

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 14 APRIL 6, 2010



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AND WONDER

APRIL 25

There will be **NO Children's Worship and Wonder on Sunday, April 25**. This is youth Sunday and the **children will remain in the sanctuary to worship with the adults**. The youth will lead us in a unique and meaningful worship service. In the sermon portion of the worship, our youth will present, in mime, a unique reenactment of the highlights in the life of Christ. They will guide us during the entire worship service through prayer and special music. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our children to worship and learn. Please make every effort to be present for this special service.

YOUTH SUNDAY - April 25

Our Chi Rho and CYF youth will once again lead us in a unique and meaningful worship experience on Sunday, April 25th at 10:00. In the sermon portion of the worship, our youth will present in mime a unique reenactment of the highlights in the life of Christ. In addition, they will guide us during the entire worship service through prayers and special music. We are extremely fortunate to have such talented and dedicated young people to lead us in worship. Please make every effort to worship with us on youth Sunday and invite a friend.

Financial Report (excluding TAN and Designated Funds)		
	Actual	Budgeted
February		
Pledges & Offerings	\$26,053	\$32,625
Total Receipts	\$34,702	\$41,274
Disbursements	\$40,744	\$40,388
Year to Date	Actual	Budgeted
Pledges & Offerings	\$64,445	\$65,250
Total Receipts	\$81,743	\$82,548
Disbursements	\$73,568	\$80,776

During the month of February, offerings collected were \$6,572 less than budgeted. Disbursements were on track with the budget. Detailed reports are available from the church office. Questions should be directed to a Finance Council member. Thanks for your gifts and support.

FOOD, FUN and FITNESS CAMP

Mark your calendars! FCC's Food, Fun and Fitness Camp will be here soon. The week of June 7 – 11, from 9:00 -12:00, your children and grand children will enjoy a week of discovering how our bodies are the temple of God through cooking fun, nutritious food, learning about healthy food choices, designing their own aprons and cookbooks, and having fun playing active fun filled fitness games. Registration cost is \$40.00 for non-members and \$20.00 for children or grandchildren of members. Watch the Visitor for more information.

GRADUATING?

Spring is not far away, which means many of those who are seniors will either be graduating from high school, college, grad school or special programs. Please let us know of those seniors graduating as we would like to share our congratulations in the Visitor the first week in May. Please call the church office or email us at cece@fcc-bhm.org and let us know the name of the graduate, the school and degree achieved no later than April 15th so we can get them all in the same Visitor.

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) SUMMER CAMPS 2010

Discovery Camp June 5-7, 2010

For those completing 2nd and 3rd Grades

Junior Camp June 7-11, 2010

For those completing 4th and 5th Grades

CYF Camp June 7-11, 2010, Giltner Hall

For those completing the 9th, 10th, & 12th Grades

Chi Rho Camp June 7-11, 2010, Giltner Hall

For those completing 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

All traditional camps are held at YMCA Hargis

Fine Arts Camp June 20-25, 2010

For those completing 6th -12th Grades

Phyllis Kirk, Director

Fine Arts Camp held at Noah's Ark Christian Retreat Center in Panama City, Florida

Applications will be available on the website

FCC will pay 1/2 the camp fee for any of our youths that wish to attend. Scholarships are also available. See Mary Pat for more information.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, April 11th

“Love Within The Community”

1 John 2:9-11, 15-17

SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL	54
WORSHIP	209
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE	64

Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

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, April 11

- 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 11:00 Rebekah at Evelyn Rubin's
- 11:00 Worship Mission Meeting
- 5:30 Youth Groups
- 6:45 Snack Supper

Monday, April 12

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 Staff Meeting
- 6:30 Elder's Gathering

Tuesday, April 13

- 10:00 Women's Bible Study
- 7:00 Finance Council

Wednesday, April 14

- 9:45 Chapel
- 5:30 Shack Study
- 6:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 15

- 7:00 Scrabble at Joye Taylor's

Saturday, April 17

- 5:00 Sunset Walk on Rufner Mountain

GRACE NOTES

- † Our sympathy is expressed to Jenny West, in the loss of her grandmother.
- † Some of you have moved to new homes in recent months. I will be calling you in April and May to make an appointment to visit in your home. God Bless, Edd
- † Edd is planning a Sunset Walk on Ruffner Mountain on Saturday, April 17. More information will be in the Sunday Bulletin and next week's Visitor.
- † Dear Christian Friends – It means so much for you to remember me in your prayers. I appreciate the visits, flowers, bear and cards during this time of hospitalization and my 90th birthday. Thank you for all you do.

Love, Norma Baker

CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED

Last year we celebrated 135 years of history. Our church historian, Claradel Holcombe, wrote articles about our history up to the year of 1973. For the next several weeks we will continue these articles on our wonderful history as a church.

A service of dedication was held for the new organ on May 6, 1973. Joseph Schreiber, Independent Presbyterian Church organist and choirmaster, performed the dedicatory recital. Sam Batt Owens was the designer of the organ and consultant during the installation.

On May 27 a dedication service for the newly remodeled kitchen was held at the end of morning

Church History Continued...

worship, followed by Coffee Hour in the newly air conditioned social hall.

Don McLaughlin, ministerial student at Samford University and director of youth activities at Bessemer First Christian Church, joined our staff on June 1, with youth activities his primary responsibility.

The 1973 Year Book listed 509 participating members of the church, 177 non-participating, 410 enrolled in Sunday School, and 400 women involved in CWF.

On April 21, 1974, First Christian Church celebrated its Centennial Anniversary. Dr. Thomas M. Giltner (1960-1971) was worship leader, Dr. J. Wayne Drash (1945-1955) brought the message, and Dr. Cecil A. Jarman (1955-1959) presided at the communion table. Mrs. Frank Dixon, wife of former Governor Frank Dixon, and Mrs. Charles Fell, granddaughters of Col. and Mrs. J.J. Jolly, attended. Mr. and Mrs. William S. (Smitty) Lucas and their children came from Huntsville, and Mrs. Larry Crane and her three children were also present. Two of the Drash children attended: Sam and his wife of Memphis and Marilyn Drash Thomas, her husband and four children of Jacksonville, Florida. Mrs. J. Wayne Drash of Knoxville and Mrs. Cecil Jarman and daughter Mary Catherine of Fort Worth were also there.

Many people dressed in 19th century clothing and enjoyed a centennial skit, slides and a film of the 1954 cornerstone laying ceremony at a fellowship supper. A reception at a member's home honored all of the ministers and their families.

Miss Nell Van Hook, another daughter of our first resident minister Dr. R.W. Van Hook, died in New York in May, 1974, and Dr. Jerry Smith conducted her service at Oak Hill Cemetery in Birmingham. After serving as associate minister (1967-1971) and minister (1971-1974), Dr. Jerry C. Smith submitted his letter of resignation, effective June 30, 1974. Dr. Smith had recently been elected to serve as a member of the Administrative Committee of the Christian Church and also as a Director of the General Board. He was also a member of the Church Finance Council.

A reception honoring Dr. and Mrs. Smith and son John was held on June 23 to express the love and appreciation for their service and to wish them well as they began a new ministry at First Christian Church, Decatur, Alabama. Dr. and Mrs. Smith were presented a silver service and a check and John was given a basketball autographed by friends in CYF and Chi Rho. *Claradel Holcombe*