agreement pass for true faith. James encourages us to put our faith into action. He says it is easy to say we have faith, but true faith will produce loving action toward others. In the modern vernacular, “Put your money where your mouth is”. So ladies... bring your personal translation of the Bible and join us Tuesdays at 10:00 am. *Judy Dudley*

LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesday, Feb. 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 24
Lenten Dinners at 5:45 followed by
Lenten Worship at 6:30 pm
Palm Sunday, March 28 – Easter Songs of the
Palms and Easter Special Offering
Thursday, April 1 – Maundy Thursday – Holy
Communion at 7:00 pm
Thursday, April 1 – Friday, April 2 from 9:00 pm-
9:00 pm our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil
Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunrise Service at Hargis
at 6:30 am and Easter Morning Worship at
10:00 am with Holy Baptism.

BAPTISM and MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The Pastor’s Class for Holy Baptism begins Sunday, February 28 at 4:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Baptism will be on Easter Sunday, April 4. The class is for all children, youth and adults who are considering baptism. Contact Edd or Mary Pat.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, February 28th

“Anointed by a Woman in Bethany”

Matthew 26: 6-13

Every Wednesday night during Lent we will have the opportunity to gather in the Family Life Center at 5:45 pm for supper. The cost will be: Adults-\$5.00, children under 10- \$3.00, and children 3 and under are free. Following the meal at 6:30 pm, we will have a thirty-minute Lenten Worship Service in the Farkas Room. The service will focus on the passion of Jesus through the senses of sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste. The schedule for each worship service is as follows:

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Seeing – “Watching the
Walk to Calvary”
Wednesday, March 3: Hearing – “Sounds Heard
On the way to the Cross”
Wednesday, March 10: Smells – “Smelling the
Approach of Death”
Wednesday, March 17: Touch - “The Feel of the
Cross”
Wednesday, March 24: Taste – “Jesus Tastes
The Approach of Death”

Reservations for the meal can be made using the envelope in back of the pews. If you can’t come for the meal, please attend the Lenten Worship Service at 6:30 pm. Childcare will be provided for both the meal and the worship service.

MEN’S RETREAT

March 12-13 at YMCA Hargis

All men are invited to the Christian Men’s Retreat for men in the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Alabama and Northwest Florida. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 pm on Friday, March 12 and ends after lunch on Saturday, March 13 at 2:30 pm. The theme is “God First – Spirit, Mind and Body.” The resource leader is Rev. Eugene Fisher, Director of Membership for the Pension Fund. Registration cost is \$75 per person.

WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

God bless First Christian members and friends for a fantastic response to the Week of Compassion offering for Haiti relief. To date we have shared \$3,399.00 in helping those devastated by the earthquake. Well done!!!

We will continue to receive Week of Compassion offerings this Sunday, February 28, for other tragedies around the world. This wonderful offering helps feed the hungry in countries around the world and here in the United States. Week of Compassion offering is Jesus’ love in action.

First Christian Church
4954 Valleydale Road
Birmingham, Al. 35242

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SUPPERS
AND WORSHIP**

FIRST CHRISTIAN VISITOR (UPS 0195-880) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY EXCEPT A WEEK IN DECEMBER AND A WEEK IN JULY, BY FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH. **PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BIRMINGHAM, AL, 35203.** POSTMASTER PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4954 VALLEYDALE ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242.

Life In Our Community This Week

- Sunday, February 28*
- Second Sunday of Lent
- 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 10:15 Worship & Wonder
- 4:30 Pastor’s Class
- 5:30 Children & Youth
- 6:45 Snack Supper
- Monday, March 1*
- 7:00 Men’s Bible Study
- 10:00 Staff Meeting
- Tuesday, March 2*
- 10:00 Women’s Bible Study
- 9:45 Chapel
- 7:00 Elder Calls
- Wednesday, March 3*
- 9:45 Chapel
- 5:45 Lenten Dinner
- 6:30 Lenten Worship
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

GRACE NOTES

- ✚ Please pray for Nancy Hubner, who is now at Lakeshore.
- ✚ Congratulations to Erica Braswell, daughter of Debbie Braswell, our TAN Assistant Director, who won the Mercedes Half Marathon.
- ✚ Dick Burdette is resting at home, recovering from gall bladder surgery.
- ✚ Our sympathy is expressed to Pat Eubank and family in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Miller. The funeral was in London, KY.
- ✚ The giving statements for 2009 are in the narthex.
- ✚ We celebrate that Stacye Horne is the new Sunday school teacher for the Chi Rho youth and Scott and Kathey Long are the new Sunday school teachers for the CYF youth.
- ✚ We are grateful that the Sunday school classes are growing. Everyone is encouraged to come learn about God’s love in Sunday school.
- ✚ We are grateful for the great growth of two Bible Study classes. The Men’s Bible Study on Mondays and the Women’s Bible Study on Tuesdays are filled with excitement and learning.
- ✚ Our prayers are with Sandy Hamilton’s mother, Mrs. McQueen, who is in the hospital in Montgomery with heart concerns.
- ✚ Invite a friend to our Wednesday night Lenten services and Sunday morning worship service.

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YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN 2010

The following are some wonderful opportunities to serve our Lord at First Christian in 2010. Please choose one and notify Hugh Henderson, Gary Franklin, Edd or Mary Pat. All members of First Christian are encouraged to serve as a member of a Mission.

Worship Mission – Carole Rudd, Chair: Responsible for all Sunday morning worship services and special services such as Christmas and Easter.

Education Mission- Julie Henderson, Chair: Responsible for Sunday school of all ages, youth work and the total education program of the church.

Evangelism Mission – Clarissa Harms, Chair: Responsible for bringing new members into the life of the church.

Fellowship Mission - Mack Carpenter, Chair: Responsible for providing a social life and fellowship activities for the church.

Administration Mission - Mike Mee, Chair: Responsible for the financial program, maintenance of property and general administration policies for the church.

Outreach Mission - Sharon Orazine & Liz West, Co-Chairs: Responsible for giving to the needy within Birmingham and throughout the world.

Membership Mission - Lisa Burdette, Chair: Responsible for care and nurturing of church members.

WEARING NAMETAGS

Beginning Sunday, March 7 the Membership Mission will be encouraging all members to wear their nametags. They will have different groups in the narthex passing out nametags to all members and friends of the church. The first group to assist with the nametags will be the CYF youth group.

January Financial Report (excluding TAN) And Designated Funds		
	Actual	Budgeted
Pledges & Offerings	\$38,391	\$32,625
Total Receipts	\$47,040	\$41,274
Disbursements	\$32,824	\$40,388

We are off to a great start, but we still need some pledge cards to balance the budget for 2010. If you have not already done so, please return your 2010 pledge card to the church office.

SUNDAY’S ATTENDANCE	
SUNDAY SCHOOL	68
WORSHIP	130